

ELECTION CENTRAL

Sheldon assumes vacant Ward 2 seat

By CHRIS AAGAARD
Herald Staff Writer

With almost twice as many votes as her nearest opponent, Ward 2 local candidate Pam Sheldon has swept into the council seat left by her strongest supporter, former town councillor C.F. (Pat) Patterson.

Running a strong door-to-door campaign, Mrs. Sheldon, a Spesside mother of two, surpassed challenger Wayne McLellan's 745 votes by 603, for a total of 1,354, and narrowly edged past victorious incumbent George Malby by 13 votes for his third term on Halton Hills council in the ward's other local seat-by 136 votes.

"I feel good - what else can I say?" Mrs. Sheldon said at a festive after-election party at Georgetown's Newfoundland Club.

"It was a super campaign,

The Herald's election coverage won't end with this week's poll reports. Retiring councillors and trustees share their perspective on past and coming terms while the rookies relate their experiences in a final "Election Central" report in next week's Herald.

and win or lose, it was a valuable experience," she added, quipping that while she may not have met every Esquering resident during her campaign, "I know every dog in the township."

Announcing her candidacy almost two months before the November 10 election, Mrs. Sheldon figures her active, "meet the people" campaign was responsible for her impressive victory.

"I had fun meeting the people," she said. "You go into the campaign thinking you have a feeling for the issues.

When you meet the people it reinforces that feeling. People are more prepared, more willing to pick up the phone and call someone if they have a problem, even if it's someone they've only just met."

But Mr. Patterson, who threw his support to the Sheldon campaign following his announcement a month ago that he would not seek re-election in 1990, said he was disappointed in the number of acclamations prior to this year's election, most of them in Ward 4, which holds the town's largest share of commuter residents.

"It makes me wonder if we're going to be more of a bedroom town than we are now," Mr. Patterson commented.

He praised Mrs. Sheldon, calling her a "woman who has the courage of her convictions" and the 70-year old cattle farmer who held an Esquering council seat for two consecutive terms before 1980 warned some of the acclaimed councillors not to feel too at ease with their slide back into a council seat.

"I think that some of the councillors who were acclaimed are going to find that life isn't such a bowl of cherries," he said.

Meanwhile, fellow Ward 2 local Coun. George Malby said he is looking forward to working with Mrs. Sheldon when the new council is inaugurated Dec. 1.

"Pam and I have known each other for 12 to 14 years," he said, adding that the "positive relationship" already struck between the two from joint work on a number of committees should continue in the 1990-92 council term.

Commenting on his third return to Halton Hills council since 1976 (he began his municipal career on Esquering township council in 1973), Coun. Malby said he saw his re-election as a "vote of confidence" from the people. Family medical problems forced him to keep his campaign low-key.

The new representation from Ward 2 will have a very positive influence on Halton Hills council, he said and forecast that council will probably continue with its 10-mile per year program of road hardtopping in the rural areas of town.

Ward 2's other local candidates, Nick Hunsley and new resident Wayne McLellan, offered a number of reasons for their respective losses and neither was too displeased with the results.

Mr. McLellan, a marketing representative with Allied Chemical Company in Mississauga, managed an impressive third place finish in the campaign, the first and possibly not the last for the five-sided resident who only moved into Halton Hills five months ago.

POLLED WELL
"Considering the number of direct contacts I made during the campaign, I think I polled very well," he said. "I'm not too disappointed in the outcome of events."

Launching his highly visible campaign shortly before candidacy nominations closed Oct. 21, Mr. McLellan said his race suffered because he is not well known and he didn't have time to see everybody. But he added:

town, such as the sewer surcharge issue.

"We're six years into regional government, and for the first four years, you can expect some growing pains," he said. "But the last couple of years have been more than growing pains. People are going against what regional government is all about. I see the region as a reality that you have to face and deal with it."

NEXT TWO
Coun. Biehn said he was happy with the results "and I'll try my best over the next two years, just as I've done in the past."

"I think we've had a very good council which has worked together without any backbiting," he said. "There's been disagreement, but no viciousness. I think (Mayor) Pete Pomeroy has given us leadership in a sense of working together."

Dave Barrager said he is pleased with the number of votes he received, and plans to run again.

"I want to give my appreciation to those who voted for me, and I'd like to congratulate Walter (Biehn) and John (McDonald)," he said. "I hope they carry on with the fine standard of work they have set on council, and if there is anything I can contribute to their work, I'd be happy to do so."

Mr. Green said he had entered the race late and ill-prepared but that it had been an educational experience for him.

Ward 3 stands by McDonald and Biehn

By LOHI TAYLOR
Herald Staff Writer

Incumbent Ward 3 area councillors John McDonald and Walter Biehn were re-elected Monday defeating challengers Derek Green and David Barrager by a handy margin.

John McDonald led the field with 1,388 votes, 405 votes more than Walter Biehn, who came second with 983 votes. Coun. McDonald has just completed his first term on council while Coun. Biehn has just completed his second term.

Dave Barrager came third with 686 votes, while Derek Green came fourth with 264 votes. Regional councillor Roy Booth was acclaimed.

There were 6,425 eligible voters in the ward, and 3,321 votes were recorded.

Coun. McDonald said he is "very, very pleased" with the

results of the election. "I would hope it's a reflection of what's gone on in the past couple of years," he said. "Whenever someone contacts me, I try to follow through for them."

"I certainly hope I can live up to these results. I've really enjoyed the last couple of years in terms of experience and in terms of the opportunity to get involved in municipal politics."

NEW FACES
"I hope we have the same good working relationship the previous council had," Coun. McDonald said, referring to the two new faces on council, newly-elected Ward 1 regional councillor Dave Whiting and Ward 2 area councillor Pam Sheldon.

Coun. McDonald said the main problems facing Halton Hills council will be regional issues which will affect the



Retiring Ward 2 councillor Pat Patterson and Brampton-Georgetown MP John McDonald were on hand at Monday night's victory party to congratulate newly-elected councillor Pam Sheldon, who topped the Ward 2 polls in her first time out. (Herald photo)

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Letter to the editor

Derek Green thanks supporters

To the editor of The Herald:
As a losing participant in Monday's election for Ward 3 area councillor, I wish to offer my congratulations to the winners who, I am sure, will represent the Ward ably for the next two years.

I entered the elections rather late - and ill-prepared - mostly as a result of editorial comment that an un-contested election, on whatever government level, is not good for democracy. It has been an interesting and enlightening experience and I wish to thank my nominees and those who voted for me, assuring them that, although not on Council, I

will continue to work for a better community in other spheres.

My time will certainly be well spent for the next two years as I have been nominated for, and accepted after being unopposed, a position as a Director on the Peel Regional Police Association.

Thanks must also go to your staff for their unbiased and tireless reporting on this 1990 Municipal Election campaign.

Sincerely,
Derek E. Green.

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