

Opinion

Have you done your homework?

Often, newspapers receive criticism for endorsements issued just before elections.

Some readers appreciate the insight, some resent the practice, which has nonetheless become a time-honoured tradition in newsrooms around the globe.

Usually, newspaper editorial endorsements come at the end of the campaign period and serve as one more piece of information that voters can cogitate prior to casting their ballots. Many are done on the basis that the news staff has been up close to the campaign and therefore has insight to offer.

Campaigns are prescribed periods in which all candidates have the same amount of time to win over voters. Each has their own approach to do so. Some spend more money, have more volunteers, supporters, resources, etc.

Often, no stone is left unturned and no potential voter overlooked as candidates compete for each and every vote. Some lay the foundation in the many days, and years, prior to putting their name forward.

It always takes courage to put your name forward. It requires a commitment and it's an action others should appreciate.

Candidates knock on doors, send out pamphlets, operate websites, get their face out into the community, and put forward their presence and their ideas at all-candidates' meetings.

In recent years, endorsements from all corners appear plentiful. Associations, groups, individuals, peer politicians all throw their weight behind various candidates in a bid to sway voters or win votes. Such endorsements are not unlike those offered by newsrooms. But in the end, the final decisions rest with voters.

We encourage residents, as always, to take the time to do their homework, find out about candidates, ask questions about policy, consider the opinions of others, and then make up their own minds.

Be an informed voter. We know there is a copious amount of information to wade through.

Sometimes, wading in to find out more can leave one feeling swamped and on information overload. It can be difficult to distinguish what's what and often people should dig several layers in before coming to any conclusion.

Notwithstanding, at the end of the process, voters should take a deep breath and search their own emotions, opinions and ideologies to see which candidate(s) align best with their goals.

When you're comfortable to align a possible vote with a candidate, that's when you're in a well-informed position and ready to cast a ballot.

Voting is a right and it's a privilege. It's one we each should take very seriously and it's one that each of us should cast based on our own rationale.

Voting Day is October 27. Time to get that homework done.



Heritage Matters

The Princess Theatre's debut was in 1912. Located at 156 Main St., the theatre owner/operator T. D. Hume declared "no pictures are shown at the Princess until they have been passed by the official censor." Movies were shown on Fridays and Saturdays. In July 1913, a 24-foot addition was built to accommodate the increasing crowds. Admission was five cents for children and 10 cents for adults. The theatre caught fire in 1915 but was re-built the following year and movies continued until 1985 when the space was remodelled and used for stores.

— Submitted by Heritage Milton and Nasagiweya Historical Society

Editor's Desk

Vaz-Oxlade had audience in stitches while telling it like it is

My husband and I were among the almost 500 people who attended the presentation by Gail Vaz-Oxlade at the Milton Centre for the Arts Friday night.

We went there hoping to witness Vaz-Oxlade's tell-it-like-it-is style that we have enjoyed watching on the television shows she hosted, *Til Debt Do Us Part*, *Princess* and *Money Moron*. We weren't disappointed. That's exactly what we got. Vaz-Oxlade, one of Canada's most successful financial writers, not only provided her common-sense, back-to-basics approach to managing money, she



Karen Miceli
Managing Editor

had the audience in stitches with her humour and quick wit. Even those who have their finances in order and don't have a penny of debt would have enjoyed the show just for the sheer entertainment value.

That was no character she played in hosting her television shows. She's the real deal, and it's refreshing.

Her appearance was part of the One Book, One Milton community read hosted by the Milton Public Library. The featured novel, in which debt is a prominent topic, is *Mount Pleasant* by Don Gillmor. He will appear at the arts centre Monday, Nov. 10. There's still time to join in the community read. The book can be borrowed, purchased or downloaded, and should be read before the author's visit.

Karen Miceli can be reached at kmiceli@miltoncanadianchampion.com and on Twitter @Championeditor.

insidehalton.com

the Canadian Champion

555 Industrial Drive, Milton, Ont. L9T 5E1
905-878-2341

Advertising Fax: 905-876-2364

Classified: 905-875-3300

Circulation: 905-878-5947

www.miltoncanadianchampion.com

V.P. — Group Publisher
Neil Oliver

Regional General Manager
David Harvey

Director of Advertising
Katy Letourneau

Editor in Chief
Jill Davis, Halton Region

Managing Editor
Karen Miceli

Production Manager
Manuel Garcia

Circulation Director
Charlene Hall

Office Manager
Sandy Pare

The Canadian Champion, published every Thursday, is a division of Metroland Media Group Ltd.

Advertising is accepted on the condition that, in the event of a typographical error, that portion of the advertising space occupied by the erroneous item, together with a reasonable allowance for signature, will not be charged for, but the balance of the advertisement will be paid for at the applicable rate. The publisher reserves the right to categorize advertisements or decline.

CCAB CCAB Audited

OPC Ontario Press Council
Defending principles to inspire public trust

Recognized for excellence by

ocna Ontario Community Newspapers Association

CNA Canadian Community Newspapers Association

SNM Suburban Newspapers of America

The Canadian Champion is a proud media sponsor for:

