

Maintaining environmental integrity

In Halton Region, we, as residents, have an outstanding and enviable reputation for environmental responsibility and stewardship.

It's a reputation that is well-deserved considering our waste diversion results (the amount of waste diverted from landfill sites through recycling, reducing or reusing). Thanks to Halton residents, our 2003 diversion rate is expected to be over 40 per cent as compared to 39.6 per cent in 2002 and 38 per cent in 2001.

These results demonstrate that our commitment to maintaining the environmental integrity of Halton Region has not wavered. It's also clear many residents are taking full advantage of the wide array of waste management programs offered in the region including the extensive Blue Box program, the special collections program for large items, the yard waste program and the Salvation Army Depot for items that are reusable.

As part of our ongoing mandate to enhance our services, Halton's rural communities will be receiving Blue Box collection bi-weekly as of February 2004. Rural residents in Halton Hills will be receiving two complimentary Blue Boxes prior to the commencement of this service as well as information on recyclable materials and collection days.

In addition, we will be expanding the list of items that can be recycled through the Blue Box program to include polycoat items such as juice boxes (Tetra Pak) and

milk cartons (gable top containers). Look for more information regarding recycling in Halton Region's Waste Management Calendar that will be delivered to your mailbox in the New Year.

Looking forward to 2004, I'd like to encourage all Halton residents to continue to practice good environmental stewardship. I would like to challenge us all to use the recycling programs available to increase our diversion rates again in 2004 and let's also challenge and hold each other accountable as well.

If you see a problem in your neighbourhood or natural areas, contact Halton Region at 905-825-6000, toll-free at 1-866-4HALTON or by e-mail at accesshalton@region.halton.on.ca.

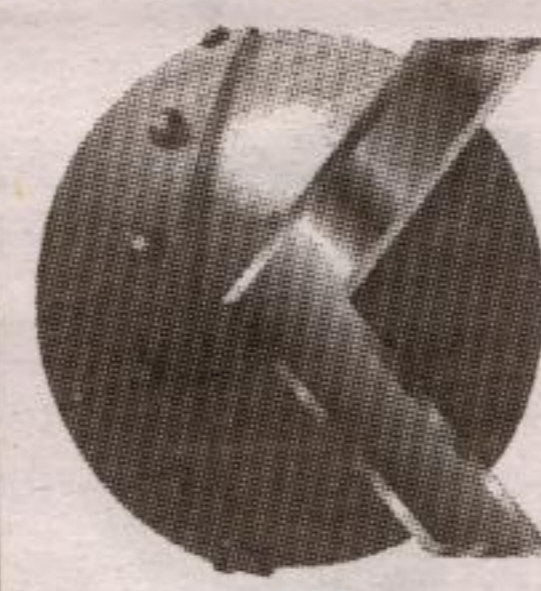
Working together we can ensure we continue to protect the natural beauty of our surroundings for all to enjoy for generations to come.

—Joyce Savoline is the chair of Halton Region



THE REGION REPORT

Joyce Savoline



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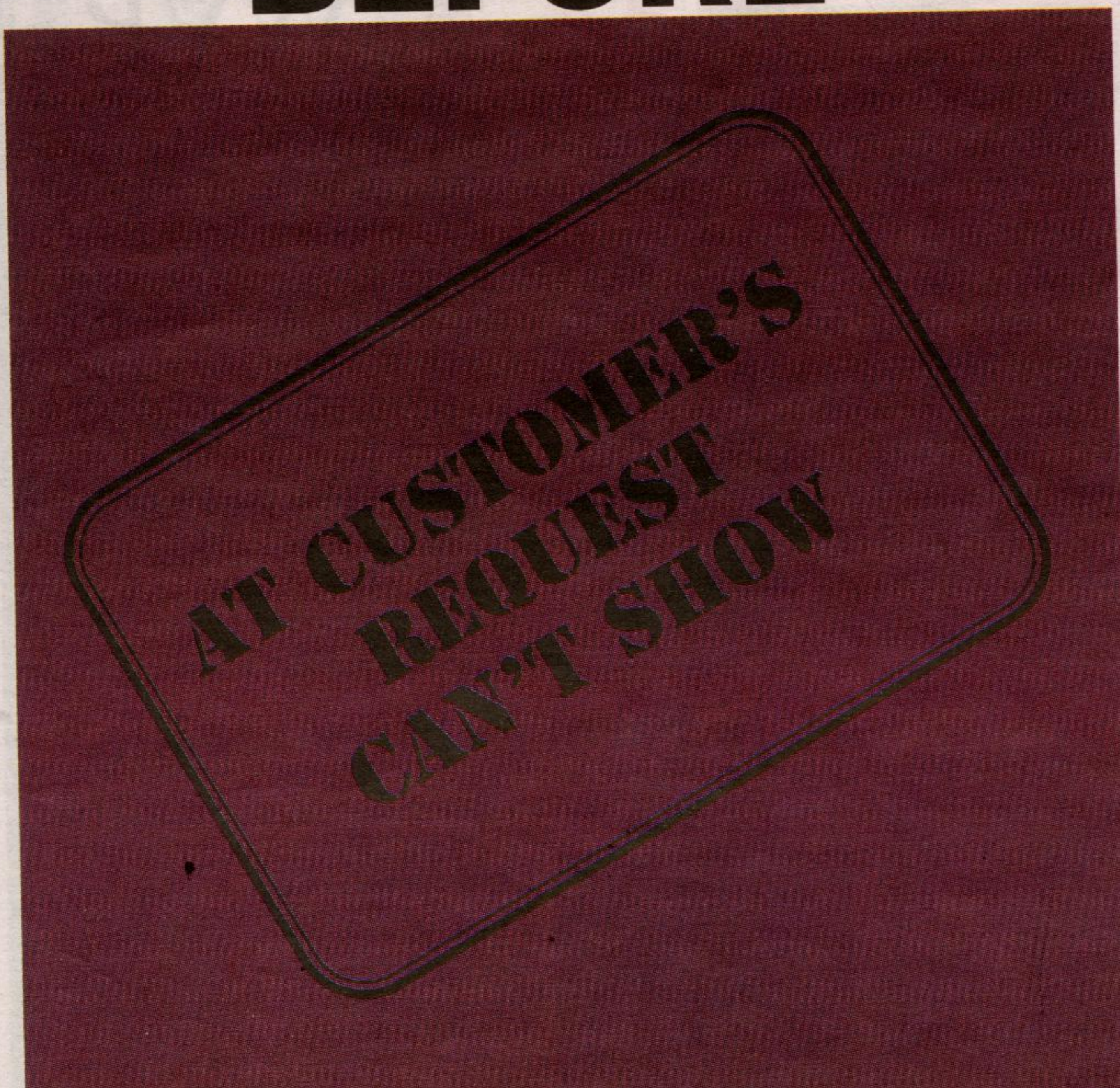


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