

OPINION

Attention please

It's hard to break a bad habit, but the OPP will be trying to get Ontario drivers to do just that.

The lack of voluntary compliance by many motorists regarding the use of hand-held devices and other forms of distracted driving has prompted one of the largest enforcement campaigns in recent OPP history.

This week will be the first of four one-week enforcement campaigns focusing on distracted driving over the next year.

Distracted driving is defined as engaging in any secondary activity that takes a driver's attention away from driving and can include: adjusting the radio, searching for some-

thing in the car; eating while driving, watching an entertainment monitor or using a hand-held communications device or other entertainment device.

In 2010, the OPP charged 8,522 drivers for using a hand-held device while driving, but more alarming was the fact there were 7,733 collisions on OPP-patrolled roads where the driver was deemed to be inattentive/distracted, resulting in 35 deaths, 1,040 injuries and considerable property damage.

Increased enforcement of the law won't eliminate distracted driving, but raising the public's awareness of this problem can only help.



Readers Write

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

Libraries not so quiet today

DEAR EDITOR:

Is it just me or has it become increasingly difficult today to go to our libraries to accomplish our desired goals in the peace and quiet that a library is supposed to provide?

Comparably, one may find that our local mall is quieter.

What happened to those days when one could hear a pin drop from anywhere in a library? When did our libraries turn into Starbucks for the adults, the mall for teenagers and a daycare?

As much as I appreciate children using the library at the earliest of ages, there's a section of the library that's dedicated to kids and that should be respected by parents.

What happened to lowering our voices? What happened to placing our

phones on vibrate or taking our conversations outside. What happened to just being considerate?

The Town of Milton has constructed one new library (Beaty Branch) and is about to complete the new main library at the Milton Centre for the Arts. It's my hope that unlike at the Beaty Branch, the Group and Silent study rooms will be more isolated.

Dare I say I find it silly to call a room silent if you can hear and experience all that's going on outside. I also hope that the designers and planners had the vision to totally separate the adult and kids' sections.

Is it too much to wish for the library to return to the sanctuary it once was?

DWIGHT DUNCAN
MILTON

Our mayor puts this town first

DEAR EDITOR:

I want to tell everyone that not only was the recent M&M Meats Shops Charity BBQ for a good cause (Chrohn's & Colitis Foundation of Canada), but Mayor Gord Krantz donated his time to this cause.

He didn't do it for a photo op, or advertisement for running for office. In

fact, when I saw him flipping burgers on the grill and went to shake his hand, he acted like it was no big deal.

I've been in Milton 26 years (yeah, I'm a newbie), but in all our contacts he has always had this town as his highest priority. Thank you, Gord.

STEPHEN COMSTOCK
MILTON

Good work done by all

DEAR EDITOR:

On April 30, many enthusiastic volunteers turned out to clear the roads around Campbellville, Brookville and Moffatt. Close to 100 people worked in the ditches, and pick-up trucks ferried the garbage to the bins. Great job. The countryside is better and safer for their work.

Sadly, there are still people using their car windows as garbage chutes, and other people creeping out to dump unwanted sofas and other household items.

This year we filled three-and-a-half bins and removed 45 tires from the ditches. This is down from previous years. We had great help from more students.

I want to thank everyone, especially our truck drivers who faced rising gas prices without complaint. Thanks go out to Mohawk Racetrack and OLG and their security personnel who put a huge crew out on the road and hauled garbage bags to their bins, too.

There are many people and companies who contribute to the success of this. The Town of Milton and Halton Region supplies the safety products and the bins. In addition, Heritage Safety Products are longtime generous supporters of us. Tim Hortons supplies coffee, Timbits and a tent for shelter. Gordon Foods and Cristello's Village Market supply the barbecue (served by baseball club parents).

Last but by no means least, thanks to the local newspapers, including *The Champion*, which do a great job of promoting the clean-up before and after. A special thanks to *Champion* photographer Graham Paine, who took the great photo that appeared on the front page.

JEAN WOODS
CAMPBELLVILLE

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