Marilyn Serjeantson



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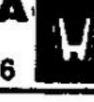
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Election (Custinged from

gional government from day one and observed Acton has lost much more than it gained

from the new system of local government.
She pledged to be a watchdog of Actor's interests at council, but added people must live with regional govern-ment so she won't be "obstructionist"

The present system of policing does not compare unfavorably with the old OPP system, and the increase in vandalism is "scary" to older residents of Acton. She said she felt a "sense of personal shame" to see a store with a barricade across the front of it.

Taylor doesn't want to see the town hall demolished because it is such a big part of Acton's history since it was the only community centre years ago. She noted the building means a great deal to many older residents and she wants it preserved if it's poss-ible to save it without spending tax dollars. Taylor wants the building turned over to the groups working to restore it.

Vince Whelan

November 8 is a day of decision on the direction Acton will take for the next three years. Whelan said. He said he was "gravely" con-cerned about the need to improve downtown Acton, and the expansion of the "aggregate pit in Acton" 16,000 acres of land being frozen around Acton. Whelan said Acton isn't content live with failing businesses, industries three-day work weeks, increasing taxes

and unemployment. He urged voters make sure candidates calling for budget cuts explained where the cuts will be made because nobody wants to see fewer police, teachers fired or reduced ambulance service, etc. He warned people should remember what budget cuts south of the the border have done to the United States.

Whelan said his 18 years of financial exper-ience and record of community service are strong assets for a coun-

cillor. He said he is opposed to tax dollars being spent on the town hall, but does support giving Area (BIA), of which he community groups a is chairman, taxes itself

shot at saving it. Whelan said he is standing behind his put money into the town statements that taxes three years because he got his information from a member of the Town finance committee. He claims regional taxes went up 98 per cent, education taxes in-creased 41 per cent and Town taxes jumped 26 per cent in the past

three years. Dave Whiting

Polticians have done a pretty good job of messing things up at the federal and provincial levels and what is needed are councillors at the local level with foresight, Whiting sald.

He noted a bigger concern on the aggregate

issue than more quar-ries and pits is what will happen to ground water around Acton after the pits are mined. He noted councillors and the pub-lic will fight the freezing of 14,000 acres for quar-ries and gravel pits, but the province may im-pose the freeze anyway just like it did the hydro corridor outside Acton.
Many candidates are
talking about increased

police protection, but they aren't proposing economical solutions. Police shouldn't be wasting time writing parking tickets, part-time people could be hired and paid out of revenue from fines, Whiting said giving the police more time for polce work in Acton. Also there'd be more police protection in Acton without extra cost if the patrol areas were adjusted and officers stayed in Acton instead of going to calls in the rural area. Acton doesn't have

ambulance service, ambulances come from Guelph and Georgetown, and response time is naturally slower and could cost lives. Whiting said the region is studying using provincial funds to set up an ambulance service in

community groups restore the town hall without tax dollars the fire hall, which firefighters say is poorly located and is now inadequate for the volunteers needs, should be moved. The fire hall and town hall should be viewed as a total package as a

future community cen-

tre, though that will mean spending tax dollars for a new fire ball. In answer to a question, Whiting said high

interest rates and delays caused by objections by another developer who wanted to build a plaza outside Acton has delayed the IGA plaza on the site of the Dominion Hotel.
Also the developer no longer has committed tenants for the stores the project has dragged on so long. Whiting said he understands the present owners of the property want to sell it.

Ed Wood

Good local govern-ment is very important because the region and Halton Hills spend close to \$100 million a year so they are big business, Wood said. With the three year

the election as more important than ever be-Wood said he has stayed away from issues, prefering to hear

term voters must view

Acton's concerns rather than fabricate issues. He criticized Whelan for saying he understands the issues and then saying he's worried about the expansion of the aggregate pit in Acton when the quarries and pits will be outside

Wood rapped Whelan for saying taxes have tripled in the last three years when looking at his own tax bills he sees they haven't gone up nearly that much. Whelan's comments have been "irresponsi-

He also criticised Whiting for blaming the size of the recreation department for in-creases in user pay fees for sports when the pre-sent council sets the user pay fees and deter-mines the staffing of the department. He said it was unfort-

unate all teens are

painted with the same brush regarding the loitering and vandalism problems caused by a hard core of "professional" loiterers who aren't teens, but young adults. A restored town hall could be a community centre for young people to visit and the Business Improvement to promote and beautify downtown, but hasn't

have tripled in the last Glen McKenzie

Halton Hills has a cross-section of people with many talents and abilities and we have to "recognize who we are" and mobilize for the future, McKenzie said. It will take much more than a small grant to the North Halton Tourism Association to promote Halton Hills and make it a big tourist

spot, it will take tens of thousands of dollars. He wants to increase GO service and encourage business and industry. McKenzie added he'll fight the gravel pits pro-posed because pits don't attract tourists. There will also be a shop Halton Hills campaign if he is mayor. McKenzie suggested he was prepared to help the unemployed in their job

He is against spending money set aside for a new Town administration building or the town hall, though he later indicated groups trying to save the hall should be allowed to try and do it with their own money. Half of the money set aside for the two pro-jects should be returned to the taxpayers and the other half invested in the "future" of the muncipality. All that is being done now is maintaining Halton Hills, McKenzle added.

Young people are bringing their problems on themselves, skipping and hanging around downtown not making much use of themselves, McKenzie said in answer to a ques-tion about teenagers being given a rough time by police and the municipality. He said they should be more involved in their school

and community sports.
If the town half comes down McKenzie would like a new rink and community centre built in the rural area to serve all of Halton Hills.

Council is the board of

He suggested once Peter Pomeroy

directors of a large cor poration and must answer for their financial decisions, Pomeroy said. He noted the importance of the right to vote and the role of local government are often deemplayed, but they are very important and veters must carefully (Continued on page 9)