



COMMENT

Vandalism meeting is an important one

Recent vandalism at Evergreen Cemetery and local schools leaves us, quite frankly, feeling both disgusted and exasperated.

The pathetic culprits turned over 27 headstones at the Ontario Street cemetery late Saturday night, and about \$25,000 damage was caused to Martin Street School. E.C. Drury High School and Sam Sherratt School were also recent targets of vandals.

Evergreen Cemetery and schools have been vandalized before, but the problem seems to be getting worse as reports of damage to cars, mailboxes and other property are constant and numerous.

Attempting to understand vandalism is difficult, but, then again, it's hard to make sense of something senseless. Destruction of other people's property is clearly a lack of respect, but what drives people to do it? Do vandals gain pleasure from it, and if so, why?

We're at a loss for answers, however the St. Peter's School Council will try to deal with the problem at a special meeting Monday night. Police will be on hand at the meeting, held at the school at 7 p.m.

We hope a large crowd will turn out as the more people putting their heads together to try to resolve the issue the better.



OUR READERS WRITE

Eight-year-old girl upset by cemetery vandalism; wonders why it happened

Dear Editor:

Sunday night my mom and I were out for a bike ride. We went riding through Evergreen Cemetery, as we do so often.

I saw 34 tombstones that had been knocked over and some had even been cracked.

I feel sad for the families who this happened to. I feel mad at the bad kids who could do such a thing.

Why did they do this? I guess they

have never lost a grandma or grandpa or a relative. They probably just don't care.

I hope when I get older, I can find something better to do than destroy someone's property or hurt someone I don't even know.

I hope that they find whoever did this and make them apologize to the families they hurt.

Emma Bradley, 8
Milton

Feel strongly on a local issue? Write a letter to the editor.

Grateful Tanner surprised by her selection as the 2000 Business Woman of the Year

(The following letter was addressed to the Milton Chamber of Commerce executive, directors and staff, and a copy was filed with The Champion.)

Dear Editor:

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you so much for selecting me as the Milton Business Woman of the Year.

I truly cannot express how surprised I was. I have seen many of you in the recent past in a variety of settings and I'm so impressed by the fact that you all managed to keep the secret.

It's such an incredible honour just to be nominated but to have won is

beyond belief.

Whether I'm counseling or engaging in volunteer work, I don't have a product or visible service that I can provide. All I have to give is my heart and soul and expertise, and hope that that will suffice when people are in pain and need someone to lean on.

But most people never really understand what it is that I do and it is a very private activity. For these reasons, it's unusual for someone in my position to be publicly lauded.

What I have found, however, is that my clients have amazed me with their depth of giving, support and loyalty.

I have received calls and faxes of support and good wishes beyond any expectations. But they don't just give to me; they are now reaching in to themselves and are ready to do whatever is needed if it will help me help someone else.

If I have inspired this in any way, it has all been worth it. It renews my faith in humanity.

In my career, the biggest and most common threat to productivity is burnout, because the work is so emotionally draining. A night like last night, with all the support that it afforded, replenishes my spirit.

Elayne Tanner
Rockwood

Volunteering part of being Miltonian, says Best Strain

Dear Editor:

My sincere appreciation to your staff for the coverage of my Lifetime Achievement Award on behalf of the Milton Chamber of

Commerce.

To all the kind people in Milton and area, thank you so much for recognizing me in one of my many hats.

Volunteering is great. Try it, you'll like it. It's part of being a Miltonian.

Freda Best Strain
Milton



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**

Wendy McNab **Advertising Manager**

Karen Smith **Editor**

Steve Crozier **Circulation Manager**

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by Steve Nease

