

## Fluoridation is expensive and risky

DEAR EDITOR:

This letter is in reply to Jennifer Smith's letter saying we should trust in our professionals.

On the surface, I would have to agree. They provide a valuable service to the community for our health and well-being.

On the other hand, they're still human and have been known to make mistakes. In the 1950s the side of a bottle of DDT said to sprinkle liberally over pets and in crevices around the home (to control pests). About a year ago, some professionals said that Vioxx was safe. That didn't turn out to be true. In the past 10 years other professionals have said that a certain number of pesticides and herbicides were safe which have now proved to be carcinogenic and were pulled from use.

I have a hard time believing all professionals all the time blindly. As for chlorination, yes it does make our water safe to drink. Did you know that the levels of chlorine are much higher at the insertion point than they are at the farthest reaches of the pipeline? That's because it breaks down in the water the further it goes along. I

double filter my water because I don't want my son drinking chlorine.

As for the high cavity rates among Milton kids, the numbers weren't astronomically higher than the other municipalities in the region. We did, however, have the lowest rate of fluorosis among all areas.

All the rates of cavities would be a lot lower if we cut out sweets, pop and sugars. Fast foods and prepared foods have a lot to do with this, too. Fresh vegetables and fruit along with prepared meals — not out of a box or microwave — would have an impact also. Proper dental hygiene and brushing and flossing would also bring these levels down.

Putting fluoride in the water is expensive, and the amount needed to be effective is a very small window. Too little and it doesn't work, too much and you have even bigger problems.

Because nothing is in a pure form anymore, and with all the chemicals added to everything, I wouldn't blindly trust anyone with the health of my child. Don't accept everything just because a professional said it was so.

Educate yourself on exactly what fluoride is and why it says on the toothpaste tube 'Do not swallow'. Then if you still feel fluoride is necessary, you can give your child fluoride supplements, along with fluoridated toothpaste and fluoride treatments from the dentist. Just don't force this on all the people who voted against it.

My son is a normal seven-year-old who drinks pop, loves ice cream and knows about the candy aisle at Bulk Barn. He also knows what foods are healthier and enjoys a balanced diet. We live in the older part of town, without fluoridation. He didn't use fluoride toothpaste until age five and only gets a fluoride treatment at the dentist once a year. He hasn't had a cavity.

By the way, Walkerton already had chlorine before its water crisis. It was the professionals who were negligent in their duties to regulate those levels that caused the contamination. High levels of fluoride are toxic, and adding it to our water would mean more regulations and responsibilities for our public works department.

SUZANNE TURNER  
RIVERPLACE CRESCENT

## Views on demolished old home unrealistic

DEAR EDITOR:

This is in response to Elizabeth Harrison's letter to the editor concerning the demolition of the old stone house on Tremaine Road.

It would seem apparent that Harrison had never been through the doorway of the subject 160-year-old stone house. If she had, her approach to the demolition might be different.

The building in question was essentially four rooms not including an add-on frame kitchen. The foundation had deteriorated to the extent that you could see through the walls to the earth outside — permitting creatures of any description access to the interior. This would have been a complete and very expensive restoration.

I share Harrison's views concerning the retention of our historic buildings when warranted. But in my opinion this building was a square box with no character. The cost of restoration would have been off the scale.

It would be nice if we were in the position to cover the restoration costs and turn it into a museum, but who pays to perform this work, not to mention the land costs?

Had anyone been interested in purchasing this home with a view to living in it, the expense of doing so would have been horrendous. And you would still be left with a 160-year-old building to modernize and bring up to current building code standards. If it becomes a public building, to this we add annual maintenance costs and lost municipal tax revenue.

Perhaps Harrison would be able to suggest who would pay for this. If she is suggesting the builder be responsible, the cost would have to be recovered from future buyers in the proposed subdivision. Is it fair and equitable that we should saddle the new homeowners with this additional expense?

Money can fix anything, but where does it come from? If Harrison has the means or ability to implement her vision for the restoration of this and future buildings slated for demolition, then the problem is solved.

As a fellow taxpayer I would ask that we not be burdened with non-essential expense.

F.A. (FRED) LOUKS  
MAIN STREET

## Copy of Halton's first-ever newspaper left at Champion

'Time Capsules' are gems of information extracted from past issues of *The Champion* and other publications in order to provide a window into Milton's past. Explanatory comment is sometimes provided to place the situation in context.

May 1907

P.D. Scott, ex-Warden of Halton, has left at the Champion office a copy No. 5 of the Halton Farmer, Trafalgar, Esquesing and Erin Advertiser, perhaps the first newspaper published in Halton. It is edited at Oakville, C.W. Saturday, Feb. 22nd, 1851. The sheet measures 11 by 16 inches and is printed only on one side. Its price was a penny. There are no locals in the number but a correspondent tells of an examination of pupils of the school of Section No. 12 Trafalgar, a mile and a half from Oakville of which Jas. Denman was teacher. The correspondent says "they (the pupils) were exercised not only in the usual branches of the English education but also in those higher subjects which one generally imagines are exclusively taught in seminaries with high-sounding names. Geography was elucidated by maps and globes, anatomy by oratories, telurians &c, geometry by real tangible cubes, cones, prisms and pyramids." The abstract of the accounts for 1850 of the Treasurer of Trafalgar is published showing total receipts of £708-3-0 and the expenditures £115-3-10 less £151-16-4 on roads and bridges, £191-2-10 for general purposes and £250 for school fund. James Reid and James Arnott were the auditors.

The members of the book committee of Milton Public Library are busy now selecting \$50 worth of new books, which will be catalogued and put into circulation. The library is about to be closed two weeks for stock-taking and every member is requested to at once return any books which he may have borrowed.

The Milton baseball club was reorganized with the following officers: President A. Higginbotham; Vice President E.F. Earl; Manager

Milton  
Time  
Capsules



Jno. D. McGibbon; Sec.-treas. R. Fleming; Captain R.W. Springgay; official scorer, Wm. Panton.

Few of the Old Country immigrants who have been pouring into Canada for some time want work on farms, which need them, and they are staying in the cities where they are not needed. They will be in need themselves next winter, though they may get along during the summer, and the cities will have to face the problem of providing for them. Canada wants no more unskilled laborers except for farm work and none but those willing to go to farms should be encouraged to come here.

The Halton Cream and Butter Co. will, by next Tuesday, have the plant replaced which was destroyed in last week's fire, and will resume butter making on that day.

The band played in the open air on Saturday evening for the first time this season and did so on the hill by the grist mill, as the stand next the town hall was in need of repairs. The turnout (of the band) was rather small. Some of the members seem to have forgotten that the town gives an annual grant of \$100 in consideration of the open-air concerts. They should remember this in future and that there is a moral obligation on every member to turn out regularly and punctually.

Mr. Paxton, late manager at Weston has been in charge at the Milton agency of the Farmers Bank for some days and Mr. Vankoughnet has succeeded him at Weston. Mr. and Mrs. Paxton have taken rooms at the Hotel McGibbon.

This material is assembled on behalf of the Milton Historical Society by Jim Dills, who can be reached at [jdills@idirect.com](mailto:jdills@idirect.com).



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