

Rick Matchett running for Milton's Ward 3

BY DONNA DANIELLI

After several years of volunteering with the Town of Milton's Community Services Advisory Committee (CSAC), Rick Matchett has decided that it's time he changed his role in the community. At the end of May, Mr. Matchett officially announced his intention to run in the next municipal election for Ward Three Councillor.

"I thought CSAC was a good stepping stone to learn more about the community," Mr. Matchett explains. "CSAC is a public forum for public consultation on parks, recreation, operations, fire and transit issues that are of a community service nature."

However, for the past few years it has been primarily occupied with the allocation of \$500,000 directed from the Slots Fund to community organizations. "I've also been involved for years on the executive of minor and masters baseball, and as treasurer of the Milton District Kinsmen. I just felt that now was the time to become even more involved in something that's a little larger than just my own neighbourhood." He is particularly concerned

about Campbellville's role in the Town of Milton. "I feel that as Milton is growing larger and larger, Campbellville is getting a smaller part of the pie," he explains. "We have to be more demanding of what we want in our own area. Campbellville deserves it."

Key issues for Mr. Matchett in the upcoming election will include commuter use of the rural roads at unsafe speeds; enforcement of traffic violations and garbage issues. "When the dump on Highway 25 was opened, from day one, rural residents

faced the necessity of paying \$5 each time to dispose of their garbage. That's not right," Matchett states. "That's when you began to see bags of garbage being dumped on the sides of the roads." He would prefer to see a system that issued no-charge passes to the dump for rural residents or rural garbage pickup. However, he stresses that it is essential that residents be given a per house charge rate for rural pickup, rather than have the figure included in the property tax number. "People have a right to know what it will cost them, and

they can't know that if the cost is buried in the mill rate."

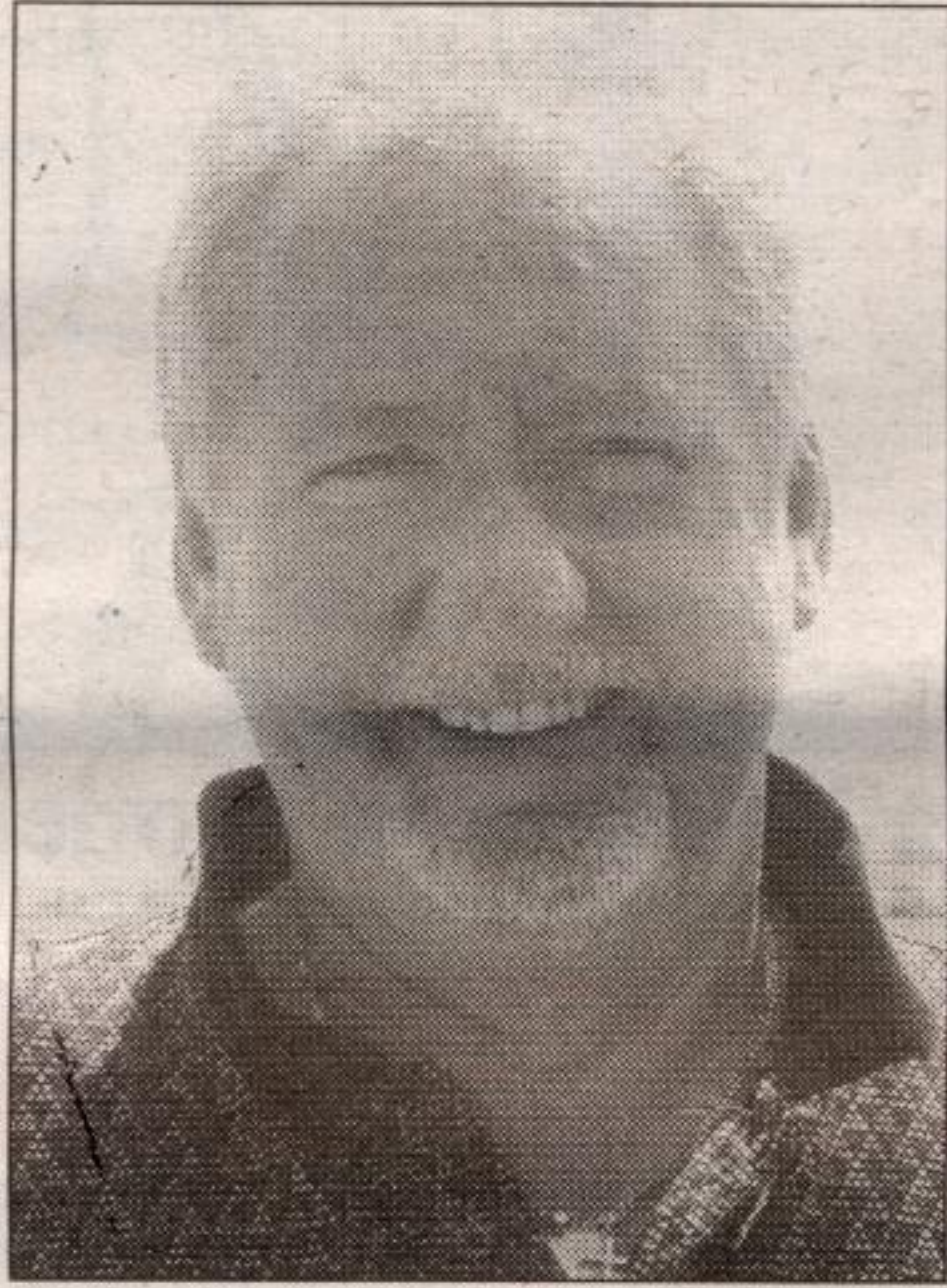
While Mr. Matchett has been an active participant in the allocation of the Community Funds portion of the Slots Fund during his time on CSAC, he is emphatic in his conviction that Campbellville should see a larger portion of the other \$5 to \$6 million that the Town of Milton receives annually. "The casino, all of the extra traffic and the increase in crime are all taking part in Campbellville," Matchett argues. "The people see that generating \$5 to 6 million dollars to the Town of Milton and, for them, there's the perception that Campbellville is almost a forgotten community." Citing the improvements to roads, railway crossings and railroad bridges in urban Milton in the last year, he adds, "We have to allocate funds to fix up our own neighbourhood as well."

The months between now and November's election will see Mr. Matchett trying to meet with as many residents as possible. Self-employed in the business of tax recovery, he is confident that he will have the flexibility of time required, both for his campaign and as a Councillor. "I'm not afraid to get on a committee and put in the hours required for my community," Mr. Matchett explains. "I'm not afraid to speak my mind, and I feel that when you feel strongly

about something, as I do about Campbellville, then you must be prepared to commit your time."

At press time, Rick Matchett is

the only candidate who has announced his intention to run as Town of Milton Ward Three Councillor.



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