We salute volunteers

We wonder what kind of town Milton would be if it didn't have its legion of dedicated volunteers.

What would sports groups do without coaches or • the cancer society without its network of drivers? Where would Milton District Hospital be without its loyal auxiliary?

What would become of the Milton Fall Fair, Steam-Era, Canada Day festivites and Milton and Campbellville Santa Claus parades if there were no volunteers to organize these events?

What would our town be like without the comforting hands of the volunteers at the Darling Home for Kids?

Could the Milton Salvation Army continue its good work if volunteers weren't ready to lend a hand? Even abandoned animals receive kindness from strangers who freely give of their valuable time. Earth Day was just that much greener Monday thanks to the volunteers of all ages who cleaned up

The Nassagawaya Community Consultation Committee engaged volunteers with its Nassagaweya Spring Roadside Clean-up Day held Saturday morning, and nearly 300 community volunteers helped plant 3,600 trees and shrubs at Kelso Quarry Park.

the community and planted shrubs and trees.

Residents who offer up their time for the betterment of others make Milton a great place to call home. We are a kinder, gentler and more empathetic society because of these individuals.

This week is the 71st annual National Volunteer Week and we thank the men, women and youth who selflessly give of their time and talent to so many worthy causes, events and organizations.

According to the Canada Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating, each year more than 13 million Canadians volunteer more than two billion hours of their time to help others. You simply can't put a price tag on that. We salute you.





Sign of spring

With spring well underway, the Mill Pond has been seeing a lot more visitors, including this loon, a rare sight at the pond. Submitted photo by Janice Brawley

Milton Musings



Julie Slack

Closure of downtown post office a sad day

Canada Post has decided to close its downtown Milton retail post office, effective May 10.

But don't worry, after that residents can access a newlybuilt retail and operations outlet about five km away, on Lawson Road north of Hwy. 401. Google maps suggest it's about a one-hour walk.

Obviously, I'm not happy about the move, believing a downtown post office is a staple of small-town living. People congregate at the post office. They swap stories, stop in to pick up stamps or mail a parcel. For some people who live on their own, the trek to the post office is the Reporter only regular contact they have with people - similar to

folks who still use the bank teller rather than the automated machine. And I think downtown business owners enjoy the convenience of walking to the post office to drop off or pick up a parcel.

Canada Post has said it's moving to the new location to implement "efficiencies."

I find that ironic. Aren't urban centres trying to do the same thing? And doesn't downtown traffic, by foot or otherwise, boost a downtown's viability? Isn't the idea to have people drop by the post office, then drop by another downtown business while they're in the area?

That's how towns used to function long before tech-

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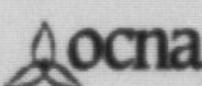
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