

Georgetown candidates ready for race

By LORI TAYLOR
Herald staff writer

While political hopefuls from all three major political parties have been expecting an election call any time in the past year, when the call finally came, it was a surprise to the candidates in the newly-created riding of Brampton-Georgetown.

For NDP candidate David Moulton, it meant the cancellation of a ten-day vacation in Vancouver, which was scheduled to begin today. He will be staying in the riding for the remainder of his vacation and will be taking a leave of

absence when his vacation ends.

Conservative candidate John McDermid will also be taking a leave of absence from his job at Ontario Place for the duration of the campaign.

MILNE DELIGHTED

Liberal candidate Ross Milne, who is the incumbent MP in the former riding of Peel-Dufferin-Simcoe, said he is "delighted" with the decision to call the election.

"It's not easy to wait a year," he said. Mr. Milne was in the House for the announcement of the dissolution of parliament, and was to fly back to Brampton last night to launch his campaign today.

Mr. Milne said he was prepared for one of two possibilities in the final decision to call the election: he thought the

prime minister might call the election over the weekend, or on Monday, when work had been completed on the government's emergency energy allocation bill.

Election 79

which did receive royal assent yesterday, or that the call might come later when work on the referendum bill, which was to have begun this week, was completed. The latter option would have meant an election some time in mid-June.

Mr. Moulton said he was personally somewhat surprised by the announcement, but he is glad the election will "finally get off the starting block". The

election was inevitable, and now "it's down to the nitty-gritty".

Mr. McDermid said that while he wasn't expecting the announcement for another two weeks, his campaign team is ready to go.

All three candidates will have campaign headquarters both in Brampton and Georgetown, but none have set up their offices here as yet.

The campaigning at the federal level will be primarily concerned with the personality and leadership qualities of the three party leaders. Mr. Milne said, and he believes that with Prime Minister Trudeau, the Liberals have an edge over the Conservatives with Joe Clark or the NDP with their leader, Ed Broadbent.

Prime Minister Trudeau's five high-priority issues for the election will also be a key factor, Mr. Milne said.

Mr. Trudeau has identified the issues as national unity, new economic policies as guaranteed employment and prosperity, new social policies to improve the quality of life, control of inflation through restraining government spending, and the guarantee of an adequate supply of energy.

Mr. Milne said that these issues will be important at the local level, along with gun control and expansion of Toronto International Airport.

Mr. McDermid agrees that party leadership and leaders' personalities will be an important part of the national

campaign, but on the local level, he sees the race being more issue-oriented.

"The national issues are local issues," Mr. McDermid said. "The economy is by far and away, as I knock on doors, the major concern of the people."

Mr. Moulton said he personally agrees with the NDP's perception of the issues, with the primary concern being the economy.

"Everyone has concerns about rising prices, unemployment and the fading dollar," he said. One of the proposals he will be talking about during the campaign is the formation of a Fair Prices Commission, proposed by NDP leader Ed Broadbent a few weeks ago.

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YOUR MORNING SMILE

One way to save face is to keep the lower half shut.

the HERALD

Home Newspaper of Halton Hills WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28, 1979

The big paper with the big circulation read first by everyone. Reaching more than 13,350 homes in Halton Hills

This Week

Tickets for kids

Halton Regional Police are now issuing "tickets" to children under the age of 16 for traffic and safety violations, on foot or on bicycles. Safety Officer Raj Swaminathan explains how the system works and what happens when your child gets a ticket.

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Traveller's life

Georgetown travel agent, John Barber is not ready to retire. Already in his seventies Mr. Barber is still going strong. This week he re-counts some of the more entertaining experiences in his career of being a paid traveller.

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Raftis attacked

Halton regional chairman Jack Raftis came under attack last week from an Oakville councillor who took issue with predictions and promises made by the chairman in a public speech concerning issues and programmes that have yet to be considered by regional council.

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Cancer month



April is Cancer month and volunteers will be launching a door-to-door canvass for funds shortly to support the many services the society provides. The Herald talked to members of the cancer society in Halton Hills about the many facets of the society and its work.

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Grants blasted

Several outside cultural organizations, including the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra, ran into opposition last week when Halton regional council was asked to approve their 1979 grant requests. Fiscal constraint was cited as the big factor in the objections expressed by some council members.

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Committee seeks bigger, better location

School vetoed as arts centre site



BACK TO THE BOOKS

Jason Breen, a grade four student at Joseph Gibbons Public School, may be concentrating on his school work, or he may be thinking of his spring holiday, and wishing it had lasted longer. Students returned to school on Monday after a week of

shirt-sleeve spring weather, and their return fortunately coincided with what everyone is no doubt hoping will be the last gasp of winter.

(Herald photo by Lori Taylor)

By PAUL DORSEY
Herald staff writer

Continuing its search for a multi-purpose cultural centre site in Halton Hills, the town's general committee has rejected Howard Wrigglesworth Public School in favor of an as-yet unspecified site for a centre that could cost a half-million dollars.

Officials of Bailey Const-

ing Associates Ltd., the firm conducting a feasibility study on the proposed development of a multi-use cultural centre, outlined three options for the committee Monday night.

Two of the options related to the continued use of Wrigglesworth school on Guelph Street, where the Georgetown Little Theatre (GLT) has staged its plays for years, and ranged in

Old town hall razing priced, await response

Having estimated the total cost of demolishing Acton's old town hall, as well as related work on the sites, at approximately \$41,000, the town's general committee is awaiting a final recommendation from the citizens restoration committee as to the building's future.

Representatives of the Save the Town Hall Committee, which has so far solicited more than \$11,000 in support pledges from Acton residents, are expected to present their final report on a feasibility study to the general committee or council late next month.

The study examined alternative means of financing the proposed restoration of the historic town hall on Willow Street along with its various future community uses.

Once a symbol of Acton's community spirit and a gathering place for all manner of social and civic events, the old town hall, now nearly a century old, was closed last year when structural defects were identified as a hazard to public safety.

At the request of Coun. Ed Wood, the town's purchasing agent, Hugh Patterson, assessed the various costs which Halton Hills would incur if the building were to be demolished as originally planned.

Mr. Patterson estimated the actual cost of demolishing the two-storey structure without damaging the abutting firehall, at \$20,000, a price which includes the cost of removing debris and levelling the site.

Added to that amount was the \$10,000 cost of constructing and strengthening a new brick wall for the firehall and the \$5,000 cost of grading, graveling and paving the site for use as a parking lot.

Mr. Patterson presented two options for the final related expenditure involving the relocation of the community's fire siren, now housed in the old town hall.

He recommended the erection of a 60-foot steel pole with a platform at the top on which the siren could be mounted. The total cost, including electrical hook-up, would be \$2,825, compared with the \$2,000 cost of a wooden support pole that would have to be strapped to the building.

The purchasing agent also recommended the hiring of Allan Zeegan as project consultant in the event that council approves the demolition of the building.

Mr. Zeegan's fee would be \$3,000, bringing the total cost of the demolition project, as recommended by Mr. Patterson, up to \$40,825.

capital cost from \$300,000 to \$600,000. Both options were rejected by the committee, however, when consultant Bob Bailey said that the town would be investing a substantial amount of money into a facility limited in size and potential and owned outright by the Board of Education.

ABANDON PROPOSAL
The committee recommended to council that the school board be notified of the town's decision to abandon a proposal that would have seen the GLT and other groups taking advantage of the board's plans to expand the school this year.

Mr. Bailey convinced the committee to save the town's money for a third option, which he assured committee members will meet the space requirements and design specifications of most of the town's arts and crafts-oriented groups at a site which the town could acquire, or already owns.

Acknowledging that his firm is "within days of being able to make a final recommendation" as to the most suitable site, Mr. Bailey promised to return to the committee within the month with a conclusive report.

While that site has yet to be chosen from among more than a dozen locations being considered across town, the consultant estimated the total cost of the proposed centre's construction at \$500,000 to \$600,000. The cost of acquiring the site, if it is not already town-owned, would be added.

FIVE WEEKS
Five weeks of interviews with members of the GLT, Halton Hills Arts Council, Georgetown Choral Society, Halton Hills Library Board, University Women's Club, YM-YWCA, Acton Citizens Band and many other groups led the consultants to conclude that a multi-cultural centre built locally would be filled to near-capacity 50 to 60 nights a year for major events.

Mr. Bailey added that the establishment of a new arts facility would stimulate new uses, as evidenced by the ever-increasing popularity of Oakville's centre.

District health council unveils plans for major needs study

The Halton District Health Council has unveiled plans for a \$42,000 health needs study that will evaluate the region's available health care services and facilities and identify areas where public health needs are not being met.

Announced by Health Council officials at an Oakville press conference Friday, the 15-month study will see 50 health care professionals across the region interviewed with regard to the nature and extent of the services they provide, as well as 200 families whose opinions of existing services and future needs will be tabulated.

Health council chairman Terence Baines of Georgetown explained that the study will be the first investigation launched by the council that will cover all of Halton, rather than just specific sections. It is aimed, he said, at "widening our pool of resource data", and providing specific guidelines for planning until 1986 and more general guidelines for planning until 1991.

SMALL TEAM
Financed entirely by the provincial ministry of health, the study is to be administered by a director, who will be hired by the council along with a small team of

improvements they would like to see. The surveyors' visits are expected to last an hour or two.

Physicians, dentists, nurses, hospital staff and administrators and psychiatric workers will be among the 50 professionals interviewed as another part of the survey aimed at evaluating the nature and extent of available health resources in the region.

Members of the health council's steering committee will begin formulating questions for the survey in mid-May.

110 NEW JOBS FOR LOCAL FIRM

Corporate changes at Smith and Stone's Georgetown plant will add 110 new jobs to the company's local employment rolls.

The expansion was announced at a press conference held Tuesday at the North Halton Golf and Country Club.

The official statement said a portion of the wiring devices operation of Canadian General Electric will be merged with Smith and Stone effective March 30. The expanded operation will continue to manufacture and sell under the name of Smith and Stone. Duplate Canada Limited will retain controlling interest in Smith and Stone but CGE will receive a one-third interest. Day-to-day operations will be conducted by Smith and Stone.

Additional details of the changes will be carried in next week's edition of The Herald.

Among the general areas to be examined are local mortality and morbidity rates and their relation to current and future populations; specific "gaps" in localized services, such as the public or community health agencies; health promotion, including the prevention of diseases; the current and future status of Halton's nursing homes, halfway houses and social service agencies.

NURSING HOMES

The shortage of nursing home beds in north Halton will be among the problems examined that relate to specific areas. Another concern mentioned by Mr. Baines is the availability of mental health services in Halton Hills, where that kind of need has only recently begun receiving attention. Halton residents have access to only one speech therapist, he added, and the study should determine whether demand is outstripping supply.

According to Mr. Baines, north Halton residents, and particularly the elderly, have expressed additional concern over the unavailability of general health information. Health Council officials, he said, will be meeting Halton Hills' civic leaders within the next two months.



FUND-RAISING STARTS

Halton Hills Cancer Society fundraising chairman Claudette Smith plus mayor Pete Pomeroy with one of the first daffodils of the current campaign. The campaign gets underway this Sunday and will run throughout April. The society will be holding a special Egg McMuffin day Sunday at the Georgetown

McDonald's restaurant. McDonald's will donate all money paid for Egg McMuffins on Sunday to the society. Milton's Tom Sargent is donating the eggs. For a complete look at the society see page nine.

(Herald photo by Michael Hollett)