

# Comment

## The Canadian Champion

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## Where's the justice?

**News item:** The Ontario government is appealing the nine-month jail sentence given a Blackstock couple who kept two adopted sons locked in cages for 13 years.

**News item:** A Toronto dentist who admitted possessing "many thousands" of child porn images was given an 18-month conditional sentence.

**News item:** A man called a "ticking time bomb" with nine previous drinking and driving convictions, and who was ordered deported in 1998, has been convicted for a 10th time.

The question that comes to mind when reading about these recent court cases is this: What are the courts doing when handing out these lenient sentences?

In the first case, the Crown sought significant jail time for the parents of the two boys who were kept caged at home and forced to live in their own filth. Justice Donald Halikowski, however, gave the parents the light sentence saying their actions were "underscored by good intentions." Caging children? Making them live in and eat their own excrement? How are these "good intentions"? Thank goodness the Province is wondering the same thing and is going to appeal the ruling.

In the second case, Dr. Leslie Griesdorf amassed the largest porn collection in Canada over a 20-year period — most of it involving children — and yet will see no time in prison. What kind of message is being sent to society? Where is the deterrent to other "collectors"?

In the third case, habitual drunk driver Alvaro Malicia is awaiting sentencing, yet again, on his 10th drunk driving charge. He also has more than 20 convictions for various offences including robbery and theft yet he hasn't been put behind bars for a significant period of time or deported.

Justice, it seems, is hard to find in some Ontario courts.

## My suggestions for a happenin' Milton summer

It doesn't take much to have a good summer in Milton. Actually, I think it would take more of an effort to have a bad summer than a good one, with all this town of ours has to offer.

With that in mind, there are a few things I'd like to remind Miltonians of as we approach the middle of this great lazy, hazy season. If you haven't been having a good summer, there's still time to turn it around.

Let's call it 'Stephanie's miscellaneous keys to having a great Milton summer' (in no particular order).

1. Explore, explore, explore. At the risk of once more sounding like a Milton cheerleader, I'll say it again. Milton has so much to offer. So spend an afternoon downtown browsing through stores. Support local businesses. Visit the parks operated by Conservation Halton. Participate in special

events. In fact, why not start with tonight's classic car event along Main Street? It starts at 6 p.m.

2. Lock your windows and doors at night. Yes, Milton is a relatively safe community, and chances are your house isn't going to be broken into. But each week throughout the summer break-ins occur, often to homes where the owners are just a little too trusting of Milton's safety. No matter how much of a 'small-town feel' a community has, there are bound to be bad eggs. Make sure your home isn't an easy target for an egging.

3. Appreciate the small pleasures in life. This is something that, obviously, can be done anywhere and has nothing to do with Milton specifically. But Milton sure seems to provide ample things to appreciate.

An example? Nothing starts my day off on a better foot than coffee from Espresso Yourself



## Our Readers Write

### Potential quarry infusion quite concerning

Dear Editor:

Who's watching out for the residents and the environment of Milton regarding the infusion of potential quarry operations in our area?

This infusion includes the possible expansion of the Dufferin quarry, the potential 1,000-truck per day Lowndes quarry in north west Flamborough, which straddles Milton's south west border, and the proposed Hanson shale quarry in north Burlington on Tremaine

Road, just south of Milton's municipal boundary.

How many other quarries are either in the works or are looking to expand that the citizens of Milton aren't aware of? What are the impacts of this potential quarry infusion to our water quality, to our environment and wildlife and to our general way of life in Milton?

Let's not just measure the impact of one quarry, but rather the combined impact of them all. What have we done, or are we doing to

ourselves?

I believe that if we do nothing, we'll be headed toward calling ourselves quarry country and no longer escarpment country — for we'll have no escarpment left.

Councillors need to lead the charge of citizen enlightenment, for early-on situation awareness coupled with constructive input will certainly be considered as watching out for Milton residents.

**Bob Beyette**  
Milton

### Dr. Dumencu will be greatly missed by all who knew him

Dear Editor:

Like everyone else, I was deeply saddened by the death of Dr. Dave Dumencu.

Over the past few years, I had the opportunity to coach hockey and curl against Dave. When it came to sportsmanship and fair play, he was a true gentleman.

He was always there for the kids. Whether it be a hockey event or Curling for Kids, his generous support helped to enhance the experience.

Milton will truly miss him.

**Dale Waller**  
Frobisher Boulevard



### Around town

with STEPHANIE THIESSEN

Caffé. To say I was happy when a new flavour was introduced the other day — Snicker Doodle, as in a Snickers chocolate bar — is an understatement, as my fellow coffee nut reporter Melanie Hennessey can testify.

And I still don't tire of sitting by the Mill Pond.

4. Treasure your family. As the Champion's

crime reporter, I've had my fill of sad stories to report. Over the past 10 months three Milton men have been murdered — one in Milton, two outside of town.

Our sincere condolences go out to the family of Dr. Dumencu, who was obviously loved and appreciated around town. We also remember the Stockton and Manchisi families, who are also dealing with losses and experiencing their first summer without a loved one.

Life is fragile. Enjoy it with your family and friends.

5. Read the Canadian Champion. A shameless plug? Maybe. But how else will you know what's going on around town? And please, continue e-mailing me your story ideas. I can only report on what I know about.

Enjoy the remaining 61 days of summer!