



# COMMENT



## THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

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## Thanks, Milton — for all of your generosity

Milton's generosity never ceases to amaze us — especially around the holiday season.

This time of year seems to bring out the best in everyone, and this town's residents are no exception — as was seen through our annual Christmas Bureau Fund.

The Salvation Army fundraiser topped out at a whopping \$24,279. It was just a little bit short of our \$25,000 target, but certainly an impressive tally and one that went a long way toward ensuring all local families were able to properly enjoy the festive season.

We here at the newspaper donate to the fund ourselves — as well as oversee the collection campaign — but the real credit for the fund's continued success goes to area residents, businesses and organizations that strive to help those less fortunate.

Christmas is a time when everyone, regardless of financial situation, should have something to be thankful for. Due to the heartwarming efforts of so many of you, that was definitely the case in our little corner of the world.

Once again, Miltonians have shown how caring they truly are.

## OUR READERS WRITE

### We must rediscover individualism and reason to win out over violence: reader

Dear Editor:

On video, Osama and friends chortle and praise Allah over the unexpected scale of destruction they brought to the World Trade Centre. How could men have such disregard for human life?

In every century of history, violence has arisen among those who abandon reason to accept the contradiction that is the 'after-life'.

Often, non-believers must convert or die. Such were Mohammed's teachings and practice: "O then slay the idolaters wherever you find them, and take them captive and besiege them and lie in wait for them in every ambush. Then if they repent and keep up prayer and pay the poor-rate, leave their way free to them..." (Koran, 9.5).

The World Trade Centre stood as the

material expression of reason and reality. It fell by the material expression of faith and mysticism. To win this war, we must ignore the fraud of religion and discover the philosophy of reality, reason, individualism and capitalism.

Richard Bramwell  
Milton

### Milton couple wants their snowman back

Dear Editor:

WANTED — The person who removed the little snowman child from 150 Wilson Dr. Kindly return it. The Snowman family misses her.

The Gervais'  
Milton

Have your say with a letter to the editor. Fax letters to 878-4943.

## You want to see 2002, right? Don't drink and drive

We all know alcohol plays a big part in the holiday season.

New Year's Eve just isn't the same without someone spending the night hugging the toilet.

Like clockwork, we know we're going to see drunk driving commercials on TV and hear them on the radio.

It's been drummed into our heads — kind of like don't have sex without a condom for fear of AIDS — that if we drink, don't drive.

But like the repetitive sex talk, either we're not listening or think those things only happen to other people.

That won't happen to me. I won't get killed by a drunk driver.

So why do people drink and drive? It must be because those selfish, inconsiderate idiots are too cheap to spring the \$10 for a cab (yet they have all kinds of money to spend in a bar all night...

how odd).

And the ones who get into cars with drunk drivers are equally as brain dead (figuratively and possibly accurately). Oh, but I understand. You were soooooo drunk, you didn't realize your friends threw you into the back seat (without a seatbelt) until you woke up in the emergency room. Right, you're the victim.

And people will always lie about how much alcohol they've consumed (always a lesser amount) to make it seem that they are perfectly capable of handling a motor vehicle. And more often than not, nobody will stop them. You don't want to turn the night into an after school special and actually take car keys away, do you? Hell no, let's just kill a car load full of family members. Sounds better to me.

But you don't want me to rant on and on about drinking and driving. We've heard the same old



### Random thoughts

with FANNIE SUNSHINE

message for years. You would rather have this space filled with something else, perhaps another picture of a Christmas tree.

Well too bad.

I applaud the Reduce Impaired Driving Everywhere (RIDE) program, which runs across the country. And the OPP, which patrols Hwy. 401 through Milton, have also bumped up their

RIDE program, which continues until Wednesday.

Unfortunately, it's not enough to drive the message home. And the sad thing is, I don't know what will.

According to Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Canada, four Canadians are killed each day and 125 people are seriously injured from drunk drivers. Approximately 50,000 Canadians are impacted by impaired drivers annually.

Four people killed each day. That could be you, your parents and a sibling. A whole family whipped out in the blink of an eye.

Maybe if you're lucky, you'll have a friend who would rather watch all you drunken fools instead of participating in a night full of puking, drink spilling and five-minute bathroom breaks. Sometimes it's more fun to watch anyway.

You do want to live to see 2002, right?