

# OPINION

## Always tie one on

It shouldn't take a tragedy like the loss of life on Rice Lake near Peterborough on the Victoria Day holiday weekend to remind us the decision not to wear a life-jacket while boating is a choice between life and death.

When seven people went on such an excursion on the popular cottage country lake that Sunday, their vessel met the legal requirement of being equipped with at least one personal flotation device for each passenger.

Unfortunately, like seat-belts, life-jackets lose all their life-saving potential when we opt not to wear them.

In the holiday weekend tragic accident, only four of the doomed boat's seven passengers were wearing life-jackets before embarking

in conditions described by one local as too choppy to be out on the water.

When the boat capsized, all seven boaters were sent into the lake and only four were able to make it safely to shore.

Can you guess which four?

The majority of small-vessel boating deaths could be prevented very easily and inexpensively by simply legislating that life-jackets be worn by every boater.

Unlike seat-belts, there's currently no law in Ontario that forces recreational boaters to take common sense precautions against unpredictable accidents.

Certainly the families of last weekend's accident victims would agree it's time that changed.



## ReadersWrite

Send your letters to [miltoned@haltonsearch.com](mailto:miltoned@haltonsearch.com) or drop them off at 875 Main St. E.

### Where is evidence to prove that fluoride is indeed safe?

DEAR EDITOR:

The Ontario Dental Association stated in a recent letter to the editor that fluoridation was one of the greatest accomplishments of the 20th century, according to the U.S. Centres for Disease Control and Prevention.

Without any corroborating evidence, they just said that it was proper and safe.

After a myriad of letters explaining the negative effects of fluoride throughout multiple sources, I would like to turn the argument over to them. To balance out this discussion, I would ask them to please explain in detail why fluoridation is safe.

If we can produce multiple reasons

why it's unsafe, then they should be able to produce even greater evidence why it is safe, considering it's one of the greatest accomplishments of the 20th century.

We have heard basically nothing about why fluoridation is okay to use other than "it prevents cavities."

Considering Milton is one of the only towns left not to use it, I would think it would be easy for them to convince me and the rest of the general public why we should now accept it.

I find their lack of response to all of our letters quite disturbing.

SCOTT TURNER  
RIVERPLACE CRESCENT

### Theft of vase extremely disappointing

DEAR EDITOR:

I've been living in the Main Street/James Snow Parkway area of Milton for the last three years.

One of the reasons I chose to move to a smaller town was because I found it so safe and the people so genuinely kind.

I was in shock and disbelief when over the long weekend I found that someone had stolen a wrought iron vase from my front porch.

It was given to me as a gift a few weeks ago and I just loved it.

The first thing that crossed my mind was why would someone want to invade another's property and steal

something that doesn't belong to them?

It's very discouraging to think that such a mean-spirited individual or individuals live so close to me.

Maybe Milton isn't as safe as I had hoped.

Where does it stop? Do I need to chain down my other vases and patio furniture?

Just thought I needed to bring this to the attention of the local residents, so no one is left disappointed when something sentimental or valuable goes missing from their front porch.

JOANNE D'ABBONDANZA  
MILTON

### Traffic and Hawthorne Village littering both becoming big problems

DEAR EDITOR:

To begin, I need to write to let out my frustrations with traffic in Milton.

I drive eastbound on Derry Road every morning and can't believe the amount of traffic, mostly due to the brainiacs at Town Hall who chose to put a light at Derry and Fifth Line. Taking these lights down would relieve a lot of stress and pressure.

Also, I agree with a previous letter writer who mentioned maybe closing off the right lane at James Snow and Derry until it's a continuous two-lane road. My blood boils when some drivers feel they have the right to butt in front of everyone else who have been waiting patiently so that they can save a whopping 10 to 20 seconds off their commute.

Grow up you selfish drivers and wait your turn like everyone else. I can't believe how many adults act like children driving cars.

Secondly, I live in Hawthorne Village very close to a section of the Union Gas line. At this section, Canada Post has its mailboxes set up temporarily. What disgusts me is the amount of litter that ends up on the gas-line greenbelt and my yard.

Are Miltonians really that lazy that they can't take their flyers and mail that they don't want home and recycle it?

I'm embarrassed to be a Miltonian with the amount of littering that takes place in and around Hawthorne Village. Stop being cheap and lazy, Hawthorne Village residents, and put your litter where it belongs. It's not that difficult a task.

CHRIS BENNETT  
BENNETT BOULEVARD

The Canadian Champion  
Milton's Community Newspaper Since 1860

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

905-878-2341

Editorial Fax: 905-878-4943

Advertising Fax: 905-876-2364

Classified: 905-875-3300

Circulation: 905-878-5947

[www.miltoncanadianchampion.com](http://www.miltoncanadianchampion.com)

Publisher: Ian Oliver

Associate Publisher  
Neil Oliver

Advertising Director  
Wendy McNab

Managing Editor  
Karen Smith

Production Manager  
Tim Coles

Circulation Manager  
Charlene Hall

Office Manager  
Teri Casas

The Canadian Champion, published every Tuesday and Friday at 875 Main St. E., Milton, Ont., L9T 3Z3, is one of the Metroland Printing, Publishing & Distributing Ltd. community newspapers.

Advertising is accepted on the condition that, in the event of a typographical error, that portion of the advertising space occupied by the erroneous item, together with a reasonable allowance for signature, will not be charged for, but the balance of the advertisement will be paid for at the applicable rate. The publisher reserves the right to categorize advertisements or decline.

CCAB Audited

Recognized for excellence by

ocna Ontario Community Newspapers Association

CNA Canadian Community Newspapers Association

SNV Suburban Newspapers of America

The Canadian Champion is a proud media sponsor for:

Halton Healthcare

Child Find ONTARIO

WELCOME WAGON LTD. Since 1990

Jingle Bell Fund

UNITED WAY OF MILTON

Helping For Life

TY AUCTION

The Oakville, Milton and Niagara Falls College School

ATHENA Awards

Milton Police Association

MCRCC

YMCA OF OAKVILLE

Showcase Milton

Police Association of Ontario

GALA Awards

FAO

The Milton Canadian Champion is a Recyclable Product