

Regional representation under review

By JANET BAINE
Staff writer

People are not only ill informed about regional government, they're also indifferent to it, a consultant hired by the region to look into the issue is finding.

Harry Kitchen was at a public meeting on regional government at the Civic Centre Tuesday night which attracted only a handful of people. He has done 90 telephone interviews with people in the region so far.

"Over 50 per cent don't want to have any input. They basically tell you to get lost," he said. Others who do respond have very little understanding of how the system works, he said.

"People don't even know, other than the election and a few very, very simple questions, they are very confused," he said, adding this is unfortunate.

Kitchen has been hired to review accountability and representation issues. He has checked into these issues in other regions, and found a

broad range of ways of dealing with regional government. The four areas he is looking at are:

— Should the regional chair be elected by citizens or appointed by council?

— Is the size of regional council too large or too small?

— Should regional councillors serve only on regional council or should they serve on both local and regional councils?

— Should regional councillors be part-time or full-time?

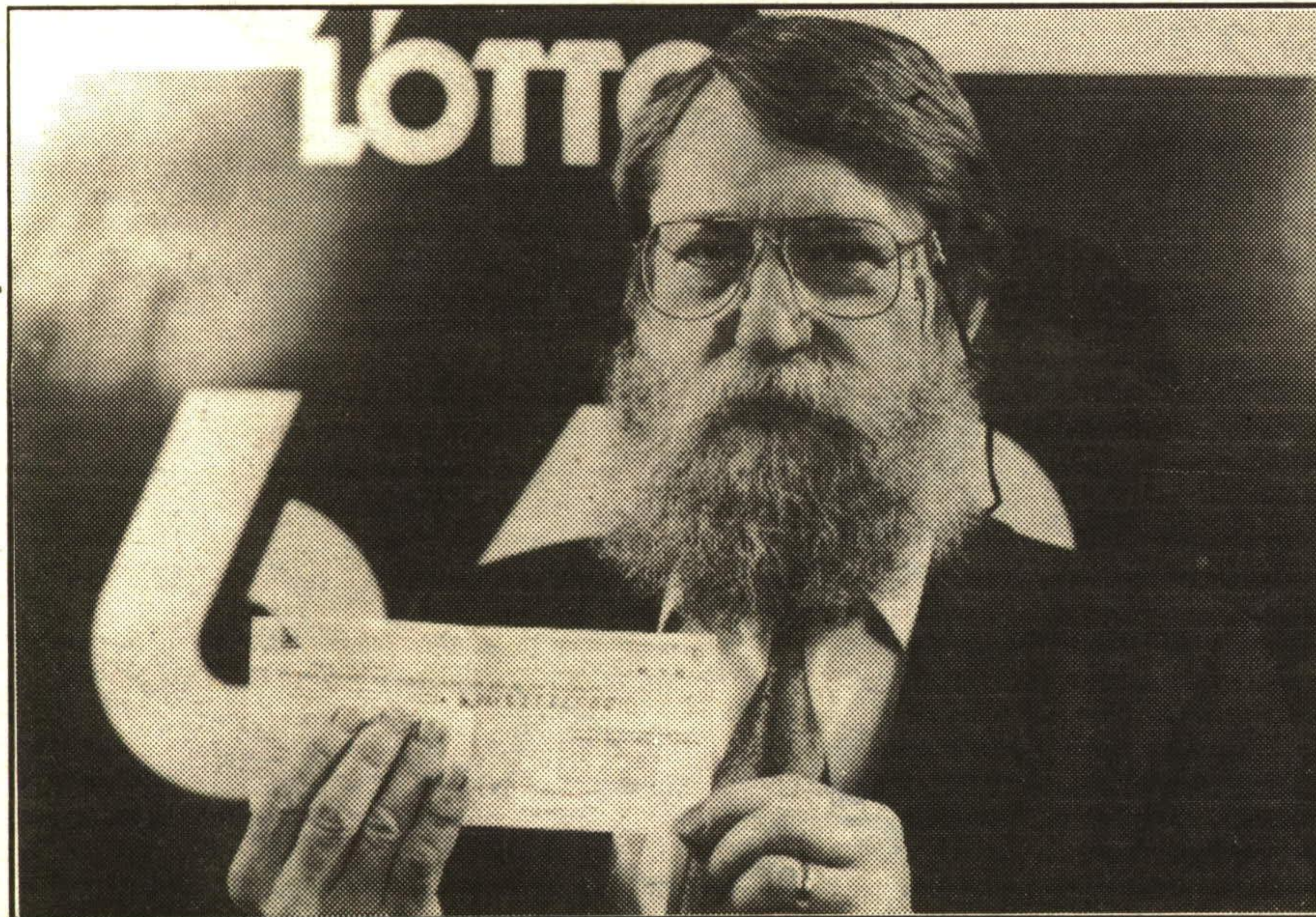
Kitchen said that discussions of whether the two tier system should be changed to three-tier would interest people, but that isn't within the mandate of his study.

Public meetings in Oakville and Burlington also took place last week, and the final public meeting will be Tuesday in Milton. Those attending the Georgetown meeting included Doug Penrice, the Halton Hills representative on the citizen's panel working with Kitchen, Mayor Marilyn Serjeantson, Councillor Rob Heaton, planning director Bruce McLean and Bob Malcolmson and Jennifer Alton, of the the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce.

Return rates on a questionnaire on the issues has not been good so far, Kitchen said. He is also accepting written submissions.

Kitchen plans to submit his draft recommendations in mid-December, and he will accept written responses to them before finalizing his report.

"It's the kind of report that is never going to satisfy everybody. Some will like it, some won't and there will be the indifference of most," he said.



Double the fun

Georgetown resident George Olah has won a major lottery prize for the second time. Olah won \$11,119.80 in the November 11, Lotto 649 draw. In 1986, he won a Cadillac Sedan de Ville worth about \$28,000 playing Super Lotto.

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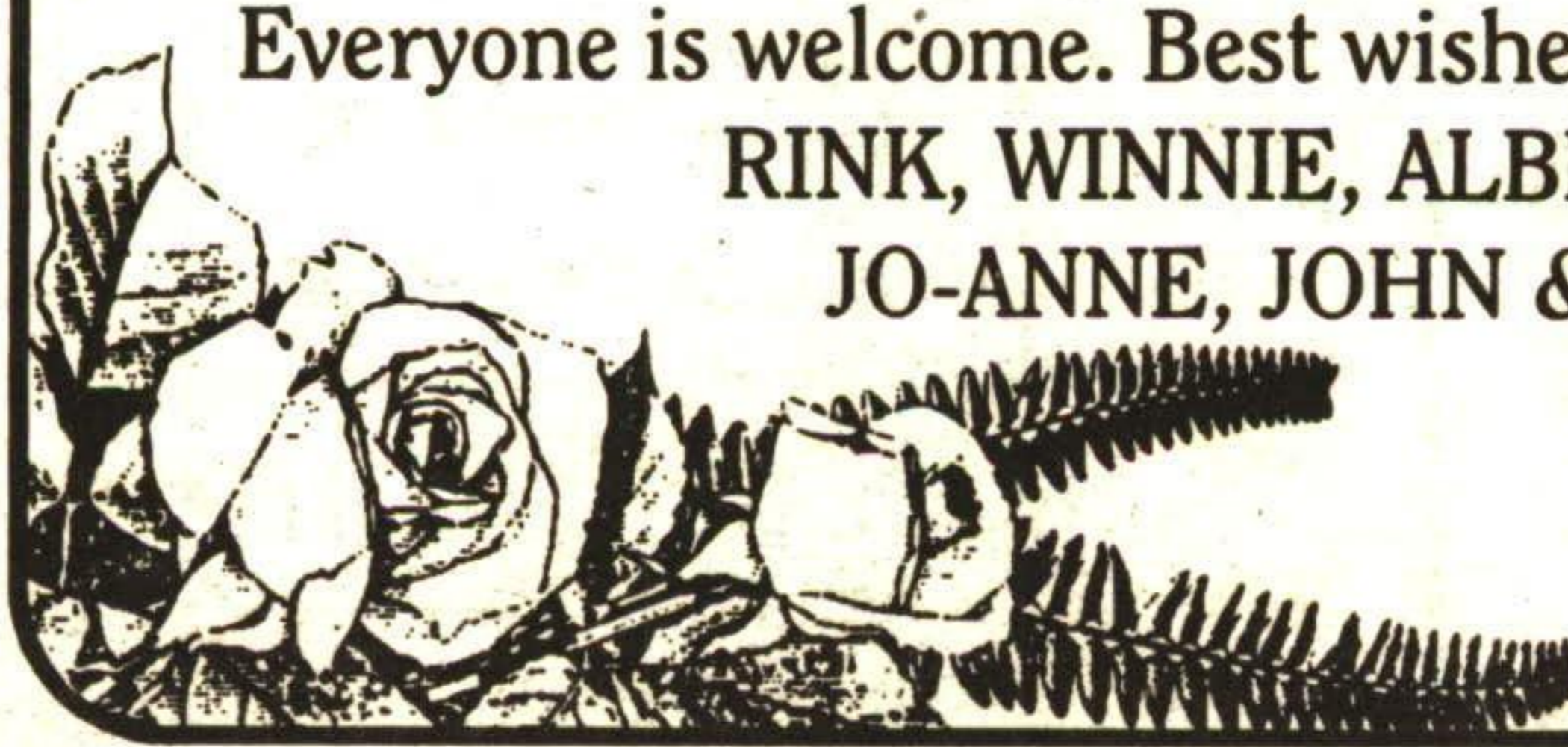
Mr. & Mrs. Sietse Vlietstra 50th Wedding Anniversary Open House

The Lord Willing we will celebrate our parents 50th Wedding Anniversary - Mr. Sietse and Mrs. Tina Vlietstra on November 28th, 1995. Please join us in celebrating this event at an open house at

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