

Opinion

Seven-year-old brave beyond description

As a community newspaper, we're often the bearer of sad stories about children — ailing children — in need of yet another life-saving procedure or facing an uncertain and frightening future.

The *Champion* has printed its fair share of these types of stories that pull at the heartstrings but make us ever so grateful for each and every day that we have with our loved ones and friends.

By writing these stories, it's hoped that awareness is raised about certain conditions or diseases. Education is a key component to the feature stories and with education comes understanding. As well, parents are often in need support — be it financial, emotional or both. Reporters who tackle these articles are more than moved by the tragedy that has befallen the child and their family. No matter how carefully crafted the story is, sometimes there are no words to fully convey the inner turmoil faced by the mom and dad whose child needs a miracle to survive. A photograph can't always capture the pain that a person feels as they go on a life journey that no one wants to take.

Today's paper features a story about a Milton boy, Marco Maluda. He's seven years old and brave beyond description. Marco should be thinking of joining his classmates in Grade 2 this fall or playing outside with his sister. Instead, he and his mom and dad are hoping, praying for a miracle to stop the march of inoperable brain cancer.

Marco has been through too much for any child: a heart transplant when he was just one month old and diagnosed with T-cell lymphoma at the age of four. And now the cancer has returned with vengeance. Toronto's brilliant Hospital For Sick Children has done all that it can for Marco.

If you have yet to read the story about this boy who needs the community's support, please revisit today's front page.

Then go hug your child a little extra hard.



Heritage Matters

This one-and-a-half-storey red brick residence at 7622 Fifth Line exhibits Classic Revival design elements with a five-bay front elevation and was built c.1850 by J. Cunningham.

He purchased 100 acres and an original log structure in 1830. The farmstead remained in the family until 1940 when purchased by T. Bousfield, who raised his family and lived there until 2003 when sold to M. Fasulo.

— Submitted by Heritage Milton and Milton Historical Society

Letters welcome

The Canadian Champion welcomes letters to the editor. We reserve the right to edit, revise and reject letters.

Letters must be signed with first and last name, and the address and the telephone number of the writer included for verification purposes.

Email your letters to kmiceli@miltoncanadianchampion.com or send by mail to 555 Industrial Dr., Milton, Ont., L9T 5E1, or leave them at our office.

Our office hours are Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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Editor's Desk



Karen Miceli
Managing Editor

We want your unique local photos, please

Generally speaking, people love seeing their photos in the paper. That's evident by the popularity of our regular *Champion Tracks* feature, in which people take a copy of the paper on vacation and submit a photo of them displaying it at their destination.

Just as much as people look forward to seeing their photos published, it seems they enjoy seeing where their

fellow Miltonians are travelling. From the paper's perspective, *Champion Tracks* is a great way to connect with readers. I'm pleased every time I get a submission.

I would also like to receive interesting and unique photos residents take around the Milton area.

One time a reader sent in a photo of a dog that, as it jumped through the air, looked like a rabbit. And it was at

Easter time. Another person submitted a shot of a loon at the Mill Pond. Of course, the photo doesn't have to depict an animal. I think you get the picture, no pun intended.

Next time you see something unique around town, please grab a shot and send it in for possible publication.

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