Secret ballot vote nixed to decide regional chair

By ANI PEDERIAN Herald Staff

No more secret ballots when it comes to choosing Halton Region's

Last week, councillors voted in favor of open ballots at the next election for Regional chairman. That means councillors won't hold an incamera vote first then hold a second vote in public. In the past, the incamera vote served to identify the winner of the post and the public vote was a formallty to satisfy provincial legislation.

"The reason we have two ballots is to respect technically, but not in spirit; the legislation. The first ballot

is a straw vote, and the second by gentleman's agreement," Buri-ington Coun. Rob Forbes said at last week's Regional council meeting.

Voting in favor of the open ballot was Halton Hills Coun, Marilyn Serjeantson. Opposed were Halton Hills Couns. John McDonald, Pam Sheldon and Rick Br ette. Mayor Russ Miller was absent.

Burlington Coun. Walter Mulkewich said the procedure used by Halton Region in the past was clean and open and going with one vote by open ballot is a step backwards, to backroom dealings and the influence of party politics. preference would be for all

Ottoo!

Halton Hills

Halton taxpayers to be able to vote for their Regional chairman rather than their Regional councillors

Burlington Coun. Joan Little said the open ballot will make councillors

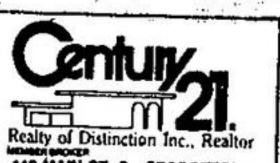
accountable to taxpayers. Oakville Mayor Bill Perras said he felt uncomfortable with the secret ballot system used in the last election and called the move to an open vote an improvement.

Oakville Coun. Keith Bird said going to an open ballot will create more problems. He noted taxpayers elect their councillors by secret ballot and he felt it should be the sme when electing the Regional chair-

Community Calendar

May 7 - Acton District High School presents Prappies, a manical roop that's sure to seese. The play also runs May 8 and 9. The show starts at 8

Church of Georgetown is performing a family musical based on the parables of Jesus. The performance begins at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$2 for mouth. Phone



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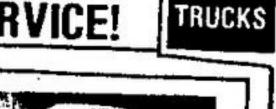
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work practising for their debut at the Elk's Hall in Norval. The

musical director of the show is Marilyn Micklethwaite and the

choreographers are Linda King and Rosa Carndutt.

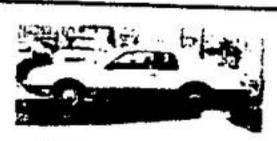
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Georgetown Globe Productions presents Stay Tuned - a musical variety show that depicts a typical day of TV broadcasting beginning May 22. For the moment, cast members (seen above) are hard at

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