

# OPINION

## Recipe for death

Spectacular crashes, such as the one that sent three young men to hospital in serious condition early last Wednesday morning, are tragic on many levels — perhaps the greatest being the act that they're preventable.

Last week's single-vehicle crash on Guelph Line, just south of Milton, involved a driver losing control on a 50 km/h stretch of road in conditions that were, by all accounts, normal.

Speed is believed to have played a role in the horrible crash that required two of three Dundas residents to be airlifted to Hamilton hospitals and the third to be transported by land ambulance.

People living close to the scene of the carnage believe improved road signs —

warning of a sharp curve in the road — may have helped prevent the second serious accident in three years at the same site.

However, any time motorists exceed the speed limit, they gamble with their lives and those of their passengers.

Sadly, too often, speed and youth go hand in hand with fatal or near-fatal consequences. Combining the rush of speed with the adolescent fantasy of invincibility and an inexperienced driver is a recipe for death.

Hopefully, hearing about the consequences exposes more young people to how fragile life is and how quickly poor judgment for the sake of thrill seeking can take it away.



## ReadersWrite

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

## Developers should pay for infrastructure

DEAR EDITOR:

I'm a longtime resident of Milton who bought in and out of Milton twice in the last 30 years.

It's a great community, despite the challenges that growth has brought us over the last few years.

I absolutely support the proposition being put in front of Halton regional council that development-related costs should be borne solely by those who look to acquire new personal residences or commercial/industrial properties (in Halton and anywhere else for that matter).

I would look very unfavourably upon any elected representative at any level of government that chooses to saddle existing ratepayers with the infrastructure costs associated with new growth.

Our tax rates already cover for the capital costs of our infrastructure and its upkeep. Developers have a vested interest in getting competitive advantages for the markets they develop by lowering development costs. It's market economics.

By playing one municipality against the other to obtain fiscal advantages, they negotiate subsidies to lower the cost of the properties they market.

If province-wide or nation-wide regulations prevented lower levels of government from allowing tax subsidies (discounted DCs) to developers, which attempt to favour one's region over the other, we wouldn't have to deal with the game of brinkmanship between developers and municipalities that turns ratepayers into pawns for commercial interests.

Let's not have mistaken and unfair policies of the past justify those of the future. Developers and the new property owners that wish to establish in Halton must pay for the full cost of growth; and that should be non-negotiable.

GERMAIN PROULX  
MILTON

## Teenagers ruin Canada Day fireworks

DEAR EDITOR:

Happy Canada Day! My family is very patriotic. We love Canada. We love Canada Day. We wear red and white, we hang up our Canada flags and we want to celebrate. No matter where we are on July 1 we make sure we're celebrating this awesome country.

We have two children, an eight-year-old boy and a six-month-old boy. Our eight-year-old, needless to say, loves the celebrations and most of all looks forward to the fireworks, as most children and adults do.

My eight-year-old son was so excited to go see the fireworks at the Milton Fair Grounds and to stay up late that he didn't even care if it might be raining. My husband and son went to the local event while I stayed home with the baby.

When I asked my son about the fireworks, he said he had to leave early. He said that

there were some teenagers who were being so rude that he didn't want to stay.

When I asked my husband what happened he told me a group of teenagers stood directly in front of where my husband and son had been standing and eventually carried in another friend who seemed to be too drunk to walk. This person eventually fell over into the mud and proceeded to vomit on the ground in front of my family. My husband told me they had a bottle of wine with them and the worst part was that the fireworks event was being monitored by police. Happy Canada Day indeed.

Is this what I should expect when supporting local events, my country, my community and teaching my children about patriotism?

KARA DELEAN  
MILTON

## The Canadian Champion

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555 Industrial Dr.,  
Milton, Ont. L9T 5E1

905-878-2341

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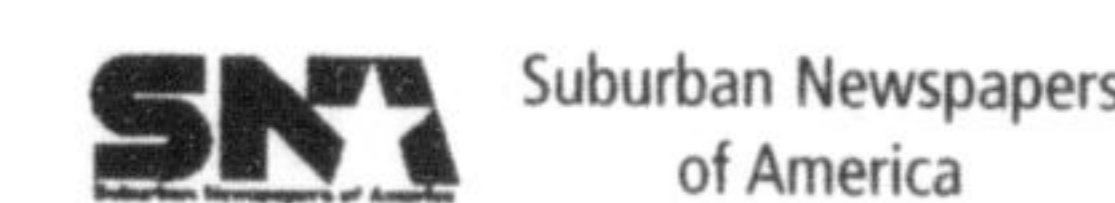
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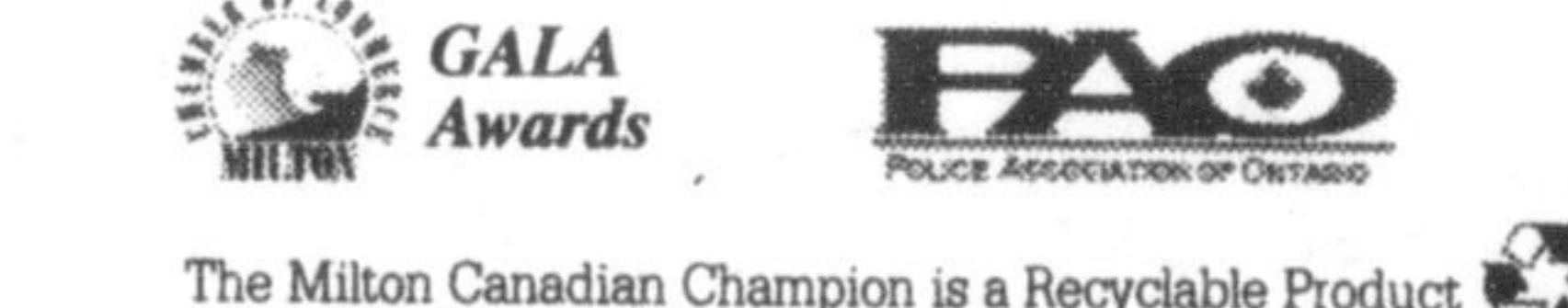
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