

# Comment

## The Canadian Champion

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## Decisions like these make big difference

Monday night's decision by the Town's administration and planning committee to send a local developer back to the drawing board served the town and its people well.

As reported elsewhere in this newspaper, a plan for a condominium building on Ontario Street by H.D. Investments was turned down in its present state.

Committee members opposed to the plan cited concerns about the esthetics and height of the building and how it fits in with the rest of the residential area on the street.

The changes the committee are asking the developer to make may seem minor, but they're really quite significant because they set a standard.

As Milton continues to grow and these types of building proposals become more common, decisions like these will have to be made on a frequent basis.

Each proposal is individual and should be treated as such, but decisions made now will affect the esthetics of the town for years to come.

Let's get it right.

Miltonians want to live in town tastefully and thoughtfully designed and that takes good planning.

## Think voting's not worth your time? Think again.

To Milton residents who don't normally vote, I have a message: This Monday, vote.

Now coming from a relatively inexperienced reporter in her mid-twenties, that plea probably doesn't hold much weight. It certainly wouldn't for myself if I were blasé toward the whole democratic rights thing.

But I had the pleasure of meeting a gentleman the other day who just might have more pull. Heck, anyone who could resist his challenge to vote should win some sort of trophy for apathy.

His name is Bert Walton, and he lives in an unassuming house in Campbellville with his wife, Jean.

He's 80, she's 76.

I visited the Waltons at their house Tuesday to interview him about his recent trip to Normandy for the 60th anniversary of D-Day.

On June 6 of this year, Mr. Walton was a tourist

with a camera slung over his shoulder, enjoying some long-deserved recognition.

But June 6 60 years ago, Mr. Walton was a barely 21-year-old pilot in the air force engaged in the battle of his life at Juno Beach — one of 12 young men from Campbellville who had enlisted three years before.

Fortunately, he survived to tell stories about the day, unlike many of the men in the air force. According to Mr. Walton, 62 per cent of the Canadian air force lost their lives in the Second World War.

While poring over photos Ms Walton had neatly arranged in albums, the topic of Monday's federal election came up.

Mr. Walton and his wife both expressed their dismay over the high percentage of people who don't vote.

"If it hadn't been for their sacrifice, we would-



## Our Readers Write

### Champion's endorsement tough to swallow

Dear Editor:

So The Champion has come out and endorsed Paul Martin and the Liberal Party in the upcoming election.

By endorsing Paul Martin and the Liberals you are throwing your support behind the man and the party most responsible for devastating the public health care system across Canada. It's the policies and actions taken by Mr. Martin as finance minister that has created crisis within our health care system.

Endorsing the Liberals means The Champion supports corrupt government. Simply look at the scandal where hundreds of millions of tax dollars were directed to Liberal ad agencies and political friends — money better spent on

health care. Endorsing the Liberals means The Champion endorses the wasting of billions of tax dollars on such boondoggles as the HRDC program and the useless and ineffective gun registry — money that should have gone toward education and social housing.

By endorsing the Liberals, The Champion supports and encourages politicians and political parties that make promises during an election and then breaks those promises after the election.

The Liberals promised to scrap the GST and the Free Trade Agreement and promised a national child care program and to eliminate child poverty. Despite being in power for 11 years, they have yet to fulfill any of those election promis-

es. So as I see it, the editorial staff of The Champion is endorsing a party that's responsible for ruining our health care system, is corrupt, has a proven record of wasting and mis-managing billions of our tax dollars and has broken so many election promises it's impossible to remember them all.

Let us hope that on June 28, unlike the editorial staff at The Champion, the voters of Halton will say no to corrupt government, no to wasteful spending, no to Paul Martin and his Liberals and say yes to a new and better Canada and vote for the right Martin — Dean Martin and the Conservative Party.

**Rick Malboeuf**  
Milton



### Around town

with STEPHANIE THIESSEN

n't vote," Ms Walton said.

Mr. Walton added many people lost their lives fighting against dictatorship, and fighting for simple freedoms like the right to vote.

Not voting is like a slap in their faces. Mr. Walton didn't say that, but I do.

What Mr. Walton said went something more like this: "Every vote is important. I'm not saying

how to vote, just get out there and do it. It's not who (you vote for), it's just the idea that you exercise that right."

If I hadn't been able to truthfully look Mr. Walton in the eye and respond affirmatively to his question of whether I vote, I would've left his house that day feeling ashamed — ashamed that I had taken the freedom we have today so lightly and treated it as something that came cheaply, like a trinket from a gumball machine.

Because, as I was reminded Tuesday, nothing could be further from the truth.

Three days from now, please remember Mr. Walton and the many brave young men and women who weren't willing to watch their freedoms be endangered.

Voting is a privilege that should be cherished, not cast aside in favour of whatever's on TV that night.