

Opinion

Road safety initiatives applauded

Halton Regional Police are continuing this month to engage in various traffic safety and enforcement initiatives as part of their overall traffic strategy for the region.

According to police, the initiatives are in response to the public's indication in surveys that traffic safety is a primary concern of Halton residents.

Last week, police partnered with the OPP in the GTA in Operation Move Over. The two-day initiative focused on drivers who fail to move over for stopped emergency vehicles. Section 159 (2)(3) of the Highway Traffic Act requires drivers to slow down and proceed with caution when passing an emergency vehicle parked on the side of the highway with its lights activated. If the highway has more than one lane, the law requires the driver to move over and leave one lane between their vehicle and the parked emergency vehicle, if it can be done safely.

Failure to do so can result in a fine of \$400 to \$2,000 plus three demerit points.

During the campaign, officers laid a total of 150 charges under Section 159 and issued 143 warnings.

Then over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend, Halton police engaged in Operation Impact. The nationally-coordinated project targeted aggressive driving and other serious traffic offences with the goal of reducing deaths and serious injuries on Canadian roadways. Halton officers initiated several hundred traffic stops. Of those stops, 314 charges were laid under the Highway Traffic Act including speeding, distracted driving and careless driving. Police say 11 drivers were issued suspensions for blowing a "warn" on a roadside alcohol screening device; there were no impaired driving charges.

We applaud police for these recent initiatives, as well as Operation Safe Driver Week, which is currently underway.

This week, traffic services officers are joining the district response units of the four Halton municipalities to engage in Operation Safe Driver, a North America-wide campaign geared toward both commercial and private vehicle safety.

During Operation Safe Driver Week, activities are being held across Canada, the United States and Mexico with the goal of increasing commercial vehicle and non-commercial vehicle traffic enforcement, safety belt enforcement, driver roadside inspections and driver regulatory compliance. Halton commercial vehicle inspectors are paying special attention to trucks carrying dangerous goods in and through the region. We all have a role to play in making our roads safer for everyone. Hopefully, these police initiatives are helping drive home that message.



Heritage Matters

The Clements' Block, located at the corner of Main and Martin streets (223-227 Main St. E.) was built in 1887 by the Crown Attorney J. Dewar. Clements & Co. operated the hardware store in the corner section and in 1911, W. B. Clements purchased the block. This two-storey brick building with six arched windows on the second floor has been home to many businesses over the years, including the Red Cross Drug Store, Milton Hardware, Milton Post Office and the current tenant, Delacours.

— Submitted by Heritage Milton and Nasagiweya Historical Society

Editor's Desk

Volunteers play vital role, find out what opportunities are available

Interested in volunteer opportunities?

If so, be sure to mark Saturday, Nov. 1 on your calendar.

I volunteer for an event about volunteering.

Appropriately named the Milton Volunteer Fair, the annual event is made up of non-profit organizations that have volunteer opportunities available.

The people who attend are from all walks of life with a common desire to make a difference in their community — and in their own life.

They're seeking the right fit to give of



Karen Miceli
Managing Editor

their time and expertise.

The members of the committee that organize the fair, including myself, know volunteers play a vital role.

Have you ever volunteered? If so, you no doubt know the rewards.

If you haven't volunteered, why not give it a try?

The benefits include making a difference in someone's life, developing skills, meeting new people and gaining work experience.

The Milton Volunteer Fair will be held at the Milton Sports Centre (Banquet Room), 605 Santa Maria Blvd., from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The event provides volunteer opportunities for all ages.

Hope to see you there.

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