



# COMMENT

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

## Casino operation starting to take a toll on policing

Crime-related problems that come part and parcel with a casino operation have erupted at Mohawk Raceway -- bringing previously expressed policing concerns to the forefront.

Counterfeit bills have turned up, a driver -- allegedly drunk -- struck another vehicle in the parking lot and, worst of all, a Halton Regional Police officer was threatened following the ejection of a casino patron.

As more of the same can be expected, the toll taken on policing resources must be addressed. It's crucial for the safety of citizens as well as police.

While the Ontario Jockey Club hires off-duty officers privately to help secure the site, problems can spill over to require the services of regular police on duty -- officers that could be needed to respond to calls elsewhere in town.

The solution is simple; more officers must be assigned to Milton. If that means hiring additional officers, so be it.

There's a way to do it without raising taxes. It's not unreasonable for the Region of Halton, which funds policing, to ask for a share of the Town of Milton's casino revenues to cover the cost.

Karen Smith



## OUR READERS WRITE

### Community really came through with support

Dear Editor:

On behalf of SGI Canada, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the following local businesses for their support of the Yellow Fish Road storm drain marking program in Milton:

St. Clair Paint and Paper, Harris Stationery, Auto Clean Lube-It, Loblaws and Karmax Heavy Stamping.

Thanks to you, we were able to get the message

out to approximately 1,000 households in the downtown area.

For those people who didn't receive a flyer or have the yellow fish symbols painted beside the storm drains on their street, don't worry. We had such a great time doing it on Sunday that we'd all like to get out again soon and cover more ground.

Again, thank you to the community for your sup-

port and encouragement, and please take the time to dispose of your household hazardous wastes properly.

Let's keep our water clean and protect the precious aquatic habitat that so well defines Milton's unique identity.

**James Hunt**  
SGI Canada  
New Wave chapter,  
Young Men's Group  
leader

### Resident tells her side in Milton Heights incident

Dear Editor:

This letter is in response to an article by Karen Smith on a recent front page of The Champion.

Ms Smith wasn't given the name of the resident who was hosting the party on Tremaine Road.

I was hosting the party for my son plus two of his friends who celebrated birthdays that week.

First of all, the party was well chaperoned with continual checks on all aspects of the party.

The party started at approximately 7 p.m. and did not end until Sunday.

At approximately 11:30 p.m., I was informed someone came onto my property and assaulted a female guest. She chose to forget about it.

Later, when I noticed people running down the driveway I immediately went outside. I made sure everyone came back onto the property (less than 10 minutes) prior to the police coming.

When I noticed broken glass on the road I had guests clean it up.

When I was told what happened

I found a male guest who had been assaulted, brought him into the house and tended to his wounds.

My husband went out to talk to the police. The assault was committed by someone who was unknown and uninvited.

Constable Greg Braun was one of the officers on the scene and everything was dealt with very professionally.

The person assaulted went to Milton District Hospital where he received four staples and four stitches to the head.

Dealing with the only information available to her, Ms Smith didn't reflect the whole picture in her story.

The guests have been known to my family for several years. They are wonderful, considerate and fun-loving teenagers.

They have always been and will always be welcome to my home. They showed poor judgement when they chased the stranger off the property.

But, this was because someone

they cared about had just been viciously assaulted and left unconscious.

I'm truly not sure I wouldn't have done the same thing.

These teenagers are so open that I was encouraged constantly to stay outside with them.

They are not the brawling, obnoxious type.

Any person who was drinking and did not have a designated driving stayed. Period.

I welcomed the police towing vehicles left on the road (two of which were driven by teenagers unknown and uninvited).

Not all teenagers are the same. I'm fortunate that my sons have some very special friends that continually bring joy to our lives.

Any trash left along the roadside was cleaned up before 11 a.m. Sunday and my property was left as though no party had occurred.

**Lisa Mowat**  
Tremaine Road



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### Pud

