

ReadersWrite

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Council's denial of all-way stop an upsetting, dangerous ruling

DEAR EDITOR:

Why does Milton council seem so passionately against stop signs on residential streets?

We would like to thank the 18 families on Pine and Fulton streets that signed the petition to support the request for an all-way-stop sign, which was turned down by council recently.

From what we've seen, the majority of Milton's older streets are rarely patrolled by police and have no deterrence for speeders. Drivers have discovered these streets as a fast bypass to main road traffic, creating a dangerous situation where cars are speeding to save time.

In our opinion, council can only be seen as negligent to this very valid community safety concern. The Town should be proactive, not reactive, to situations like this. What's it going to take, someone being seriously

hurt or killed, before action will occur?

This isn't solely a police issue, it's a community safety issue — therefore a council issue. Streets like Pine that are being used as a bypass should have stop signs. Pine has a history of serious accidents. It has large hills, homes close to the road, families with young children, 3,000 vehicles a day travelling east and west and cars reaching speeds in the 70 to 89-km range in a 50-km zone.

Stop signs would at least slow drivers down. Stop signs should be used for traffic control and as a speed deterrent. Mill Street and Laurier Avenue — with their 'unwarranted' stop signs — are examples of how stop signs do work to deter speeding and make these types of downtown streets safer.

Many council members are passionately against 'unwarrant-

ed' stop signs, saying they will create a pedestrian safety concern, cause accidents and cause people to speed faster. This seems hypocritical. What constitutes them being warranted? It's not just a volume issue. What about accidents? Homes being hit? Pets killed? Blind intersections? Families dodging cars to cross the road?

Other neighbouring municipalities have stop signs, crosswalks, reduced speeds and community safety zones on old residential streets and these streets are policed regularly.

These measures work.

People shouldn't be able to go faster on residential streets than on main artery roads. Stop signs should be implemented.

We're concerned Milton citizens and parents who will continue to pursue this issue.

**CAROLYN CORMIER
MILTON**

Too many motorists are parking illegally

• from PARKING on page A6
delivery, again at a medical clinic

• Various non-permitted vehicles in these reserved spaces

But an incident on April 6 was the final straw that made me write this letter.

I pulled into a local pharmacy with my wife to make a purchase and we saw the one and only reserved space occupied by a young couple. We had to park on the other side of the lot due to the busy walk-in clinic beside the pharmacy.

The man was standing alongside the car in the disabled parking spot, puffing on a cigarette while a young woman was doing something in the rear seat.

As I walked past the car I checked for a permit and, not seeing one, I inquired if they had one or not. Sometimes people have a permit but forget to

display it. They told me that they were unloading a baby from the car and no they didn't have a permit. I reminded them that the space was for permit holders only and that my wife was denied use of the space because of them. I reminded him that it was a disabled space, not a baby unloading space, or an 'I'm only going in for a second' space.

What's this world coming to when a disabled person is denied the right to park in a designated space because a non-permitted person thinks they need it more?

This speaks sadly of our society.

Maybe the local bylaw enforcement officer should do more aggressive enforcement before someone gets hurt.

**MIKE LABENCKI
MILTON**

Local soldier describes 'Suicide Club' and other war horrors in letter home

'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.

July 1915

A letter from Captain K.D. Panton, No. 2 Stationary Hospital July 3.

"...The bombs, or hand grenades, are dangerous things. I think I have mentioned them before and the 'Suicide Club,' as the bombers are called. Thirty or forty men are chosen from each battalion and are specially trained to throw bombs accurately. Of course they lead the attack, carrying as many bombs as they can, and when they get within throwing range of the Germans they let them go. In one type of bomb a fuse is lit, which burns for five or six seconds, so the bomber ignites the fuse, counts three, and then throws it. If he is a slow counter his head will be blown off and if he counts too fast the Germans are liable to throw the bomb back before it explodes.

The other type is an iron globe about the size of an average apple, fastened to a stick about fourteen inches long. It goes off by percussion and men who have accidentally dropped them have gone up in smoke. During the Ypres fighting a man with a broken leg came into the hospital with a bomb stick on as a splint and the bomb still attached to the stick. I suppose the detonator had been removed, but I had the splint removed as soon as possible....When we came over first the bombers made their own bombs out of empty jam tins. They had no sticks attached and were all lit by fuses...

No contract has been awarded so far on any tender received for the erection of the proposed residence

**Milton
Time
Capsules**



for the Governor of the jail as per plans and specifications prepared by the architects. The committee on county buildings is getting estimates on an alternative plan, that of a residence in Burlington which is a little more commodious than the one at first proposed would be.

On Saturday evening, between eight and nine o'clock, a Trafalgar farmer's wife was making purchases in J.L. Sanderson's store. She had a baby in her arms, two youngsters, aged about five and seven years respectively, by her side. The two larger children disappeared. The father and mother searched the streets for some time without success and were greatly alarmed, but the youngsters were found on the road some distance out of town. They were all right.

Veteran Sgt. Brady who is in charge of the Armoury here is making another effort to go to the front. He has been rejected twice on account of one of his legs broken some time ago. Has three war medals.

August 1915

Complaint is made that small boys and girls disturb the Thursday evening band concerts in Victoria Park by noise and jostling. Citizens would appreciate it if the Chief Constable would be on hand in future to make them sit down and keep quiet.

This material is assembled on behalf of the Milton Historical Society by Jim Dills, who can be reached through the society at (905) 875-4156.

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