

# One less voice

We've lost one school board trustee in Halton Hills, but critics have been strangely silent on this issue.

Through a complicated system of representation based on farm and residential assessment, both Burlington and Georgetown lost a trustee to represent their area. Town council voted Aug. 26 to uphold the new boundary changes.

The move affects Burlington to a much lesser extent than it does Halton Hills.

Before the change, Burlington had seven school trustees while we had three, plus a shared separate school trustee with Milton.

With only 2 1/2 representatives for Halton Hills under the new system, our region can't hope to have a strong voice at the school board level.

Compared to the amount of representatives at the regional level of municipal politics, Halton Hills looks even more like a mouse beside an elephant.

At Halton Region, Burlington has nine representatives while Halton Hills has five - that doesn't include former Mayor Pete Pomeroy who is regional chairman.

Not only will Halton Hills be losing a trustee, but we will also be losing the school board chairman, Betty Fisher, who represents Georgetown. The feisty trustee carried a position of influence as chairman.

It's fine to say that trustees don't always look at concerns from a regional perspective, because most issues affect the entire educational system.

But we're wondering what's going to happen when an important regional issue affects Halton Hills, like the upcoming consolidation study which is expected to close schools.

Will Burlington or Oakville support us? How loud can 2 1/2 trustees roar?



# Ten year rule of thumb



## Queen's Park

By Derek Nelson

TORONTO - The consensus among media and other observers is that the Ontario Liberals under David Peterson, unless they do something really dumb, are in power for at least two more elections.

Ten years is the rule of thumb. So why then would anyone want to run for leadership of the Ontario Progressive Conservative Party, doomed to opposition for all that time?

Even if the PCs won a plurality of seats - as they did in the last election - the NDP have made it clear that the Liberals are their favorites.

And the Liberals have made it clear they have no problems with implementing most NDP policies in order to keep that party happy.

Yet, surprisingly, there may actually be more candidates for Tory leader this time than last.

### POPE FIRST

Ambitious Northerner Alan Pope is first to throw his hat into the ring. He's likely to start with a solid block of regional delegates who'll back him as a favorite son.

And Dennis Timbrell, who placed third in the last race and who some (like me) think could have won the provincial election for the Tories last time, is definitely in for another run.

The question mark is Larry Grossman, who ran a surprisingly close second to Frank Miller last time. Some observers, such as my Press Gallery colleague Orland French, say Grossman wanted to be premier rather than PC leader and with that position increasingly out-of-reach he'll retire to the corporate legal world instead. It's a possibility.

But most people expect Grossman to try again, simply because politics is never a sure thing and Peterson is far from unbeatable. The Liberal honeymoon is more a consequence of the slow pace of government than anything else.

### BIG FIGHTS

The Liberals have said they would do a lot. Little of it has happened yet. And when it does there will be considerable controversy generated. Peterson has yet to prove himself in crisis management, probably the key test of leadership. (If he does, the Tories are dead.)

Beyond the three Tories already named, the list of contestants becomes more problematic. The two main restraints on a candidate are his (or her) ego - how will I look if I fare poorly? and money - it is tougher to raise cash when you're simply running to be number two.

Sarnia's Andy Brandt is sometimes touted as a compromise leader. He's genial and capable, but some wonder if he suffers the Miller syndrome of being a good follower and a doubtful leader.

### MCMURTRY VOTE

The man who might inherit Roy McMurtry's substantial block of support if he decides to seek the job is Bob Elgie, probably the most intellectual of the current crop of senior Conservatives. He'll pull the so-called Red Tory vote.

Bette Stephenson is rumored to be considering campaigning. The most loyal of the Miller loyalists, the pity is she didn't run last time.

She'd give the contest zip. The Niagara Peninsula's Phil Andrewes, who held his Lincoln seat when many saw it falling to the Liberals, is another definite possibility.

And then there are stories about outsiders like David Crombie joining the fracas. Those can be discounted right now. The next PC leader sits in the current Legislature.

# One real story

By DR. JOHN M. DRICKAMER

Immanuel Lutheran Church

There have been some good movies this summer. But the same thing happened to me while watching two of them.

Pale Rider with Clint Eastwood was a good old standard out opera, although the preacher may not be a good role model for seminary students. But as good as it was, I honestly had to say that it was simply a variation on the theme of High Noon with Gary Cooper.

Then I read a column where George F. Will compared it to Shane with Alan Ladd. That just makes the point sharper. Maybe all good westerns are variations on that single theme.

The ultimate theme is one hero saving a bunch of other people. There may be several heroes who take turns. But basically one guy does what no one else could have done to save the group.

Anti-heroes are not worth considering. They are only in anti-stories. They are the opposite of the theme - and the opposite of good. And comedies

just ape the ultimate theme.

The Christ image is inescapable. (I can hear the voice of my sister-in-law who heard me draw spiritual implications from a movie and said, "Oh, John, you have to make everything religious!") It can be overdone. I knew an English professor who would have found a Christ image in the phone book.

The biggest difference between Christ and the images is that Jesus' story is real and true. He really did come and save us who could not save ourselves. He did make the ultimate sacrifice of His life in place of ours. He did the "impossible" in reality rising from the dead.

There are other differences. The images are all flawed, partial, sinful, and imperfect. That need not disturb us. It merely shows more clearly that Jesus Himself is the only perfect Hero, the only complete Savior.

So for a change why not turn away from the imitations and pay attention to the real, true story? There is no greater drama than the truth about Jesus. The variations may be good. But the original is best.

## Letters to the Editor

# Priceless gift ruined by complicated illness

Dear Sir,  
After a death, memories are supposed to be a priceless gift for the family.

Not so in my case. My memories are of the past five-six struggling years of a young man, my son, in absolute confusion, frustration and utter unhappiness.

A man who, as a teenager was into health, physical fitness, sports and with a potentially reliable future when slowly and painfully it became only too obvious that there was something very disturbing and wrong about him.

He was suddenly behaving in a bizarre manner and we were increasingly becoming afraid for him as well as afraid of him. In our confusion and ignorance he was treated abominably, making matters worse.

We finally, after more than a year, had to accept the diagnosis that he was a schizophrenic. He never knew that hit him and never did understand the disease. Was this not supposed to be any of his business?

It took me years to learn of this very complicated illness and it seems that people still only have opinions but no solutions other than to keep these people on

heavy medications that prevent them from functioning properly. As a result, they live very unhappy, threatened and frightening lives.

We woke up every day believing he was in constant danger and suffered almost every waking moment feeling unwanted and a burden. Pity and sympathy is not enough. This was increasingly impossible to live with. It is cruel and heart breaking for both patient and their families. These people are not mentally retarded, they are terrified and little wonder.

We don't laugh at the pain of a cancer patient, the coma of a diabetic, the paralyzed legs of a spinal injury victim, the seizure of the epileptic. But we do laugh at the symptoms of schizophrenia. The delusions and hallucinations caused by dopamine dysfunction are a source of humour to us.

In his hopelessness, he took his own life and in such a horrific manner. I feel certain he believed this to be his ultimate gift for us because he was always genuinely a very loving and caring person whose struggle should not have been in vain. This is a disease that

can hit anyone. It goes straight to the brain and caused him to believe that he was actually in danger and suffered the terror each of us suffers

### Help the distressed

Dear Sir,  
Imagine yourself, in a time of distress when you feel your nerves will break, if you cannot talk to someone. Then picture the frustration you will experience when you contact the local "Distress Centre" and receive a taped recorded message that there is no volunteer available to answer your call.

The situation is a reality at present, as the North Halton Distress Centre, desperately needs more volunteers to answer the phone to callers in crisis who require an understand-

### Amount in error

Dear Sir,  
Georgetown Globe Productions was very pleased to send a donation to "Kids On The Block" recently. The amount of the donation was \$500 rather than the \$50 amount reported to you in error.

We feel that the use of puppets to teach children about the disabled is an excellent format which will capture their atten-

tion in an entertaining way. Kids On The Block is looking for people willing to train in puppeteering or provide funding towards the purchase of puppets. Please call Benny Macleod if you are interested at 877-7188.

Sincerely,  
Lois Fraser,  
President, Georgetown Globe Productions

# Support Acton's reunion

Dear Sir,  
For several months now a group of interested people have been struggling to try to arrange a social event for the many people of Acton and District who have at one time attended Acton Continuation School.

I would like to clarify any doubts or misconceptions. The group we are trying to put together, attended the Old Stone School from 1928 to 1954.

But we couldn't leave out the group who attended high school in Acton previous to this Stone School.

We have also included the people of Acton and District who attended the old-old stone school behind the old Acton Public School.

This in our records, goes back to about 1907, or at least we have gone back that far. I'm not sure what existed before that time in Acton, but we presume that there would not be a living soul who would be able to attend a reunion before that time.

You can well imagine that we have had a fairly big job on our hands. We have photo-copies all of the old registers. We

have had groups of people searching each year of the registers for location of ex-students and teachers. Committees have been formed to look after finance, food, accommodation, invitations, and many other related activities.

I feel very optimistic that we will put together a good weekend for the ex-students of Acton Continuation School.

One of the problems that we have had to deal with has been money. The finance committee has already had to float a \$1,000 loan and probably that won't even be enough since postage costs and hall rental - just to mention two things - is fairly steep.

For those interested in seeing this as a successful reunion we are appealing for a donation toward the costs involved in preparation. Any donations may be sent to our secretary, Mr. Mac Sprowl, 159 Churchill Rd. S., or Mrs. Alma Braida, 284 Queen St.

Thank you for your interest and support in this project. Yours sincerely, Co-Chairpersons, Helen Jacque, Ralph McKeown



THIRTY YEARS AGO - A record breaking \$1,224,700 in building permits was issued in August exceeding the previous high of July. So far in 1985 building permits total \$3,130,525.

The Georgetown N and G's are waiting to advance one step further in their quest for provincial lacrosse, championship. They will be playing either Huntsville or Whitby in the next round.

County medical officer Dr. A.F. Bull reported five cases of polio. None of these discovered had the Salk polio vaccine. Three young adult victims were from Burlington and two were from Milton.

The Legion darts team brought a silver team trophy home for finishing second at the CNE. Branch 120 members were Ken DeRose (captain), Joe Stamp, Harry Bottoms, Alex Korzack, Earl Hornby, Gord Jamieson, Rocco Lorusso and Dave Bowman.

After winning the "B" Class band competition at the CNE the Lorne Scots will be appearing in an amass band concert at the CNE bandstand. Bands from Toronto, Hamilton, Brampton, Oshawa and St. Catharines will also be playing.

FIFTEEN YEARS AGO - New schools are responsible for a decline in enrollment in seven schools. The overall enrollment for Georgetown schools is up based on the first day figures of 7,219. The last day of the past term statistic was 6,875 students.

Historian Ben Case was honored at a party of the Silverwood's Women's Institute, for researching the "Tweedsmuir History of Halton County". The honor was also for his service to the community during the many years he has lived here.

Han Wagner's Oompah German Band will be performing at the Georgetown Lions Club's third annual Bavarian Beer Garden. Bob and Corey will also be performing at the Memorial arena event.

S.G. Bennett of Georgetown won breeder and premier exhibitor herd honors at the CNE. Other victories came in the bull class, reserve senior and grand class and a second was won in the two year bull class.

Marty Wheeler of Glen Williams is the featured soloist of the Benard H. Clark Concert Band at Massey Hall in Toronto. The trombone player will be performing a concerto by Rimski Korskoff.

TEN YEARS AGO - So far in 1975 town building has reached \$11,355,807.95 according to the town's building department's monthly report. August swimming pool construction added to this figure as 20 were built.

The Halton Hills Recreation Department plans to form a gymnastics club to satisfy the need for a competitive gymnastics team. All those who try out must be 14 years old or less.

The Georgetown Merchants had their best season in three years with a 15 and 9 record. Last year the team was 3 and 21 and the year before they were 2 and 22.

FIVE YEARS AGO - Varian Electronic Georgetown scientists earned a group achievement award from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Scientists Marie Szjkowski and Robert Young were honored for a 14 month research and development project of a special magnetometer used on a NASA research satellite.

Halton Board of Education trustee Betty Fisher has decided to run against incumbent Barry Shepherd for the Georgetown seat. She is currently the trustee for Acton.

## POETS CORNER

### SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT

The morning's not right  
The sun's in its place  
so am I  
the little old lady

at the bus stop  
the dog at the fire plug  
God

Where the blazes are you

By MARLOWE C. DICKSON,  
RR2, Beeton