

# McNally plaza marketing study called into question

A marketing study commissioned by Georgetown based McNally Construction supporting the viability of the company's proposal to establish a commercial plaza in Georgetown on Guelph Street north of Armstrong Avenue, was called "misleading, incomplete and at least partially unsubstantiated" during a public meeting Monday.

Al Fraser owner of Shoppers Drug Mart in the Georgetown Market Place made these comments in opposition to the plaza being allowed to go ahead. He didn't offer specifics concerning his claims saying he'd wait until Town Council had more time to review the marketing study.

A public meeting is the first time Council officially hears the pros and cons about a development application.

McNally Construction's proposal calls for 115,000 square foot commercial plaza for an empty piece of property beside the Neilsen plant.

Company spokesperson David McNally defended the proposal saying his company is willing to work with the Town to ensure a development is created that will benefit the entire Town.

The fact the company has spent approximately \$55,000 on studies as part of the application "prove's to some extent what we want to do is viable," said Mr. McNally.

Mr. McNally said the company wanted approval soon so when the economy turns around, construction can go ahead. He couldn't say what would be included in the plaza.

Council heard support for the application from Gail Rutherford, President of Residents Active in Development Decisions (RAIDD).

The land is currently zoned industrial but RAIDD supports the zoning being changed to commercial, said Ms. Rutherford, because a plaza would bring fewer industrial trucks through Town, as well as, provide the Town with a greater variety of shopping.

Some in attendance at the meeting expressed concern the property should be kept industrial because the Town needs industrial lands.

However, Mr. McNally countered by saying the Town has 400 acres of industrial land in Georgetown South. Changing the industrial zoning on the McNally property won't be taking away necessary industrial lands, he said.

Town planner Bruce MacLean told council none of the agencies asked to comment on the application including the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce opposed the application.



Town staff will now write a report on the application incorporating comments made during the public meeting. Once the report is complete it will go before Council for final consideration.

## Region information meeting

Council learned Monday Halton Region will be hosting a public information meeting Thursday at Glen Williams Town Hall to explain the watermain extension proposed for the area. The sessions will run from 3 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m.

## Square dance week

Halton Hills Council Monday declared the week of Sept. 9 to Sept. 15 Square Dance Week.

## School crosswalk

On the recommendation of Town Engineering staff, Council approved Monday the midblock pedestrian traffic signal on Rexway Drive near Harrison School in Georgetown be replaced with a newly marked crosswalk, and school crossing warning signs. Council also recommended no Parking at Anytime Zones be established on the east side of Resway Drive.

According to the staff report, the changes are supported by the Harrison Public School principal.

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## Tenders awarded

Council awarded Graham Brothers Construction Limited of Brampton with the \$375,689 tender to carry out the resurfacing and reconstruction work on Dublin Line from Dufferin Aggregates' entrance on the Halton Hills-Milton border to the Greystone Golf Course entrance at the northerly point of Dublin Line in the southern portion of Halton Hills.

Council also awarded the \$552,606 tender to Goldmar Contracting Limited in Mississauga to reconstruct Maple Avenue from the CNR line to River Drive in Georgetown.

## Application withdrawn

Council learned Monday from staff the developer behind a condominium development for the Maple Avenue property beside the North Halton Golf and Country Club in Georgetown, Burlington based Zupet and Associates, have withdrawn their development application. Town Planner Bruce MacLean told council the company would be submitting a new application in approximately two to three months.

# Community

## Bonnette dons 'running shoes' for municipal election

By BEN DUMMETT  
The Herald

Aside from Halton Hills Mayor Russ Miller, Acton Regional Councillor Rick Bonnette is now the only other local incumbent politician to declare his candidacy for the upcoming Nov. 12 municipal election.

Mr. Bonnette submitted proper notification Friday to the Town Clerk's Department to solicit

campaign contributions. His candidacy in the election won't be official until he submits his nomination forms between the required dates of Oct. 9 and Oct. 11.

The two non-incumbent Halton Hills residents to declare their candidacy are Arthur Trebbne and Grant Emmerson both for positions of Town Councillors in Georgetown's Ward 3.

Contacted Monday, the life-



Rick Bonnette

long Acton resident and long-time local politician said, "I'm tired of walking so I thought I'd start running." when asked why he was running. Mr. Bonnette currently represents Acton on Halton Regional Council - a position he has held since 1985. As a Regional Councillor he automatically sits on Halton Hills Town Council.

Before becoming a Regional Councillor the 35-year-old was one of two Acton Town Councillors.

Gerald Rennie and Norm Elliott are the current Acton representatives on Town Council, neither of whom have officially said one way or another if they will be seeking re-election.

The number one issue during the upcoming municipal election will be taxes, said Mr. Bonnette.

As an elected official he believes municipal tax increases should be kept under the rate of inflation - a direction Mr. Bonnette said Town staff has been told to follow.

Another high priority for Mr. Bonnette is continuing his efforts to pressure council to approve the construction of a new arena for Acton.

Asked why he is the one to keep up this pressure instead of another person, Mr. Bonnette said he has been involved with the project for the past several years. "I know what is required," he said.

To raise the necessary money for expensive capital projects such as the arena, Mr. Bonnette will be pushing for the Town to sell off its surplus lands.

He also emphasized the arena is close to a reality because developers planning to build in Acton will be required to contribute funds as a condition of receiving approval for their projects. This money will be for-

thcoming in the form of development charges, he said.

Mr. Bonnette said he supports development in the community so Acton could grow to its population capacity of 10,000 people. Acton currently has a population of between 6,000 and 7,000.

"New development will bring more services and a greater variety of stores to the area," he predicted.

Asked if he believes anyone will run against him, he replied, "I have no idea." He won by acclamation during the last election.

During this term, Mr. Bonnette said he is most proud of his contributions to securing a GO Train stop for Acton.

"I've played a major role in ensuring this happened," he said.

He is also proud of his efforts to secure provincial funding for Acton's Volunteer Ambulance Service. "That was a three year struggle," he said.

Mr. Bonnette is single and has a part-time position with Humber College in Toronto as a Travel and Tourism teacher.

## Food Bank special appeal

The Love and Christ Food Bank in Georgetown is in need of any type of furniture people are willing to donate, said Laura Ellison, the food bank's Executive Director, during an interview Monday.

Furniture donations may seem to be an odd request for a food-bank to make, but the furniture is needed to help out a local family going through a very difficult time, she said.

Ms. Ellison said the family has requested she not reveal their name to the public. The family, who was originally from Georgetown, recently moved back to the area from out west because the mother has a life-threatening blood clot disease, said Ms. Ellison. The woman's husband is currently out of work and they have two children to support, she explained. Because of her disease the woman cannot seek employment.

Ms. Ellison said the couple have been able to find accommodations in Acton but are unable to afford any furniture. The food bank has provided the

family with a stove.

"They have no beds, no chesterfield, nothing," said Ms. Ellison.

"I probably wouldn't go to such lengths but the woman's mother who lives in Georgetown is a food bank volunteer. As well, the woman hobbles down on crutches to the food bank as often as she can to help out despite her disease," said Ms. Ellison.

"The least we can do is help them out," she said.

The family moved back to the Halton Hills area to be closer to its extended family, said Ms. Ellison.

Aside from needed furniture, the food bank also requires foodstuffs. On average, 12 new people arrive at the food bank every week, she said.

The public should note the food bank, which operates out of Mountainview Baptist Church in Georgetown will be holding a free clothing day Saturday at the church where people in need can pick up back to school clothes for children, said Ms. Ellison.

# FLYERS

Watch for these MONEY-SAVING flyers inside this edition of THE HERALD



Rosetown Inn

PARTIAL DISTRIBUTION

If you did not receive your flyer please call our circulation department, Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## CORRECTION



214 GUELPH STREET  
GEORGETOWN  
873-1363

In the August 7th ad the old business hours were published in error. The new hours should have appeared and they are as follows:

Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-9 p.m.  
Saturday 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

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The Herald apologizes for any inconvenience to Color Your World or its customers.

**target** food stores  
**OPEN 24 HRS.**  
**7 DAYS A WEEK**  
51 GUELPH ST., GEORGETOWN