



COMMENT

Be careful, Milton — it's a jungle out there

Beware of bats!

That's the message from Halton health officials and one Miltonians should listen close to since there's a high bat population in these parts.

As reported elsewhere in this newspaper, a rabid bat was found in a Burlington house and that can mean only one thing — there are probably others with the virus, and that poses a threat to humans.

Rabies is fatal in people and animals if not treated. Infected animals carry the virus in their saliva and spread it to other animals and people through bites and contaminated wounds.

It's no longer just mosquitoes we have to look out for this summer.

The key message from the Halton Region Health Department is that anyone who finds a bat in their home should call the department immediately. The number is (905) 825-6000.

Health department staff will then determine the next course of action.

Animal-proofing their homes is a good idea. It's also wise to warn children in the family to stay away from aggressive animals.

And don't forget the pets, which should be vaccinated every year.



OUR READERS WRITE

Reader says he's both saddened and amused by sequence of letters

Dear Editor:

I'm saddened, albeit amused, by the recent sequence of letters in which Peter Berry criticized Lynn Shire, Wendy Schau took Mr. Berry to task for getting personal, and then Richard Hodgins jumped in with the presumptuous suggestion that he's happy to assist by calling Mr. Berry an ignorant Conservative.

When we're finished regressing with the assistance of a selection from the 18 recognized philosophical fallacies, I hope that we can all be friends again.

There are currently 48 people named

Martin in the Milton telephone directory and, although there are not yet any McCoys in residence, with Milton's rapid residential expansion now in progress you never know when some might arrive.

The philosophical fallacy that I've always thought warranted more serious examination goes: "Some dogs have fuzzy ears. My dog has fuzzy ears. Therefore, my dog is some dog!"

Ron Bezan
Harrison Road

Bronte Meadows Park valuable to neighbouring area and should be sustained, stresses reader

(The following letter was addressed to the Town of Milton's Planning and Public Works Department and a copy was filed with *The Champion*.)

Dear Editor:

This letter is in response to a letter I recently received from Colin Best, a candidate for Ward 2 in Milton.

Mr. Best writes that the potential school site on Bronte Meadows Park, located northwest of the intersection of Laurier Avenue and Farmstead Drive, is being considered for a change in zoning. The zoning change proposed by Town staff is from institutional to residential.

I have a concern in this matter, since I live on Laurier Avenue. My house faces this 3.3-acre parcel of land across Laurier Avenue.

My family and I have lived in this house for 19 years, and I have become well acquainted with the

various uses made of the park by my family, my neighbours and others in Milton.

On a weekly basis in the summer, people use the park to play soccer, fly kites, play touch football, throw Frisbees, walk dogs, jog, walk, sit and talk. There's a thriving minor soccer program that utilizes three mini soccer fields all summer. Minor baseball teams use the field for warm-ups and calisthenics.

In the wintertime, we see snowmen being made there, as well as the field being used for cross-country skiing and snow soccer.

This land, although technically designated as a future school site, has been used as a neighbourhood park for more than two decades.

The area isn't well served by actual parks. The Bronte Meadows Park is dominated by a softball field, tennis courts and a parking lot. There's not a lot of green space that can be utilized if a ball game is

underway.

David Thompson Park is so narrow and secluded that it isn't very inviting. Brian Best Park is dominated by a hardball field, softball field and a full-sized soccer field. Again, there's little open space to be had when games are in session.

I ask that Town of Milton staff and/or the planning department recommend to council that the land in question be purchased by the Town in order to ensure that its use as a park be sustained.

I remind Town of Milton staff of its related attempts to block the development on former institution land at E.C. Drury High School, and implore them not to make the same mistake again.

In-filling this bit of parkland at Bronte Meadows with houses would do the neighbourhood and the entire town a grave injustice.

Ted Hamill
Laurier Avenue



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by Steve Nease