

# Heaton will not be denied his right to speak

By BEN DUMMETT  
The Herald

As it turns out, not all of the candidates running in the upcoming Nov. 12 municipal election will be allowed to formerly participate in the Nov. 4 and Nov. 6 all-candidates meetings, sponsored by the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce.

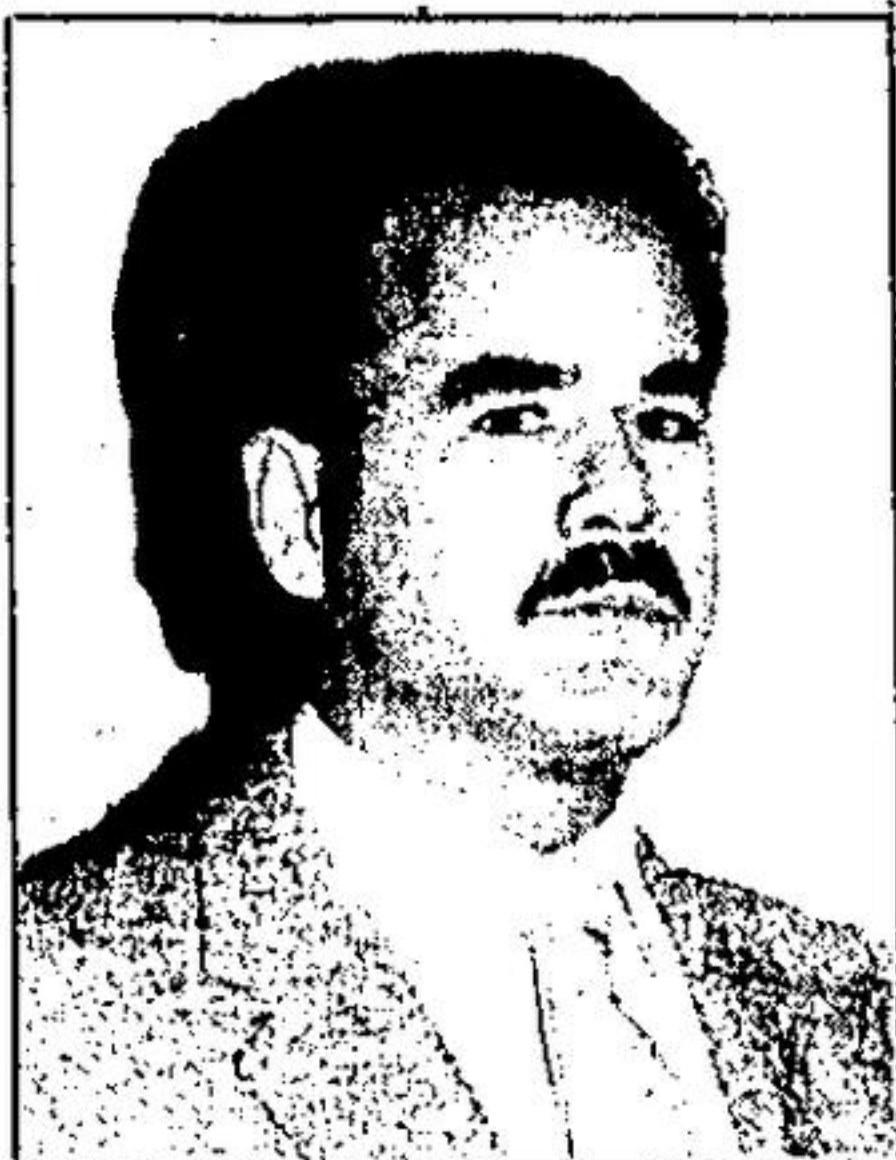
Doug Penrice, General Manager of the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce, said Monday, those candidates facing not facing a challenge, will not be permitted to participate in the debates.

Given the large number of candidates in most of the Wards and the three hour time limit for each meeting, it doesn't make sense to permit those candidates who will win by acclamation to participate, explained Mr. Penrice.

He went on to say, however, candidates not being challenged will be permitted to set up a booth during the meetings and distribute information about their campaign.

Ward 2 Town Councillor Rob Heaton is one of the few declared candidates who so far has no opposition.

Faced with the possibility of not being permitted to participate in



Rob Heaton

the meetings, Mr. Heaton contacted the Herald to outline his position on some of the issues he feels are relevant to Halton Hills.

Mr. Heaton said there needs to be more dialogue between the province and municipality if economic development is to happen in Halton Hills.

Provincial officials tell municipalities they must encourage

sustainable development, however, the words sustainable and development contradict each other, said Mr. Heaton.

Sustainable means maintain the existing situation while development encouraging growth. Until the province better defines the term sustainable development, municipalities are prevented from promoting acceptable economic

development, explained Mr. Heaton.

On the issue of taxes, Mr. Heaton supports changes to peoples' tax bill to better delineate how tax money is divided between the Town, Region and School Board. People think because the Town collects taxes for all three political bodies the Town is receiving all the money. However, the Town only

receives \$600 of an average \$2,000 tax bill. The remaining amount goes to the Region and the School Board, explained Mr. Heaton.

He also supports forcing municipal staff too be more innovative in developing waste reuse, reduce and recycling programs. Currently most ideas are initiated by councillors or members of the public, he said.

# Newcomer Walton stirs the brew

By BEN DUMMETT  
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Unlike the last local municipal election, there will be no acclamation for the position of Ward 4 Regional Councillor this time around.

Georgetown resident Linda Walton has decided to go up against incumbent Ward 4 Regional Councillor Marilyn Serjeantson in the upcoming Nov. 12 municipal election. Ms. Serjeantson was acclaimed during the 1989 election.

Ms. Walton, who has lived in the community since 1989, said she has decided to run because as she puts it, "it's time for a new, strong voice. It's time for a positive change."

According to Ms. Walton it has been the Regional councillors from South-Halton instead of those representing Halton Hills who have raised concerns about ensuring the protection of the area's natural features such as Silver Creek Valley.

"Regional Councillors from the north have been somewhat reluctant to talk about Silver Creek," she said.



Linda Walton

Silver Creek Valley is being considered by the Region as a possible location in which a trunk sewer could be located to service the expansion of Georgetown West. Because of the valley's unique environmental characteristics, Ms. Walton opposes the sewer being in-

stalled in the valley.

She also objects to recent Halton Council decisions that to her illustrate, regional councillors don't have their priorities straight.

Ms. Walton points out the Region chose not to use money allocated for a new museum to fund additional day care spaces and a hydrology report to determine the availability of water in the Region.

A greater number of day care spaces and confirmation of the Region's water supply should have a higher priority than a museum, said Ms. Walton.

If elected, Ms. Walton would also take steps to ensure the public has improved access to municipal government.

She disagrees that the public is only invited to comment on a municipal project once it has reached its final stage. Ms. Walton prefers that the public have input from the project's outset.

Another concern for Ms. Walton is ensuring Halton Hills do more to attract a diversified and clean industrial and commercial base. The result will be lower municipal taxes, predicted Ms. Walton.

# McCarthy bows out

Georgetown Ward 3 Regional Councillor candidate Pat McCarthy announced Monday he is dropping out of the municipal election race.

Mr. McCarthy is currently a Town councillor for Ward 3.

He said he would was leaving politics to accept a "major promotion" with the company he currently works for, National

Telecom Corporation in Toronto.

His new responsibilities will prevent him from carrying out the 20 to 30 hours per week needed to fulfill the requirements of a councillor, said Mr. McCarthy.

With Mr. McCarthy now out of the race the two remaining Ward 3 Regional Councillor candidates include incumbent Pam Johnston and Georgetown resident Bill Hyde.

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