

Municipal Elections '88

Landfill ranks as key issue for Serjeantson

Fighting the proposed landfill site in Acton, creating more affordable housing, and attracting industries to Halton Hills are the key issues in Coun. Marilyn Serjeantson's bid for re-election to the Ward 4 Regional seat.

Coun. Serjeantson was first acclaimed to town council in February, 1977. She continued to sit as a Ward 4 town councillor until 1985 when she successfully ran for the Regional position.

The former nurse now lives on Regan Crescent with her husband Ed. The couple have four sons.

Coun. Serjeantson predicted landfill sites currently being considered in Burlington and Milton will both be prepared for use in the future. With the Region's waste disposal problem solved, the dangers of the proposed site in Acton won't be necessary, she said.

Halton Hills' official plan and the Niagara Escarpment Plan are in place to protect rural areas, the quality of life and the environment,

said Coun. Serjeantson. No private firm should be allowed to step in and ignore all those government plans, she said.

"The town will soon have to spend taxpayers dollars in order to fight the landfill site proposal, she said.

"You can't be complacent." The town should be able to attract industries to Halton Hills with 400 acres of industrial land in Halton Hills Village and the Highway 401 industrial corridor, said Coun. Serjeantson.

The much needed industry will be attracted to lands near Highway 401, she said. "I think the Highway 401 corridor will be the ticket for the future."

But the town's official plan assures growth won't escalate to look like Peel region, she said.

The town has already decided on slower growth so suggestions that Halton Hills will hook up to water from Lake Ontario won't come into fruition, she said.

If Halton Region has to deal with



Marilyn Serjeantson

the Sunday shopping issue, the laws in Halton Hills won't change if Coun. Serjeantson has her way.

"I don't believe Sunday shopping should be allowed. I believe the tourist destination areas serve our purpose really well," she said.

"I just don't want to see Sunday become one of those rat race days like any other day."

The town's financial situation will likely dictate what kind of seniors recreational facilities will be available in the future, she said.

Prospects of a separate seniors

centre or a community complex will depend on "what we can afford at the time," she said.

But it's important the seniors community agrees with what kind of facilities are built, she added.

Restructuring of Hungry Hollow will also likely be a contentious issue in Ward 4, she said.

Spending \$230,000 now to shave a portion off the top of Mountainview Road to make driving safer may be a mistake in the long run, if more money must be spent when the Halton Hills Village subdivision is built, said Coun. Serjeantson.

A conceptual design for the road should be available by March and a rational decision should be made then, she said.

Other issues such as proper ways of creating affordable housing, will take good background and time investment, she said.

"I enjoy the job. I think I have a good background to do the job and I feel I have a good rapport with my fellow council members," she said.



Dragon the Line

About 125 people attended a benefit for Vietnam veterans at the Georgetown Armories on Saturday. Organizer Ed Cochrane had hoped to raise money for veterans and for the Georgetown Chinese Cultural Association but the benefit broke

even. Here, a traditional dragon dance kept onlookers entertained. Mr. Cochrane hopes to start fundraising for a memorial house for veterans in Toronto next week. (Herald photo)

Bonnette opposes wide open Sunday shopping

Acton Regional Councillor Rick Bonnette outlined his objectives for the coming term in his re-election campaign for the Ward 1 seat this week.

Coun. Bonnette was first elected to town council in 1982. He followed that with an election to Regional council, unseating Dave Whiting in 1985.

Coun. Bonnette, who lives on Elizabeth Drive, recently sold his travel business and he now teaches part time at Humber College.

He cited fighting the potential landfill site near Limehouse as one of the major concerns in the upcoming term.

If Halton Region successfully completes its search for a landfill site (hearings will soon be wrapped up on potential regional dumpsites in Burlington and Milton), the Acton site will suffer a setback, said Coun. Bonnette. "If we have our landfill site we sure as heck don't need the Acton landfill site," he said.

He favored possible town spending to fight the dump.



Rick Bonnette

"If it takes that, I probably would (support spending tax dollars)."

Coun. Bonnette believes the chances of the landfill site being approved "are getting smaller and smaller."

"If there's the slightest chance that the aquifers are going to be polluted I can't see it going ahead - especially if it's not necessary," he said.

If Halton has to deal with the explosive issue of Sunday shopping, Coun. Bonnette favors the "status quo."

"I'm against wide open Sunday shopping," he said.

Tourist designated areas suit the town's needs well, he added.

Shop owners likely wouldn't make any more money if they were to open on a Sunday. The money would simply be spent over seven days instead of six, he added.

He wants to see residential growth in Acton concentrate on the east.

With Acton High School and space in the elementary schools as well as essential services such as the ambulance building on the east side of Acton it is more suitable for growth, said Coun. Bonnette.

Fairy Lake on the west side and limited schooling capacity limits growth there, he explained.

Coun. Bonnette said he has successfully pushed for new residential development in Acton - resulting in 130 new developments totalling 140 houses scheduled for construction this year.

And Acton has \$1.2 million set

aside for pumping water out of the Prospect Park well which should allow for residential and industrial growth, he said.

Pointing to a recent survey of seniors calling for some recreational facility for seniors in Acton, Coun. Bonnette wants to see the priority of Acton councillors - to get a new arena built to replace the current arena - to incorporate a seniors centre as well.

"Such a community centre would make seniors feel a part of Halton Hills," said Coun. Bonnette.

He also pledged to fight an initiative by Burlington Mayor Roly Bird to have Halton Hills' representation on Regional council reduced from five members to three.

Coun. Bonnette and Mayor Russ Miller actively campaigned for ambulance service based in Acton until the building on Churchill Boulevard was opened earlier this summer.

Cook wants to seek out landfilling alternatives

Al Cook will be looking for a second three-year term as Ward 4 town councillor in the November municipal elections.

Coun. Cook, a Georgetown resident for 16 years, is married to Catherine. The couple live on Prince Charles Drive with their son Richard and daughter Allison.

Waste disposal has become a major issue not only in Halton Hills but in many municipalities throughout Ontario, said Coun. Cook.

He wants to boost the town's recycling program and turn to Halton Region's energy from waste program as alternatives to landfilling.

He vowed to fight the proposed landfill site in the Acton quarry. "I'm vehemently opposed to it. I don't think the quarry site is a proper place for a dumpsite," said Coun. Cook.

Preserving Halton Hills' "unique small town atmosphere" is another goal of Coun. Cook.

Like many of his colleagues on town council, he wants to avoid the "row after row of housing" that pervades Peel Region.

He cited the 400 acres of industrial land in Halton Hills Village and what has been coined the Highway 401 industrial corridor as excellent places for industry to settle.

Coun. Cook favors a facility for seniors in town but he likes the concept of a community centre rather than a separate complex for seniors.

Coun. Cook believes the town is doing all it can to keep up with road repairs in Halton Hills. A bill currently before the province would force aggregate companies to give a royalty to the municipality to help repair roads and that is seen as a good way of helping the town catch up on much needed road repairs on the heavily travelled truck routes, said Coun. Cook.

He is also opposed to wide open Sunday shopping in Halton Hills. "There has to be a day set aside for people to rest and relax," said Coun. Cook.

He favors the "status quo" which allows for tourist designated areas.

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