By LORI TAYLOR

Saturday at his Georgetown

campaign headquarters. "I'm

just the same as everybody

else, with a lot of the same gut

This is the first time out as a

candidate for Mr. Cutler,

although he has been active

behind the scenes in politics

for about five years. He lost

the nomination in his home

riding by five votes and decid-

ed to seek the nomination in

the riding of Halton-Burling-

ton, Mr. Culler is active as

chairman of the Youth Council

for the New Democrats at the

The New Democrats

perceive four inter-related

issues as being the main points

of concern in this election:

health care, unemployment,

the cost of living and property

taxes. To these Mr. Cutler has

added regional government as

being an issue of strong local

At a press conference Thurs-

day, Mr. Cutter and his NDP

colleagues from Burlington

South and Oakville, Michael

Wright and Zona Hollings-

worth, called for a review of

regional government in

Mr. Cutler said there is a

perception in the northern part

of the region of serious inequi-

ties in the system. The govern-

ment has tried to contain the

community spirit of the

municipalities in the region,

but there is no community

NO COMPLAINTS "I don't think anyone is

going to complain about the

type of government they have

if they feel they're getting

equitable treatment," Mr.

If the province proceeds with

a review of regional govern-

ment in Halton, the

recommendations arising

from the review can't be

ignored, he said. The regional

government in Hamilton-

Wentworth was reviewed in

1977, three years after its

formation, but the government

ignored the recommendations

in the report, Mr. Cutier said.

"What we're saying is that

you need to have an inquiry

with clearly-laid out objectiv-

es, including the financial

management of the region and

its responsiveness to the resi-

Tied in with the issue of

regional government is the

property tax system, the

method in which property

taxes are calculated and

collected, and the services

which the property tax pays

The New Democrats have a

three-part program planned to

smooth out the property tax

system to more adequately

reflect the services those taxes

pay for. The first step is to

reduce the proportion of the

property tax which goes to

education by 15 per cent. The

extra funds would come to the

local boards of education from

the province's general levies.

GRANTS DROPPED

Because grants from the

for, Mr. Cutler said.

feeling in the region, he said.

provincial level.

concern in Halton.

Halton.

Cutler said.

dents."

concerns."

## RALLYING FOR VOTES

Incumbent MPP Julian Reed was surrounded by family and supporters, including former Brampton-Georgetown MP Ross Milne, as he prepared for a biliz Saturday in the northern area of the riding. Mr. Reed also officially opened his committee room in Acton. All three candidates will be in attendance at an all-candidates' meeting tonight (Wednesday) at 7:20 p.m. at E.C. Drury High School in Milton.

(Herald photo)

# Candidates to discuss alternative education

ers say they're asking for

simple justice: financial

With provincial funding of independent schools a prime issue for many voters; Georgetown District Christian School is an ideal location for a "meet the candidates" meeting a week from Thurs-

Over 70,000 students in no less than 360 independent schools do not receive any

funding from the Ontario ents' right to choose an government, school officials alternate form of education say. Most provinces give for their children must be financial support to a variety free of financial penalty they of independent schools, but The three provincial can-Ontario is not one of them. Independent school support-

didates in Halton-Burlington riding have been invited to state their positions on fundequality with the public and ing of alternate education to separate schools. The parparents and to the general public at the auditorium of Georgetown District Christian School. The school is hosting a "Meet the Constituents" meeting March 12 at 8 p.m. on Trafalgar Road, a half mile north of Maple Avenue across from the Halton Hills municipal building.

The school has an enrollment of approximately 200 students, employing a staff of 11 teachers. The wellintegrated curriculum amply meets requirements set forth by Ontario's education ministry. Only qualified teachers are employed, selected on the basis of their academic training, experience and spiritual maturity. The staff is concerned not only with guiding the student in his academic growth, but with the total development of the

Spokesperson for the school, Mrs. I. Simpson, said she feels the issues in this election will create enough Interest among the electorate to ensure an excellent turn-out at the meeting.

province to local boards have dropped substantially, the Herald Staff Writer Halton-Burlington NDP properly tax system is being candidate Chris Cutler rejects made to bear more and more the notion of politicians being of the cost of education, Mr. people with all the answers. Culler said. With the 15 per "I don't know the answers to cent-reduction, some of the everything, but I do have a burden would be removed sense of the directions we from taxpayers who are past should be taking," the candithe age of making use of the date said in an interview educational system.

The second step in the plan is to adopt a new form of calculating assessment, based on the economic value of the proper-

"In market value assessment, what you find is that over \$2 billion extra in property taxes will be paid because the property owner is paying taxes on a value that hasn't been realized yet, which is the value of his property if it were sold," Mr. Cutler said. "The property taxes are going up for a lot of people just as their ability to earn income goes down, and they're being caught in a vise.'

"What the New Democrats are proposing is assessment based on the rental values of a property and "it would be a rental value under increased rent controls under an NDP government," Mr. Cutler said.

The third stage of the the problems, but they don't

Ontario Normal Property Development Grants. The grants would be a form of property tax credit, giving rebates to tenants for that portion of their rent covering property taxes, and to middle and low income families.

line to include tenants as well as homeowners," Mr. Cutler The cost of living is a real concern, especially where it offects the farmers in the

riding, Mr. Cutler said. "The farmers have some very real needs," he said. "The decline of family farms, the high price of land. I worked on a dairy farm when I was in high school and I've seen some of their problems."

"It's some kind of myth that the Tories and the Liberals are friends of the farmer. History shows that the New Democratic Party wasn't formed by an intellectual elite or by the workers but by the farmers."

Mr. Cutler criticized the government's performance over the last term, and the Liberal performance in opposi-

"The Liberal party identifies

### program is the introduction of offer any clear alternatives," Mr. Cutler said. Nevertheless, he sees the choice in this riding as being between the Liberals and New

Democrats.

Cutler brings a fresh perspective

"You have to see which party has been the most effective in opposition, and the NDP "The program crosses the has been first with the most, such as pensions and equal pay for work of equal value.

"I don't think the people of Ontario are looking for a smiling face and a firm handshake - they're looking for answers. It's time the voter is treated like a responsible person and is treated like an intelligent ndividual."

Mr. Cutler is, at 20, probably the youngest-ever candidate in Halton-Burlington, but he's found his youth to be an asset. not a disadvantage.

"I see a large number of people at the top end of the age scale making decisions and I know in 20 years they won't be there," Mr. Cutler said. "I

### **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER** (Watter's Inter-Charch

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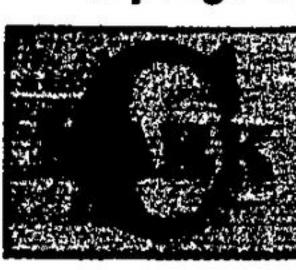
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Progressive Conservative candidate Fran Baines was out on a motor home rally through the riding Saturday, with her first stop at the Georgetown Market Plaza, where she spoke with voters, Mrs. Baines will be on another rally Saturday with stops in Burlington, Limebouse and Georgetown.

(Herald photo)



## District High School Mar. 18 at 7:30 p.m.

meeting at E.C. Drury High School in Milton.

Tonight at E.C. Drury

Future all-candidate meetings are scheduled for Mar. 10 at Acton High School at 2:30 p.m., and Georgetown Incumbent Julian Reed will be spending much of his time in the riding this week knocking on doors, including a

to meet the three candidates for their vote in Halton-

Burlington tonight (Wednesday) at 7:30 at an all-candidates'

Residents of North Halton will have their first chance

blitz Saturday in Burlington, Milton and Georgetown. Conservative candidate Fran Baines will also be doing a lot of canvassing this week, in Burlington Thursday, Milton Friday and in Burlington, Limehouse and George-

town Saturday in a motor home rally. NDP candidate Chris Cutler will be attending the GLT production of Count Dracula Saturday and will be knocking on doors in the riding between now and then.

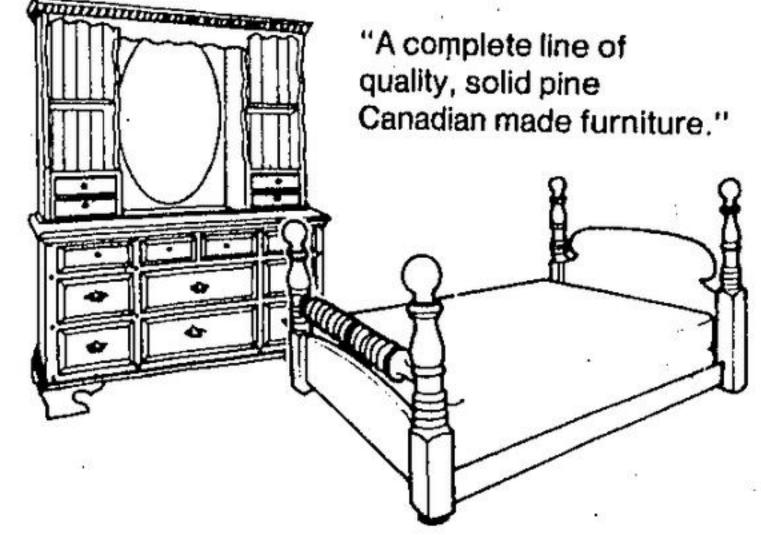
## Next week at GDHS

The Georgetown Jaycees have scheduled a "meet-thecandidates" session for March 16 at Georgetown and

District High School. Stated to start in the auditorium at 8 p.m., all three major parties in this year's provincial election have indicated they will attend. Candidates will give an address, offer a rebuttal and then answer questions from the public.

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