

# Mixture of gloom and optimism for new year

Haltom Hills Mayor Peter Pomeroy predicts a great upswing in development in Haltom Hills in the next year, while Georgetown developer Al Piliutti predicts little construction will be undertaken by local developers.

Haltom Regional Chairman Jack Raftis says Haltom Hills is a desirable place to live, and the future is bright. Otto Jelinek, Conservative candidate for the riding of Haltom, says it will take a new federal government to turn the economy around.

The Herald contacted a number of local politicians and businessmen for their predictions on what is going to happen in Haltom Hills and further abroad in the coming year. It's an interesting mixture of optimism and pessimism, and only time will tell who was right.

George Gray, president of the Georgetown Chamber of Commerce: "In talking to a large number of retailers in town, I've found they're very pleased with their sales figures for the past year," Mr. Gray said. "The retail merchants in town are wide awake and after business. I predict a busy year in Georgetown."

Mr. Gray predicted the construction of the McNally apartments in Georgetown will make a big difference in the downtown area, and said he believes the apartments are needed for the young people in town.

"Experts across the country are excellent," Mr. Gray said. "The big newspapers are predicting a bad year, but I don't see that. I think Canada's going to come around this year."

"I might add, the chamber of commerce is going to work

hard to make business in Georgetown even better this year," Mr. Gray concluded.

William Herd, chairman, Haltom board of education: "The board will be carrying out a re-assessment of its priorities for the next five years in programs, facilities and policies," Mr. Herd said. "I don't think the board will take too long to re-evaluate its policies. The point is to get it done and to get to work on it."

Among the policies Mr. Herd mentioned as needing re-evaluation are the decision whether to continue building new schools, or to make better use of existing facilities, and off-shoots of major areas, such as staffing.

**REACH SETTLEMENT**  
Mr. Herd predicted the board would be reaching a settlement with its teachers early in 1979, and predicted that there would be a change in the way negotiations are conducted between boards and their teachers.

Mr. Herd said he believes that either Bill 100, which gave teachers and boards the right to negotiate anything which might fall under the category of working conditions, will have to be changed, or the ministry of education will have to take over negotiations on behalf of local boards across the province.

"I don't know how much longer the present system can continue," Mr. Herd said. "The local boards and municipalities are supposed to be autonomous, and yet the teachers' federations are essentially province-wide. Either the ministry is going to have to take over negotiations province-wide, or changes are going to have to be made in Bill

100 to bring it in line."

Otto Jelinek, Conservative candidate for the federal riding of Haltom: "I think a Conservative government will be formed in 1979, with a majority," Mr. Jelinek predicted. "The Canadian dollar will level off around 90 cents, where it will stay, and it may be pegged there, although that is not Conservative policy."

Mr. Jelinek said he believes inflation will continue through 1979, "unfortunately," but employment will drop. He also predicted that a referendum will be held on the unity issue in 1979, either in Quebec or in Ottawa, and that the result will be overwhelming support to keep Canada united.

**ISSUE RESOLVED**  
"The Quebec issue will be resolved, and Canadians will be able to go back to work on the number one problem, which is the economy," Mr. Jelinek said. "1979, with a change of government, will see Canadians and the government get back to the issues at hand. The first Conservative budget after the election will be a five-year budget, to allow businesses and industry a chance for long-term planning."

Ross Milne, Liberal candidate for the federal riding of Brampton-Georgetown: "I'm looking optimistically to 1979," Mr. Milne said. "I think it's going to be a good year. One has only to look at the number of plants being built and expansions going on to see the economy is going to be stronger."

Mr. Milne said it will be up to Canadian businesses to take advantage of the present situation with the Canadian dollar's decreased value and enlarge exports to improve the nation-

al balance of payments situation.

"It's a question of being aggressive in the market area," Mr. Milne said. "Businesses can't always blame the government and unions for their problems."

Constitutional reform is also an important issue, and will continue to be so through 1979, Mr. Milne said, and he hopes that there will be a greater understanding of minority rights which will be reflected in changes in the constitution to include these rights.

"Surely the time has come for once and for all to put it in the constitution and remove it as an arguable point," Mr. Milne said.

John Minns, spokesman for the Interested Citizens Group: "We know the OMB (Ontario Municipal Board) hearing on the section of the hydro corridor going through Haltom Hills will take place, and will continue for nine days," Mr. Minns said. "Both sides will put forward a convincing case, although logic and citizens' rights will win out."

**OMB DECISION**  
"Actually I don't know if I can say what the OMB decision will be," Mr. Minns continued. "The decision won't be made immediately, though." "The decision will come before the (provincial) cabinet, and the cabinet will be forced to make the decision and grant the study," he said.

Mr. Minns elaborated on his predictions by saying the OMB would reserve its decision, and

in March the courts will hear a case to decide whether or not the OMB should have heard the case in the first place, or if it was outside their jurisdiction.

"In the meantime, events will take place which will force the cabinet to make a decision and in the people's favor," Mr. Minns said. "By the end of February, the government's course will be very clear to them. They'll have no other choice to make."

**Frank Philbrook, Liberal candidate in the federal riding of Haltom: Mr. Philbrook 1979 would see "increasing and increasingly effective co-operation" between the various levels of government.**

This will take place particularly between the federal government and the provinces, but will include municipal governments "more and more."

"Mr. Levesque is going to try every way possible to separate Quebec," Dr. Philbrook said. "The vast majority within Quebec don't want separation, but it's always possible with a very wily group of politicians like the Parti Quebecois that people could be lulled into a false sense of security about separatism."

Dr. Philbrook predicted Canadians will see definite signs of recovery in the economy next year, and there will be increased capital investment in industry, and increased consumer confidence.

"The recovery would be even better, except that the Ameri-

can economy is in a moderate slump, Dr. Philbrook said. But Canada is working to create other markets, particularly diversified markets in developing countries.

**NOT EXPLOSIVE**  
"I think in general, although the course won't be startling or explosive, it will be strong and steady," Dr. Philbrook said.

Dr. Philbrook, who was recently appointed chairman of the Liberal party's Industrial Strategy Committee, said it will be important for Canadians to work towards increased productivity and to keep costs down in order for Canadian goods to remain competitive.

He also predicted the dollar will stabilize next year "at a level that's good for Canada."

"It probably won't be at the level it was at before, that we were so proud of, around \$1 or \$1.02," Dr. Philbrook said. "It will probably be around 90 cents."

At Piliutti, Georgetown developer: "I honestly believe not only in Georgetown, but in every other area in Ontario, and probably across Canada, it will be a bad year," Mr. Piliutti predicted.

Because of the unemployment situation, people can't afford to buy houses, and that affects the construction industry, which in turn has a bad effect on the developers.

"In this area, we are blessed as developers, because the

market here could stand some construction, particularly of apartments and affordable housing," Mr. Piliutti said.

Mr. Piliutti didn't hold out much hope for construction beginning on many apartment buildings in the next year, however.

"On the construction of a new apartment building, with all the costs, including levies and services, a builder couldn't afford to charge less than \$30 a month rent for a two-bedroom apartment," Mr. Piliutti said. "A one-bedroom apartment would have to rent for \$310 to break even."

Mr. Piliutti said he had conducted a survey in Georgetown to see how much rent people were willing to pay for an apartment, and the figures came up that people were willing to pay \$275 to \$285 a month for a two-bedroom apartment. And when a developer must charge \$350 in rent to break even, it's not likely too many apartments will be built, he said.

**SUBSIDIZED BUILDERS**  
In the past, the government has subsidized builders, but these subsidies are no longer available, Mr. Piliutti said. Unless the government continues these subsidies, "you won't see many apartments being built."

"I could not go out today and start an apartment without the subsidies and rent them under \$350," Mr. Piliutti said.

"Because this area has been underdeveloped for the past four or five years, you still have a chance to see some development here," Mr. Piliutti said. "You don't have a stock of townhouses, apartments or houses. But I don't see any construction of apartments in the future unless the subsidies are extended."

Mr. Piliutti blamed the high cost of homes for the present unemployment situation in Canada. Because Canadians pay more for their homes than Americans do, they have less money to buy Canadian goods with. Because they aren't buying Canadian goods, there are less people being hired.

"If the country doesn't export manufactured goods, you have to keep people employed by buying your own goods," Mr. Piliutti said. "If land costs were less high, home costs would be lower, and Canadians would have the extra money to put into the economy."

Peter Pomeroy, Haltom Hills mayor: "I'm going to make some wild predictions for 1979," Mayor Pomeroy said. "I predict in the next two years

the town of Haltom Hills will become progressive in the development business. We'll be looking at some important decisions in industrial expansion

in the next twenty years in Haltom Hills."

**AN UPSWING**  
"There's going to be an upswing in Haltom Hills, and we're going to work toward

that end," Mayor Pomeroy added. "Everybody else is being negative, and I'm being positive. The only way to be positive is to work like hell."

Jack Raftis, chairman of Haltom Region: "Georgetown is a more than desirable place to live," Mr. Raftis said. "It has not only urban facilities, but a rural character. More and more companies are picking locations where people like to live and settling there."

Mr. Raftis predicted that Haltom, because of its strategic location, will have a better average than the Canada-wide average at attracting industry and creating jobs. He said that areas like Haltom Hills, with the advantages of good roads, and a mixed urban and rural setting, will have an excellent opportunity to attract industry, with the region providing hard services like sewage and water.

Mr. Raftis said at the regional level, the region would be concentrating not only on attracting commercial and industrial assessment so people can live and work within the region, but also on freeing the level of hiring at the region, and an resource recovery to lower the need for large landfill sites.

## THE HALTOM BOARD OF EDUCATION JANUARY NIGHT SCHOOL CLASSES GEORGETOWN HIGH SCHOOL

REGISTRATION: By mail, using the forms provided, or in person at Georgetown High School on Thursday, January 4, 1979, 7:00 p.m. Fees payable upon registration.

REFUNDS: Requests for refunds must be made in writing, enclosing the pink receipt, before the third regularly scheduled class. Please allow five weeks after classes start for the processing & mailing of refund cheques. Five dollars of the fee is an administration fee and is not refundable.

All Classes Are Ten Weeks In Length Unless Otherwise Noted

| COURSE                                | STARTING DATE | TIME       | INSTRUCTOR     |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|------------|----------------|
| Auto Maintenance                      | Tue, Jan. 9   | 7:00-10:00 | \$27 Webster   |
| Bookkeeping for a Small Business      | Tue, Jan. 9   | 7:00-10:00 | \$27 Armstrong |
| Bridge                                | Wed, Jan. 10  | 7:30-9:30  | \$10 Sherlock  |
| Cake Decorating                       | Tue, Jan. 9   | 7:30-9:30  | \$12 Hill      |
| Crochet (8 weeks)                     | Mon, Jan. 8   | 7:00-9:00  | \$15 Karcher   |
| Disco Dancing                         | Tue, Jan. 9   | 7:30-9:30  | \$16.50 Flynn  |
| First Aid (8 weeks)                   | Tue, Jan. 9   | 7:00-9:00  | \$15 Claborn   |
| Fitness with Incentive & Swimming     | Tue, Jan. 9   | 7:00-9:00  | \$15 Moore     |
| French I & II (Continuing)            | Tue, Jan. 9   | 7:00-8:00  | \$10 TBA       |
| Guitar (Advanced)                     | Tue, Jan. 9   | 8:00-9:00  | \$10 TBA       |
| Hostess & Entertaining                | Wed, Jan. 10  | 7:30-9:30  | \$15 Evans     |
| Interior Design                       | Thur, Jan. 11 | 7:00-10:00 | \$20 Fleming   |
| International Cooking (8 weeks)       | Wed, Jan. 10  | 7:30-9:30  | \$13 Copland   |
| Microcassette (8 weeks)               | Wed, Jan. 10  | 7:00-10:00 | \$10 Matthews  |
| Microcassette Cooking (5 weeks)       | Wed, Jan. 10  | 7:30-9:30  | \$15 Albert    |
| Patchwork Quilting                    | Tue, Jan. 9   | 7:30-9:30  | \$15 Gossard   |
| Photography (beginning)               | Tue, Jan. 9   | 7:00-10:00 | \$23 Lyons     |
| Rug Hooking I                         | Wed, Jan. 10  | 7:00-10:00 | \$23 Lyons     |
| Rug Hooking (Advanced)                | Tue, Jan. 9   | 7:00-10:00 | \$20 Kyle      |
| Sewing I                              | Mon, Jan. 8   | 7:00-10:00 | \$20 Kyle      |
| Sewing II                             | Wed, Jan. 10  | 7:00-10:00 | \$20 Campbell  |
| Sewing with Knit & Stretch Fabrics II | Wed, Jan. 10  | 7:00-10:00 | \$22 Evans     |
| Typing (beginning)                    | Tue, Jan. 9   | 7:00-10:00 | \$15 Moulach   |
| Typing (Continuing)                   | Tue, Jan. 9   | 7:30-9:30  | \$25 Gossard   |
| Weaving & Ornamental Framework        | Thur, Jan. 11 | 7:30-9:30  | \$25 Gossard   |
| Woodworking                           | Tue, Jan. 9   | 7:30-9:30  | \$15 Jure      |
| Yoga I (beginning)                    | Tue, Jan. 9   | 7:30-9:30  | \$15 Burt      |
| Yoga II (Continuing)                  | Wed, Jan. 10  | 7:30-9:30  | \$15 Burt      |

An additional fee will be charged each week to cover the cost of food consumed.

NOTE: A larger fee is charged in some shop courses to compensate for materials and supplies provided by the teacher. In other classes, students are expected to provide their own materials where applicable, e.g. Crochet, Patchwork Quilting, Rug Hooking, etc.

### ENGLISH FOR NEW CANADIANS

Persons wishing instruction in English (New Canadians or others who wish to improve their spoken and written English) may enroll at Georgetown District High School on any Tuesday, beginning January 9, 1979, from 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. Fee for the course is \$5.00 for 15 weeks.

YOU ARE ADVISED TO REGISTER IN ADVANCE, AS SOME CLASSES MAY BE FILLED OR MAY BE CANCELLED DUE TO LACK OF REGISTRATION. REPORT TO CLASS AS SCHEDULED UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTIFIED BY THE ADULT EDUCATION OFFICE. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CALL THE ADULT EDUCATION OFFICE, 878-8451.

E.S. Lavender  
Director

### REGISTRATION FORM

FORWARD FORM & FEE TO: ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES  
Georgetown District High School  
70 Guelph St., Georgetown

NAME: MR. MRS. MISS LAST First name

ADDRESS: No. Street Apt. No.

Town City Postal Code

HOME PHONE NO. BUSINESS PHONE NO.

COURSE OR SUBJECT: First Choice Second Choice

SCHOOL: TIME:

DATE OF FIRST CLASS: NIGHT:

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