



# COMMENT



## THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

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## Extra caution needed in the coming months

The beginning of the school year means more than the return to classrooms. It means back to school buses as well.

And with that comes the need for drivers to exercise increased caution.

Most injuries suffered by bus students occur off the bus itself and in the street. And because children often don't think about the dangers of crossing the street, that means drivers must take the initiative.

Along with exercising general precautionary measures as watching your speed, drivers need to pay attention to the actions of school buses and their students.

When a school bus driver puts on the flashing red lights and extends the left-side stop sign, traffic must stop in each direction. Once all children have crossed the road safely, the sign will retract, the lights will stop and traffic can once again flow freely.

It's also important to remember to be patient for school buses as they approach the numerous railway crossing in Town. The buses are to stop at each crossing and check for trains before continuing its trek.

Parked cars along the roadway can also be a hazard, as children may not stop before darting out into the street.

Please be cautious in the coming months. Our children need to be safe outside the classroom as well as in.



## OUR READERS WRITE

### Reader says that government's involvement is necessary to control education spending

Dear Editor:

Having read the account of spending by principals and teachers to the tune of \$778,000, it's little wonder that the provincial government has taken over the allotment of funds for education purposes.

Since examples are supposed to rise from the "bottom" and exercise discipline, self-control and consideration of others, it's not surprising the behaviour of students and of politicians.

If the above amount is spent on their own level of development, what secret amounts are also not

spent by principals and school boards for the benefit of students (i.e. books, music).

Many teachers go into that profession for the money; others stay in it for the same reason (and tenure) without improving their teaching methods. I raised my children at a time when the school boards weren't that self-important and principals and teachers had — and expected — high standards of themselves as well as of the students.

Extra personal attention was freely given to students with prob-

lems.

Maybe the lessons were rather boring then, but in today's environment, even history can be made interesting through videos — and they're free at libraries.

Spelling and math tables contests would certainly improve the stilled minds that rely on computers to do what their mind is meant for. I'm still learning.

I'm not a teacher myself in the usual sense, but I had four teacher siblings.

H. Shaver  
Milton

E-mail all of your letters to the editor to [miltone@haltonsearch.com](mailto:miltone@haltonsearch.com).

## Summer program at Allendale a win-win initiative

With the school year starting, the focus is on young people.

And this past summer, 32 youths in Milton brought smiles to the faces of Allendale residents on a daily basis.

The work of these kids was recently drawn to my attention though a letter from Anthea Hoare, co-ordinator of community relations for Allendale.

The letter captured my interest because in the "me" society of today, it's nice to see another example of people giving to others instead of taking — and at such a young age.

These kids aged 12 to 17 years worked this past summer at Allendale from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday to Friday for a minimum of three weeks.

Many of them stayed longer and one or two stayed the whole summer.



Some of the young Allendale volunteers recently enjoyed a barbecue put on in their honour to say thank you.

The young people were from all over Milton. Some even came from Burlington and Oakville. They were from different schools and back-



From the  
editor's desk

with KAREN SMITH

grounds, but together they made Allendale a brighter place.

They helped mainly in recreation, both in large and small group activities and in one-to-one settings. They were also active in administration, restorative therapy, chaplaincy, the Milton Place Adult Day Program, hairdressing and clerical assistance in a number of areas.

According to Ms Hoare, their "capacity for hard work is outstanding and their enjoyment contagious."

And their "energy, their willingness to help and their wonderful smiles brighten everybody's day."

In return, besides the satisfaction of helping others, the students had the opportunity to learn about a number of different careers — gerontology, recreation, therapy, nutrition and other health-related areas.

They also gained some wonderful experience in the real world of work.

Allendale is now recruiting for the regular programs, which starts this month.

Anyone interested can call the Community Resources Office at Allendale at (905) 878-4141, ext. 8025.

Ms Hoare will be happy to hear from you.