

Acton's Shirley Murray is Halton's new Dairy Princess

By PAM DOUGLAS
Shirley Murray, crowned 1984-85 Halton Dairy Princess Friday night, likes to keep it all in the family.

The 20-year-old Acton resident is following in her sisters' footsteps. Marie Murray held the title in 1979 and a married sister, Pat Thompson, represented Halton in 1971. Pat has been Halton Dairy Princess co-ordinator for the past four years.

Shirley was disappointed that she was unopposed for this year's title.

"I really wanted someone else in it. It would have been a lot easier," she said. "I would have had someone to talk to before I had to make my speech."

Dairy Princess contestants must go through interviews and give a speech before being chosen. Despite being unopposed, Shirley had to go through the formalities.

Her speech was about life on a dairy farm. A lot of girls who wanted to enter didn't fit into the 16-to-26-year-old age category and others just weren't ready this year, Shirley said.

"At 17 (years of age) I wouldn't have gone for it (the title)," she said. "The schedule is a little too heavy for someone in high school."

Some of those girls will be ready for next year's competition, she said.

Shirley is looking forward to a very busy year. She began her one-year reign the day after her crowning, when she helped give out ribbons at a 4-H dairy show in Markham. She has a workshop coming up in the next week and will spend her year visiting schools, clubs and Women's Institute meetings. It will culminate in the Dairy Princess competition at the Canadian National Exhibition next August.

She has to get used to public speaking before then, she said. She has to overcome her nervousness.

The youngest of nine children, Shirley grew up on her parents' farm on the Sixth Line in Nassagaweya Township.

She graduated from Acton High School and now works on the family farm, called Indian Garden. She'd like to own a dairy farm someday, she said.

"Five minutes away from here if at all possible," she said, explaining that her family is very close.

She's an active 4-H member and she raises mares and show cattle. This year one of her mares took a first place at Acton's and Georgetown's fall fairs and a third at Milton.

She likes to swim and ride her bicycle and she paints and draws in her spare time.



Shirley Murray of Acton (centre) was crowned Halton Dairy Princess 1984-85 Friday night at the Legion. Laura Marshall of Milton (right) was last year's winner and Ontario Dairy Princess Mary Atkinson was special guest at the ceremony.

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Wins Tory crown stakes by a nose

Pomeroy edges out competition

By a slim 20 vote margin, Pete Pomeroy nosed out Barry Quinn to take the Progressive Conservative nomination for Halton-Burlington, Thursday night.

In a packed Halton Hills Place, former Halton Hills Mayor and Regional Chairman Pomeroy polled 446 votes, while Burlington Regional Councillor Quinn came right behind him with 426 votes.

In all 878 votes were cast, with six spoiled ballots. The magic winning number was 440 and Pomeroy made it with only six votes to spare. 919 ballots were issued but some left before voting because of the crowding.

Earlier in the evening a sea of green-hatted Quinn supporters waving banners, and chanting "Win with Quinn" seemed to outnumber the quieter Pomeroy supporters, but as the hall filled to overflowing the odds evened out, and the tension mounted.

In victory Pomeroy termed it the toughest competition he had ever been in, and said Quinn was a man to be proud of.

He held out the hand of friendship to his opponent pointing out after redistribution, when riding boundaries are changed, the PCs would have a great candidate in Quinn.

Later he said the very next day he would start putting a team together to work on PC policies and a comeback in the riding. The team would include Quinn, if he is willing, said Pomeroy.

Asked about continuing as regional chairman, he said there is no conflict and he would remain in that spot. He said an election could be as late as 1986. He quoted the Municipal Act as stating no-one can hold two elected offices at the same time. "I'm not elected yet," he quipped.

Asked about his quick rise to the provincial candidacy, the P.C. candidate pointed out he had been in politics for eight years, "working hard all the time."

In his nomination speech, Pomeroy insisted the people of Halton think it's time they have a voice in government and an MPP who gets his message across.

"No longer are they satisfied to learn about legislation affecting them after it's passed."

He called for a safe environment and advance knowledge about legislation creating government agencies such as the Ontario Waste Management Corporation.

There should be no more action on locating toxic waste disposal sites until a method of treating it is agreed upon, Pomeroy argued, stressing he wants environmental assessment hearings to include the public. He said the hearing should deal with the methods of disposal and suggested then there may be no need for a site, in Milton or elsewhere.

He noted he had been involved with governing of the riding, had been listening to the people and knew the issues first hand. He promised to fight for the riding's future and effect changes where necessary.

Pomeroy was nominated by long-time friend Paul Campbell, and Milton Mayor Gordon Krantz.

Should Pete quit Region?

Burlington regional councillor, Joan Little, said she is trying to decide whether or not to call for the resignation of regional chairman, Peter Pomeroy.

Mrs. Little said she feels Mr. Pomeroy made a firm commitment to remain as regional chairman and that was why he was elected to the post. Now, she said, Mr. Pomeroy is the Progressive Conservative candidate for Halton-Burlington while receiving a "pay cheque from Halton."

Last November when a regional chairman was selected, Mrs. Little asked both Mr. Pomeroy and the other candidate for the job, Carol Gooding of Oakville, if they would remain regional chairman even if a federal or provincial election was called.

"There was a lot of talk back then about political aspirations so that's why I specifically phrased the question to both Pete and Carol."

"In fact I wrote notes to myself a few times to get the wording correct."

"What I said was would they be regional chairman and not leave the job to run in a provincial or federal election."

"They both said 'yes' they would last the full term," she said.

Mrs. Little said she feels Mr. Pomeroy has a "serious conflict" in that on a major issue between the province and the region "would he owe his allegiance to Halton or to the Province."



The first in a series of congratulations are showered on Pete Pomeroy by daughters Janis (left) and Jill following the Regional Chairman's closely-fought victory over Burlington Regional Councillor Barry Quinn Thursday night in Milton. The two contenders for the Conservative nomination in Halton-Burlington were just 20 votes apart when the dust settled.

Officers face trial

Three Halton Regional police officers charged with assault in connection with the July 5 fracas downtown appeared in Milton provincial court Monday. Ordered to stand trial Feb. 14 are Constables Brian Farrell and Steven Amis and Sgt. Michael Eacrett. The charges were laid by local young people who allege that the officers used excessive force in arresting them on a variety of charges.

Councillor mum on solid waste meeting

A decision on giving Acton its own garbage transfer station must wait until the political ramifications are discussed, according to Ward 2 Regional Councillor Jake Kuiken.

Contacted by the Free Press, Kuiken declined to comment Monday on the contents of a closed-door meeting last week involving the Town's mayor and four Regional councillors and staff from both levels of government.

Kuiken's inquiry about the possibility of establishing a solid waste transfer station in Acton was one of several topics discussed by Halton chief administrative officer Dennis Perlin, Halton Hills clerk-administrator Ken Richardson, treasurer Ray King and engineer Bob Austin, Mayor Russ Miller and councillors Kuiken, John McDonald, Dave Whiting and Mike Armstrong.

Other topics also came under the heading of waste management, Kuiken said, explaining that the "debate" will go before other politicians before going public.

Acton is the only one of Halton's five urban areas that does not have its own transfer station, to which residential and some commercial garbage can be delivered before being trucked to the Burlington landfill site for disposal.

Anne Bancroft may co-star in movie

Film and theatre star Anne Bancroft may be among the cast joining Jane Fonda next month at the Rockwood Academy to shoot "Agnes of God".

According to sources at the Academy, Fonda has been confirmed to play the psychiatrist in Norman Jewison's movie version of the successful Broadway play.

Pre-production work has been underway at the historic Hwy. 7 site throughout this month under the supervision of location manager Michael Jewison, son of the film's director, Norman Jewison, previously noted for his work on "Fiddler on the Roof", "Ice Man" and most recently "A Soldier's Story".

Site preparations included adding a temporary wooden cap to the Academy's surrounding stone walls, interior painting and construction, creation of a new garden and path and the gathering of several hundred pigeons and farm animals for some scenes.

Albion Films has hired a unit publicist

who is supposed to arrive in Toronto from California in the next few weeks, followed by Fonda, best known for "On Golden Pond" and for her highly popular physical fitness guides.

The title role of Agnes will reportedly go to either Tammy Grimes, who played the role on Broadway, or her actress-daughter Amanda Plummer. Bancroft, a screen star since "The Miracle Worker" and "The Graduate" in the early 1960s, recently co-starred with real-life husband Mel Brooks in his comedy "To Be or Not to Be".

Got a little spare time?

Got a little spare time to share with others and gain new experience at the same time? The North Halton Volunteer Bureau could use your help.

Established with a Georgetown office to help area businesses and non-profit groups cope with heavy workloads and fluctuating demand, the Bureau (877-3219) is hoping to recruit volunteers to help in the following areas:

- P.D. Day co-ordinator to help plan and run Professional Development Day activities for local children at the Acton Y in conjunction with the Town recreation department; crafts, movies and gym exercises are among the plans.
- UNICEF needs a Christmas sales co-ordinator to order supplies, keep books and complete final tallies.
- Drivers are needed to chauffeur local senior citizens to weekly meetings and take patients to medical appointments both locally and out-of-town.
- An office volunteer with organizational abilities is needed to catalogue resource materials, type and file; hours are flexible in a bright, cheery office.
- In just about any other field of endeavor, someone nearby could use some help; to volunteer, call 877-3219.



CARAVAN ROLLS

Eldon Comfort was on hand at the Peace Caravan rally in Guelph Monday. Comfort, who belongs to the local chapter of Halton Hills Action for Nuclear Disarmament (HAND), said there are 1,000 signatures on the Acton petition that will be taken to Ottawa Oct. 20 to be presented in the House of Commons. The Peace Caravan, which started Sept. 28 in Victoria, B.C., and St. John's Newfoundland, is visiting 70 Canadian cities en route to Ottawa and, according to Caravan representative Stephanie Sydesha, nearly 140,000 signatures have been collected so far.

Halton Hills is 'fortunate' to escape emotional debate on waste disposal

Citizens of Halton Hills are "fortunate to have been spared" confrontations with government over proposals for new landfill sites and Energy From Waste (EFW) plants, according to an official of Halton Region.

Giving members of the Acton Chamber of Commerce an overview of the Region's EFW program at a luncheon Thursday, EFW project officer Vicky Henderson said such proposals continue to provoke "highly emotional debates" between government and the public.

While a major landfill site has not been proposed for Halton Hills in years, she said, Acton's Beardmore Tannery was among ten Halton locations closely examined this year as a potential home to an EFW plant.

Chamber members were told that scheduled guest speaker George Woodburn, who as waste disposal manager for the Region might have shared a broader view of garbage-related issues, was tied up with budget discussions. In his stead, Henderson received a warm welcome.

While the Halton EFW program was supposed to have been shelved indefinitely last month after prime site candidates withdrew their support in the face of public pressure, Henderson said, another company has stepped forward with an intriguing proposal.

Regional officials faced a whole new group of concerned citizens last Tuesday when Petrosun offered to build an EFW plant near Regional headquarters at Hwy. 25 and the QEW and sell the electricity produced there by burning garbage to Unkon Carbide, she explained.

The proposal at first glance is very encouraging to the Region, she said, but residents of Oakville's Glen Abbey area, near the suggested site, are now the ones saying "not in my backyard".

Halton officials were forced to admit that Beardmore never was a prime candidate for the EFW plant, Henderson said. Based on preliminary feasibility studies, consultants agreed that the tannery's location in the midst of a residential area created major environmental obstacles. Company officials wanted the plant positioned at the east end of their property, she said, placing it close to Crescent St. homes and at a lower level than the surrounding neighborhood.

As well as concern over smokestack emissions, an access route for incoming garbage trucks proved hard to find, even when an otherwise unused easement past the sewage treatment plant was examined. The EFW plant would also be close enough to Black Creek and the Fairy Lake marsh to raise concerns with the Credit Valley Conservation Authority, Henderson said.

ON THE WIND

Up, up and away go 300 balloons as students at St. Joseph's school gladly helped out with a Grade 8 environmental studies program. The balloons, each with a stamped return address envelope, will hopefully be returned to the school by the people who find them and help students understand wind currents. Last year's project had responses from as far away as Napanee, near Ottawa.