

Bird wants review of Region's representation

By BRIAN MACLEOD
Herald Special

In a stinging eight-page "position paper" Burlington Mayor Roly Bird has lashed out at virtually every aspect of regional council and he is now calling for a provincial review of Halton's representation and accountability.

Mayor Bird presented his position paper at regional council on July 11.

"The City of Burlington has been used as a Golden Dornier in Regional Government in Halton. Our grievances are many. Our partners take, but give with great reluctance," Mayor Bird's report said.

The angry tone of the report set the stage for several grievances, including calls for the reduction of Halton Hills councillors on regional council from five to three.

In his report Mayor Bird said Halton Hills "is only recently discovering what garbage disposal is all about."

"Halton Hills since 1979/80 has enjoyed having the City of Burlington pay approximately \$1.5 million of dollars upon the implementation of uniform water rates and sewer surcharge," Mayor Bird said.

He said Halton Hills was "jolted into the reality of the landfill problem and responded in true form with the not-in-my-backyard reaction" after the Acton quarry became a potential site.

Mr. Bird said Coun. Sheldon's comments at a Feb. 25 meeting calling Burlington's rebuff of a report naming the Burlington site as preferred "insulting" was the straw that broke the camel's back.

He also chided regional staff for what he called their "orchestration which began in the early 1980's of continuing the dedication by regional staff to designate the Aldershot site as the Region's long-term landfill solution."

Mayor Bird said he is "overjoyed" that the Town of Oakville is now catching up to Burlington in population and has almost pulled equal to Burlington in total assessment (Burlington pays a 40 per cent portion of the regional tax levy while Oakville pays 39 per cent, the mayor said).

"This, I am sure, will divert some of the attention from the City of Burlington as being the heavy at Regional Council over the years," he said.

Mr. Bird even objected to the terms North and South he said is used by Milton and Halton Hills councillors.

Currently Burlington has four councillors, Oakville has seven, Halton Hills has five and Milton has three. Halton Hills Mayor Russ Miller said "It's not the quantity that counts it's the quality of representation."

Mayor Miller welcomed the opportunity for a review.

After 13 years of regional government a review might determine if there are ways I do certain things better, Mr. Miller said.

He said it would make no difference if Halton Hills and Milton

Halton Hills hadn't done its part in the landfill issue. Georgetown's garbage dump (closed in the late 1970's) took fill from Halton Hills and Milton and dumps in Esquewasing and Acton were shut down in 1974, Mr. Miller said.

Burlington, Mr. Miller said, has fought the landfill issue as hard as anybody.

Mr. Miller said he has supported the preferred site in Burlington because the Milton site is located on agricultural land.

Mr. Miller could not say what the Burlington mayor was implying when he said Burlington paid \$1.5 million for Halton Hills after the implementation of uniform water and sewer rates seven years ago.

"Everybody in the Region pays the same amount of money per person. I think he's nuts," Mr. Miller said.

Mr. Miller said he is "thinking very seriously" of writing a response to Mr. Bird's report.

Coun. Pam Sheldon called the report "the ramblings of a paranoid mind."

She believes Halton Hills is entitled to five members on Regional council because it has two urban centres (Georgetown and Acton).

Coun. Sheldon said at least three Burlington councillors told her Mayor Bird had "gone too far" and that they do not endorse the wide ranging "position paper."

She said there is no need for a provincial review of Halton Region given its triple A credit rating.

The Burlington Mayor also complained that the Enterac development agreement in Georgetown will cost the region over \$8 million over several years while all industrial lands in Burlington and most in Oakville were developed at the expense of the development community.

Coun. Sheldon said the Region has contributed to projects in Burlington which can often be large due to the size of the city.

Mayor Bird's motion to call for a review was deferred until July 29.

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It's Worth the Drive to Acton!

3-way race for Grits



Walt Elliot Bruce Hood Joe Hewitt

It's now a horse race. A number of candidates are making bids to win the Liberal nomination.

Liberal MPP for Halton-Burlington, Don Knight announced his retirement July 6. Since then, three candidates have come forward as possible successors.

Earlier in the week, former N.H. referee Bruce Hood announced his intentions to run. A press conference was held Thursday night by Mr. Hood to make the news official.

By Monday afternoon two other challengers emerged. Walt Elliot, a 25-year veteran of Liberal politics has thrown in his hat, along with Esquewasing councillor Joe Hewitt. Mr. Hewitt is the only Halton Hills resident to come forward as a candidate. The other two are from Milton.

Halton North riding is a new provincial riding consisting of Acton, Georgetown, Milton and surrounding areas.

The former riding of Halton Burlington was represented by Liberal Julian Reed of Norval for 10 years before Mr. K. Knight won in May of 1985.

The Liberal nomination meeting will be held August 7 at E.C. Drury School in Milton.

Mr. Hewitt said whomever is able to get most supporters out to the meeting should have the best chance of winning.

Both Mr. Hood and Mr. Elliot have been reticent to talk about issues in the campaign at this stage. However, Mr. Hewitt mentions several concerns he wants to address such as the environment, ambulance response times, funding for senior services and educational facilities.

Mr. Elliot, a current member of the Liberal Halton North Executive, said the nomination should stress issues, but he will discuss them if they are brought out at the meeting.

He feels the Liberal membership rolls will be greatly increased by a contested nomination, which should help the Grits organize for the next election.

David Peterson is holding his nomination Aug. 9. It follows that an announcement for a late summer election could be made Aug. 10 for a Sept. 17 polling day, Mr. Elliot said.

Rud Whiting, a former federal Liberal Member of Parliament has said he will not be a candidate for the nomination.

CANDIDATE PROFILES SEE PAGE A6

55% target rise for United Way

The Halton Hills United Way is hoping to raise \$140,000 during its October 1987 fund-raising campaign.

This goal marks a 55 per cent increase over last year's \$87,500 goal. The campaign actually exceeded that goal by \$4500. The current campaign chairman, John Wickens, said he is heartened by the 1986 figure.

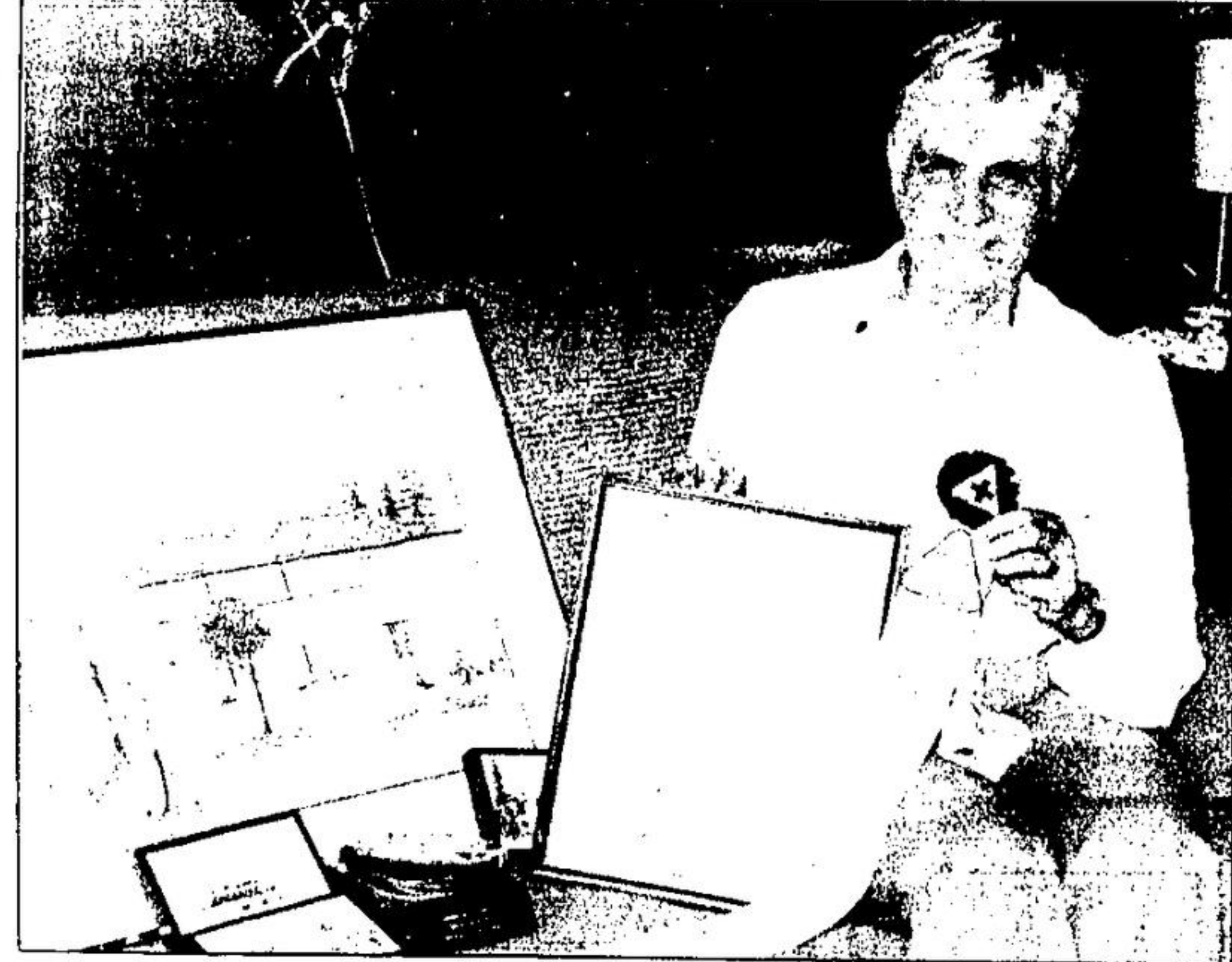
Since 1986 was the first year of the Halton Hills United Way, it did very well to exceed its dollar goal, he said.

"There are people willing to give in Halton, we just have to reach them," Mr. Wickens noted.

The fund-raising campaign for 1987 is divided into eight categories, which include residential, corporate-industrial, professional, commerce, national firms, retail business, education and government institutions and committees. The last category involves persuading commuters to have their contributions returned to Halton. It comprises 20 per cent of the overall target.

Many of the United Way Executive agree that payroll deduction plans form the most rigorous part of the organization's campaign.

A well-planned corporate-industrial campaign under the direction of Jack Boulet should reach employees from Georgetown who wish to donate through their pay cheques each week. Ideally, a company employee is contacted to join the campaign from his or her



Connie Nieuwhof is leaving Georgetown for British Columbia next month, after serving with the Red Cross for 29 years. Her friends gave her a watercolor of the Red Cross building (left) painted by Bernice Gibbs. She also received a set of coasters from the Town of Halton Hills and a series of ink sketches depicting notable features in Georgetown.

Veteran volunteer Connie moves on to west coast

By MARY-LIZ SHAW
Herald Staff

After 29 years of volunteer service in Georgetown, Connie Nieuwhof is preparing to start a new life in British Columbia.

A Georgetown resident since 1954, Mrs. Nieuwhof has been active in the Red Cross, Georgetown District and Memorial Hospital's Emergency Services and the United Way.

She first joined the Red Cross after she moved here from her native Holland in that country, all people belong to the Red Cross to help in emergencies, she said.

"In Holland we have huge floods because of the dikes, Mrs. Nieuwhof said. The Red Cross is a cause I feel very strongly about."

Mrs. Nieuwhof met her husband while she was stationed in Indonesia with the Dutch Navy from 1947 to 1950. When the Dutch government surrendered its claim to the country, the pair moved to Canada. Close friends of the Nieuwhofs are familiar with Connie's Indonesian cuisine.

The couple also have a large collection of artwork in their McGilvary Crescent home, some of which depict life in a small Indonesian village.

In 1981, Connie Nieuwhof became an honorary member of the International Red Cross Society. She received a medal for her services from the Canadian government on the occasion of Queen Elizabeth II's Silver Anniversary.

Mrs. Nieuwhof, a former Georgetown Citizen of the Year, said she will probably volunteer her services once she moves to her new home located just outside of Sydney, British Columbia. She said she enjoys helping people.

She is not leaving her Georgetown

Dump meetings re-scheduled for September

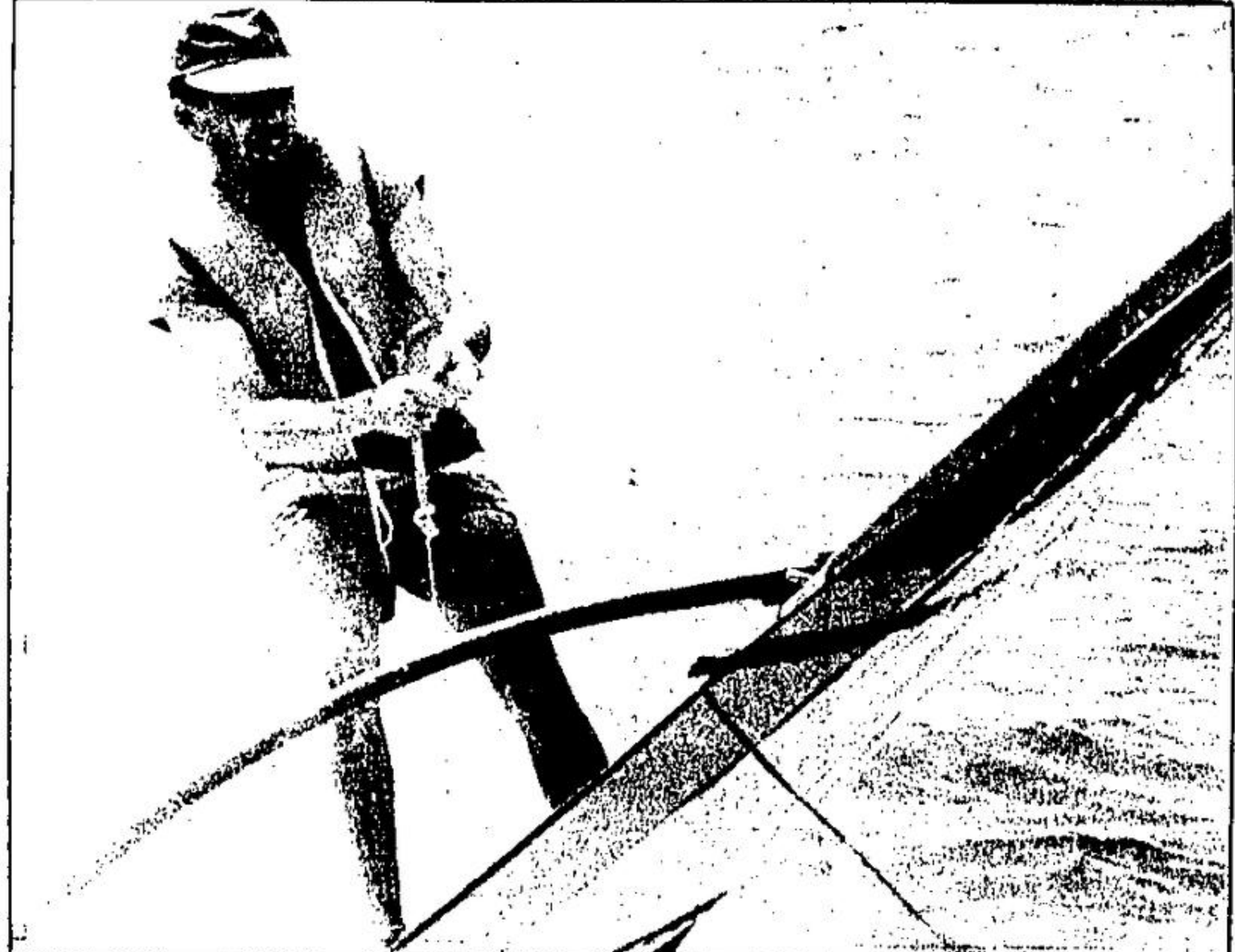
Hearings for the proposed regional landfill site will pick up again Sept. 14 pending the full recovery of the board chairman.

Harold Lancaster suffered a heart attack in late June putting the future of the hearings in doubt.

At the time, officials felt Mr. Lancaster would not recover sufficiently to return to his position as chairman of the hearing board. But he is now progressing well at home and is expected to be fit for work in mid-September, said Region Chief Administrative Officer John Flemming.

Board members had scheduled holidays in late summer so the hearings will be delayed four to six weeks on top of that, Mr. Flemming said.

Replacing the chairman would have been difficult because of the voluminous material already presented to the board and going ahead without an Ontario Municipal Board member would have been risky because the two remaining members of the hearing board have no experience in these kinds of board hearings.



A windsurfer prepares his rig at Kelo Conservation Area on Sunday. The sport was popular during the weekend's heat wave, although slight breezes failed to keep some of the crafts afloat. (Mary-Liz Shaw)

In the hills

Man pinned

The Fire Department was called to use the jaws of life on a man pinned in a truck that overturned Friday at 10:42 a.m. Albert J. Kitchener, 59, Prince Drive, Georgetown suffered minor injuries when the 1974 commercial dump truck he was operating fell on its side. As he activated the hoist to dump a full load of soil the rear right wheels gave way and the truck tipped, hitting a tree. The driver was treated and released from Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital. Damages to the truck are estimated at \$2000. No charges were laid in the accident, police said.

No objections

A vacant five acre lot on Concession 8 on the west side of the Eight Line may soon house a church and a nursery school.

The Christian and Mission Alliance Church is applying to have the land at Lot 16 rezoned from rural to institutional to house the church.

There were no objections offered at a public meeting July 13.

Trailer approved

The Town of Halton Hills will allow a 12 person bunkhouse trailer on the Property of Sheridan Nurseries Limited at Part Lot 22, Concession 11.

The trailer will remain there for a three month period.

Road closure

Regular users of the Guelph Line may soon have to find alternate routes near Lowville.

The Guelph Line will be closed for six weeks from Britannia Road to Derry Road to allow construction of a retaining wall on the eastside of Guelph Line at the north Lowville hill.

The exact dates of the closure will be established at the time of construction.

Correction

A story on Page A1 of the July 8 edition of the Herald, stated Halton Hills Fire Chief Bill Cunningham had requested \$190,000 in the capital forecast for the replacement of 22-year-old overhead doors in the Georgetown Firehall. The amount requested was actually for \$19,000.

The Herald apologizes for the error.