

Intersection at Yates and March remains a major safety concern

DEAR EDITOR:

Just mentioning the intersection at Yates Drive and March Crossing causes many residents in the area to roll their eyes.

Why? Because we have seen many near misses of vehicles driving down Yates from Thompson Road with cars coming out of March. Last weekend was no different.

Let's go back in time to this past summer around the dinner hour. Local residents were brought out of their homes with the sound of screeching tires, loud thumps and a big bang. What had happened was a car travelling north on Yates toward Bennett Avenue — at what witnesses describe as over the speed limit — narrowly missed a vehicle coming out on March into the intersection.

This car swerved to miss the other, lost control and jumped the curb on the opposite side of the road and smashed into a house. Luckily there was no one hurt. The car sustained some damage and the bay window of the home was damaged.

As those of us who live in the area know, kids are walking up and down the sidewalk heading to their friends' homes or to the local parks at this time of day, and thank God no one was there when this happened.

Now we go back to this past Saturday and the almost exact

same situation happened again. A car travelling up Yates from Thompson heading toward Bennett narrowly missed a car coming out from March, lost control and jumped the curb on the opposite side, hitting the very same house in almost the identical spot.

Enough is enough. I'm not a person who favours putting stop signs at every intersection or reducing speed when there is no justification, but something has to change before another home is hit or, God forbid, someone is injured or killed.

The speed limit on Yates is 50 km/h. During last fall's election campaign, I spoke with many people about community safety and what we as citizens could do to make our streets safer. Many of you favoured reducing the speed limit on streets.

Would a 40km/h speed limit have saved this homeowner from yet another insurance claim and time away from their life to repair the damage to their home that someone else caused? Maybe.

If the speed limit was reduced it might be cause for the driver to make sure they slow down. Who really knows?

Would a stop sign have done the trick? Again, who knows? If drivers know there is a stop sign approaching at that intersection, would they reduce their speed

before they come to March? Possibly.

People need to open their eyes and realize our residential and town roads are not speedways.

It's frustrating to live in an area such as this, with such amazing neighbours and people living in the subdivision, and have to deal with this. The only thing we have left is to turn to the Town of Milton and see what can be done.

For years now, residents have complained about speeding on our streets. To the Town's credit, they have done some studies about excess speed on Yates and have concluded it doesn't warrant a stop sign at this particular intersection.

My message, which I plan on delivering with the help of local residents, is simply this.

Reduce the speed to 40km/h and/or put a four-way stop at this intersection. To do nothing is simply condoning this behaviour and endorsing what has already happened.

The safety of the people in the area, their homes and our children are more important than worrying about if people will be inconvenienced by an additional stop sign.

What's more important to you?

**MIKE CLUETT
YATES DRIVE**

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the students of Bishop Reding Secondary School and Holy Rosary School for all their hard work in helping to organize the event.

As you know, the animal shelters are always in need of donations. If you would like to help support the shelters over the coming months you can purchase much-needed items from your favourite participating pet supply store — including Ren's Pet Depot, Pet Valu, Global Pet Foods, Ruffins and Multi-Menu Foods — and they will find their way to the shelters. Or you can go to www.justpaws.ca for more information on how you can help.

Many thanks for another successful year.

**CATHY PRENTER, ORGANIZER
PAWS FOR THOUGHT**

Thanks for support of Paws for Thought

DEAR EDITOR:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who was involved in the Paws for Thought event that was held September 29 in support of the Oakville and District and Upper Credit humane societies.

The event, held at St. Paul's United Church, raised almost \$2,000 for the shelters, and we were able to find a home for Dave the beagle.

None of this would have been possible without the generosity of our sponsors and volunteers.

I would like to thank Ren's Pet Depot, Pet Valu, Multi Menu Foods, Giovanni's Pizza and the *Champion* for sponsoring this wonderful event, as well as the Milton businesses that donated items for our silent auction.

Papers expose untruthfulness of attack on P.L. Robertson Co.

'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.

Milton Time Capsules



September 1910

On Saturday the *Daily Globe* followed the *Champion's* example in exposing the untruthfulness of Toronto Saturday Night's attack on P.L. Robertson Co. of the screw factory. It may interest the instigators of the attack to hear that it and the defence have proved a first class advertisement and have brought in several large orders for screws.

Workmen are engaged this week in laying the new cement walk from the corner of Martin Street to the town hall.

William Griffin was killed on the C.P.R. on Saturday evening, a little west of Lewis's brick works. He was walking on the track from D. Robertson & Son's limekilns to Milton. The 5 p.m. flyer had just passed westward and had crossed the passenger train from Goderich at Christie's siding. It was the Goderich train that killed the man. The engine driver saw him on the track and whistled repeatedly. Griffin had plenty of time to step off, but took no notice. He may have thought that the whistling was being done by the train which had passed him. His body was badly mutilated. He was about 20 years of age, was the son of a policeman at Cork, Ireland, and came to Canada three months ago. He had worked as a farm labourer at Alex Storey's 5th line Trafalgar, for two months and left on Thursday evening to work at the limekilns. He was industrious and had no bad habits. Mr. Storey esteemed him highly. There was no inquest.

To Berlin (Kitchener) belongs the distinction of being the first place in Canada to be lighted by Niagara power conveyed over publicly owned lines, the power in this case being carried to the town by the

Provincial Hydro-Electric line and distributed over municipal lines. The first illumination under the new system took place Monday. Toronto uses Niagara power for lighting and electric railway operation, but in this case the power comes over privately owned lines.

"The Milton screw factory is coming in for a lot of gratuitous advertising from the onslaught of Toronto Saturday Night upon the patent held by Mr. Robertson, head of that institution. Saturday Night has done good work in exposing several swindles in Ontario lately, but we fail to see so far where the stockholders in the screw factory are being swindled, as the factory is turning out a good article and is being kept busy filling orders." — *Oakville Record*.

A gang of men with teams and the county's Waterous steam road roller have been at work macadamizing and rolling Martin Street, which is part of the county roads system. (The town boundary was approximately Woodward Ave.) They did first class work from the corner of Main Street to the bridge and the intention is to continue on to the base line. For the last couple of days some of the teamsters have quit work on account of a difficulty between them and the contractor. It is to be hoped that this will soon be adjusted and that the road will be finished to the base line before the snow flies.

The band will play on the stand beside the town hall tomorrow evening, weather permitting.

This material is assembled on behalf of the Milton Historical Society by Jim Dills, who can be reached at jdills@idi-rect.com.

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