

Comment

Honour thy youth

Too often we're inundated with stories about troublesome youths, while the really good kids in the community go about their business with little recognition.

It's important to remember that this community — like every other one across Ontario — has its fair share of extraordinary young people — those who through a variety of initiatives are committed to making Milton a better place in which to live.

With that in mind, The Champion is proud to once again support the Ontario Junior Citizen of the Year Awards.

Co-ordinated through the Ontario Community Newspapers Association (OCNA) and sponsored by the Tembec Paper Group, the annual awards shine a spotlight upon some of the province's most exceptional young people.

In conjunction with OCNA member newspapers across the province, we're looking to recognize the efforts and accomplishments of these outstanding youngsters, to showcase them and encourage others to follow their good

example.

Please help us out by nominating a young person, aged 6-17, who's involved in community service, has performed an act of heroism, is contributing to the community while living with limitations or is a good kid who shows commitment to making life better for others.

The deadline for nominations is Wednesday, Nov. 30, which should provide plenty of time to adequately illustrate just how a local boy or girl is worthy of distinction.

Nomination forms and further information can be obtained by calling the OCNA at (905) 639-8720 or by going to the community newspaper association's Web site at www.ocna.org.

We know Milton has many young people deserving of this honour.

In recent years several have been nominated and a few have been recognized among Ontario's top junior citizens.

With the help of their parents, teachers and peers, perhaps we can spread a little good news about their accomplishments.



Our Readers Write

Installing parking metres an unwise move

Dear Editor:

Reading The Champion a while ago about the thought of installing parking metres in downtown Milton brings to mind the many times in the past when this issue rose to the surface.

It would seem that now would be the most illogical time to do so, with the need to encourage people to shop downtown. There's a lot more competition out there now.

I recall years ago when we had an attendant who kept track of the cars

parked on Main Street by marking the tires, thus advising folks of their lengthy stay. He'd also remind staff of the businesses not to take up valuable parking spots of their customers.

I'm not sure this method can apply in this day and age, but a retired person might like to take on such a challenge.

We've got to keep downtown Milton alive and well. It's been a positive example for many small towns in the past.

Bruce Hood, former downtown business owner and DBIA chair

Fire department open houses successful

Dear Editor:

On October 8, Milton's Central Fire Station held its annual open house in conjunction with National Fire Prevention Week. And on October 15, an open house was held at Station 2 in Campbellville.

Again this year, these events were a tremendous success. Once again a barbecue was held to support muscular dystrophy. Last year's total of \$800 was surpassed this year, with more than \$1,000 raised.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Air Liquide on Steeles Avenue for its donation of helium

for the kids' balloons, and Kevin's Towing, which supplied the cars for our extrication demonstrations. Also, a big thank-you goes out to Scooter's Snack Services for supplying the popcorn machine. Thanks also to Graham Paine for the great photos in The Champion.

I'd like to personally thank the members of the fire department and their families, who made the open houses such successful events. I'm very grateful to the officers and firefighters for their desire to educate the public on fire safety.

In closing, I'd like to thank the

community for supporting our open houses. We truly hope that you enjoyed meeting your local firefighters, and will remember what you learned for a long time.

Just as a reminder, it's that time of year to have your chimneys cleaned, and remember that on Sunday morning it's time to fall back and change your clocks, so you should change your smoke alarm batteries at that time as well. Fire safety begins at home.

Doug Shortt, chief prevention officer Milton Fire Department

Parking tickets over Thanksgiving not appreciated

Dear Editor:

My family moved into our new home over the Thanksgiving Day weekend and have already received an official welcome gift from the town.

The Town of Milton thought it best to send along their best wishes in the form of a \$30 parking ticket.

The parking officer involved swept through the middle of the night, chalking the tires of his prey, only to return later with his Thanksgiving wishes. Yes, we got ticketed on Thanksgiving when people have visitors

from out of town and parking can be hard to find.

I hear the neighbourhood will be busy again at Christmas, so do come back to visit us. Perhaps while you wait for this festive ambush, you might consider targeting those who park in handicapped spaces but aren't really handicapped, or maybe those who park in fire routes but don't work for the fire department.

Just a suggestion. See you next holiday.

L. d'Entremont Sherwood Road

The Canadian Champion

Box 248, 875 Main St. E., Milton, Ont. L9T 3Z3

(905) 878-2341

Editorial Fax: 905-878-4943
Advertising Fax: 905-876-2364
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