

# Halton Hills reps support Pomeroy

A challenge to Pete Pomeroy's integrity as a combination Regional chairman and Provincial election candidate will get no further than today's (Wednesday's) Regional council meeting, according to Jake Kuiken.

One of Halton Hills' five Regional representatives surveyed by this newspaper on the minor controversy surrounding Pomeroy's dual political role, Kuiken predicted that council will veto Joan Little's demand for a full accounting by the chairman.

Mayor Russ Miller called the Burlington councillor's intentions "frivolous". Four of Halton Hills' five Regional councillors—Miller, Kuiken, John McDonald and Dave Whiting—said they see no need for the report. Mike Armstrong, while supporting Pomeroy, declined to comment on the need for the report.

A recommendation from the Region's planning and public works committee, originated by Little, will today ask council to have Pomeroy outline his intentions once the Provincial election is called.

Little wants to know how much time he'll spend on Regional affairs while campaigning for the Halton-Burlington seat at Queen's Park and suggested that he stay out of all Regional council discussions on landfill issues. Should Pomeroy be called upon to cast a tie-breaking vote, she said, landfill opponents could challenge Regional decisions because of a perceived conflict of interest.

Pomeroy won the Progressive Conservative candidacy October 11 over Burlington Regional councillor Barry Quinn.

Little reminded colleagues that prior to Regional council's election of a chairman in 1983, she asked both candidates for the job—Pomeroy and Carol Gooding of Oakville—whether they would seek provincial or federal office should an election be called at either level before the municipal term expired. Both said they would not.

"It was a bit of a loaded question," Whiting commented last week, pointing out that many people knew Pomeroy hoped to one day move into provincial politics.

"Peter pretty much left himself open to criticism by reneging on something he'd indicated before," McDonald acknowledged.

"I'm sure the concerns in Joan's mind are well-founded, based on the question she asked Carol and Pete," Armstrong added. "I appreciate her concerns, but Peter has been in local politics for a considerable length of time. I think he recognizes his responsibility. And if the election is called (in late 1985 or 1986) he could finish out his term anyway."

"Every politician has to have some ambition," Miller said. "Pete's in an awkward spot, but you never know how things are going to change."

Had someone asked him about his future intentions when he campaigned for a school board seat years ago, Miller said, he would have told them sincerely that he had no ambitions of becoming a Town councillor.



PETE POMEROY  
Local Support

"When an opportune time comes, you've got to go after it," McDonald agreed. "You don't know if you're going to have to wait another five or six years (for the next provincial election)."

"Getting a commitment from the candidates was obviously important to Joan," Whiting said. "She may have some personal difficulty with that, but a lot of people around the council table didn't. We voted for

the person we thought was best for the job. This report business is a waste of time."

Whiting, McDonald and Kuiken were quick to point out that Burlington Regional Councillor Walter Mulkewich is also a candidate in the next provincial election, representing south Halton New Democrats.

"Just because we're pretty sure the Tories will form the government (after that election) doesn't mean that this doesn't affect Mulkewich too," Whiting said. Hamilton-Wentworth Regional chairman Anne Jones is also a Tory candidate in the next election, he said, and no one is questioning her municipal intentions there.

None of the Halton Hills representatives could see a conflict of interest arising from Pomeroy's involvement in landfill discussions or any other Regional debate.

If Little is worried that Pomeroy will be unable to properly defend the Region's decisions before the Province while vying for a Provincial seat, she's being "overly optimistic" about the state of Regional-Provincial relations, Armstrong said.

And Miller expressed doubt that Pomeroy will be privy to any confidential information that could upset those relations.

"I don't see any conflict at all," Whiting said. "Pete only votes on ties. He can't exert the same influence at the Region that he did as mayor."

If an unforeseen problem does arise, Armstrong said, Pomeroy will be the first to consult Halton's chief administrative officer and step aside if need be.

Whiting downplayed the degree to which

politics plays a role in the selection of a landfill site. The Region will carefully base its decision on defensible data, and may have an alternative in mind should the prime candidate fail to gain approval, but political gamesmanship will not enter into it, he said.

Soundly behind Pomeroy's decision to jump into Provincial politics, the Halton Hills members agreed that he would represent Halton-Burlington well at Queen's Park if elected.

"It should be looked at as a great benefit to have people like Pomeroy and Mulkewich as members of the Legislature," Miller commented.

"He'll represent us well," McDonald said. "I think we'll be much better off if someone from (north Halton), who knows its peculiar problems, is representing us."

Kuiken noted that having a north Halton native at Queen's Park instead of in the Regional chair will probably be a worthwhile trade-off.

"Our end of things seems to hinge on the province and the federal government, too," he said. "North Halton always seems to be getting the short end of the stick."

"But Pete's got a pretty hard job ahead trying to unseat Julian Reed (the Liberal incumbent who has yet to declare his candidacy). Julian's done an excellent job as far as I can see and it's going to take quite a bit to beat him, but Bill Davis has wanted this riding so bad for years. Maybe having a Conservative (MPP) here would get a little more action on our behalf."

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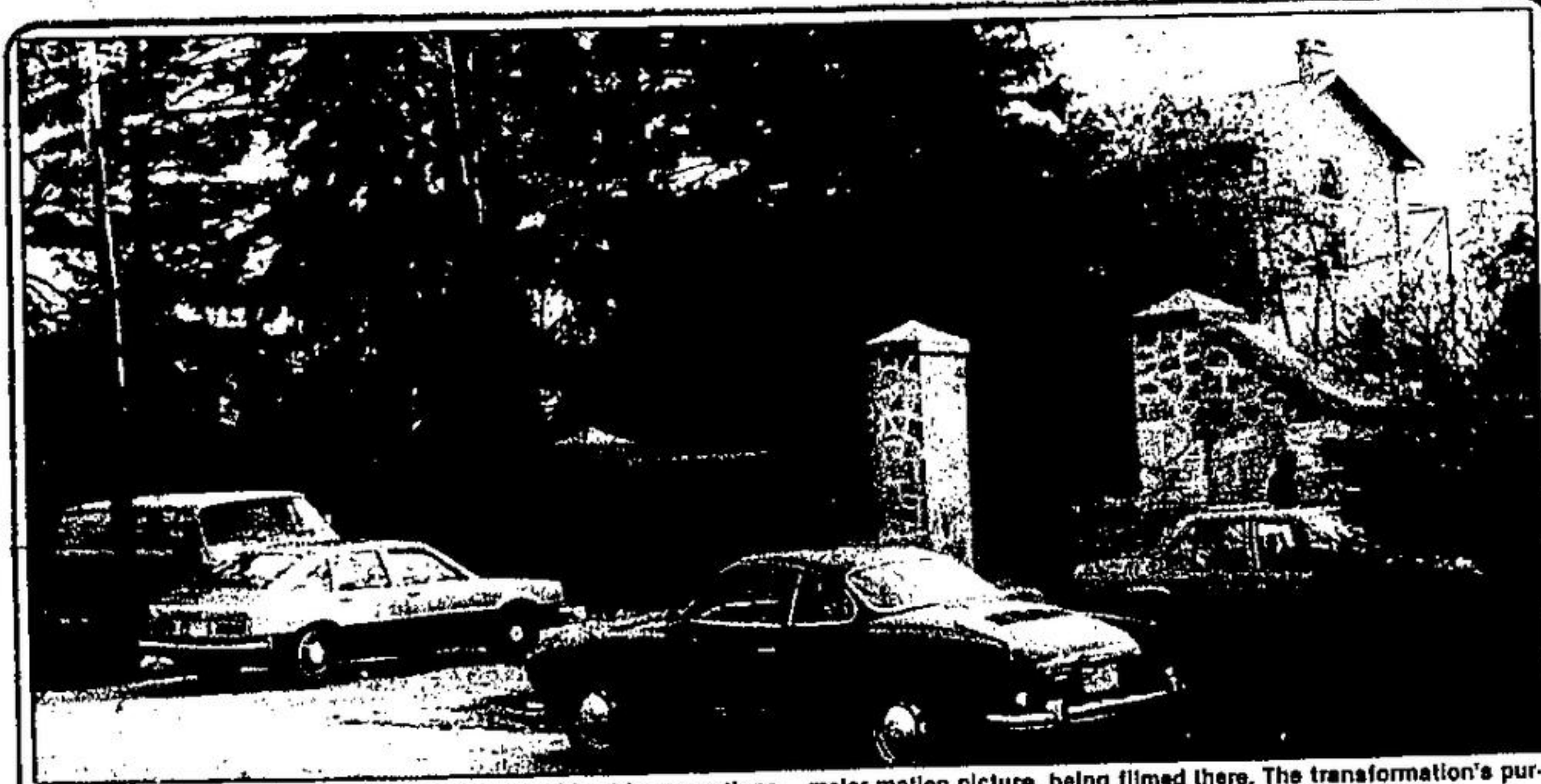
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## newsmakers

Georgetown/Acton, Wednesday, November 7, 1984

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Rockwood Academy has been undergoing considerable renovations this month in preparation for "Agnes Of God," a Columbia Pictures major motion picture, being filmed there. The transformation's purpose is to make the historic old school resemble a Quebec convent.

## Jane Fonda, Anne Bancroft to star in film produced at old Rockwood Academy

by Mark Holmes

On November 12 the lights will come up, the stars will appear and the cameras will roll at the historic Rockwood Academy.

Culminating more than a month of vigorous set construction, the Academy will finally be ready for "Agnes of God," a Broadway play destined for North American cinemas sometime in October, 1985. The old academy was restored by the late Joseph Dreiters, internationally known sculptor. It is situated on Highway 7, just west of Halton Hills.

Nancy Willen, publicist for the film being released by Columbia Pictures, confirmed that actresses Jane Fonda, Anne Bancroft and Meg Tilly will be playing the lead roles and Norman Jewison of "Ice Man," "Fiddler on the Roof" and "A Soldier's Story" fame, will direct.

Casting is currently underway in the area for women between 75 and 90 years of age to act as "periphery" characters.

Willen said. The periphery characters will be nuns.

Fonda, best known for her role in the Academy award-winning "On Golden Pond" and for her popular fitness guides, will portray Dr. Martha Livingstone, a psychiatrist who finds mystery and unrest at the convent.

Meg Tilly, whose role in "The Big Chill" rocketed her into the Hollywood limelight, will act as Agnes, a troubled nun with an illegitimate child.

Bancroft has been cast as Mother Superior Miriam Ruth. Bancroft is well remembered for her roles in the 1960s films "The Miracle Worker" and "The Graduate" and, more recently, "To Be Or Not To Be."

Willen described the production as a major motion picture full of drama and mystery.

As for the Academy itself, a 19th century school for boys, temporary stone caps and metal lattice work have been added to the

walls surrounding the property. Interior painting and construction is well underway with Michael Jewison, son of director Norman Jewison, co-ordinating the work.

Numerous pigeons and farm animals have been collected and gardens and paths have been created on the property for some scenes.

According to Willen, there will be a cast of under 20 working on the Rockwood location and once the filming starts, the set will be off limits to the public.

Currently, film crews for "Agnes of God" are on location in Montreal, where primary filming is being completed.

The Academy was chosen as the set after an Albion Films representative approached the Ontario Heritage Foundation looking for suitable buildings. The temporary transformation of the old stone building is being made to resemble a convent in the Province of Quebec.

### Howitt says

## No schools closed before Sept. 1986

There will be no schools closed until at least September 1986, Halton Board of Education Trustee Dick Howitt assured a group of parents at Speyside School, Thursday evening.

He was explaining the consolidation study to be undertaken by the board.

Howitt emphasized the study would cover the whole of Halton Hills. "We are not zeroing in on Speyside or Pineview or Limehouse, but will look at every school to determine whether one or more or any schools should be closed."

Every board must have a school closure policy, approved by the Ministry of Education, said the Ward Two trustee as he listed the reasons for a consolidation study.

These include the need to maintain quality programs across the system; the need to operate within reasonable costs; the need to consolidate schools in a defined area where schools in close proximity face declining enrolment; and in cases where a school is operating at 50 per cent capacity.

"I can tell you tonight a consolidation study for the whole Town of Halton will be authorized at the December meeting."

Howitt said the study would look at the reorganization of schools, meaning schools could revert to having all grades from kindergarten to grade eight in the one school.

The policy also demands a committee

with two ratepayers from each school area, one of whom must be a parent. The committee will be elected by ballot at a public meeting from nominations of people attending the meeting.

The school trustees from the area and the superintendent from the area schools will also be on the committee.

Resource people, without voting powers will include the superintendent of business services; school principals and administration personnel.

Information of projected population growth, financing, space at other schools will be provided to the committee, who must bring a report back to the school board by the end of January of the year following their establishment. In this case if the committee is set up in January '85 they would have to report by the end of January '86.

Since a school closure must be approved before March to take effect in the fall of that year, Howitt explained the earliest any school in Halton Hills could be closed would be September '86.

"We cannot close a school unless we go through this whole procedure," Howitt commented.

Principal Ron Chatten noted the process of closing schools has improved tremendously since Norval school was closed, with people in the community now involved.



The lost scent

It isn't only letter carriers who carry on in all kinds of weather. Mountainview Farm, home of the Luster family of RR 4 Acton, was host for a Fox Hunt by the Ennisclaire Hunt Club Sunday morning. Wet weather didn't deter the riders from setting out but the heavy rains in the early afternoon forced the hunt to cut short the ride.



Four-year old Kerrie Harrison takes a hard swipe at the witch hat pinata full of Hallows' on candy. The Speyside Pre-school students were having a Hallows' on party with a Mexican touch last Wednesday.



Speyside pre-schooler Laura Wood, 4, carefully determines what kind of power she needs to break the pinata full of candy. Laura was among the many pre-schoolers having a go at the witch hat at their Hallows' on party

### Awards for three riders

Three area riders will be among 33 award winners who will be honored by the Canadian Equestrian Federation, November 13 at a reception in the Westbury Hotel.

Olympian rider Hugh Graham of Limehouse and Schomberg will receive an award as the 1984 Canadian Jumper Champion.

Dick Meredith of Terra Cotta will be recognized as the 1984 Canadian Intermediate three day event champion, and Lorraine Stubbs of Rockwood, as the Reserve Champion Canadian advanced dressage.

The reception will also mark the final official function of seven-year president David Esparthy, of Vancouver.

The Canadian Equestrian Federation is the national governing body for equestrian sport other than racing.