

# OPINION

## Have fun this Sunday, safely

The election is over and now the next group of people knocking on your door will surely be trick-or-treaters.

The help ensure Halloween night is a safe one for all, Halton Regional Police and the Milton Fire Department are offering the following safety tips.

### Tips for parents:

- Children's Halloween costumes should be bright and made of non-flammable material. Attach reflective tape or other material to costumes to make trick-or-treaters more visible
- Costumes should be short enough in length to prevent tripping
- For added safety, have children carry flashlights
- Facial make-up is the recommended means of disguise. If masks are worn, eye holes should be large enough so vision isn't restricted
- Young children should be accompanied by adults or travel together in groups while trick-or-treating
- Ensure children trick-or-treat on one side of the street and avoid zigzagging across the road. Cross only at corners
- Children should also be advised to walk on the sidewalks and stay off roads and lawns
- Place candlelit jack-o'-lanterns on sturdy surfaces away from anything that can burn, such as curtains and Halloween costumes
- Ensure that electrical outlets aren't overloaded with holiday lighting or special effects

### Tips for children:

- Trick-or-treating should occur in the early evening hours
- Always let your parents know where you will be going
- Never travel in areas that are dark and vacant
- Never talk to strangers
- Never go anywhere with strangers or someone you don't know very well. Always check with your parents first.
- Never enter a home of a stranger. Always stand at the door. Stay away from homes that are in total darkness
- Take Halloween treats home for inspection by your parents before eating them



## Readers Write

Email letters to [editorial@miltoncanadianchampion.com](mailto:editorial@miltoncanadianchampion.com). Letters, which may be edited, must include the writer's name, address and phone number.

### Thanks for help with campaign

#### DEAR EDITOR:

On behalf of the United Way of Milton, I'd like to thank the students and staff of E.C. Drury's Global Council, who helped out at the Milton GO station Wednesday, Oct. 20.

This group of students — and some United Way board members — handed out postcards during our 'Give where you live' awareness campaign, held

between 6 and 7:45 a.m. The purpose was to encourage commuters to designate their payroll deductions back to the United Way of Milton.

Thank you as well to the commuters who picked up our postcards.

**LESLIE MCLAREN,**  
CAMPAIGN CHAIR  
UNITED WAY OF MILTON

## Grimaldi's Grumblings

### Main Street was deserted of pedestrians, but I loved it

Similar, I'm sure, to many of Milton's newest residents I never expected to end up in this town.

I'm a Toronto boy born and raised, through and through. As such I spent much of my blissful youth without the slightest idea where Milton or even Halton was.

I was somewhat familiar with Acton, because, as we all know it's worth the drive there, but other than that I was utterly clueless.

That's until about a year ago when a good friend packed up his things and moved his young family 46.5 km west down the 401.

Soon after another friend made the shock move everyone seemed to be talking about

the booming 'former hamlet.'

What I didn't know until Monday (my first day at the paper) was that the town was so lovely, dotted with Victorian homes, a quaint pond complete with fall colours and a wonderfully archetypal Main Street.

My first impression was that it was pretty quiet. At 2 p.m. on Monday Main Street was virtually deserted of pedestrians.

When I first laid my eyes on the street I remember thinking it wouldn't strike me as odd to see a tumbleweed moseying alongside the one man I saw

moving at a snail's pace.

But dear readers don't get me wrong — I positively loved it. It felt the exact opposite of the way it did in the manic city streets that I had left only 33 minutes before.

Suddenly I felt my shoulders dropping as an almost magical feeling of tranquility washed over my fraught bones. What a first two minutes they were.

From past experiences working in town's including Nottingham, Greenwich and Swindon, U.K., and Hamilton, Ont., I know

• see GREAT on A7



Jeremy Grimaldi

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555 Industrial Dr.,  
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