



# COMMENT

## Hydro going to pot?

The escalating cost of hydro is just one more good reason to help Halton Regional Police shut down illegal drug-growing operations.

There are some groups — particularly a vocal segment from British Columbia that e-mails The Champion on a regular basis — that believe the police have far more worrisome criminals to chase than the folks who choose to grow marijuana for a living.

But today we don't want to debate the issue of decriminalizing pot. Instead we want to reiterate the danger these pothouses pose to otherwise quiet, safe neighbourhoods as well as the cost of stealing electricity. Often the electrical power supply meters inside the houses are altered so that sufficient power can be routed inside without it registering on the meter, explain police.

Not only does this method of sourcing electricity create a fire hazard, it also steals hydro from the utility producing it. This in turn increases power usage and can affect power prices. And we think we know how Milton residents feel about the surge in hydro costs.

Halton police are asking for help in tracking down grow houses. If you suspect there's one on your street, Crime Stoppers is just a call away.

Closing down grow houses isn't about the pros and cons of legalizing pot. It's about safety and theft.



## OUR READERS WRITE

### Quality Greens' closure upsetting: reader

Dear Editor:

It's with a sad feeling that I write this letter regarding Quality Greens closing its doors for the last time.

I've lived in Milton all my life, nearly 46 years. In all that time, and for years before, there has always been a grocery store in that exact location. When I was little, the store was known as Ledwith's.

I treasure the memories I have going into that store with my mother and sister every week to get our groceries. We were always greeted in the produce department by Charlie Heffernan and without doubt would stop and have a few laughs with Stu Hannant in the meat depart-

ment. George Penson and Mike Ledwith are other friendly faces I recall.

As the years passed and I had a daughter of my own. We would walk to Quality Greens to get our groceries. My daughter had a cookie card that allowed her to have a free cookie from the bakery on each visit.

Quality Greens maintained the small-town feeling established by its predecessors. A trip to Quality Greens most often resulted in spending time chatting with several of the employees and exchanging jokes, and always a friendly greeting.

**Sandy Cheskey**  
Milton

### Quality Greens was a vital part of Milton's downtown core and will be missed: reader

Dear Editor:

I was greatly dismayed to learn that Quality Greens has closed its doors.

The comments made by Mayor Gord Krantz in the Tuesday, Nov. 5 issue of The Champion are disturbing.

Perhaps Mr. Krantz needs to drive to downtown Brantford to see what a downtown core looks like when businesses start to close their doors.

Boarded up windows, locked doors and empty parking lots aren't attractive sights for anyone.

Quality Greens was a wonderful little grocery store that always carried fresh meats, cold cuts and a beautiful array of fruits and vegetables.

And they did so with a smile.

There was always someone there to carry out your bags for you, take your name for that special order or even run downstairs for that store-made roast beef that was almost done.

I always felt welcome at Quality Greens, and I can say in all honesty that I even went out of my way to shop there to ensure they received my money.

All of my fresh produce and meats were bought there — as well as my bottled water and lottery tickets.

Yes, I can buy those products anywhere, but would I get a smile? Would anyone ask me if I'm able to carry my load?

I'm sure it's difficult for Mr.

Krantz to feel the anxiety that all of the store owners felt — after all, he is paid whether construction takes place or not.

However, he may wonder what Milton paid for in the end when Main Street is the ghost section of this growing town.

I say, as a fellow Miltonian, let any extra tax money, or Mohawk Raceway earnings, go to support the downtown store owners who have had to suffer through the necessary renovations.

Future generations deserve to have a downtown core that's stable and inviting.

**Donna Waugh**  
Milton



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The Canadian Champion, published every Tuesday and Friday at 191 Main St. E., Milton, Ont., L9T 4N9 (Box 248), is one of The Metroland Printing, Publishing & Distributing Ltd. group of suburban companies which includes: Ajax/Pickering News Advertiser, Alliston Herald/Courier, Barrie Advance, Barry's Bay This Week, Bolton Enterprise, Brampton Guardian, Burlington Post, Burlington Shopping News, City Parent, City of York Guardian, Collingwood/Wasaga Connection, East York Mirror, Erin Advocate/Country Routes, Etobicoke Guardian, Flamborough Post, Forever Young, Georgetown Independent/Acton Free Press, Halton Business Times, Huronia Business Times, Kingston This Week, Lindsay This Week, Markham Economist & Sun, Midland/Penitanguishene Mirror, Milton Shopping News, Mississauga Business Times, Mississauga News, Napanee Guide, Nassagaweya News, Newmarket/Aurora Era-Banner, Northumberland News, North York Mirror, Oakville Beaver, Oakville Shopping News, Oldtimers Hockey News, Orillia Today, Oshawa/Whitby/Clarington/Port Perry This Week, Peterborough This Week, Picton County Guide, Richmond Hill/Thornhill/Vaughan Liberal, Scarborough Mirror, Stouffville/Uxbridge Tribune.

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### Pud

by Steve Nease

