

Woman upset over theft of flowers from cemetery

By **STEPHANIE THIESSEN**
The Champion

For many people, Milton Evergreen Cemetery on Ontario Street is a refuge. It's a place to sit and reflect, and maybe plant a flower or two at the graves of loved ones.

So when two potted lilies and a potted tulip were stolen recently from the graves of a Milton woman's parents and sister-in-law, she was shocked.

"How could anyone do this?" questioned the woman, who didn't want her name used for fear of further property going missing from the grave sites. "It's like a transgression, robbing from a grave. How low can you get?"

It was April 27 when the woman

noticed the potted tulips and lily missing from her parents' resting place.

The holes into which she had inserted the potted lily and tulips had been re-filled with dirt. There was even a small tuft of grass put over the spot to make the theft less noticeable, the woman said.

Saturday, the woman returned to the cemetery and found the other lily at her sister-in-law's site was also gone. "This is private property," she said. "It's owned by the cemetery board and the people who have plots there."

She said she's not the only one to have things missing. The woman said she's spoken with numerous people who have had items lovingly placed at sites stolen.

She recalled once seeing a

smashed angel lying at a site.

Jim Strain, secretary-treasurer of Milton Evergreen Cemetery, confirmed the potted flowers weren't taken by anyone attending to the cemetery.

He said he occasionally hears of plants or items going missing, but not often.

"We've had absolutely no reports of anything else missing this year," Mr. Strain said, adding no complaints were received last year either.

The unnamed woman said she's not going to stop her efforts to beautify the sites of her loved ones.

"I'm not going to stop bringing flowers."

Stephanie Thiessen can be reached at sthiessen@miltoncanadianchampion.com.

Correction

A headline on a story published Tuesday regarding the Halton District School Board's use of taxis was incorrect. The board didn't decide to stop using taxis.

As stated correctly in the story, the board was asked by a citizen to not use taxis to transport students for safety reasons, but the board, citing litigation, didn't discuss the request nor did it vote on it.

We apologize for the error.


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