

OPINION

Are you free this weekend?

Walk for someone who can't Sunday

Going for a leisurely walk is something most of us take for granted.

It's as natural as waking up, getting dressed and strolling down the hall and into the kitchen for breakfast.

These same routine activities can become insurmountable tasks for anyone stricken with multiple sclerosis.

In its advanced stages, MS is known to rob people of their sight and mobility.

An estimated one in 500 Canadians has MS — Canada has one of the highest rates of the neurological disease in the world — and another 1,000 cases are diagnosed in our country each year.

It's a mysterious and unpredictable disease that most often strikes people in the prime of life, but has been known to occur at any age, including childhood.

Women are three times as likely to fall prey to MS than men.

While there is no cure for it, medical research is ongoing — as are efforts to provide support services for those fighting the disease, and their families.

This Sunday, each of us has an opportunity to do our part by simply taking a walk.

The Milton-Halton Hills Super Cities Walk for MS offers participants of all ages and fitness levels the choice of 5 and 10-km routes.

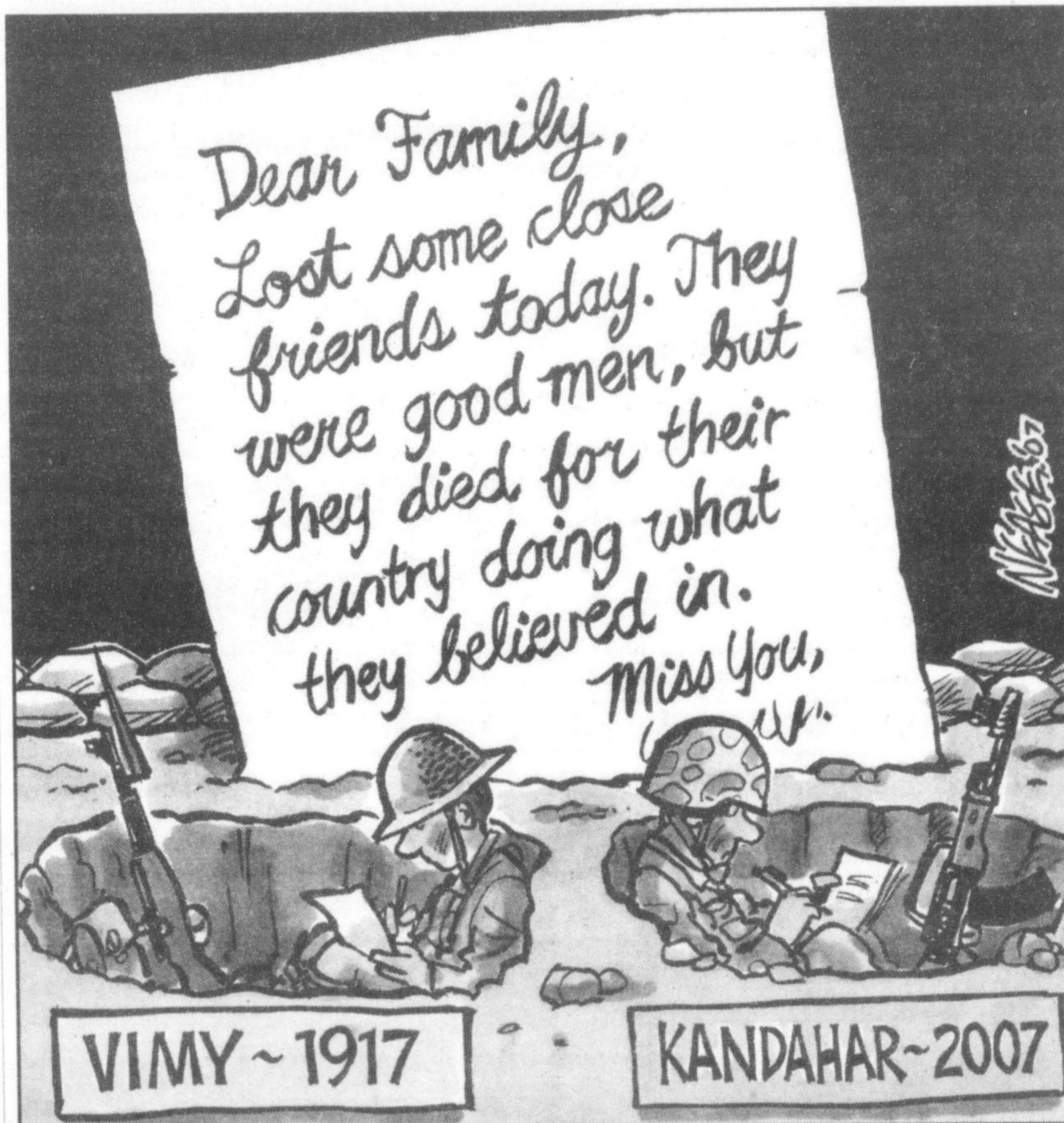
This year's honorary chairs are Milton Mayor Gord Krantz and Mike Shepherd of Prosperity One.

If you're not already registered for the 9:30 a.m. walk starting from the Milton Leisure Centre on Main Street, you can sign up on-line (www.supercitieswalk.com).

The walk day check-in time is 8:30 a.m. An early check-in has been set for tomorrow from noon to 3 p.m.

On the day of the walk, anyone submitting more than \$125 in pledges will be eligible for free gifts. Approximately 72 cents from every dollar raised by the fundraiser is equally divided between MS Society client services and research.

By doing something we already do every day of our lives, the MS Society of Canada strives to finally find a cure.



ReadersWrite

E-mail your letters to miltomed@haltonsearch.com.

More concerted effort is needed to deal with our town's garbage

DEAR EDITOR:

We love our town of Milton and appreciate Halton Recycling considering ways to make a safer, cleaner environment.

We agree with its 3Rs program (reduce, reuse, recycle) and have been guarding our landfills for many years in these ways. We also take time to clean

surrounding outdoor areas of debris, especially trying to protect wildlife in the storm water ponds and wooded areas in our neighbourhood.

Over time we have noticed a major increase in the quantity of garbage in these areas. Some of this debris comes from uncaring individuals and con-

• see RURAL on page A7

Aroundtown

Street names connect Miltonians to community's past

Three years ago, I bought a little piece of Milton's history. A slightly ramshackle, badly-in-need-of-repair piece, but a piece nonetheless.

It was a scary step, purchasing my first home, but a prouder homeowner could not exist. In my eyes I didn't see what all the neighbours saw (and probably grumbled about), but what the home could be once I was done with it.

Finding out from my insurance company that the home I thought was built in the '50s was actually built in the 1850s was a neat surprise, and I took to finding out what I could about the little former hunting cottage.

I began paying particular attention to the Time Capsules that run in the *Champion*, because sometimes there was a mention of something interesting that happened on my street a hundred-or-so years ago.

Although I can only dream about owning a beautifully-restored designated historical home, I'm pleased with what I have and enjoy feeling connected to Milton's past.

So when I heard changes to a number of street names and numbers were being proposed by the Town — to ensure emergency vehicles are dispatched to the right places — I quickly scanned the list of proposed changes and let out a sigh of relief that my street wasn't one of them.

Apparently I'm not the only Miltonian attached to her street name.

The other day, fellow reporter Melanie Hennessey attended an open house giving residents a chance to voice their opinions, and boy, do people feel passionately about

the subject, she said. They yelled, they pleaded, and they criticized.

I can understand this reluctance to have a piece of their history taken away.

But, at the end of the day, if an ambulance is able to get to patients faster, isn't that more important? To the angry mob at the meeting, I ask you, if it was your spouse or child in need of an ambulance, wouldn't you gladly give up your street name if it meant avoiding a potentially

deadly confusion or delay?

We need to let our common sense supercede our emotional connection to our street names. Having duplicate street names is dangerous, and needs to be changed — no matter how difficult the separation anxiety.



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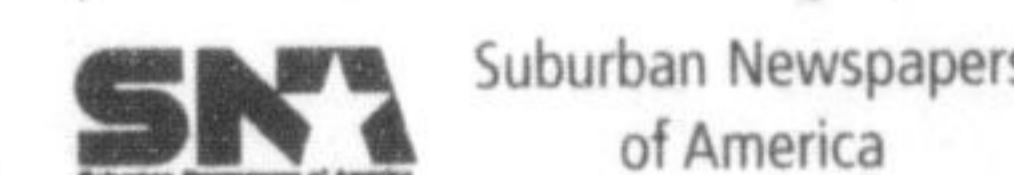
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