

Prominent speakers at Rotary forum



Wally Hunter

By BRAD REAUME

The Champion

Milton residents have a rare opportunity to access several heavyweights in the financial services industry.

Forecast '98 is a seminar sponsored by the Rotary Club of Milton, featuring Tom McCormack, a contributor to the best-selling book *Boom, Bust and Echo* by David Foote.

Also slated for the Wednesday, Nov. 5 event are Royal Bank economist Derek Holt, Doug Porter, senior economist with Nesbitt Burns, and Wally Hunter, Milton councillor and host of the local cable show *Money Week*.

According to organizer Tom Dusmet, there will be an interesting presentation by

Mr. Holt, which will take a different view of demographic factors in economics than the one advanced by Mr. Foote.

Mr. McCormack will defend the premises of *Boom, Bust and Echo*.

"This is incredible. These people usually talk for pay to quite large audiences," said Mr. Dusmet.

Mr. Holt will expand on his view that demographic factors are tempered by business cycles, according to Mr. Dusmet. Mr. Hunter will give the discussions a local twist, he added.

Mr. Porter will speak on the economic outlook for North America, with an emphasis on Canada.

"I'll be trying to bring the discussion

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Photo by STEVE LeBLANC

Allendale employees Debbie Lynch (left) and Rhonda Mendoza were among those protesting delayed pay increases in a one-day picket Tuesday, at the Milton home for the aged.

Angry Allendale staffers picket to get raise they won

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It would appear about 300 staff at Allendale will receive a 75 cent-an-hour increase in pay, but they will have to wait until next week for official word.

Legal reasons prevented members of the Halton administration and finance committee from being more plain, regarding the dispute over an arbitration award.

"This is an extremely awkward situation," said Halton Chair Joyce Savoline, to members of OPSEU (Ontario Public Service Employees Union) Local 261 on hand at Wednesday's committee meeting.

"The Region is caught in a process. From my point of view I'm entirely in support of your situation."

The committee's recommendation, itself not made public, will be considered by full Halton council next week. Committee came to their position after about 20 minutes of closed-door deliberations.

"I have no reason to doubt everyone in this room will be satisfied and happy with the outcome next week," said Milton Mayor Gord Krantz. "I'll leave it at that."

Local 261 president Pat Heroux said she would take the results of the meeting to her membership and they would decide if further action is warranted.

Tuesday staff picketed outside Allendale, the regional home for the aged in Milton.

"We can't understand how they can refuse to act on arbitration. It's the law," Ms Heroux said, before committee considered the issue.

At press time Ms Heroux was not available with the results of that membership meeting.

"I believe that things will go well," she said, explaining she would recommend to the membership they wait another week for the council meeting.

"But it's not up to me. Will members be convinced? They don't believe the Region any more."

Joyce Hansen, senior research officer with OPSEU, was on hand to provide the committee with the position of Allendale workers.

"It's not clear to us what the details of issues are, so we are making our submissions in the dark," she said.

Ms Hansen suggested the Region was considering provisions of the new Public Service Disputes Resolution Act as a legal method of dodging the arbitration award.

The act was part of the recent Bill 136, which set out rules for contract disputes during the time of provincially orchestrated transitions in responsibilities among Queen's Park and municipalities.

She explained that in a similar case with Thunder Bay police, a judge found that if the dispute had preceded the new law, new legislation is not applicable.

The contract dispute at Allendale has been simmering for two

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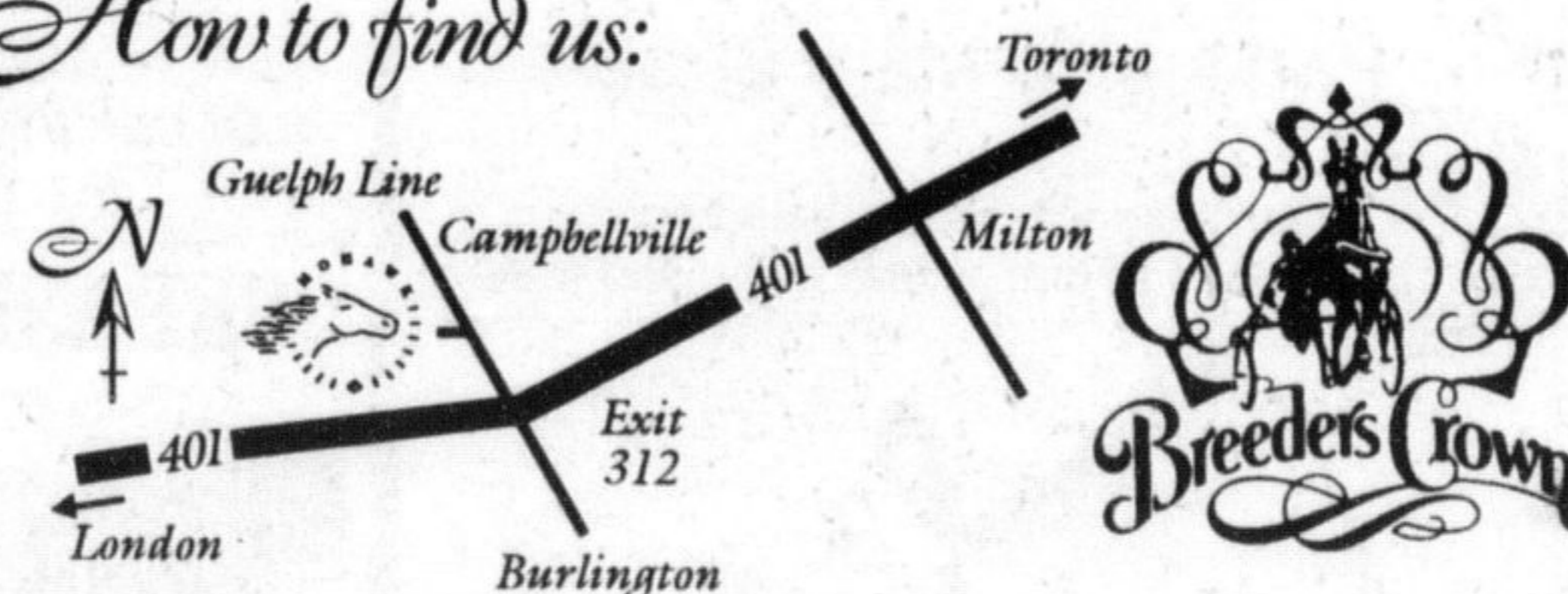
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