

ELECTION CENTRAL



PC'S GET CAKE--AND EAT IT TOO

Local Tories had two reasons to celebrate in Georgetown Saturday afternoon: Halton-Burlington Conservative candidate Fran Baines opened her Georgetown campaign headquarters on Guelph Street at Mountainview Road and, at the same time, her advertising and publicity chairman, Wendy Baykes, celebrated her birthday. The PC office is open from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday to Friday and from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays.

Young NDP candidate says party would cut school tax

By MAGGIE HANNAH
Herald Special
Halton-Burlington New Democrats acclaimed 20-year-old Chris Cutler of Flamborough as their candidate for the March 19 election at a nomination meeting in Milton Monday evening.

Although not a resident of the riding, Mr. Cutler is the youngest member of the NDP provincial executive and experienced at fighting election campaigns. This is his seventh campaign in 18 months, he told supporters.

In his acceptance speech, Mr. Cutler pointed to the NDP as the "only alternative left" to voters who have almost 40 years of Conservative power to blame for getting the province into its present economic mess and a Liberal party which has identified all the problems but provided no answers.

"We're going to offer voters a solution to the



problems they face that aren't of their making," he said.

Part of the solution will be based on a three-part program which the NDP would introduce gradually over the next five years if it forms the next government, he said.

The party would begin by immediately reducing education tax by 15 per cent throughout the province at the local level, he said. This would be made possible by increasing government grants to boards of education and would be aimed at lightening the load for the average taxpayer.

The party's second point is to introduce economic value assessment based on the rental value of comparable properties. Market value assessment, which the Tories have toyed with in recent years, is based on the assumption of an unrealistic rental value for property, Mr. Cutler said, but rental value can easily be realized.

The third portion of the program is the normal property development program aimed at helping lower-income tenants and homeowners. The party would offer rebates against the property tax portion of a resident's income tax bill on a descending scale for incomes up to \$30,000.

Retiring NDP member Fred Young from Downsview was the guest speaker for the evening. Ron Ness, president of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation in Halton, chaired the meeting.

Town approves sewer repair

Citing urgency in doing the work before the spring thaw next month, town council has agreed to hire a Streetsville company to repair a portion of a large storm sewer below Georgetown's downtown area.

Earth Boring Company Ltd. will line part of the sewer, which crosses Main Street and empties into Silver Creek near the apartment complex, with a special steel jacket, reinforcing structural defects in the pipe. The project, expected to last a week, will cost the town \$15,816, but an additional \$9,000 has been budgeted to restore the area affected by the repairs, as well as dig a pit necessary for the equipment needed to drive the steel jacket through the pipe.

The project is eligible for provincial government subsidies.

Grit guest speaker seeks better deal for small business

By CHRIS AAGAARD
Herald Staff Writer
Industrial policies favoring foreign investments and the growth of multinational corporations can be blamed for Ontario's last-place business development ranking among the provinces, Liberal industry critic John Eakins told fellow party members in Milton Saturday night.

Guest speaker at the Halton-Burlington Liberal nomination meeting, the Victoria-Haliburton MPP stressed the need for a long-term industrial strategy to revitalize Ontario's sluggish economy.

Small business development, he said, "will get this province moving again." Any future industrial policies must recognize the importance of the agriculture and tourism as well, he added.

"We need to assist Canadian

business over foreign multi-nationals," Mr. Eakins said, "and help with research and development. We must also match our young people with the available jobs."

While encouraging foreign investment and the growth of large industry, Mr. Eakins said, the Conservative government has used only 25 per cent of its business development loans as incentive to small businesses.

The Tories are equally to blame for confining trade barriers between provinces, he said, pointing out that a Montreal proposal to build components for Toronto's transit system was rejected in favor of a costlier Thunder Bay bid.

Premier Bill Davis has been "sadly silent," in preventing the trade barriers which have ultimately led to the deteriora-

tion of Ontario's manufacturing industry, A. Eakins said. "The province," he said, "has become less important to each other politically and socially."

However, Mr. Eakins said he was pleased with the growth of Ontario's tourist industry, calling it one of the "bright lights in an otherwise dull year for the provincial economy."

Although he said he is convinced 1981 will also prove successful for the industry - the province is attracting a greater number of Japanese and American visitors - the government needs "policies to enhance tourism in Ontario". Each year, tourists add \$7 billion to the provincial treasury, almost half of the national total.

Like small business, the province's agricultural industry also needs to be protected

from investors buying and speculating on prime farmland, Mr. Eakins said.

"We must take steps to replace food imports and protect our farmland from being paved over or falling into foreign hands for speculative purposes."

Ontario, he added, has the potential to become a world food basket, yet Canada still imports \$2 billion worth of produce which could be grown here. Employing 150,000 farmers, processors and laborers, Ontario is the "premier food processor in Canada."

Optimistic that the Liberals will "go over the top" to form the next provincial government, Mr. Eakins predicted some "big Tory names to fall in this election."

"Under (Liberal leader) Stuart Smith, we'll have a strong, united caucus," he said. "The times are changing and we have excellent candidates across the province."



The Ontario Liberal Party's industry and tourism critic, John Eakins (right), was on hand to watch his party's energy critic, Julian Reed, nominated unopposed Saturday night at Milton's Boyne Community Centre. About 100 supporters endorsed Mr. Reed as the man they believe can keep Halton-Burlington Liberal for a third consecutive term. Mr. Eakins, MPP for Victoria-Haliburton, was guest speaker at the nomination meeting. (Herald photo by Chris Aagaard)

Car stereos stolen

Three car owners reported thefts from their vehicles Friday evening.

A Pioneer AM-FM cassette player and speakers were stolen from a car parked near the Silver Creek Towers apartment buildings. The car was also damaged in the course of

the theft. The loss is estimated at \$600.

A tape deck, a brief case containing 37 tapes and a speaker valued at over \$300 were stolen from a car parked near the Georgetown Memorial Arena.

The owner of a car parked at

the rear of the Labelmasters building reported the theft of a Pioneer eight-track car stereo.

The console of the car was smashed and the seat ripped during the robbery. Damage to the car is estimated at \$1,200 and the value of the missing stereo is estimated at \$200.

PROCLAMATION

"That the Council for the Town of Halton Hills proclaims the Month of March 1981, as "RED CROSS MONTH" in the Town of Halton Hills."

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Penman patches differences with local Tories

By JUDI McLEOD
Herald Special
Halton-Burlington Tories have kissed and made up - sort of.

Brian Penman decided - in a Friday night meeting with supporters that lasted into the early hours of the morning - not to run in the March 19 election as an independent.

But about 400 supporters who stormed out of the Feb. 9 nomination meeting will still have to be mollified before any rift can be patched up.

Fran Baines' nomination as the Conservative candidate was soured by hundreds of bitter PC members who were unable to vote.

There is a ruling in Halton-Burlington riding that states all voting delegates must be registered and have purchased a membership 14 days prior to the nomination meeting.

The meeting was originally scheduled for Feb. 24, but when the election writ was dropped the date was changed to Feb. 9.

Supporters of Mr. Penman, an Oakville high school administrator and Milton resident, did not get their memberships filed on time, but fans of nomination opponent Baines did.

Claiming that the nomination meeting was "un-Tory like", Penman supporters wanted to run their man as an independent Conservative in the March 19 election.

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