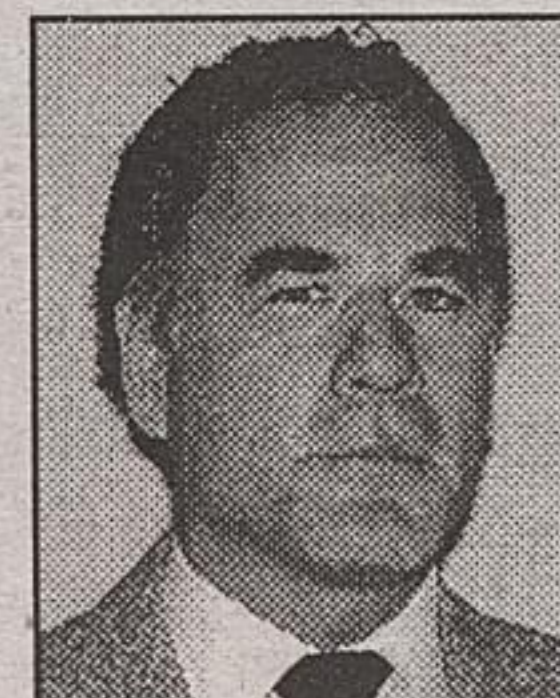


## Former councillor seeks mayor's job

Former local councillor Robert Heaton has added his name to the list of mayoral candidates to give voters an alternative to the status quo he believes both Mayor Marilyn Serjeantson and Kathy Gastle represent.

Heaton, 43, a freelance computer consultant who filed his nomination Thursday, has several complaints about how Serjeantson has been doing her job.

"She's been a bully at council, not allowing other councillors to really know what's going on," said Heaton, who was a Ward 2 local councillor from 1988 to 1997. "People assume when they call the mayor's office that information is shared with local councillors, and that is not the case."



ROBERT HEATON

"She (Serjeantson) wastes community energy," he said and pointed to the school safety zone lights on Maple Ave. and all the discussion and staff time that went into having them installed, when they are commonplace in other areas of Halton.

"The solution was apparent," said Heaton, a Stewarttown resident. He said that also applies to the installation of barrier arms at the Fourth Line cross-

ing where a Little Current man was killed last year, and three Acton teens died last month.

"The gates not being done after the first fatality— it just shows the lack of foresight by her (the mayor) and/or Kathy Gastle."

Heaton pointed to several "missed opportunities" in the town he said Serjeantson and Gastle had a hand in, including the twinning of Alcott Arena.

"It's a band-aid solution since the parking is going to be terrible." He said a new arena should have been built in Georgetown South.

He said the barn on the new soccer field property on Trafalgar Rd. shouldn't have been torn down because it would have been a good home for Georgetown Little Theatre.

He said both the mayor and Gastle, as current council members, have allowed low density housing on the Dominion Seed lands when there should have been much higher density. He said more residents there would have increased GO Transit ridership.

He'd like to see all-day GO train service offered in Georgetown and possibly Acton, and if elected mayor would work with the Brampton mayor to make that happen.

"I'd like to allow the councillors to (take) more lead in the chambers on their local issues."

In May, before he considered running for mayor, Heaton submitted his name to the Greater Toronto Services Board for the position of chairman.

He said he submitted his name "to help force a process" to ensure the board considered candidates from the 905 area for the position. He said filling the board's chairman position has been put on hold until after the municipal election.

—By Lisa Tallyn, staff writer

## File nominations Friday

# Three last-minute candidates join race

There was a flurry of activity at the town clerk's office late Friday, the last day to file nomination papers for next month's municipal election.

Three new candidates entered the fray just before nominations closed at 5 p.m. Derrick Williams signed on as a candidate in the Ward 4 local council race, Diane Biggs is seeking a Ward 1 local council seat and Rita Landry entered her name in the Ward 1/2 regional council contest.

Retired local business owner Williams has no political experience, but has been attending local council meetings regularly for the past eight years.

"It's time new blood stepped in. It's time someone spoke up instead of running around in a circle," said

Williams. "I'm a vocal man and I'll stand up for what's right. I'll make sure taxes are spent properly and not wasted."

This is not Landry's first crack at local politics. She ran unsuccessfully for a Ward 2 local council seat in the last election.

"I think it's about time the people of Halton Hills actually are the people who run the town," said Landry. She says after voters cast their ballot councillors don't listen.

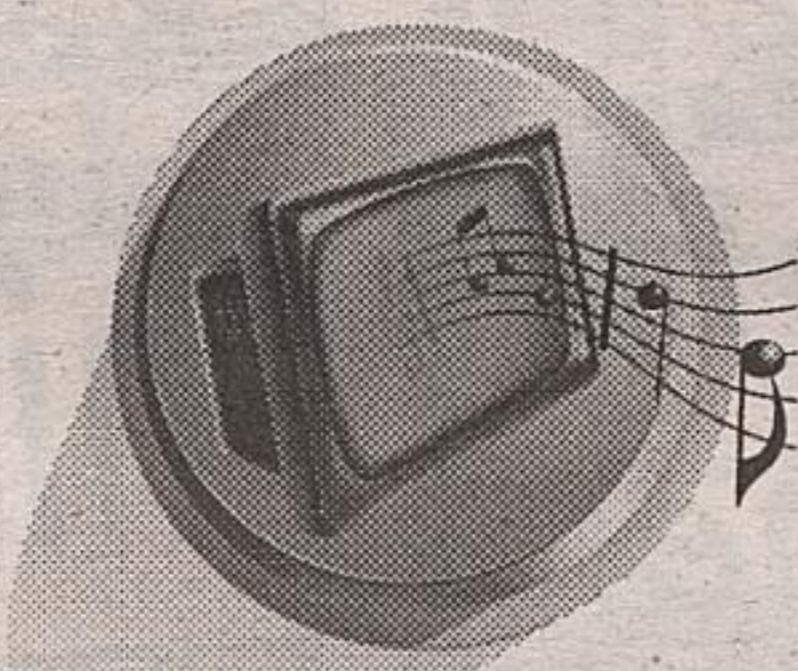
"I'm just hoping to make a difference," said Landry, founder of Furiously Opposed to All Dumping (FOAD) and a co-founder of Wastewise.

At press time Biggs could not be reached for comment.



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