

Comment

Is your teacher tops?

Milton is blessed with an abundance of dedicated, energetic and creative educators in the public and Catholic school systems as well as the private schools that call Milton home.

For that reason, we would like to introduce a new feature in The Champion to recognize our teachers for their extraordinary work — Teacher of the Month.

We want to hear from parents and students who know a deserving teacher in Milton — a teacher who has developed special programs, made learning fun, put in lots of extra hours, supplied a helping hand in a time of need, or who has made a huge difference in the lives of his or her students.

Winners will be picked by a panel of judges from The Champion.

The contest is open to all teachers

in public, Catholic and private schools in Milton from pre-school to grade 12.

What will the Teacher of the Month receive? First, we will feature him or her in a Teacher of the Month story and photo in The Champion.

In addition, his or her class will receive a pizza party courtesy of this newspaper.

At the end of the year, we will examine all the Teacher of the Month winners and select one deserving educator to be the Teacher of the Year.

Nominations can be sent by e-mail to miltone@haltonsearch.com or dropped off to the editor at The Champion office, 191 Main St. E. Please mark all entries to the attention of 'Teacher of the Month'.

We look forward to receiving your nominations.



Our Readers Write

Other parks more deserving of grant

(The following letter was addressed to Milton council, and a copy was filed with The Champion.)

Dear Editor:

I'm not sure Mountsberg Conservation Area qualifies for the \$100,000 grant from Milton's Community Fund, since it's primarily based in Hamilton.

Why not consider other conservation areas that fall more within the surrounding area — like Hilton Falls and Rattlesnake Point.

As a former employee of Conservation Hall, I can attest to the high usage of these parks. I don't know what's been

happening with them in the last couple of years, but in the past they tended to get overlooked when it came to receiving grants of any kind.

As much as I'd like to see Mountsberg awarded the grant, please keep in mind that there are other conservation areas not only within Halton, but in the immediate area surrounding Milton.

And believe me, Conservation Halton will put any monies received to good use.

Jim Benson
Temiskaming Shores

Does Milton Public Library really need \$30,000 for its anniversary celebration?

Dear Editor:

The Champion recently ran an article that stated council had approved \$30,000 for the Milton Public Library's 150th anniversary celebration.

According to the story, this money will be used for a quilt contest, a banner, a booklet about the history of the library, catering and live music, t-shirts and a float in the Milton Santa Clause Parade.

It would seem reasonable to assume that some money will also be used for advertising.

Considering that the entire budget for the Milton Santa Claus

Parade is \$24,000, the library's anniversary budget would seem somewhat extravagant.

I put together an imaginary budget, trying to pad the figures as much as possible, and still couldn't get even close to \$30,000. I have to assume that most of the money is being spent on a float for the parade.

I would also assume that no one other than library staff and guests like the mayor would be interested in a library t-shirt. We all have promotional t-shirts that live in our drawers and never get worn beyond the event they commemorate.

Having worked as a volunteer, I've seen how much can be done with very limited funds with a bit of creativity and innovation. Many of the floats in the Campbellville Santa Claus Parade are made by volunteers at minimal cost.

How can the library justify such excessive spending from a fund designated for acquisition of library materials?

It's surprising the Town, which posted deficits for both 2002 and 2003, doesn't consider such expenditures more carefully.

Sophie Cheney
Campbellville

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The Champion welcomes letters to the editor. We reserve the right to edit, revise, and reject letters. Letters must be signed and the address and telephone number of the writer included. Letters can be e-mailed to miltone@haltonsearch.com, faxed to (905) 878-4943 or dropped off at 191 Main St. E.

Pud

by Steve Nease

