



# COMMENT

## Please be sure to slow down in school zones

Speed kills. Apparently some motorists just aren't getting that message.

With the start of another school year, there are more young people than ever walking our town roads — increasing the risk of serious injuries and fatalities.

A police blitz of school zones in Peel on the first day of classes nabbed more than 200 motorists who exceeded the 40-km/h speed limit. Halton didn't hold a formal blitz of its own, but we fear the numbers would have been similar.

Pedestrians and motorists share a responsibility to be on constant lookout for one another, while obeying the rules of the road that apply to them.

Sadly, there's still motorists who place getting to work in a timely fashion ahead of personal safety, and that of anyone unfortunate enough to cross their path.

And unless there's a fundamental change in attitude, police will continue to find themselves outnumbered by speeders and faced with the task of informing the next of kin of each victim of carnage on our roads.



## OUR READERS WRITE

### Parent stunned over Ontario education ads

Dear Editor:

I was shocked to read in the Toronto Star that the Ministry of Education is spending \$6 million on advertising to inform the public of what a great job they're currently doing.

I'm not sure where they got this idea from, but it certainly wasn't from me.

I'm the parent of a six-year-old child that has autism and is about to enter grade 1 with an educational assistant available only half the time.

Not receiving a full-time educational assistant comes down to one thing — money. This will not only lower my child's chances of receiving a proper

education, but will also hurt the students in his classroom.

How? Without proper support, and knowing my child, he will engage in disruptive behaviour and the teacher will end up dealing with him herself, taking away teaching time from the other students.

If the Ministry of Education really wanted to show they were doing a good job, they would have put that money directly into the schools where it belongs and not concern themselves with receiving a pat on the back.

Gwen Holroyd  
Milton

### MPP pay raises way too high, says reader

(The following letter was addressed to Halton MPP Ted Chudleigh and a copy was filed with *The Champion*.)

Dear Editor:

I have enclosed a fitness program as well as specific diet information for you and your colleagues at Queen's Park.

I'm sure that after accepting a whopping 37 per cent pay hike you must be feeling pretty bloated, somewhat giddy and a little nauseous having buried your head so deeply into the public trough.

All kidding aside, do you even feel a bit guilty about having reached so deeply into the pockets of Ontarians?

It causes me great concern that the Ontario Progressive Conservative Party has in fact backtracked on a principle of the '95 Common Sense Revolution.

My understanding was that your thirst was to slim down government and to cut back on expenditures in order to return funds to the provincial treasury.

This latest action would counter that line of thinking.

I recognize the need for a pay hike, but when your pay hike exceeds the \$5,000 annual salary of a school trustee by \$32,000, one begins to see two different sets of rules.

Your government expects public

servants to accept a 4.2 per cent raise over three years, while indulging in a level of gluttony unseen since Caligula's reign.

I observed you leader Mike Harris on television jumping through hopes in order to explain the rationale and impartiality used in deciding these raises — but in my opinion the wrong choice was made by all MPPs that embraced the pay hike as fair.

The money would have been better spent on attracting seriously-needed nurses, doctors and educators to our province.

Mike Foley  
Georgetown



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### Woman offers thanks to 'kind souls' who helped family

Dear Editor:

This letter is to the kind souls who generously came to my door in an hour of need.

Thank you so very much for your considerate and selfless ges-

ture. If it was not for you, my children would not have had food over the weekend or even on the first day of school.

Most importantly, my youngest son was able to have a birthday

cake on his birthday.

God bless you, and my deepest and most heartfelt thanks once again go out to you.

Debbie Chan  
Milton

### Pud

by Steve Nease

