

OPINION

Haiti needs help more than ever

If there's a nation on this earth that has faced more misfortune than Haiti, we're at a loss to name that country.

Be it from decades of political unrest and corruption, rampant poverty, hurricanes, tropical storms or landslides, Haitians have had to endure more than their fair share of strife and anguish.

Now the island nation has been hit by a devastating earthquake that will see thousands, possibly as many as 200,000 people, left dead by the wrath of Mother Nature.

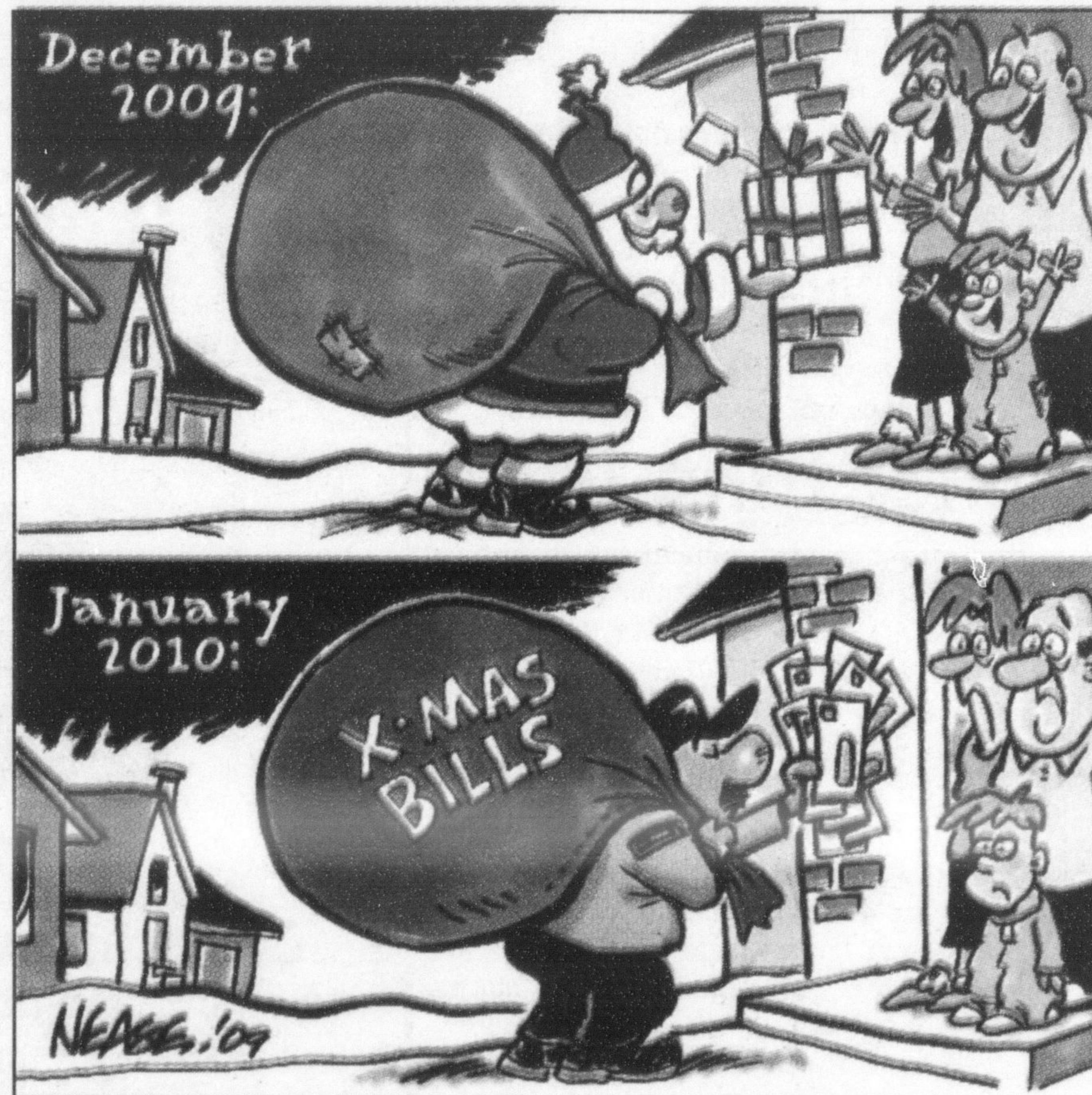
Numerous organizations like the Canadian

Red Cross and Salvation Army, and stores such as Wal-Mart and the LCBO are spearheading fundraising campaigns to help Haiti in its time of need.

Nations around the world are rushing supplies and emergency crews to the Caribbean island in an effort to offer vital life-saving expertise and help.

We urge Miltonians who haven't already done so to make a donation to any organization operating a Haiti earthquake disaster relief fund. See the *Champion's* story on page A2 to find out how to give.

Haiti needs the world's help.



ReadersWrite

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

Thanks for continued support of Crime Stoppers of Halton

DEAR EDITOR:

I'd like to remind everyone that January is Crime Stoppers Month.

It's an opportunity for the various Crime Stoppers programs around the world to focus attention on the continuing efforts to combat crime and keep our streets safe.

Crime Stoppers of Halton couldn't have achieved the success that it has since its formation here in 1988 without the dedicated support of the Halton Regional Police Service, members of the community who have contributed financially or provided tips about unsolved crime and the various media outlets that have publicized our

activities and highlighted unsolved crime.

Crime Stoppers Month has been celebrated annually since being officially proclaimed in 1986 during the Crime Stoppers International training conference held that year in Edmonton. Over the years it has been acknowledged by heads of state, including Queen Elizabeth, several Canadian prime ministers and presidents of the United States, numerous state governors and provincial premiers, as well as leaders of law enforcement organizations such as the OPP, RCMP and FBI.

Locally this year, Crime Stoppers has received greetings

from Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty, Ontario Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services Rick Bartolucci and Halton Regional Police Chief Gary Crowell.

I would like to thank everyone who has given support to Crime Stoppers of Halton throughout the years and pledge that our volunteer board of directors will continue working diligently to ensure the program has the resources to operate effectively to resolve and reduce crime in Halton.

**TOM SUDDABY, CHAIR
CRIME STOPPERS
OF HALTON**

Children's book drive an overwhelming success

DEAR EDITOR:

On behalf of CUPE Local 4366, Milton Public Library employees, I'd like to sincerely thank all those who participated in our book drive for the Milton Salvation Army, Khi Community.

Your generous donations of new books made

Christmas a little brighter for children and teens in our community. Your commitment to giving the gift of reading is sincerely appreciated.

**JUNE ROBINSON, PRESIDENT
CUPE LOCAL 4366
MILTON PUBLIC LIBRARY**

MDH expansion should be our biggest priority

DEAR EDITOR:

Regarding the *Champion's* January 8 story entitled 'Arts centre, central library on their way,' I have a few concerns that I'm hoping someone may provide further commentary and/or clarification on.

How is it that council — or whoever may be speaking for Miltonians — manages to find millions of dollars for an arts centre, library and railway underpass, but not for the further development and expansion of Milton District Hospital?

I can't help but wonder if we need to revisit what our community priorities are. I have much appreciation for Milton District Hospital. The care that the doctors and nurses provide is exemplary.

At the rate that our community is growing, we should be redirecting our focus on expanding our hospital to help ensure our health-care professionals are able to continue to provide the care that we have all come to depend on.

**NARENA PERSAUD
MILTON**

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