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HOMETOWN PAPER, NEIGHBOURHOOD NEWS!

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1995

Gardiner is big winner in school trustee election

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK
The Acton Tanner

Former Acton teacher Ethel Gardiner steam-rolled over her competition to easily win Monday's election for the Ward 1 and 2 trustee seat on the Halton Board of Education.

Gardiner, a resident of Georgetown, grabbed the lead early in the balloting and never relinquished it, as she more than doubled the votes for her nearest challenger in a lacklustre campaign featuring a smorgasbord of eight candidates.

Following the announcement of her win at the Civic Centre, Gardiner, surrounded by a dedicated group of supporters, including a handful of Acton teachers, said she was both excited and happy to have won and graciously attributed her victory to her supporters.

"I had a great team - I couldn't have done this by myself. I also attribute my win to having worked in Acton and in the rural areas because people know me as a teacher and a person, and I think that helped."

Bazaar time

Sandwiches, pie, cookies, mince-meat, cabbage rolls and crafts.

If you love church bazaars, you have a busy couple of weeks ahead.

On Saturday, Knox Presbyterian and Bethel Christian Reformed churches will host their annual bazaars. Both events begin at 10 am.

Next weekend is the Churchill Community Church bazaar, along with St. Alban's Anglican.

The Lakeside I.O.D.E. ladies will host their bazaar on Nov. 11.

Asked what she would do first following her win, Gardiner said, "sleep in."

"Then first thing tomorrow I'm going to call Milton Trustee Tim Kingsbury and get an update on his survey concerning the naming of M.Z. Bennett and McKenzie-Smith schools," Gardiner said as she noted that she has a lot of homework to do to catch up with the current Board that has been in office for a year.

Gardiner said her personal preference for a new name for the linked schools would be some combination of McKenzie-Smith-Bennett.

Gardiner said the most often-asked question by voters when she was on the hustings was her opinion on Junior Kindergarten and most people liked her answer.

"I told them that if all things were perfect and there were unlimited financial resources, I recognize the value of Junior Kindergarten.

"But I don't think the Board can possibly afford to implement the optional program, right now. It's a tremendous drain when the resources are scarce."

With just 15.74 per cent of eligible voters casting ballots in Monday's election, Gardiner said she is thinking about holding open houses at the various schools to allow people to come and discuss issues on an informal basis. Gardiner said she also hopes to be invited to all of the parent association meetings at the schools in Wards 1 and 2.

Former teacher Ria Wilson of Norval ran a distant second and

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ACTON ATHLETES STRUT THEIR STUFF!



CHAMPS! Robert Little Girls' Junior cross-country team are Halton champs. Front row, from left: Meghan Colvin, Heather Moon, Holly Goddard and Kimberly Roberts. Back row: Sarah Kobsa, Tina Parent, Melissa Nellis and Stephanie Christie. (Doug Harrison photo)



SCRAMBLE! Bruce Hood Bantam 2 goalie David Gregson eyes the puck in a home game against Grand Valley Saturday. See AMHA Report, Page 18. (Eve Martin photo)

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