



COMMENT

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

Good job with chopper

It's important to offer credit where credit is due even if one doesn't agree with the premise behind certain actions.

To that end, we congratulate Halton Regional Police for their work in curbing the local pot growing industry.

The tool that was instrumental in this effort was the helicopter police are now using.

We have criticized spending taxpayers' money on operating a police helicopter in the past. We feel that in this jurisdiction the expenditure is not warranted. Halton is a relatively safe community, and police helicopters are serious, and seriously expensive crime fighting implements more at place in big cities with persistent, pervasive crime problems.

That said, however, police have made wise and timely use of their chopper this past week in confiscating approximately \$1.5 million worth of marijuana (street value).

People who're involved in cultivating marijuana on this scale are criminals, playing a high-stakes game. They are likely party to spin-off criminal behaviour as well -- the things that come to mind are bribery, procuring illegal weapons, violence or the threat of violence.

Whatever one thinks of smoking pot, and we realize opinions differ, most people involved on this scale are not folks you would want next door, and the cops are making sure some of them take up residence elsewhere, namely in jail.



OUR READERS WRITE

Gala high school reunion coming up

Dear Editor:

Fifty years of tradition will be celebrated next fall with a dedication ceremony, sporting events and a formal gala.

To help commemorate the 50 years Michael Power/St. Joseph's High School has been an active part of the Etobicoke community, a contact list is being established to reach as many former students and teachers as possible.

The celebration will take place over two weekends next year with the formal gala on September 25 at the International Plaza.

It's not too late to order tickets for the

gala, but they're going fast and they won't be available at the door. With 1,200 people expected to attend, more than dancing will keep guests entertained.

There will also be a silent auction and fashion show during the evening. We're still looking for donations for the silent auction to help offset expenses.

For more information, you can contact the school at 222-8282, ext. 6601, or Carmen Cachia, the committee chair, at 232-0390.

Jim Szabo
organizer

Get used to it; the band will be back next year

Dear Editor:

On August 21, we had our annual summer backyard party. The event started at 2 p.m. for the children and 6 p.m. for the bigger (adult) children. We gave out invitations to our friends, family and neighbours. The day included swimming, food, drinks and music.

We had live music that started at about 7:20 p.m., and by 7:45 p.m. we had the police in our driveway. What we don't understand is why. I recall this past Canada Day listening to music from my residence on Woodward Avenue at about 10 p.m. It was being played at Rotary Park, which is probably at least 2 km away from my house.

Does that mean it's okay for the Town to break the noise bylaw No. 1684 section two but not for tax-paying, property owners of Milton? I would estimate that the band played about two songs before someone called the police because within 25 minutes of it starting the police had arrived. If the individual that was so bothered by the noise

had come to our house and told us they were being disturbed, we could have come to some kind of agreement. For example, we would have gladly given that person the \$63 that we now owe in fine money to go out for a nice dinner and be just a little tolerant for a few hours.

Last year we had the same type of party. We invited or warned the neighbours. At 11:20 p.m., someone from the neighbourhood called. We apologized and turned the music off.

As it turned out, our first warning was at 7:45 p.m. The ticket we received arrived at 10:59 p.m. If we were so out of line within the first 25 minutes of our party, why did it take them three hours and 14 minutes to return. We think that is totally unreasonable. But guess what? We have full intentions of having the same part again next year, and whoever you are that was so disturbed, sorry about your luck. Soon the winter will be upon us and we can all hibernate behind

closed windows and doors for another eight months.

Brigitte Smith
Milton

Parking complaint a lot of nonsense

Dear Editor:

I'm writing in response to Joy Warren's letter re parking bylaws.

Never in my life have I read such nonsense. Families with grown children often require more vehicles than driveways allow, leaving an adjacent street a sensible option.

Parking over three hours outside one's home shouldn't illicit a \$30 fine, as I was incensed to receive last week. This is Milton not Toronto or Guelph, where parking fines have become just another tax.

I love Milton, have lived here all my life, and I will not sit back while self-righteous busybodies attempt to advocate tax grabs on my friends and neighbours.

Frank Reeves
Milton



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Pud

by Steve Nease

