



Saturday afternoons can be lots of fun as Bev Didur instructs various art techniques at Arts Galore, a program run by Halton Hills Recreation and Parks Department at Ecole Sacre Coeur between 2 and 3:30 p.m. The students have already

learned to mix primary colors using tissue paper. On a recent visit, Bev watched while, from left, Marc Dagenais and Daniel and Adam Szlachta cut out paper forms in preparation for a creation. TED BROWN/Halton Hills Weekend

Confusion drives up cost of police building

By PAUL MITCHISON
No one knows who's to blame but it's going to cost taxpayers an extra \$97,510 to build the new police headquarters.

It comes down to a disagreement over the size of the basement. The builder, Cooper Construction, claims the police department authorized the extra work and the department denies it. In the end, Halton Region last month paid half the difference on a bill that originally amounted to \$185,479 for the extra basement work.

The projected cost of the combined Halton Region headquarters and police building, expected to be completed this year, is approximately \$30 million.

Prior to the award of the contract and during its early stages in 1989, there had been discussions between police officials and the contractor over the basement configuration of the police building. According to a report from Halton's Chief Ad-

ministrative Officer John Fleming, revisions were made to the original proposal to satisfy police concerns over the original design as proposed by Cooper.

"During the next few months it appears there was a significant amount of misunderstanding on this item by both parties about whether or not these changes were included in the basic contract," the report stated.

Fleming told councillors that "if this matter goes to litigation, Cooper's claim will be in excess of \$200,000," and that the Region's legal staff suggested settling the matter.

The basement was revised to include an extra 1,000 square feet of parking space, requiring additional support columns. Cooper agreed to accept some responsibility, because some of the expansion was caused by its use of space for mandatory mechanical and electrical items.

Nassagaweya woman declares candidacy for regional council seat

By ROB KELLY

A 13-year Nassagaweya resident who has been long active in her community will campaign for the Halton Regional council seat in her area during the November 1991 municipal election. Virginia Taylor is the first to announce her intention of capturing the position Bill Johnson is expected to vacate with his resignation from politics.

"I think it's right up my alley," said the 47-year old Moffat resident. "I'm used to dealing with people. I go to things and get involved. I don't just show up, like some people."

The regional council seat encom-

passess Hornby, Drumquin, Omagh — the eastern rural lands of Milton and Brookville, Campbellville, Moffat areas atop and on the western side of the Niagara Escarpment.

Her announcement this week that she intends to follow Johnson on regional council has two objectives: to let everyone know early she is a serious candidate and to ward off competition from those who are perhaps less committed to the cause.

"A lot of people come out of the woodwork," she said, adding that in the last election, "nobody was taking it seriously. I hope to keep

the less serious people at bay."

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An assertive, self-confident woman, Mrs. Taylor has apparently been contemplating the jump into politics, and would have done it sooner but for other concerns, such as running a business. The political arena, however, has been on her mind "for a long period of time," she admitted. "It's not something I decided in the middle of the night. I had been planning to run this year.

I would have run last time (and challenged Mr. Johnson) if I had not had so many commitments."

Taylor owned and operated a small business in Campbellville, a tack shop (horse and riding supplies) until recently and currently acts as a consultant and writer in the horse business. She founded and was president of the Campbellville Business Association, is active in an abandoned animal placement program and was recently appointed to the Milton Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee.

Taylor wants to follow in

Johnson's footsteps as an outspoken advocate for her community.

"We need another fighter. If Bill's leaving, we need someone who is just as willing and able to fight. I'm a fighter, not a fence sitter. I believe in fairness. I'll do my absolute best to be worthy of succeeding him."

Taylor already has a campaign manager, Bonnie Mullen and plans "to do a lot of public speaking" and "knocking on doors" to solicit support.

(Rob Kelly is the news editor with our sister publication, The Milton Champion.)

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