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Gardiner shocked at trustee's call for director's dismissal

School board chair Ethel Gardiner is appalled a Burlington school board trustee has stated publicly her wish to see the eventual removal of the education director and the defeat of any candidate for trustee in this November's municipal election who is in favour of the board's current governing model.

Peggy Russell made the surprising statements to separate groups of striking educational assistants walking the line outside a Burlington high school and in front of the board's administrative offices in Burlington yesterday (Tuesday) morning.

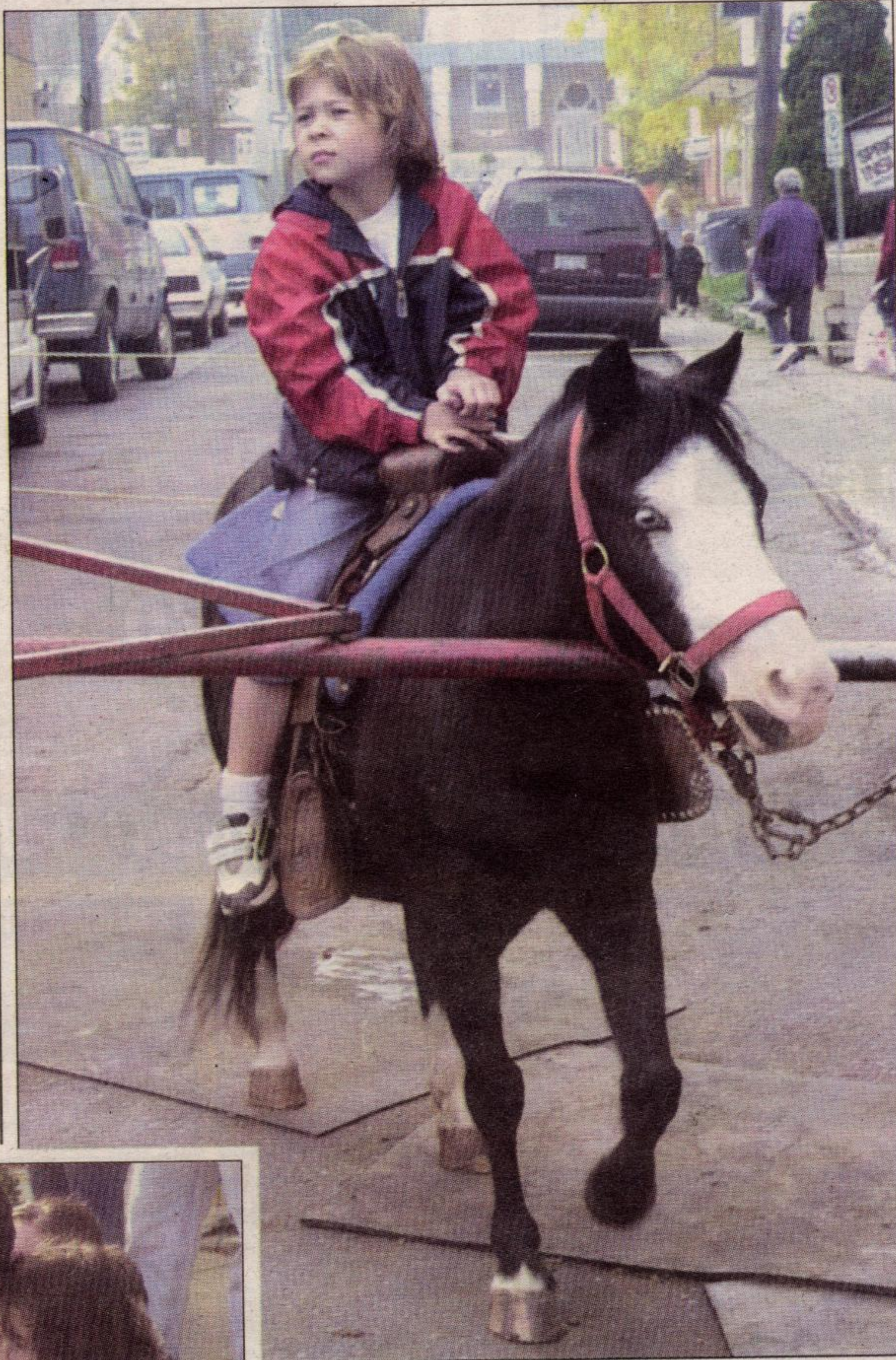
Often at odds with the general sentiments of her school board colleagues, Russell received occasional cheers and some handshakes afterwards from some EAs for her five-minute speech.

The trustee she'd like to see the replacement of current education director Dusty Papke at the end of his contract next year as well as the removal of policy governance within the Halton District School Board.

Adopted in June 2001, she believes policy governance gives too much power to administrators, particularly the education director, in setting board policies and in collective bargaining with employee groups.

"They (trustees) delegated the authority of most operations to the director. Virtually all work of the

See BOARD, pg. 3



Police seat-belt crackdown finds few offenders

Only 2 per cent of people checked by Halton Regional Police during the recent Fall Provincial Seat-belt Campaign were charged with failing to buckle up.

During the campaign, which ran September 27 through October 10 (Friday), police stopped 19,593 vehicles throughout Halton and laid 399 seat-belt charges. Also, 393 warnings were issued.

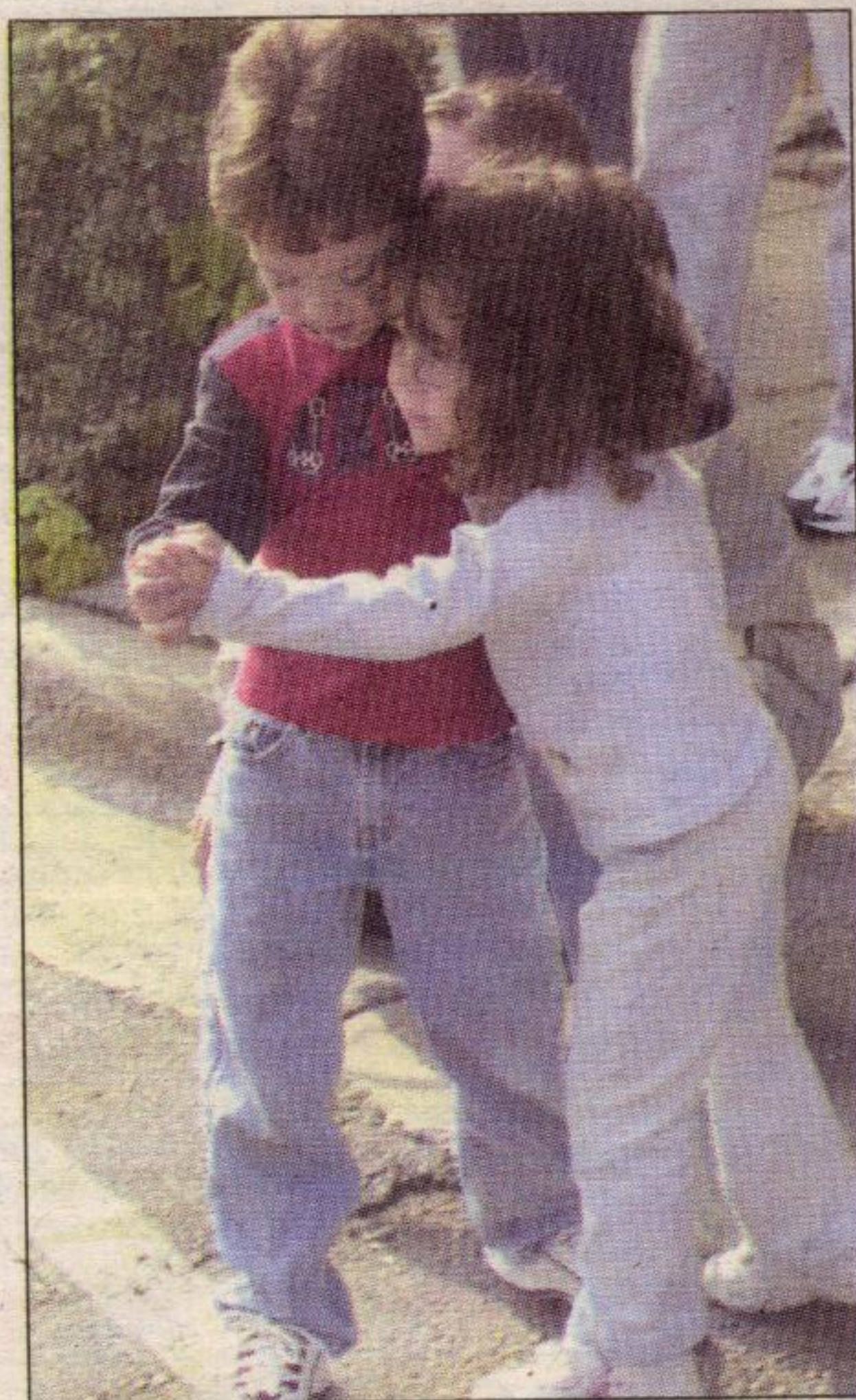
In Halton Hills 4,103 vehicles were stopped— 19 charges and 14 warnings were issued, in Milton 5,166 vehicles were stopped resulting in 49 charges and 49 warnings, in Oakville 6,875 vehicles were stopped, 193 seat-belt charges were laid and 151 warnings issued and in Burlington 3,411 vehicles were stopped, resulting in 100 charges and 179 warnings.

"Historically in Halton Region we don't have that serious of a non-compliance rate," said Sgt. Val Hay of Halton Police.

Halton Police report the recent results show the compliance rate was higher during the recent seat-belt campaign than it was during the spring campaign when 19,995 vehicles were stopped across the region and 544 tickets and 536 warnings were issued. During that campaign 2.7 per cent of people checked were ticketed for not wearing seat-belts.

Last fall Halton Police stopped 15,800 vehicles were stopped, 237 seat-belt charges were laid and 181 warnings were issued.

—By Lisa Tallyn, staff writer



Harvest Festival bids a sad farewell to summer

Vendors' stalls were crammed with harvest bounty during the Harvest Festival Saturday that celebrated the last Georgetown Farmers' Market of the year. The festival featured a variety of activities for people of all ages including live music, pumpkin carving, street theatre, pony rides flower arranging, face painting and a bouncy castle. Above, Darby Sutton, 5, enjoyed a ride on one of the ponies while at left, Chris DaSilva, 6, and his sister Emily, 4, of Georgetown danced to the music of a Scottish band.

Photos by Trish England



See Friday's paper for your Municipal election voter card

Home, Lawn & Energy

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