

# ...THIS WEEK THROUGH WARDS 3 AND 4

## Each candidate received a hand delivered letter requesting a summary of his or her platform in 500 words or less. Wards 1 and 2 will be presented next week.

### MARILYN SERJEANTSON

I have lived at 20 Regan Cres. with my husband Ed for eight years. We have three sons: Brett 7, Kirk 6, and Wade 4.

My family and I are actively involved in Georgetown's community life. We spend a good portion of time at the tennis courts, arenas, baseball diamonds, and soccer fields, and we take advantage of Georgetown's "unique" events such as her fall fair and her Santa Claus parade.

I have been a director of the Georgetown YM-YWCA as well as being involved yearly with canvasses for the Y, Cancer, and Heart Funds.

I work at part-time nursing at Peel Memorial Hospital.

At age 34, I am seeking to be councillor of Ward 4 because I feel I can do a "good job". I have had no previous experience in politics except for being actively involved in political campaigns for all levels of government.

I enjoy life and its challenges

and I am willing to accept this one. I am anxious to contribute my energy and ideas and would derive satisfaction by working towards an even better Georgetown.

I am against the concept of Regional Government. Generally it costs more of our tax dollar in return for impersonal, less efficient service. Obviously, regionalism isn't going to disappear. I believe we have to make the most of the situation. A cohesive council could press for better communications and more efficient services—especially concerning matters such as water and environment.

I am against the construction of new municipal town offices. In this period of austerity, when citizens are limited by wage increases we should not burden them with increased property taxes for administrative purposes.

New buildings do not bring about efficient responsible government. I believe that the tax burden placed on the citi-

zens would not warrant the construction of such a complex.

Taxes should be directed to areas that will help to make Georgetown a more enjoyable place to live. More community facilities such as library, theatre and recreational should be provided.

Georgetown is a delightful place to live. I value the beautiful countryside, the fresh air and easy access to Toronto.

Most of all, I value the sense of identity with the community which anyone who lives here can possess. If one wishes, one can easily be part of the community and can be recognized by joining in and contributing in so many ways.

Georgetown provides a quality of life that is a luxury—a luxury that I would work to preserve—not abuse.

Vote on Dec. 6—think about your needs and priorities. Consider Serjeantson.

Marilyn Serjeantson

### Ward 4 Area Council PETER MORRIS

My campaign revolves around two questions. The first question is "How do we want to spend our tax dollars?" The second question is "No matter how we spend our tax dollars, how do we get the most value out of them?" The answers to these questions and some everyday common sense are basically what I am offering you on December 6th.

First let me tell you a little about my background. I live at 10 Wilson Court with my wife Karen, our daughter Tanya, age 2, and George (not his or her real name) who will be 9 years old any time now. We enjoy living in Halton Hills (Georgetown) but I feel there is a great deal of room for improvement in the quality of recreation and cultural facilities. I guess this is why I initially considered running for office.

central building (that's not really too central) will be beneficial to anyone (let alone everyone).

I would like to see a shift in the Municipal Spending emphasis so that Recreation and Cultural activities could become a more prominent part of our lives. This is part of the "higher priority spending" that I mentioned before. The priorities that I see are a Library-Theatre combination (a cultural center), improved park standards, including the establishment of bicycle paths, a Municipal Recreation Centre. I don't mean to say that these priorities would be all undertaken in the next 2 years; what I am saying is if we can expand or re-allocate public funds these are the areas that we should go to.

"How do we get the most value out of our tax dollars?"

A review of our local Municipal Administration is in order at this time. Our present Administration has never been reviewed and it seems that it is only basic business sense to see if we can improve the system. If a government can operate on X dollars less than that means there are X dollars more for public services with no increase in taxes.

A review of Regional Government from our local viewpoint also seems in order at this time. What we are getting out of Regional Government and how do we think it could be improved? What could be done, in our opinion, to improve its efficiency? This review would be undertaken by our own staff and council.

I would work towards the encouragement of industries in our municipality. Industrial growth within any community is a very important social and economic factor. Increased industry helps to stabilize the residential tax burden and helps create badly needed employment within the municipality.

The last item I have is not really related to either question. It is the establishment of regular ward meetings between the councillors of your ward and you. This will be when you can find out the progress of all the promises made to you at this time of the year and any other matters that come up on a day-to-day basis.

Answer the two questions yourself. If the answers are similar to mine, you know who to vote for.

Thank you, Peter Morris, Candidate for Area Councillor, Ward 4.

### MIKE ARMSTRONG

To the editor of The Herald:

I thank you for the opportunity of expressing myself at this time.

I feel that there are many issues in this election which directly affect us all ranging from regional government to the proposed new Municipal complex. However, I think there are other items which are of more importance.

1. Recently the employees of Donta Fine Papers were advised that their jobs would be terminated some time in February and thus some people who had given many years of service to the company would now be unemployed. I hold no animosity towards the company and common sense tells me that business either big or small cannot function or operate at a loss.

As an example: for the individual who has worked for 25 years and there are many, he has become accustomed to rising each morning at a basically the same time, possibly walking to work if he is close by, putting in his eight hour shift and sometimes around three o'clock in the afternoon he is finished and now has time to spend at his hobbies, be it carpentry or coaching and working with kids baseball in the spring and summer and possibly hockey in the winter months and generally doing what he wants to do. But then all of a sudden, it is finished. What he has lost is not really a job but rather a life style that he has enjoyed for quite some time. Because of lack of industry in the municipality, he is now forced to look for work out of the

municipality. So now instead of rising each morning at the same time he is now forced to rise an hour earlier to allow for travelling time. He no longer walks to work and now has the additional cost of operating an automobile. He may still be finished at 3 o'clock however could very likely spend another hour or so driving home in traffic. Everything that he has done for the past 25 years is now completely foreign to him. I am not advocating that everyone who lives in town should work in town, but rather what have we as a council done and further, what are we going to do to alleviate the problem. It is my opinion that we should be working with private enterprise to help promote future industrial growth as an industrial commission. Also we should be keeping aware of our sewage treatment facilities so that we able to provide that service to a new prospective industry. With a proper industrial tax base giving us much needed industrial revenue and not relying so heavily on residential tax dollars, we would have the reserves and the question of a new municipal administration addition would not be an issue.

2. Regional Government: After having been a part of this form of government for the past three years it is my opinion that it is here to stay and that we should not be looking for ways to eliminate the system, but rather we should be working towards making it work. If there are changes to be made, make them.

If there are areas of duplication, and there are, we

will indirectly be controlling spending.

These are three major areas that deserve much more than consideration and must be examined very early in the new term and must be worked at effectively.

Again thank you for the opportunity of expressing my views.

### School Trustees BARRY SHEPHERD

To the editor of The Herald:

I am 31, married and live at 64 Mary St., and I have been a resident of Georgetown for a total of 13 years. My 2 boys, ages 6 and 8 attend Park School. I work as a packaging specialist at Kodak Canada, a job which consists mainly of reporting to management on recommendations and proposals related to packaging of Kodak products. Since completing high school at Georgetown and District High School, I have taken a number of business courses at Sheridan College and I am currently working on a B.A. in Science at York University.

I feel that it makes a lot of sense to standardize the curriculum for all levels across the province. This should clarify the levels to which teachers must bring their students. On the subject of centralization of administration I feel that the Ministry (instead of each board) could make such decisions which relate to such things as standardizing the school year and the number of professional development days etc. This should cut down on a great amount of hours now spent within each administration.

With regard to the cost of education I have studied some reports generated by the present Halton administration. The Halton school system has the lowest cost per pupil among all of the large school systems in Ontario. For example it will cost \$101 per pupil to educate our children in 1979. Compared to Waterloo, Hamilton and Peel which are \$1149, \$1229, and \$1149 respectively. After looking at the breakdown of these figures it is evident that this record is possible because of our low administration and maintenance costs. Another important figure which is evident in the report is that our instruction costs are substantially lower, \$292 per pupil compared to \$896, \$969 and \$905 in the other boards mentioned above. We differ quite drastically with the other boards. It certainly is not because our teachers are underpaid in comparison. Is it because our classrooms are

overcrowded? At this time I do not have the answer but I will find out.

I have very high praise for the quality of instruction within Park School. I am not prepared to comment on the quality of our teachers within other schools. Without interviewing an impartial representative from each school area it would be foolish to do so.

If elected I will approach the trustees duties with an open mind and I will endeavour to contribute as much time and honest effort as is necessary to achieve the standards the taxpayers deserve.

Barry Shepherd

### DONALD LONG

Donald Long, formerly a high school teacher, is an investment consultant with a degree in engineering. The Longs, Holly and Don, have lived in Georgetown for 8 years and have 3 children attending school.

Mr. Long's interest in the position of Trustee stems from the insensitive treatment that he and many other parents received from the trustee and school administrators when attempting to express concern over their children's education. He is determined to attack the problems facing education constructively from the policy making level of trustee and not at the classroom level.

Mr. Long stands for:

- 1) structured learning systems in elementary schools stressing the core subjects
- 2) meaningful standards of academic achievement
- 3) school environments that develop permanent learning

patterns:

- 1) small schools that treat both students and parents in a personal manner
- 2) bringing the spotlight back to the student and classroom.

Donald Long believes your trustee must:

- 1) be sensitive to the needs of students and parents
- 2) develop effective communication between parents, teachers and administrators
- 3) understand the evolution of the Halton Board of Education and the problem it faces
- 4) give priority to expenditures at the classroom level rather than bureaucratic growth
- 5) research all proposals involving large expenditures, or proposals which may have an impact upon our children's education
- 6) understand the educational process.

EDUCATION IS EVERYONE'S BUSINESS

### HARTLEY SHERK

Hartley B. Sherk, Age 43, I have had the pleasure of living in Georgetown for the last 15 years with my wife, Faye, and our three daughters. Our three daughters pride themselves in having been graduates of Holy Cross School. At Kodak Canada, I hold the position of Acting Supervisor in the Industrial Engineering Department.

At no time during this last decade of permissive education have we lost sight of the basic needs of our children and of the basic expectations of their parents. The quality of instruction given in our schools is evidenced in the favourable position our schools hold within our communities that of excellence and citizenship. A team of professional educators, teachers, principals, consultants and superintendents contributes its expertise and dedication to develop a sound core curriculum ensuring that our children are taught the basic skills of learning and living and integrating them at the school and county levels. We welcome the return of the Ministry to curriculum development as it possesses a greater wealth of funds, personnel and influence to standardize instruction in this province.

MY VIEWS ON THE COST OF EDUCATION

Sound budgeting has allowed the mill rate structure for Separate School supporters to lag considerably behind then high rise in the cost of living. Compared to Boards of similar enrollment, we are a low spending Board.

However, your tax dollar is spent in its greater entirety on

the immediate educational needs of your children. In 1976, we budgeted \$1147 for each enrolled student while the Halton Board budgeted \$1114. Other Boards ranged from \$974 to \$1577. In schools of more than 700 pupils, we spend \$34 per student for operational purposes, \$36 in others. Waterloo, Hamilton and Guelph Separate allow less than \$28 for this function. Your tax dollar provides your children with the best educational resources and facilities.

MY VIEWS ON QUALITY OF INSTRUCTION

Our Separate School system is the best in the province and provides a quality education second to none. There are still many areas of our educational system to be looked into. Two of our ten schools await a Library Resource Center, completing a three year board project. We now have the best Catholic teachers in the province and we wish to retain them while attracting new ones to the county. The needs of the community must be constantly surveyed to determine the areas of curriculum that need to be developed. A Catholic High School is one urgent need of our system to continue in the secondary part of this quality education begun in our elementary schools.

I first became a trustee for the Georgetown Separate School Board in 1965. I have represented the Separate School supporters for the last 5 years on the Regional Separate Board. During these 5 years, I have served 5 years on the Property Committee and chaired the Salary Negotiating Committee the last 4 years. In January of 1976, I was elected Vice-Chairman of the board and in April of 1976, I had the distinctive honour of being elected Chairman of the Board.

Considering that I served as the only representative for Georgetown, Esquimaux and Acton on a Board of 14 members I feel that my record of effective representation can stand on its own. But I must say that experience has made me wiser and more effective.

MY VIEWS ON CURRICULUM

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