

YOUR MORNING SMILE

"Why don't you play golf with John anymore?" "Would you play with a cheat who puts down the wrong score and moves his ball when you're not looking?" "No." "Well, neither will John."

the HERALD

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This Week

Bermuda to Halton

It's been a long road from the sandy shores of Bermuda to the hills of the Halton area for Frank Black and in that time the local artist and teacher has been exhibited in art galleries and struck up friendships with members of the Group of Seven. Herald staff writer Paul Dorsey talks with Mr. Black in this week's installment of "Halton's People." Page seven

Cinderella a laugh



The Georgetown Little Theatre's pantomime production of Halton Hills' "Cinderella" was good for more than a few laughs, according to The Herald's reviewer. Balinford Castle was the setting for the GLT's farce. Page 12

New "Community" section

This week The Herald introduces a new "Community" section. Popular features like Ann Landers and "On the Homefront" can be found on the new page along with our local correspondents' reports and The Herald's newest feature, "Meet the president." This week The Herald takes a look at Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital Auxiliary president, Marion Booth. Page nine

Letters to Santa Claus

The most sincere letter writers in the world are youngsters writing to Santa Claus, as evidenced by The Herald's second installment of Christmas season correspondence from the small fry of Georgetown, Acton and the surrounding area. Page 16

Exemption bid lost

Coun. Roy Booth tried throughout 1978 to get a special tax exemption for some homeowners along Ann and Ontario Streets in Georgetown who had apparently been paying a sanitary sewer surcharge that was applicable to their properties. The matter has now been resolved, but much to Coun. Booth's consternation. Page three

Christmas church services

The Herald lists times and dates for special Christmas church services around the area, as well as any special activities planned by local ministers, in an annual round-up. Page seven

Player of the week

Twelve year-old Glenn Leslie of the United Rent-All minor pee wees is the first Rep hockey player of the week. Page 23

Burlington alderman

Raftis new regional chairman, takes top post by acclamation



CHRISTMAS TREE TIME

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas, and that means it's time to buy a tree. Eight-year-old Roger Hughes (left), and his brother Peter, 10, turned up at the Klasmans Club's Christmas tree lot, near the AEP store on Guelph Street to help their Dad make the all important purchase. The youngsters headed deep into the wilds of the Christmas tree stacks to make sure they got the best tree possible. Photo by Michael Hollett

By PAUL DORSEY Herald staff writer

Subject to formal ratification today (Wednesday) by regional council, Halton region's new chairman is Jack Raftis, a 49-year-old professional engineer from Burlington who has headed the region's public works committee since its formation in 1974.

Coun. Raftis was acclaimed to the \$25,000 a year post last Wednesday after council, meeting unofficially for the last time prior to its Dec. 13 inaugural, voted unanimously to close nominations for the chairmanship when it appeared clear that there were to be no other contenders.

In a secret ballot, Coun. Raftis was then elected to the post, again unanimously.

The alderman from Burlington's Ward 2 breezed to victory unchallenged after other regional councillors who had been suggested as possible contenders for the chairmanship declined to face off with Coun. Raftis for varying reasons.

Former Oakville Mayor McLean (Mac) Anderson, 53, who still represents residents of that city on regional council, was said to have been considering the top civic job in Halton but instead ended up nominating Coun. Raftis.

AVOID CONFRONTATION

Coun. Anderson explained that he wished to avoid the kind of "embarrassing" confrontations that accompanied the election of Georgetown's Ric Morrow as Halton's second chairman two years ago. Commenting that he and Coun. Raftis agree on "95 per cent of all issues", Coun. Anderson praised his Burlington colleague's ability to weather the abuses routinely heaped upon council chairmen in the past by council members and still maintain authority over the proceedings.

Oakville's Terry Mannel, 36, recently re-elected to regional council after a voluntary two-year absence, acknowledged that he had considered challenging Coun. Raftis for the chairmanship but found he could not rearrange his business commitments to correspond with the demanding job. Coun. Mannel also predicted that Coun. Raftis will make a good chairman.

The only other likely contender among council members, Burlington's Walter Mulke-wich, 38, was unable to try for the post because of conflicting personal reasons.

Halton Hills Coun. Russ Miller, who seconded Coun. Raftis' nomination, told The Herald that he believes the Burlington alderman is the best man for the job. He has no reservations he said, about Coun. Raftis' notoriety as an outspoken politician who has few qualms about overriding legal procedure in order to expedite council's efforts to resolve a debate.

Coun. Raftis' election as chairman was not without its critics on council, however, despite the unanimity of the vote. Newly-elected Milton Coun. Bill Johnson, whose expertise as an environmentalist finds him diametrically opposed to council's efforts to establish a major landfill site in rural Milton, admitted that he voted for Coun. Raftis only because there were no other nominees.

Coun. Johnson said he is fully aware of the fact that the

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TAXI HEARINGS CONTINUE

Only Ontario Taxi Association witnesses were called during the first day of hearings before the Ontario Labour Relations Board in Toronto on Monday said Glen Taxi co-owner Denis Devine.

Three people testified and were cross-examined during the day and at least two more were expected to appear Tuesday in what a ministry of Labour spokesman termed "one of the most involved cases the OPLB has ever handled."

Mr. Devine said that he would call his own witnesses Tuesday afternoon if time permitted. If not he would ask them to attend Friday's hearing.

Mr. Devine had no idea when the hearing would resume if all the witnesses could not testify during the specified three days this week, although he predicts the hearing won't last more than four days at the most.

Union organizer Jack McDowell said he couldn't say how the hearing was progressing.

"We've got a lot of witnesses to go through yet," he said. "I hope we'll be through by the end of today (Tuesday). We were very lucky to get in today since we were only scheduled for Monday and Friday."

"The money questions are to be heard Friday," he said.

Council okays condominium switch despite concern over rental shortage

Expressing "grave concern" over the long-standing need for more rental accommodations in Halton Hills, the town's general committee has nevertheless recommended to council that a local developer should be permitted to convert

12 Georgetown apartments into a condominium.

The committee yielded Monday night to a request by Al Pilutti of Larrad Construction Ltd. to help finalize a deal that has been in the works since 1973, when approval in principle was granted for the conversion by the council for the former town of Georgetown.

In agreeing that that provincial ministry of housing should be informed that Mr. Pilutti has satisfied the town as to the conditions of the 1973 approval agreement, several committee members took the opportunity to criticize the condominium concept.

"The more I hear about condominiums, the less pleased and the more perturbed I am," Coun. Walter Biehn said. "I can't understand why anyone would want to buy one."

COMMITMENTS MADE Coun. Biehn was among the committee members who nevertheless conceded that council should stick by commitments made by its counterparts of past years and honor Georgetown's council's agreement to make sure the developer has met all the pertinent conditions of the plan.

Mr. Pilutti predicted that his new John Street apartments should be ready for occupancy by the end of the year. Additional plans, he said, have seen the upper floor of Georgetown's old Roxy theatre on Mill Street converted into four apartments and, subject to final approval, will see a 108-suite apartment building constructed in the community's east end.

MORE THAN ENOUGH Mr. Pilutti has done more than enough to provide

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Herd elected board chairman defeats three other trustees

It took three ballots to elect Bill Herd of Oakville the new chairman of the Halton Board of Education at the board's inaugural meeting Thursday.

Mr. Herd, 35, is entering his third term representing Oakville on the board. He was elected over trustees Noel Cooper from Burlington, Len Auger of Oakville, and Fred Armitage of Burlington.

Mr. Herd was nominated by Len Crosier of Oakville, who

described him as "a capable man, blunt and straight forward". The nomination was seconded by Halton Hills trustee Betty Fisher.

Mr. Herd, in his speech before the voting, said the fact that the board had four strong candidates for the chairmanship shows "the vitality of the board and the depth of leadership". Mr. Herd said he was running for the position of chairman because it is "the

centre of action".

Mr. Herd said he wished and had every expectation that the board would succeed at its endeavors, "if it heeds public opinion," and cited a quote from American president Abraham Lincoln, which said a government can accomplish anything if supported by public opinion, and nothing if it does not have public support.

After the election, Mr. Herd thanked the board for its expression of confidence in him, and addressed himself to the members of the public who were present, saying the board "will work on your behalf for the continued building of an excellent education system."

TOLD REPORTERS After the meeting had adjourned, Mr. Herd told reporters one of the first priorities of the board would be to settle its long-standing contract dispute with Halton elementary and secondary school teachers.

The longer the situation continues, the more likely the situation is to deteriorate, Mr. Herd said, with corresponding problems with staff morale.

Mr. Herd added that he was satisfied with the reports by provincial fact-finder Grant Gillespie, and that he did not consider it to be vague, as had been suggested by some critics of the reports.

Mr. Herd is the manager of Bandage of Canada Ltd, a rubber company. He was elected to the board for the first time in 1973, in Ward 4 in Oakville, then in 1976, he was elected to Ward 3, and in 1978, in Ward 4 again.

On the first ballot, Trustees Fred Armitage and Len Auger tied for the lowest number of votes. Mr. Armitage drew a piece of paper from a ballot box to decide whose name would be dropped for the next ballot. His name was dropped, and on the second ballot, Mr. Auger's name was dropped.

SMITH AND STONE SETTLE CONTRACT

Smith and Stone and United Auto Workers Local 421 reached agreement Dec. 4 on a new three-year contract giving the 250 hourly workers average increases of 49¢ an hour the first year, 58¢ an hour the second year and 50¢ an hour in the third year.

The contract, which was ratified by 70 per cent of the membership on Dec. 5, includes incentive earnings and cost of living payments as well as special first year adjustments in the increases.

The highest skilled trade rate will increase to \$7.51 (plus 70¢ cost of living) by the end of the agreement from \$6.02 (plus 50¢ cost of living) at the end of the agreement which expired Nov. 13. The company, however, refused to release the figures for the bottom end of the pay scale.

In just over two months of bargaining the union gained improvements in pensions, sickness and accident insurance, life insurance, shift premiums and holidays provisions.

The new contract expires Nov. 13, 1981.

Town council cool to liquor licence plan

The Liquor Licence Board of Ontario was scheduled to consider an application yesterday (Tuesday) submitted by the Georgetown Bakery at the Delrex Market for the issuance of a licence for the sale of alcoholic beverages in the bakery's restaurant area.

Although the information about the application was placed before the town's general committee too late to warrant comment, town planning director Mario Venditti deemed the proposed sale of liquor "inappropriate" for the site.

CLERK-ADMINISTRATOR Ken Richardson placed a recommendation before the committee

Monday night by which the town would agree that the proposed sale of liquor conforms with the site's commercial designation. The recommendation went on to say, though, that "in view of the cafe snack type service with limited seating and facilities, the sale of liquor does not appear to be an appropriate use."

SIMPLY FILED The committee, informed that the application was to be considered the following day, simply filed the recommendation, but not before some discussion centred upon the possible benefits of having a licensed restaurant at the Market.

Coun. Roy Booth questioned the basis for Mr. Venditti's decision, although he expressed his agreement with the conclusion.

"I would suggest we defer this until we know exactly what is intended," he said. "Maybe that kind of operation might be a good idea."

"To me, a bakery is a bakery," Coun. Harry Levy responded. "Kids go in there all the time to buy donuts. I don't think we need to procrastinate on this."

With Mr. Richardson's explanation that there was no time for the town to comment, however, the matter was dropped.



BLOOD DONOR CLINIC

Raoul Paulin read an information pamphlet handed out by the Red Cross while giving blood Monday night at Holy Cross Church. The Red Cross Christmas Clinic collected 330 packs of blood, with 35 rejections, mainly because of potential

donors were suffering colds or the flu. Paul Barber, Marjorie Williams and Shirley Fendley entertained donors, staff and volunteers by providing organ music throughout the clinic.

(Photo by Lori Taylor)