



# COMMENT

## Miltonians urged to practice better safety

Pop quiz, folks -- what's the last thing we all do before retiring each night?

Lock the front door, right? Of course, our belongings and loved ones are far too valuable not to safeguard against even the remote chance of a break-in.

So by that rationale, doesn't it stand to reason that we'd exercise similar caution when it comes to fire safety? Evidently not, according to the latest findings by the Milton Fire Department.

An article elsewhere in this paper reports that smoke alarms weren't working at two homes in which fires broke out recently. Captain Mark Cross goes on to note that this is just the tip of the iceberg in terms of the community's carelessness concerning fire prevention.

In a related story published last month, the fire department spokesman said he's now recruiting children in an effort to help better protect local homes -- encouraging young ones to hound their parents into more protective practices.

This is all well and good, and may even be effective, but it shouldn't take anything more than simply looking at our loved ones to realize we have plenty of incentive to be more cautious.



## OUR READERS WRITE

### Something is very wrong here

Dear Editor:

It's time for me to speak out about the proposed development in our town.

HD Investments wants to put 195 senior bungalows behind the Ernest C. Drury School for the Deaf.

It plans on building some of these units on the existing tennis courts and eliminate the Milton Tennis Club.

I am not against development but when we are adding 195 homes to a town and eliminating a thriving recreational service that has been in existence in Milton since 1923 something is wrong.

I love this town because it feels like a community and it's a terrific place to raise my children.

If we are to grow (and we will be) let's do it in a responsible manner by adding or at least maintaining existing services.

As the issue likely heads to the Ontario Municipal Board, please help save our tennis club from the bulldozers and make your views known.

Thanks for reading.

Phil Vis  
Milton

### E.C. Drury development

## Still lots of questions to be answered

Dear Editor:

The council meeting of January 3 was an interesting affair. It was mostly conducted with civility except for the occasional slander of the developer by his opponents. In the end, the opponents of the development won the battle.

However, the war is not over and there are many unanswered questions.

The objections of some councillors against the development seemed to be based largely on technical planning issues (e.g. density) and safety issues (e.g. crossing roads). If HD Investments addressed these issues (e.g. reduce the density, promise pedestrian bridges), would those councillors then approve?

Councillor Rick Malboeuf argued that the developer would win the rezoning fight at the Ontario Municipal Board.

None of the councillors against

the development responded to his argument. If they disagree with him, why didn't they speak up? If they agree with Mr. Malboeuf, did they only vote against the development to win votes? What is their backup plan?

The deaf representatives made a compelling case for the importance of the land to their heritage and the viability of their ongoing programs. But if the land is so important to them, why was it declared surplus by a school official in the first place?

There were questions raised about whether there would be enough demand to sell the units. Why didn't HD Investments or Colin Best come forward with information about the demand?

What was the price of the land that the Town decided they couldn't afford? What price has HD Investments paid for the land?

On the other hand, HD

Investments still does not officially own the land according to a check of the land registry.

Is their offer to purchase conditional on approval of the rezoning?

If the seniors of Milton want this development why did they not have a representative at the council meeting?

If the seniors heard the arguments by the deaf community against the development would they still be for it?

It is time for representatives of the Milton seniors to speak up and be heard.

On the other hand, if the land is to be saved for park use, a deal might have to be made with HD Investments to buy them out. Perhaps it is time for a meeting involving HD Investments, the Friends of Drury Park, the Deaf community, and the seniors.

Richard W.D. Ganton, P.Eng.  
Gowland Crescent



## THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

Box 248, 191 Main St. E.,  
Milton, Ont. L9T 4N9

(905) 878-2341

Editorial Fax: 878-4943

Advertising Fax: 876-2364

Classified: 875-3300

**Ian Oliver** Publisher  
**Neil Oliver** Associate Publisher  
**Bill Begin** General Manager  
**Karen Smith** Editor  
**Steve Crozier** Circulation Manager  
**Teri Casas** Office Manager  
**Tim Coles** Production Manager

The Canadian Champion, published every Tuesday and Friday at 191 Main St. E., Milton, Ont., L9T 4N9 (Box 248), is one of The Metroland Printing, Publishing & Distributing Ltd. group of suburban companies which includes: Ajax/Pickering News Advertiser, Alliston Herald/Courier, Barrie Advance, Barry's Bay This Week, Bolton Enterprise, Brampton Guardian, Burlington Post, Burlington Shopping News, City Parent, City of York Guardian, Collingwood/Wasaga Connection, East York Mirror, Erin Advocate/Country Routes, Etobicoke Guardian, Flamborough Post, Forever Young, Georgetown Independent/Acton Free Press, Huronia Business Times, Kingston This Week, Lindsay This Week, Markham Economist & Sun, Midland/Penetanguishene Mirror, Milton Shopping News, Mississauga Business Times, Mississauga News, Napanee Guide, Nassagaweya News, Newmarket/Aurora Era-Banner, Northumberland News, North York Mirror, Oakville Beaver, Oakville Shopping News, Oldtimers Hockey News, Orillia Today, Oshawa/Whitby/Clarington/Port Perry This Week, Owen Sound Tribune, Peterborough This Week, Picton County Guide, Richmond Hill/Thornhill/Vaughan Liberal, Scarborough Mirror, Stouffville/Uxbridge Tribune.

Advertising is accepted on the condition that, in the event of a typographical error, that portion of the advertising space occupied by the erroneous item, together with a reasonable allowance for signature, will not be charged for, but the balance of the advertisement will be paid for at the applicable rate. The publisher reserves the right to categorize advertisements or decline.

### Pud

by Steve Nease

