

# Mayor seeks further term feels change now disruptive

Mayor Anne MacArthur doesn't think there should be an election for mayor in Milton this year. During an interview recently she expressed concern about the disruption an election could cause for the municipality.

She said she had been advised that Halton Hills Councillors had decided not to challenge Mayor Tom Hill this term because of the disruptive effect they felt it could have on the operation of the municipality.

"There's so much unfinished business. I've had a good effect in pulling the areas together. I ran last time on my ability to work effectively at the region and because I care for people. I'll use that again this time. I've worked hard for all of the people and I mean all of the people."

Mrs. MacArthur declined to make any comment concern-

ing campaign strategy, platform or goals and objectives that she would strive for during the next term if re-elected. She said she feels it is too soon in the campaign to be addressing those issues.

However, she did say she has appointed Doug Foley as campaign manager and a large campaign committee is being formed.

**Kernighan Park**

Dealing with some of the achievements of council over the past three years, Mrs. MacArthur suggested she took a lot of pride in the acquisition of Kernighan Park.

"I hope in the future we can build a bridge over the narrow portion of the pond linking the property with the Mill Pond and Rotary Park."

"I want it to be a passive park. Miltonians of the future will be glad it is there."

"The whole philosophy under my administration has



ANNE MACARTHUR been to spend just enough now so that down the road in the future, people in Milton will be able to enjoy a good life when we can afford it."

The construction of the

Pine St. bridge and reconstruction of Pine St. have been completed and work on the Commercial St. extension and the building of the Laurier Bridge have been started during this council's term, the mayor said.

**Soft services**

The mayor said she had exercised a fairly strong hand in keeping tax increases down and has tried to finance soft services out of capital levies and provincial grants.

Mrs. MacArthur said she had received a lot of criticism about not releasing adequate funds for library services. She said she felt the service being offered is adequate. She compared the case to a young couple getting married and wanting to raise a large family.

"If I were in that position

I'd build a big house, but only furnish it as the need arose."

**Best park**

She said that Brian Best Park would go ahead this year with the provision of a ball diamond and soccer field but would be without a lot of the amenities for this season anyway.

Mrs. MacArthur said she supported the provision of a second ice surface and indicated that perhaps if the rink isn't twinned on Thompson Rd., arrangements could be made for a second arena at the Milton District High School or perhaps at the fair grounds.

Mrs. MacArthur said the acquisition of the Lions Club building in Campbellville had been accomplished through the use of capital levies and provincial grants.

The mayor defended the purchase of the gas station property for use as a fire hall and recreation centre on the Guelph Line in Nassagaweya.

"It was an excellent investment and sound from the very beginning."

**Not our fault**

The mayor said neither she

nor her council should have to accept any responsibility about the high rate of residential growth.

"It was all planned before this council took office. I have talked to Victoria Woods and they are prepared to phase in their homes over a 10 year period."

"My plea to them is schools. We can't invite people in and then bus the children to schools outside of the community."

"We have to have some industrial development and improve our tax base before we have more residential development," she explained.

**NEC member**

Mrs. MacArthur has served with the Niagara Escarpment Commission for the past three years as well as attend-

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ing to Milton and Regional Council problems.

She said being on the NEC had been of great help for the many people living in the escarpment area.

"I've taken the position that where people own a lot planned for a home, the planners should find a spot on the lot for the home or the government should buy the lot."

The mayor spoke of her ongoing efforts to press for rehabilitation and improvements at quarries in the area.

**Prior service**

Mrs. MacArthur served as Warden of Halton for two years and served on Nassagaweya Township council for nine years becoming reeve in 1969.

She taught school for 38 years and 27 of them were at Milton District High School.

The mayor said she would not seek re-election in the 1978 election.

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'It could be stronger'

# Gordon seeks mayoralty

It's official, Milton Councillor Don Gordon is running as mayor of Milton in the Dec. 6 election.

In a letter to Ward One ratepayers last week Mr. Gordon told his constituents that he would be seeking higher office in the upcoming election.

A veteran of 11 years in municipal life, three in Milton and eight in Oakville, Councillor Gordon plans a heavy campaign, spending 16 to 18 hours a day on the campaign trail.

**Door knocking**

"I plan to knock on 4,000 doors," he said in an interview. Councillor Gordon said he'll take three weeks holidays and devote them to making personal contact with as many homeowners as he can.

He said he had people scattered through the municipality who have offered him support, but he won't have a central location or campaign headquarters. He said he didn't know how much the campaign will cost, but it will be all his own money.

Mr. Gordon lives with his wife Pauline on the Sixth Line near Hornby and has lived there since 1956. He has arranged a leave of absence from his job as an accountant in financing at the Ford Motor Company in Oakville where he has worked since 1954.

**Business-like**

He said he feels he could bring good administration practices and a sound business-like attitude towards the town's business into the mayor's office.

"Some councillors say you can't run a town like a business. Maybe not, but you can use business administration techniques and the same mechanics as you would in the day to day operation of a business."

"I feel we could be stronger in administration, much stronger."

"As mayor I would be more involved in the departments. I would go out with the guys on works crews with permission of the director and try to get a feeling for the operation and get to know the men."

"I would do the same with the fire chief. I'm proud of the fire department and don't suggest that the efficiency could be improved, but it could be that there is a need for new legislation that could help them out."

**Better liaison**

"I would look for better liaison with the boards and commissions especially the library board which I feel has been unjustifiably criticized. They do a good job with no pay," Councillor Gordon said.

He said he was pleased the industrial amendment had been passed but he felt 1,400 acres was too large.

"I would have preferred 700 or 800 acres. It would be more workable and wouldn't require widening of roads. I think it should start at the Highway 25-Highway 401 overpass and branch out from there," he noted.

**Need diamonds**

"As mayor I would survey the parks and recreation

situation again. The urban part of Milton has only one ball diamond that is lighted.

"With the number of men, women and children in the urban part of town, there is a definite need for more than one diamond."

"Yes, I would release more



DON GORDON

dollars to recreation. I believe the municipality can provide good recreation without going into bankruptcy."

The mayor of the municipality also sits on regional council. Councillor Gordon said he wouldn't have problems understanding the various issues at regional council because of his eight years in Oakville when the area municipality was responsible for a greater range of responsibilities.

**Growth**

"I want growth restricted to what the zoning is now. Milton is a well planned community. It is a pedestrian town. You can walk anywhere and buy almost anything at a fair and equitable price," he said.

"I wouldn't put a lid on growth but I would like to see it slow down and allow a number of houses that can be absorbed into the town. In other words, give people a chance to move in and get oriented to Milton."

Mr. Gordon said he would adopt a "boost Milton" attitude, both at the region and at the province. "My attitude is,

we have to accept things like the Parkway Belt legislation and then work within the rules to get the best we can for Milton. The same with the Niagara Escarpment Commission. Good, bad or indifferent—it is there and we have to live within the law."

Commenting on the arena controversy Mr. Gordon said he was sad to see the second ice surface disappear. "I'm firmly convinced that it has to be replaced, and in the same area if possible. If the old arena is going to be so expensive that we can't justify it, then we have to look for another spot—namely the fairgrounds."

**Supports pool**

He said he favored the construction of an indoor swimming pool and he indicated the pool should be built in conjunction with the new high school on Thompson Rd., even if it is built after the school.

Mr. Gordon doesn't belong to groups or organizations outside of the municipal structure. He looks to jogging and oil painting for relaxation.

"I jog as often as possible. After jogging for a mile, I come back relaxed. The tension is gone and I feel better. I feel I have to be physically fit to give myself the stamina I need."

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