

Record-setting flower show draws last-minute entries

One of the best entries to this weekend's summer flower show was submitted by a late bloomer.

Several local gardeners went home a pickled entry for the show after seeing the competition. Pat Harrington, who joined the Milton and District Horticultural Society Saturday morning, used her nose to decide to enter the show. The rose she returned home to pick won the most fragrant section.

There were a record number of exhibitors in the summer show at Milton Mall, according to organizers. The weather so far this season received some of the credit for the high quality of entries. Although roses are the focus of this annual event, numerous categories allowed gardeners to show off their floral harvests.

The overall winners included Jennifer Mirosofin (first); Kryss Good (second); Joyce Haslam (third); Ada Scisizzi (fourth); and tied for fifth, Heiki Spohr, Bernice Sweetman and Marjorie Overend.

The most stunning, large and lush entry in the collection of roses class was entered by Marjorie Overend. Jennifer Mirosofin won the best of section in design for her roses and perennials.

Len Lee earned the show's special Red Rose award sponsored by the Red Rose tea company. A pink blend, Sheer Bliss rose entered by Jennifer Mirosofin won as the best rose.

The horticultural society's garden tour will be held this Sunday (June 27). Tickets are available at the Spice 'O Life store on Main Street.



Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

These miniature roses require close-up viewing by Kryss Good, vice-president of the Milton and District Horticultural Society at Saturday's show.

Mulvale captures Tory nod for PCs in Oakville-Milton

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Tory memberships, Ms O'Connor said, and was assuming two thirds of them would appear to back the Oakville mayor.

Bob Tye ran Mr. Sparling's campaign. His workers sold 1,000 memberships, he said. Phone polling had, he believed, nailed down a high percentage of those voters as Sparling supporters.

He was assuming only 15 per cent of them were less than solidly behind his candidate.

As to Ms Mulvale's yellow scarves being draped around so many delegates' necks, Mr. Tye put on an optimistic public face. "It does not effect me at all." Delegates "could just be collecting memorabilia."

The major tension throughout the campaign revolved around questioning the depth of Ms Mulvale's commitment to the Progressive Conservative party.

Some Sparling supporters had depicted her as an opportunist, and touted Mr. Sparling's longtime PC involvement as far the stronger set of Tory credentials.

That argument held sway with Janet Mitchell, a former Oakville regional councillor who dropped out of what turned into the Mulvale-Sparling contest relatively early.

Ms Mitchell said she supported Mr. Sparling because "Stephen is a PC. I don't believe for a minute Ann is. She's a card-carrying PC but I don't believe she's a philosophical PC."

Jackie Cutmore, the other early contender who withdrew from the race, was more circumspect. Ms Cutmore did not want to say publicly whom she supported. But when Mr. Sparling entered the room, she rose with his contingent and clapped.

A prominent Milton Tory with longstanding roots in the party had no problem supporting Ms Mulvale, however.

In fact, Milton Mayor Gord Krantz sat with her family in the front row at the meeting and seconded her nomination.

"She's the one I have my money on, not only tonight, but also when the election's called," Mr. Krantz said. He downplayed comparisons of PC involvement between Ms Mulvale and Mr. Sparling, saying Ms Mulvale, like most municipal politicians, attempted to steer clear of becoming "embroidered in party

politics."

Mr. Krantz also defended Ms Mulvale ideologically, saying "she's no socialist, far from it. But she's a progressive person. A Progressive Conservative."

On policy, Ms Mulvale said she wants to "decrease and ultimately dismiss the (annual) deficit," as a "high priority." She also hopes to see "a federal-provincial economic plan" put in place "quickly."

Mr. Sparling publicly pledged Ms Mulvale "my support and my family's support" in the upcoming election.



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