

Editorial

Municipal elections on the horizon

According to Ye Olde calendar on the wall, summer doesn't officially start until June 21. As we all know, however, the Victoria Day weekend is usually regarded as the harbinger of summer weather and holidays to come.

Some folks embark on the first trek to 'cottage country' willing to risk life and limb battling the inevitable traffic tie-ups, accidents and overheated vehicles (not to mentioned overheated drivers) to be as close to nature as is possible in our polluted environment.

Residents of Halton Hills know summer is just around the corner when the annual Optimist Club-sponsored Bang-O-Rama takes over at the Georgetown Fairgrounds, capped off with the Monday night display of fireworks.

In more ways than one, the Monday night fireworks display might best be described as an omen of things to come this summer - and into the fall - not only in Halton Hills, but in Ontario as well as the rest of Canada.

The recession has to be fought, the ordinary working man has to get back to work and the national unity issue must be decided.

Of more importance, however, for residents of Halton Hills, municipal elections take over centre stage November 12.

Regional Councillors, Town of Halton Hills Councillors, school trustees and hydro commissioners will be elected and the position of Mayor of Halton Hills, for the next two years, will also be decided by the electorate.

Municipal elections should not - and must not - be regarded as little more than hiccups in our political process.

Those people elected in municipal elections carry a heavy responsibility.

As elected representatives of a community, it is their job to mould the character of that particular community. It is not a responsibility to be taken lightly.

Through bylaws, stands on environmental matters, decisions on development, decisions on the use of energy, down through myriad minor matters, the character of the community is moulded.

During the last municipal election, a number of positions locally were filled by acclamation - in other words, a particular candidate for office was not challenged for the right to represent the community.

It is to be hoped this time around, all positions for local representation be contested in a forthright, honest and dedicated manner.

It is also to be hoped that those eligible to vote in the municipal elections, turn out in hordes to exercise their franchise so that the perception that we do indeed have government for the people, by the people remains intact.

Prospective candidates for the various positions available in the municipal elections must officially declare themselves between Oct. 9 and Oct. 11. It is to be hoped this deadline is ignored and those wishing to hold elected office declare their intentions in the near future.

If only to give the residents of Halton Hills the opportunity to question the candidates on any number of issues with time to spare before the elections.

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People's Forum

"Thinker" is taken to task

To Colin,
Oscar Wilde said that the nicest thing in the world is to do something good anonymously and have somebody find out.

Gathering from the letter, I think THINKER has fair hair, blue eyes, is symptomatic and may be Anglo Saxon.

THINKER feels that the 'multicultural monster' is a vote-buyer and hiring practices of its appointments to the Metro Police Commission has the policy "Anglo Saxon types need not apply." Well...I didn't know about this policy. Not at all a democratic one.

THINKER objects, as a taxpayer, to the huge amounts of money granted to ethnic cultures. I wouldn't know about this one, either.

THINKER also objects to immigration policies allowing criminal elements to remain here. Government gets away with what government is allowed to get away with.

THINKER is also 'fed up' with local protest groups, as self-appointed righteous 'experts'. Now - THINKER is going for my jugular!

THINKER admits to being to council meetings. A witness to ridicule and rejection of costly, detailed reports of experts who have bent over backwards to inform the public and 'address' their concerns. Most everyone, BUT those experts, is bending over backwards to 'help' with our concerns.

THINKER wonders if they should be allowed to intimidate our elected representatives. Isn't that why we have elected them, in the first place? But, THINKER claims they are noisy and rude. Has THINKER ever been to a session in Parliament?

THINKER believes most of these people (P.O.W.E.R.) are essentially selfish. Well...Excuse ME! These people are giving up their own precious time and give of themselves, so that we 'all' (including THINKER) may have a chance. A better, safer, more healthy life. THINKER has a problem with this?

As for P.O.W.E.R. being left wing do-gooders, it's my opinion that, they are LEFT, RIGHT AND CENTER.

And, as for the press giving

publicity to noisy 'unelected' people; publicity is also given to noisy 'elected' people. One of the few democratic rights left to us.

For one who masquerades, THINKER carps on some might dubious pronouncements.

We are all fed up and weary!
Lois A. Richardson
Georgetown.

Brilliant performance

To the Editor:
Lois Fraser's portrayal of Truth Rear, Mystery of the Environment, at Queen's Park for the P.O.W.E.R. demonstration, was nothing short of brilliant. The real quality of Lois as an actress was evident as she carried off this lampoon of Ruth Grier on short notice and without a dress rehearsal.

It was clear from the comments and reaction of Queen's Park press behind the microphones, that this impersonation was bang on.

Thank you hardly seems enough to express our gratitude. We are in your debt, Lois.

Halton Cable Systems filmed the entire demonstration. If their editing machine gets back from repair, Halton Cable expects to show this film on Thursday, May 30th, around 7 p.m. Check the Cable 4 crawl on May 30th for the exact time.

P.O.W.E.R. will be releasing for publication the text of the statement made by Truth Rear. If only the real Minister of the Environment had said these things.

Yours truly,
Barbara Halsall,
President of P.O.W.E.R.

Soccer takes back seat

To the Editor,
Don't you think it's about time somebody told the recreation department the soccer season has arrived? All around us soccer has been on the go for the last two or three weeks, tournaments are being organized, the season is well under way but as yet nothing here in Georgetown, not even a field fit to play on. Golf, tennis, softball and baseball are all going strong but no soccer.

I was asked to officiate at the Alcott field last Wednesday night between a local team and a team, from Streetsville. There were no nets, not even a line on the park and the grass was up round about your ankles. Now tell me, what are you supposed to say to the teams?, especially the visiting team who probably flew like the clappers to get to the park on time.

It's pretty pathetic when you here excuses about permits and what have you needed before the go ahead. Get the fields ready and fit for playing on as soon as

possible so the soccer can get started, then discuss permits. The season is short enough without having all this red tape screw up the start.

I've been associated with soccer since I came to Georgetown some 23 years ago and it's always the same, it takes a back seat to every other sport. Can you imagine an out of town hockey team coming here for a rep. game and finding a rink with no ice? It's been said many a time, if soccer was played on ice there would be no problem.

There are an awful lot of people just itching to participate in Georgetown's favorite sport, so Mr. Shepard, how about you and your flock making sure the soccer fields are in a fit state and ready for the start of the soccer season, after you've done that you can go hibernate until the hockey season comes around. Don't forget the ice.

Yours truly,
Bill Innes
Georgetown.

Columnist wrong

Dear Sir:
In the May 15 edition of your newspaper a report appeared in Alex Tough's column which indicated that the Opening Day, and in fact the opening week, for the Georgetown Youth Soccer Club had been threatened by a revoking of field permits by the Halton Hills Recreation Department.

That report was totally erroneous and has no basis in fact. Our club has been fully satisfied

with the co-operation it has received from the town in the issuing of permits, and in all dealings with the Rec Department this year.

It should also be noted that Mr. Alex Tough is not a member of the Georgetown Youth Soccer Club, and in no way represents or speaks for our club.

Sincerely yours,
Steven Lee, President,
Georgetown Youth Soccer Club.