

ReadersWrite

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Roundabouts can work here, too

DEAR EDITOR:

I recently noticed that the construction of Milton's first roundabout (turning circle) is underway on Tremaine Road, south of Main Street.

Being originally from the U.K., I have often wondered why Canada has been slow to adopt this more efficient means of controlling traffic movement. Roundabouts enable smoother traffic control without the need to have every vehicle come to a stop before proceeding. It's safer, since nobody needs to negotiate an intersection with left turns into oncoming traffic.

It's also much better for the environment, since vehicles will no longer idle needlessly and spew more fumes as they accelerate away from a complete stop.

I do have a concern, though, and it's one I feel needs to be

urgently addressed before implementing these roundabouts.

From various letters of complaint in this paper, along with the numerous news reports we read and hear about on a daily basis, many of the drivers on our roads quite simply don't have the greatest driving skills on the planet. It's sad but true.

There needs to be some form of communication from the authorities, whether it's in the print media or via the airwaves on how these roundabouts are to be negotiated.

It's not simply a matter of driving as fast you can around it to your exit with complete disregard for everyone's safety. There's a certain etiquette and common courtesy that's required for this traffic procedure to be negotiated without carnage and mayhem.

If the roundabout has multiple lanes, there's a proper lane that you're required to be in depending on your intended exit, and there are correct signaling procedures to be followed, too, in order that your fellow drivers know your intentions.

Probably the most important requirement is that you must yield to traffic already on the roundabout coming from your left.

My fear is that without the proper education, these great traffic solutions will become a collision hot spot and result in people fearing, loathing and speaking out against them in the future.

They work in many other countries. With simple education, they will work here too.

**ALAN CRAIG
MILTON**

Thanks to all who made event so great

• from **DOWNTOWN** on page A6

tation of 'The 12 Days of Christmas' — which included songs from today's top 40 hits.

Although it was a very chilly evening, the crowd exhibited lots of Christmas spirit and happily sipped hot chocolate and munched away on cookies donated by Flourgirls. Martindale Gardens residents also took in the show from the comfort of their heated living rooms. It was a perfect evening in downtown Milton to enjoy the musical sounds of Christmas.

On behalf of the Milton Downtown Business Improvement Area's board of directors, I would like to personally thank the teachers and the parents who brought their children to perform for this event.

On another note, E.C. Drury's Glee Club deserves their own thanks for a terrific performance and for their commitment to our event on a Friday night — otherwise known as 'date night.'

**ANITA MANGOTICH, CHAIR
MILTON DBIA**

Important message comes too often for my liking

• from **RETURN** on page A6

Granted that's an important message, but one I probably don't need to be reminded of quite so often, especially since I love my work and haven't had its quality called into question in quite some time. Knock on wood.

Should any shrinks out there — qualified or otherwise — have a different diagnosis, I'd love to hear it.

Bottom line is that at times when I visit my old stomping ground of Sheridan and should be feeling either nostalgia or anticipation of the sporting event that awaits me, it's low-key dread that's more likely to come bubbling up.

I'd better break this phobia before Milton gets itself a college or satellite university campus. Otherwise I may be submitting psychiatry bills with my bi-weekly expense forms.

Teacher and student both drown during swimming lesson at pond

'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 1916

For some time about 50 Italians, a well conducted lot of men, have been employed by the Milton Pressed Brick Co. Ltd. A number of them live in a roughcast house in rear of the works. Last Sunday evening one of them was giving another a swimming lesson in a pond for which water for steam, etc. is piped down to the works. The pupil got excited, grabbed the teacher and both sank. They were got out as soon as possible by companions. Both appeared to be lifeless. A Milton physician was summoned and was soon on the spot. After long continued work the pupil was resuscitated, but all efforts to revive the teacher proved futile. Dr. McColl coroner, decided that it was not necessary to hold an inquest.

...

Fred B. Robinson has sold four Maxwell cars lately to: J.A. Campbell, Ash; E. May, Hornby; R.R. Anderson and Fred Inman, Milton.

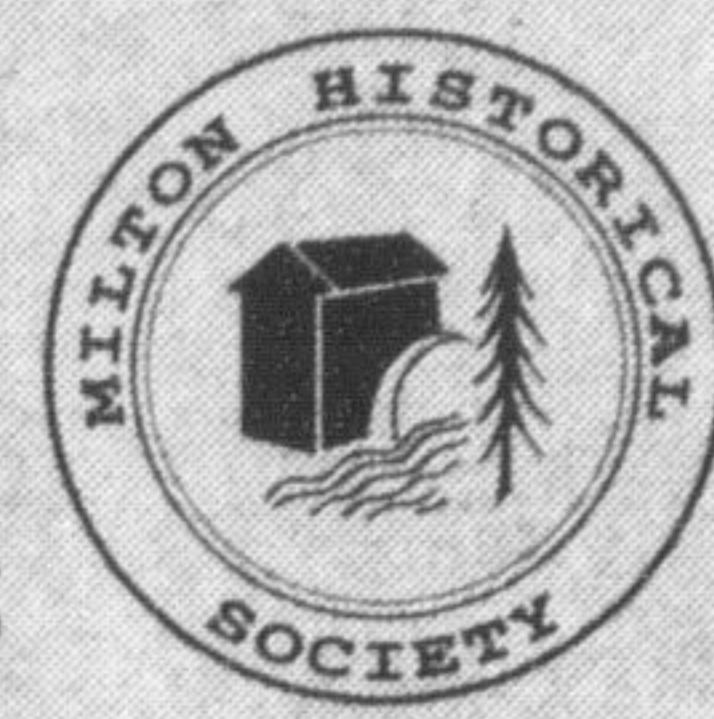
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Last Friday, a citizen stopped his motor car on Main street to go into a shop for a few minutes. He did not shut off the power. He turned on the emergency brake, but not far enough. The jarring of the engine released it and the car ran down the street. It was going fast by the time it got opposite the drug store of T.J. Brown, who made a flying leap into it and shut off the power, thus perhaps preventing an accident.

...

On Monday afternoon a G.T.R. freight train was derailed about two miles south of Milton, through the rails spreading after the engine and

**Milton
Time
Capsules**



tender had passed over the weak spot. Ten cars of lumber, pulp wood, etc. were badly wrecked but the van escaped. The track was not cleared until Tuesday afternoon and the town got no Hamilton mail, with daily papers until 4.45 p.m.

August 1916

Sergt. Major Stuart Jones, 15th Highlanders wrote from the trenches. "I am still here with the best of health. We, that is, what is left of the old boys, have just finished seventeen months of this trench life and the middle of next month will make it two years since I left Toronto. I met a young fellow in the trenches from Milton by the name of Paterson. He is quite well and still busy trying to fill in the most of Belgium into sandbags. I often think the people over here will have a great time trying to get it all into shape again. You could never realize what it is like unless you saw it. But at the present time it is very unhealthy going around sight seeing."

...

John D. McGibbon died. He was 54 and the son of John McGibbon of Esquesing. After being in the hotel business at Georgetown for some years he bought the Wallace House here from M.E. Mitchell in 1898. Some years later he practically rebuilt it and since then it has been known as the Hotel McGibbon. About two years ago while on a motor trip his car upset and he was badly hurt. He was unconscious for about a week and his recovery was only partial.

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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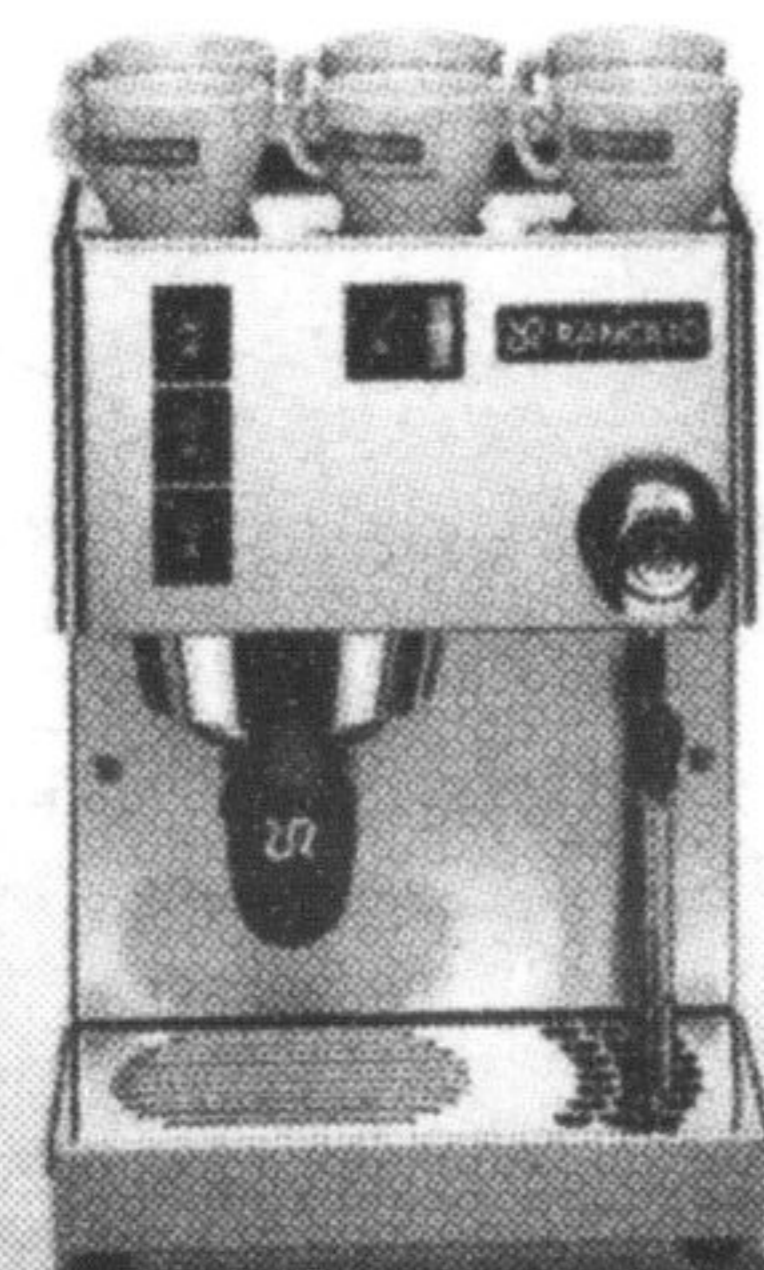
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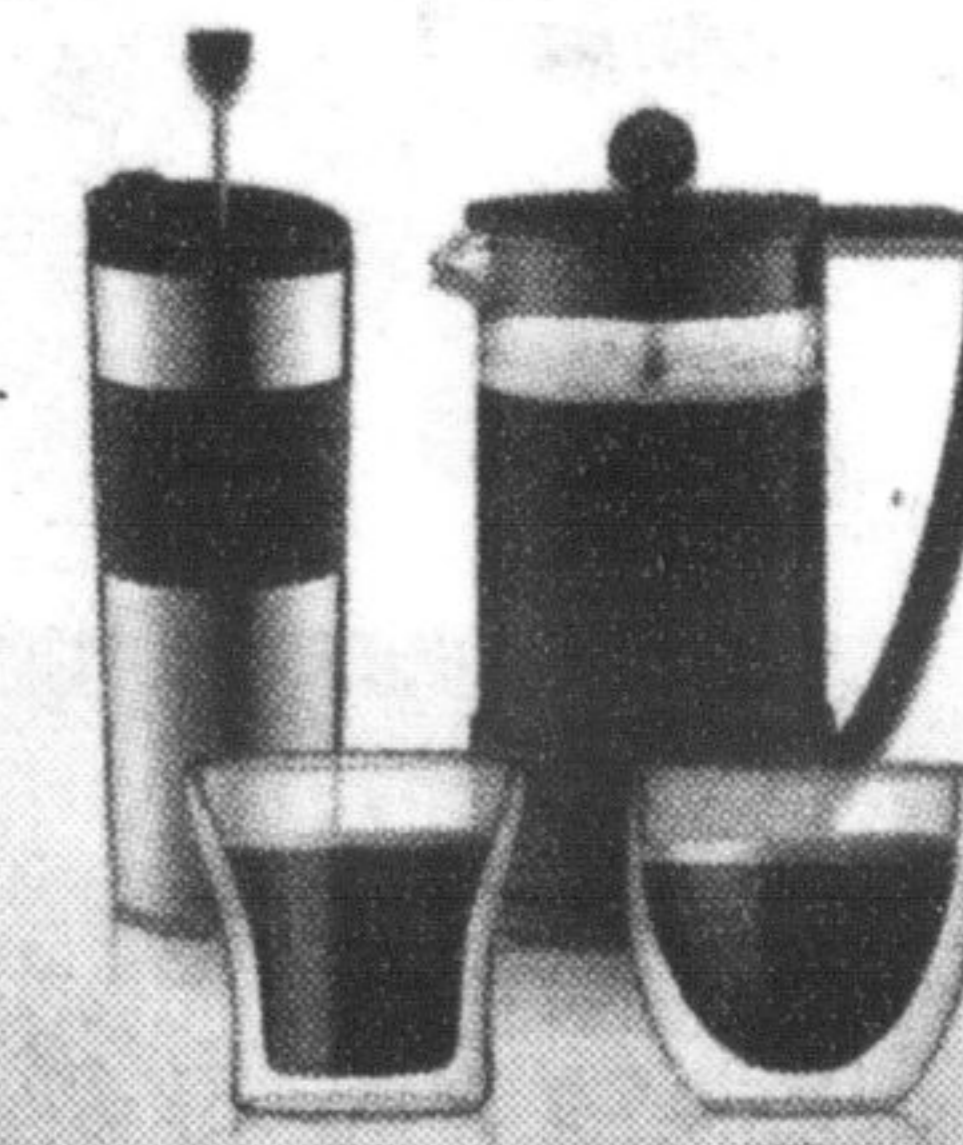
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