

CLERGY SPEAKS

Intimacy: a constant search

By PASTOR PETER RALPH
Georgetown Alliance Church
All of us long to be on intimate terms with at least one other person in the course of a lifetime. We search through family, friends, job, marriage, clubs and on into less traditional forms in search of "my kind of people". Often we search in vain.

Lee Harvey Oswald, the man reputed to have shot John F. Kennedy was a man who groped vainly through all of these areas for that one elusive, close relationship. He never saw his father, never knew his mother's love, had no childhood friends, failed in school, was dishonourably discharged from the marines,

and married only to discover that his wife despised him too. It is said that the only thing he could do well was shoot a gun. Few of us have experienced such failure in human relationships. Yet each of us does and thinks things which damage our chances of being close to a special circle of people. For example, take this test. Ask yourself, "Have I ever thought like this?"

1. "I'm afraid to let you know the real me."
2. "Who'd want to know me anyway?"
3. "No one who's done what I have deserves to have friends."
4. "I can't spend time with people; I'm too busy."
5. "You'll never change; why should I bother with you?"
6. "You don't give me what I want so I'll cut you off too."

Or have you ever done something like this?

1. Change the subject or crack a joke whenever someone gets too close to the real you in conversation.
2. Storing up fear, guilt and anger until you explode, usually at someone who's dear to you.
3. Playing dumb when someone wants to talk and you don't want to listen.

No one said it was easy. But if we're ever to break through into fullness of life, quirks and habits like these must go.

Jesus said that his followers would be known by their committed love for one another. 1 Peter 1:22 says... "love one another deeply, with all your hearts. For you have been born again... through the living and enduring word of God."

Is it time for you to be born again? Jesus promised to enter the life of a person who in repentance and faith genuinely asked Him to. He said He would establish an intimate relationship with that person. He claimed to be able to help people remove their roadblocks to intimacy. Maybe what you need is not new friends, marriage, or job. Perhaps what you need is new life?

Trustee Goodin retires

Oakville Ward 3 public school trustee Richard Goodin announced Friday his decision not to contest the Dec. 6 elections.

Mr. Goodin, a member of the Halton board of education and the previous Oakville board of education was first elected in 1977. He has since been elected twice and was acclaimed in the past election.

In making his announcement, Mr. Goodin said he was stepping down not because of any possible defeat at the polls but "because it's time for someone else to take on the responsibility."

He says there is a need for people on the board who can get things done, and with three months before the election now is the time for new people to consider whether they will run.

Mr. Goodin said he may still attend board meetings as a spectator and get involved "if there's something I feel is of advantage to parents and the people."



GEORGE GRAY AND SUPPORTERS

George Gray, Progressive Conservative candidate for the provincial riding Halton-Burlington, hugs "two of his best supporters" Mr. Gray is wearing a shirt with a pattern of "G's" on it.

Recovery plant proposal placed before council

Halton will seek provincial financial assistance for the establishment of a resource recovery plant.

But the proposal is subject to provincial assistance in the area of developing adequate markets for the disposal of refuse-derived fuels and other marketable resources.

Regional works committee Wednesday approved a recommendation which also calls for the establishment of a preliminary transfer site in south Halton. Regional council will debate the proposal today (Wednesday).

Burlington Coun. Tom Sutherland urged that all members of council accept the MM Dillon resource recovery report received one month ago and recommended the action.

Wallace Wells, senior environmental engineer for M. M. Dillon said however that

selection of a transfer site should be located at a proposed regional landfill facility.

He said the provincial environmental hearing board would seek as much information as possible on alternative landfill sites and the delay in approvals at various levels could take two to three years.

Mr. Wells said the establishment of a preliminary transfer site of about 15 acres would be premature. It depends on localized conditions and depends "virtually exclusively on markets."

A resource recovery facility is not available before 1980, Coun. Sutherland said. Nothing, he added is being done in the meantime "when time is of the essence."

Varying reports show the life expectancy of the existing landfill sites at between three

and five years.

Georgetown is now handling all refuse from North Halton and urban Milton. When opened, the site was estimated at 15 years but will likely close within the next two years, one regional source says.

Milton last year closed its site and the future status of the Burlington and Oakville landfill sites remains open to question.

Teachers appointed

Halton board of education approved the appointment of two teachers to area schools last week.

Josephine Ng will teach at Urmehouse public school while Valerie Ringrose will be on staff at Howard Wrigglesworth public school, Georgetown.

Attendance down for school opening

Acton and Georgetown high schools reported a drop in first day attendance, figures released last week by the Halton board of education show.

Acton was down by 25 students from the initial projection of 669 while

Georgetown was down by 17 students from the projected 1992.

Education director E.A. Lavender said the enrolments are expected to stabilize by the end of September. He said it is traditional that first day attendance is lower than the

school population going into October.

Last year Acton and Georgetown both reported increases in first day attendance over the projected figures.

Attendance at secondary schools across Halton showed

first day attendance down by 741 from the 20,977 projections prepared by board of education staff.

Mr. Lavender cautioned the board Thursday that the impact of the delayed opening of elementary schools is not known.

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