

OPINION

In good hands

Demonstrating leadership on environmental issues isn't reserved for those with the most political clout or even those with the most life experience.

Sometimes, environmental role models in our society come from those who are just starting to carve out a life for themselves.

Recently, Halton Region honoured nine such young people from Halton, including one from Milton, plus a host of Halton schools that have made it their business to try to improve their community, their country and their world. The nine people honoured with Halton Environmental Scholarship Awards worth \$1,000 each were chosen simply for their desire to pursue post-sec-

ondary education emphasizing the environment.

Equally impressive are the efforts of the 16 Halton schools and groups, including two from Milton, recognized with Halton Youth Awards for Environmental Excellence, which each carry a \$500 prize. Collectively, these youngsters helped raise environmental awareness among their peers (and teachers).

We applaud the efforts of every student who was honoured. Their combined efforts have made a difference to our environment today, while their desire to pursue careers that will positively impact our environment leave us feeling optimistic that the future of our world is in caring hands.



ReadersWrite

E-mail letters to editorial@miltoncanadianchampion.com. Letters, which may be edited, must include the writer's name, address and phone number.

Church a major financial strain

DEAR EDITOR:

As a member of the St. Paul's United Church council, I would like to clarify a couple of issues mentioned in your April 22 article about our struggling with debt and problems with the roof.

For the past two years, our church has been looking at what alternatives are available to us to meet the future needs of the congregation.

We had many task forces look into specific aspects, but the main reason we looked for alternatives was that we're saddled with a huge debt that we can't afford.

For instance, as a tempo-

rary fix for the roof, we had pillars installed just so that we could use the sanctuary. Another thing, we pay huge energy bills since the stained-glass windows have holes in them and let the heat and cold out.

Basically, the main church is falling down.

Recently we put up fences since some of the corner stones came down along with more brickwork.

Our sanctuary is a part of historic Milton, but it is a drain on our finances and the various committees agreed we can no longer afford to keep repairing year after year.

Something had to be done.

One thing that was missing from criticisms mentioned was that St. Paul's as a congregation can't afford to fix up the existing structure.

We also have to realize that a church is a place to worship God, not worship ourselves or ingratiate our own human needs — but only the need of God.

The majority of the congregation believes that if the proposal we voted on goes through the various approvals, we will have a newly revitalized church.

**BOB OSSER
MILTON**

Thanks to local businesses for their support

DEAR EDITOR:

In September, my husband and I will walk in the Weekend to End Breast Cancer. It's a 60-km walk and is truly an amazing experience. Each of us has to raise a minimum of \$2,000 to enter the walk.

On March 14 we held a fundraising euchre tournament. Pizza Hut and Wild Wing of Milton and Georgetown's Boston Pizza all helped us get a little closer to our goal.

To Reannon from Boston Pizza, Jeff and Nick from Pizza Hut and Dave and Jessica from Wild Wing, thanks for your help.

Breast cancer treatment and research are very dear to my heart, as my mother is a recent survivor. With help like this from local businesses, I'm confident we'll meet our goal.

**TANYA CROKE
MILTON**

Please set the record straight on pesticides

DEAR EDITOR:

After reading Dean M. Stanbridge's letter entitled 'Pesticide ban simply over the top,' I became thoroughly confused.

You see I looked up the definition of pesticide in my handy Websters and it says, to quote, it's a substance that, like an insecticide, is used for controlling pests. I never really thought of dandelions as pests. The dictionary also defines herbicide as a substance for selectively killing plants.

Stanbridge claims to be familiar with pesticides and has spoken on the topic, and yet the use of a pesticide to control noxious weeds doesn't seem sensible at all.

I use commercial products clearly labeled as herbicides to control the weeds on my property, so when I heard there was a pesticide ban I thought that was okay. I didn't think I used any pesticides. I tend to use organic solutions like tea tree oil or tea mixed with garlic to control aphids and insects.

I don't like using herbicides, but have had to resort to small and contained applications to control some creeper or other. I hope someone will set the record straight on this so I'm clear on what is and isn't acceptable to use this summer.

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