

OPINION

An on-line threat

Is your child a cyber bully or the member of a fight club?

Or perhaps he/she is the victim of this technology-driven, sick form of entertainment among some of today's youth.

While we think it's great news that Halton police are teaming up with the region's two publicly-funded school boards to combat cyber bullying activity, there's a third party that needs to be part of the solution — the parent.

Halton police report that acts of cyber bullying — often involving viciously violent attacks on unsuspecting students by school-mates — are being recorded with videophones and posted on the popular site YouTube with greater frequency.

While some of this disturbing footage involves fight clubs — groups that gather to engage in so-called consensual fighting — police note that this kind of activity is illegal as soon as anyone is

seriously injured.

While some of these planned fights are taking place on school property, at least one Halton police is aware of was hosted in the backyard of a north Oakville residence.

For this reason, parents need to be an active part of uncovering suspected incidents of cyber bullying and fight club activity.

As Halton schools become more aware of student abuse of computer equipment to post these disturbing video images online, so too must parents become proactive in their monitoring of cellphone and home computer use.

If left unchecked, incidents of cyber bullying have the potential to escalate to a lethal outcome.

By either taking away or, at least, monitoring the use of technology that makes cyber bullying possible, we may be able to prevent such a tragedy.



ReadersWrite

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

Let's work to keep Milton clean

DEAR EDITOR:

Over the next few weeks, good citizens of all ages, in communities across the country, will be out in their neighbourhoods cleaning up debris.

Miltonians have been joining in the clean-up for many years. They've also been helping their more senior neighbours with yard work.

Some have climbed into the cold streams to pull out shopping carts, bicycles and many other large items that have found their way into the water.

Our attractive country roads are made clean again by

those in the rural areas.

How lucky we are to have all those good people who want to volunteer their help.

Why do we still pollute our beautiful world when we know better?

Let us now think twice before throwing that cup out the car window. Let's speak with our families about how we can all manage our discarded fast food containers so they don't end up as litter for others to pick up.

We live between E.C. Drury High School and Milton District High School. For some years the Town has pro-

vided a can for garbage at the footbridge, used by students on our trail pathway. One would hope that after the clean-up, the litter, broken bottles and other items that haven't made it into the container will now be directed into it.

Students may not read letters to the editor, but their parents do, and it is time to give our young citizens of the future a pep talk.

It is not cool to pollute.

**ANNE PTOLEMY
MILTON**

Carr will make a good addition to GTTA

DEAR EDITOR:

Halton Regional Chair Gary Carr will be a good addition to the Greater Toronto Transportation Authority's board of directors.

Hopefully there can be some improvements made in the system with quality people such as he.

I also hope the figures quoted in the March 30 Champion are not correct. For if two mil-

lion vehicles carry 518 million passenger trips annually, that means each bus carries 259 passengers trips in a year. Why? My car does twice that much easily, and probably more, each year.

All the best to Carr. Let's hope the GTTA can integrate the whole system to make it very user friendly.

**JACK VERDUYN
MILTON**

Incorrect website address given in Friday letter

A website address included in a Friday letter was inadvertently missing a few characters.

The letter — entitled 'Town's proposal for renaming

streets is extremely concerning' — stated a petition against the Town's plan to rename a number of streets could be viewed on a recently-established website.

The correct website address is www.petitiononline.com/orms.

The Champion regrets the error, as well as any inconvenience it may have caused.

Support for walk much appreciated

DEAR EDITOR:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank staff at Vanier Centre and Maplehurst for actively helping me get closer to my fundraising goal for the upcoming Weekend to End Breast Cancer, in support of Princess Margaret Hospital.

They recently held fundraisers, including a well-attended luncheon on March 22. The events have raised over \$1,180 to help get me closer to my personal goal for the 60km walk.

A third-year veteran of the event, I am looking forward to the walk, despite last year's cold night sleeping in the tent.

On March 23, Milton's Wal-Mart hosted a pot luck and dress down day to raise funds for my walk. Many thanks to all Wal-Mart staff, in particular Suzanne Tait and her special events fundraising team.

I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to Milton's Loblaws and Sobey's Express, Shear Pleasure Salon and Spa, Shopper's Drug Mart (Main Street), Acton's Giant Tiger, Sobey's, Pharma Plus, Shopper's Drug Mart, Home Hardware and Georgetown's Real Canadian Food Store, A&P and Brian's Food Basics for donating products and raffle prizes to assist us in our events.

**SUE HAMILTON
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