



COMMENT

Lack of activities no excuse for vandalism

Much has been made lately of the link between youth vandalism and the lack of teen-oriented activities in town.

The idea seems to be that if a bowling alley or new skateboard park is built, kids will have less time and inclination to commit useless acts of vandalism, such as the recent swiping of a resident's snake sculpture.

That story has a happy ending, as reported elsewhere in today's paper.

But if today's youths have enough energy to rip off sculptures, break into vehicles or commit other acts of property destruction, surely they have the drive to find more productive things to do.

A modern fact of life seems to be that troubled kids act out. When they do, it isn't likely to be because someone closed down a cinema.

Problems at school, work or in the home can cause good kids to sometimes act badly. It can make youths more vulnerable to peer pressure.

In those cases, open communication with parents or a valued adult can make all the difference.

Yes, there are good kids around, and plenty of them. But we don't do them any favours if we rationalize the behaviour of those who irresponsibly break laws and societal expectations. Vandalism is caused by vandals. Not by town planners who fail to erect a bowling alley in time.



OUR READERS WRITE

We should all be proud of cemetery work

Dear Editor:

I was so pleased to see that an article had finally been written about the restoration effort at the Bronte Pioneer Cemetery. After researching this cemetery for four months and being at the site in August for two weeks while the work was being done, I had been wondering why it had taken so long to inform the citizens of Milton about this effort.

Anyone who had visited the cemetery site in the past knew it was in terrible disarray for more than 50 years. I'd like to thank those who came out and watched the work in progress.

I'd also like to thank Gerald and his

team at Newman's Monument Foundations and Repairs for doing the work of repairing, leveling and righting the stones. I'm pleased to say they did all the repairs while respecting the integrity of the historical stones.

I only hope other features of the cemetery such as repairing the fence, providing better public accessibility and historical signage as well as a general cleaning of the stones is considered in the future. Pioneer cemeteries are non-renewable heritage resources and we should all be proud to maintain them.

**Diane Robnik
Milton**

New home construction has life of its own

Dear Editor:

It seems that new home construction in Milton has suddenly taken on a life of its own.

The signs, happily notifying us of impending construction, have been removed. The new signs, happily notifying us of specifics of that construction, stand in their place. You've seen them. Other than the name of the builder/developer, the most noticeable advertisement is the lot size. Why are they so proud of 31-foot, 32-foot, 34-foot and 40-

foot lots? They even call some oversize. The only thing oversize about a 40-foot lot is the laughter behind our backs because we bought into it.

These homes aren't put on these lots so they're affordable to us. They're put there because they're profitable to the builder. Yes, there is free enterprise, and I'm all for it, but not when we have been led to believe there was no other way.

I had hoped that the people of Milton would take a stand against

Thanks for the strong support, Milton

Dear Editor:

I would like to thank all the citizens who voted for me in the past municipal election. It sent me a strong positive message and I will most definitely run again.

If I had started a year ago, I feel the results would maybe have been reversed. I gained a wealth of knowledge.

Thanks to all my campaign helpers Debbie, Grace, husband

John and son Chris who worked so hard for me.

I wish all the candidates who did get in to form the new town council all the very best.

And to (Councillor) Rick (Malboeuf), "I'll be back!" Best to you also. It was an experience, that's for sure.

**Darlene Wasilkowsky
Candidate for regional
councillor Wards 2 and 4**

developers. You, and the leaders of your community, had a chance to set a precedent. None of you wanted this influx of people and building. With them comes progress and growth, and the wonderful atmosphere of "Friendly Town," Ont., would be in jeopardy. One thing you could have done to ensure those feelings of comfort, space and privacy was to not allow developers free reign. Tell them that if they want to build in your back yard they must adhere to certain conditions.

Had some discretion and reason been used years ago, when developers started building whole neighbourhoods on two acres, you wouldn't be facing this problem today. Contrary to what they threaten, home prices wouldn't be out of reach, but a lot of their profits would. With the land mass that is Canada, why do builders think we all want to live on the same street? More import, why do we let them?

**D.C. Potter
Burlington**



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