

# ReadersWrite

Email your letters to [editorial@miltoncanadianchampion.com](mailto:editorial@miltoncanadianchampion.com).

## Cat comforted in final moments

DEAR EDITOR:

I'm writing this letter so that I might be of some consolation to the owner of what was no doubt a beloved pet.

On Tuesday I was travelling down Laurier Avenue, just west of Holly Avenue, when an orange cat ran out onto the road. I could see that it was dangerously close to being hit and, unfortunately, the car in front of me did hit it.

Although hitting the cat appeared to be unavoidable, the driver of the car didn't stop to check on the animal.

I stopped my car and saw the cat still alive but appearing to be partially paralyzed as it attempted to roll over off of its back.

I got out of the car and gently picked it up to move it to the grassy curb where it wouldn't be crushed by oncoming cars.

I gently pet it to calm it down, as its breathing was laboured.

I then pulled my car over and gathered a blanket to wrap it in, as I was planning to drop it off at a nearby veterinarian office.

Unfortunately, it passed away moments after I returned with the blanket.

I'm sure that the owner of the cat eventually found it dead on the curb, and that it was no doubt a horrible discovery.

However, I wanted the owners to at least know that their pet didn't die alone on the road, and that I tried to offer some comfort to it in its final moments.

As a pet owner myself who has lost many animals, I would want someone to do the same for me.

Please know that your pet passed away quickly and didn't suffer for long, and that it had somebody stoking it gently and offering soothing words.

My only wish is that I could have delivered the pet to you, rather than leaving it on the curb.

Although I couldn't save your cat, I hope that my actions that morning can give you and your family some comfort in the loss of your pet.

JODI CROSS  
MILTON

## Cleaning help much appreciated

DEAR EDITOR:

As part of Milton's annual Good Neighbours Community Day, I was fortunate enough to have two ladies arrive at my home to clean windows, rake a very large garden and dig up a big garden.

Both of these ladies have full-time jobs and families, yet they took the time out of their busy lives to help out a senior.

To these ladies I offer a very special thank-you.

LINDA SUMNER  
MILTON

## Asking about salary freeze a loaded question

• from POLITICIANS' on page A6

salary adjustments as the municipality's non-unionized staff.

In place, Virdo says council should receive a salary increase at the start of a new term possibly based on the average rate of inflation for the GTA over the previous four years. However, voters will have to agree to that increase on a ballot question during the municipal election, he adds.

What would that mean in practice? Toronto-area inflation was 8.6 percent from October 2002 to October 2006, according to Statistics Canada. So voters in the last election would have been asked if Milton's politicians should get a raise of 8.6 per cent or nothing at all.

But isn't asking a taxpayer if politicians should have their salaries frozen like asking a drunk Brit if he fancies a post-pub curry?

Virdo says no, arguing voters wouldn't auto-

matically balk at such a large raise if they feel councillors "are doing a great job."

In case you're curious, Milton's 10 councillors are paid \$26,500 from the Town while the mayor receives just under \$64,000. The mayor and the two regional councillors also receive an additional salary of about \$40,000 from Halton Region.

So their decision to freeze their pay in an election year saved Milton \$9,400 in annualized costs. In a Town with a \$70 million operating budget.

By the by, the Town has budgeted \$600,000 to cover compensation increases for staff this year, \$129,000 going to non-union staff for the 2 per cent pay hike. Asked his opinion on that, Virdo said he's yet to take a close look at staff salaries, focusing instead on council compensation.

Many are doing the same. But that won't help pay the cable bill. A tricky business this.

## Man hurt in rifle mishap at recruiting drive; Town Hall packed for meeting

'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.

November 1915

The Town Hall was crowded for the recruiting meeting and concert Sunday evening. Major R.K. Anderson, chairman. Seven of the latest Milton recruits had seats on stage with Capt. Chisholm of Oakville, Capt. Clements and Sgt. Brady.

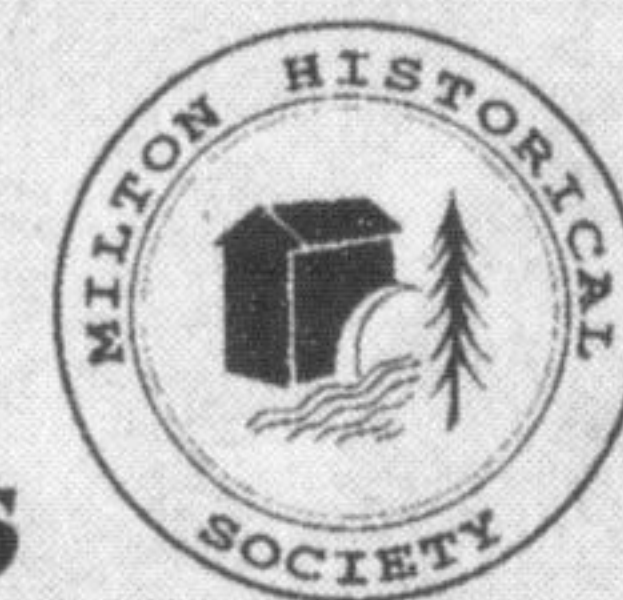
Pte. Wm. Maddocks, blacksmith of 30th Field Battery described training. He made a strong appeal to the young men that they should not be slackers. He brought the house down, and incidentally three rifles that were stacked on the stage. One of them struck one of Mr. Davidson's feet and lamed him for the balance of the evening. (N.F. Davidson, K.C. of Toronto was the chief speaker of the evening.) Pte. Cockburn described life in the trenches, the Battle of Ypres and some of the horrors — mutilated men women and children and the crucifixion of a Canadian. Mr. Davison spoke for about an hour. Only one man, Edward Smith, English and married, enlisted at the close. William Graham had enlisted a few days before the meeting and George Wallace, CPR operator, and Wm. Randall had done so at Toronto.

There is an appeal for old cotton and linen to be taken to the Red Cross rooms.

Mansewood U.P. Church provided 50 quarts of jam and fruit to the Red Cross.

Town Council purchased new blinds for the town hall. The old

## Milton Time Capsules



ones were looking seedy in comparison to those in the new post office beside it.

L.Cpl. Frank Sloan, 4th Batt. who was wounded at Ypres, sailed for Canada. He will be the first of Milton wounded heroes to return.

Gunner George Gordon and Blacksmith Wm. Maddocks, of the 30th Battery of Canadian Artillery were home on leave from Saturday to yesterday. Gunner Gordon is one of the finest looking soldiers sent from Halton. He said he expected his battery to leave very soon. He might not be home again.

The Princess Theatre is showing "The famous war drama For King and Country, featuring the two great stars The Princess Ruspoli and A.A. Capozzi in six reels, released by the Picture Playhouse Film Co. Inc." Admission 5¢ and 10¢.

A number of Milton soldiers were home on leave over Sunday from Toronto and Hamilton. Among them was Pte. Charles Kennedy, of Hamilton's machine gun battalion, who said that the machine guns had not been received and he did not know when they would come. Pte. Albert Marchand of the 33rd Batt., was home from London for the weekend.

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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To our Customers, Society Members and Local Businesses for their donations.

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enables us to continue our work in the following gardens:

The Library Garden, The Town Hall Garden, Deborah's House, The Millennium Garden, Sam Sherratt Public School, Allendale, and Central Bark Leash Free Dog Park.



## Milton & District Horticultural Society

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