

Buyer's market for homes...

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Nikic said on Friday, noting that house prices jumped on average by \$100,000 in the past 10 years in Acton.

He said sellers willing to make "adjustments" in their asking price will do well because "people see value," are getting pickier and are very well educated.

Asked about FSBOs – for sale by owner – those who

sell or buy a house without an agent – Nikic is blunt.

"It's like going to a veterinarian for a heart by-pass."

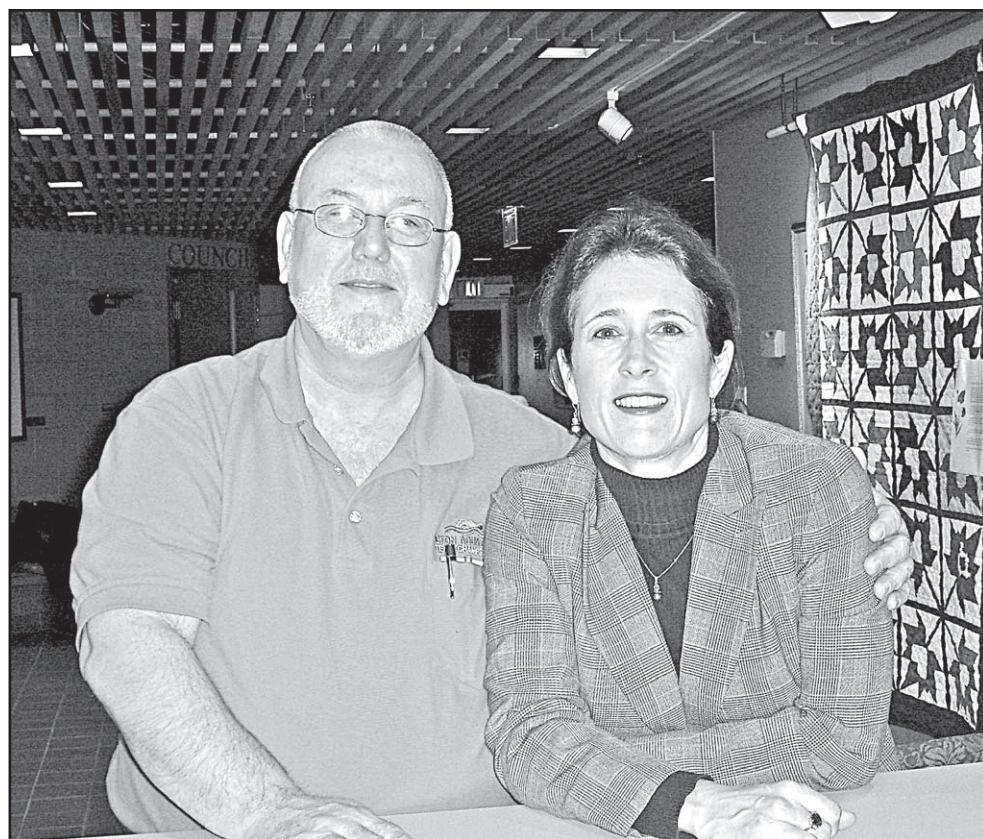
ReMax Blue Springs realtor Mike Krause, who with his father Dave and sister Melissa sells approximately 130 houses a year in Halton Hills, said once people move to this area, they don't leave – they downsize or buy up, but most don't leave.

"A lot of my clients are moving out of Brampton and Mississauga, and they want to live in a small community with a good atmosphere where you don't even have to lock your doors, so to speak," Krause said, on Friday, adding the market is always good in this area.

On Churchill Road and Storey Drive, neighbouring houses are for sale, one for almost three months. Having two houses side-by-side, or even on the same street, has pros and cons according to Royal LePage realtor Susan Lougheed.

"One house has four bedrooms and is a two-storey with just half a garage – part has been converted into the house. My listing beside is a bungalow with a double car garage – so maybe in this instance, it will help," Lougheed said on Saturday.

"Move-in condition is the buzz word, and right now it is very important that you price a house sharp," she said.



VICTORIOUS TRUSTEES: The newly elected trustees for Halton Hills on the Halton District School Board, Gerry Ockenden for Acton and Gillian Kutarna congratulated each other at the Civic Centre on Monday night. – Frances Niblock photo

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SAT-SUN 2:00PM

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SAT-SUN 2:00PM
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Bunny's back in mayor's chair...

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Bonnette said while he made no promises on the campaign trail, he heard loud and clear that people want their politicians to preserve the small town way of life in Halton Hills – a tough job when faced with provincial growth plans.

The new Town council includes Georgetown newcomers John Duncan and Dave Kentner, who defeated Councillor Mike Davis. All three Acton councillors were acclaimed, along with Regional Ward 3/4 Councillor Jane Fogal. Incumbents Joan Robson, Bryan Lewis

and Moya Johnson were easily re-elected.

Acton's Gerry Ockenden and his supporters waited at the Civic Centre until after 11:30 p.m. when the numbers from all 54 public school board polls were in.

The Acton Aqua Ducks Swim Club founder and challenger Sean Haefner had traded the lead all night long – and it was too close to call. The final count had Ockenden with 1,777 voters, or 51 per cent, compared to Haefner who polled 1,710 votes, or 49 per cent.

Ockenden, who was persuaded to enter the race at the last minute, is in the mood to make changes at the public school board, especially in light of the defeat of the board chair, a Milton trustee.

"The first thing that I'd like to do is meet with the school councils and get some input from them on where things are at and go from there," he said late Monday night, adding they need to get the chair and vice-chair of the board sorted out, not ruling out a run for vice-chair.

Gillian Kutarna won the Ward 3/4 Halton Hills public school board seat, and newcomer Rosanna Palmieri defeated veteran trustee Irene McCauley for the Halton Hills seat on the Halton Catholic District School Board. Palmieri received 1243 votes while McCauley polled 913 giving Palmieri a 330 vote margin.



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at

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compliments of the
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