

It won't be long now....

By William Lever

RICHMOND HILL — A few days ago a young fellow, probably a first-time voter, came into our office looking for back copies of council stories and for some guidance on how to vote come Monday.

I gave him the stories and suggested he take in a couple of all-candidates meetings, but resisted the temptation to tell him how he ought to vote.

It was tempting. And so is it now, in our final pre-election issue, to say the hell with objectivity and to make the most of The Liberal's considerable power of influence.

But there are lots of good arguments against doing so. This is a relatively small municipality and there's ample opportunity for interested voters to get to know the candidates. This newspaper's role, I believe, is to inform, to interpret and to provide a forum for anyone's views — and also to live up to its reputation for fairness and objectivity. A single departure from this responsibility might well lead readers to question the reliability of our



news analysis

coverage for at least a couple years to come.

Balance is needed

Besides that, I believe quite strongly that any council ought to have opposing viewpoints represented. Having a Schiller here, a Corcoran there (for example) makes for more responsive, better balanced local government. Having nine persons essentially alike in philosophy and approach does not. And minority interests, whether you like them or not, do have a place in any legislative forum.

So much for theories of democracy. The basic thing is that there's an election at hand, and choices must be made. And after a year of council-watching, I do have a few random comments in the absence of down-the-ballot endorsements.

To start with the easiest, I don't think

ny reputation for fairness will suffer too much by recommending an Al Duffy landslide in Ward 2. Al's a nice fellow, but chances are I'd favor anyone running against William Lazenby. Lazenby has been aloof, so aloof he took a mid-campaign excursion to Europe — and rude, so rude he wouldn't even respond to a polite question about why he went. He's apparently still quite bitter about what happened this time two years ago.

Hancey a winner

Lois Hancey, running for re-election to one of two region seats, has earned the right to stay in office as long as she wishes. She's independent, she's hard-working, and she'll easily get the victory she deserves.

Another incumbent who clearly deserves re-election is John Birchall in Ward 3. All the incumbents seem reasonably responsive to their constituencies, but Birchall has probably set new records in that regard. He is sincere and conscientious and does a thorough job of whatever he tackles.

Andy Chateauvert (Ward 1), Marylo Graham (Ward 4) and Mike Burnie (Ward 6) have all performed their duties responsibly and honorably. I don't know enough about any of their

opponents to make comment; presumably they feel something's been lacking that they have to offer. Whether that's clear to the residents of these wards, I don't know.

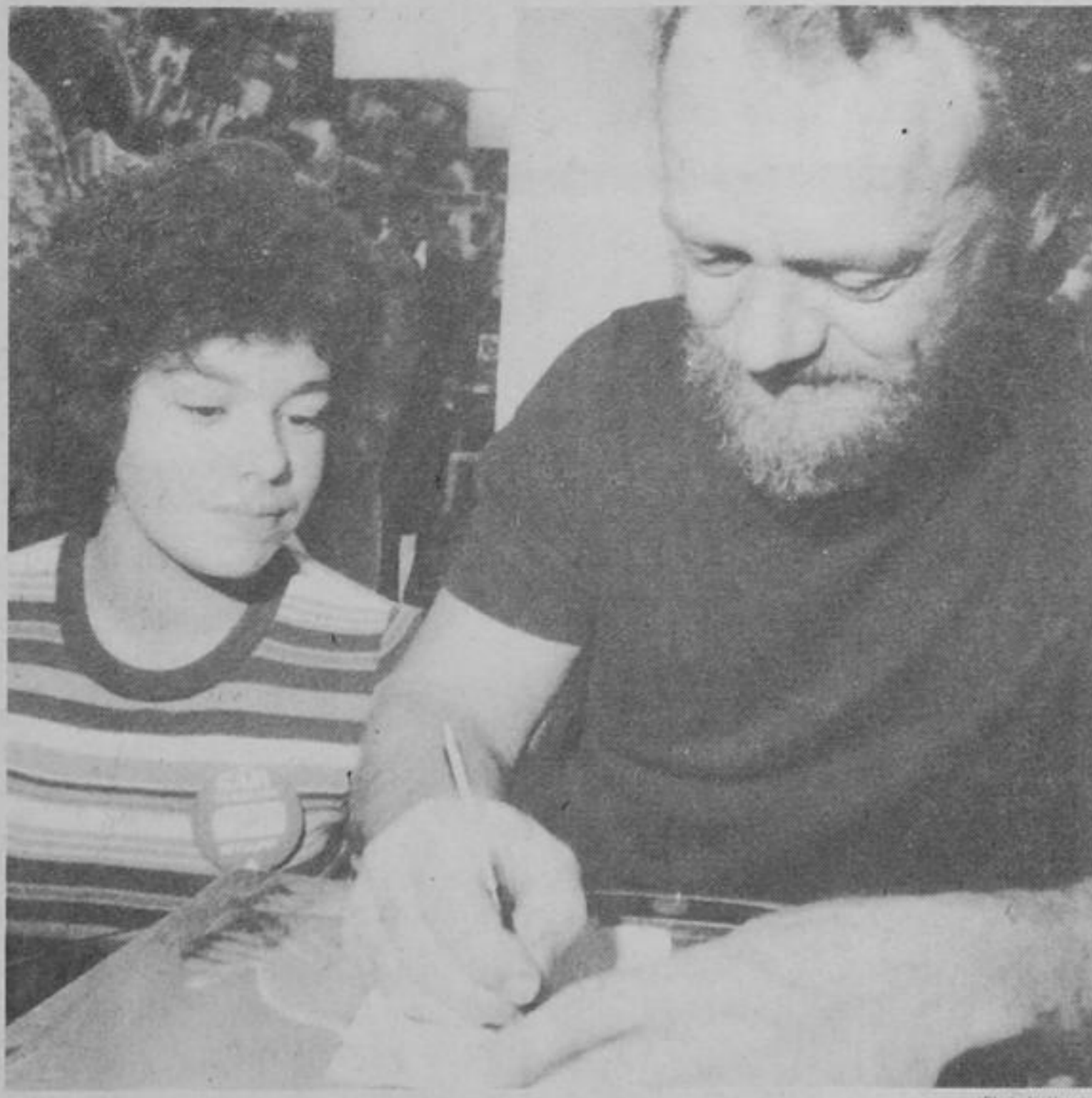
Clear-cut choices

The other races — the mayoralty and Ward 5 — are a different story altogether. And it's here that I'm copping out. The issues are obvious enough, the choices clear enough, that most voters probably have their minds firmly made up, anyway.

Incumbent Councillor William Corcoran and challenger Ann Gold respect each other about as much as Catholics and Protestants in Belfast do. I can get along with them both, and I'll just sit back and let them fight it out in Ward 5.

For mayor? Fences are uncomfortable places to sit on, but that's where I'm staying. I'm quite aware of Dave Schiller's and Gord Rowe's differing ideas on the direction for Richmond Hill, and I want to be on record, permanently, as an impartial reporter of both their viewpoints.

Anyway, I'm looking forward to Monday night. And as the monkey said when he got his tail caught in the meat grinder, it won't be long now.



Singer signs

Popular Keath Barrie, singer of mellow ballads, made an appearance at Sam's in Hillcrest Mall Saturday to chat with fans and autograph his record albums for them. Barrie, who lives in the Goodwood area, is shown with Sue O'Connell of Richmond Hill.

Two armed robbers hit service station

CONCORD — Two men, wearing nylon panty hose over their heads, held up the lone attendant of Morris Service Station, Highway 7, Concord, Nov. 24, and made off with \$200, York Regional Police reported.

The men were both described as being five feet, eight inches, 150 pounds, brown hair; and wearing blue jeans and blue jackets.

Home bodies

In Richmond Hill, Tina Bowes of Richmond St., told police that she woke up the night of Nov. 27 to find two men going through her purse.

She said that, when they saw her, they fled, ripping out the phone and taking it with them.

They also took \$100. Mary MacDonald, Castlerock Rd., was robbed of \$18 in cash in a break-in at her home the same night.

Also noted

Other area thefts included: Markham Credit Jewellers, Wellington St., Markham, two diamond rings, valued at \$3,180, taken while the clerk was in the washroom; Cottrel Forwarding Co., Doney Crescent, Thornhill, a quantity of humidifiers, valued at \$7,950; both Ted Ruytenbeck, Oak Avenue, Richmond Hill, and Bruce Roadway, Oak

Ridges, reported the theft of a quantity of coins from their homes. Roadway also lost a rug, plus some liquor and wine.

At Markham Town Offices, the theft of a cactus plant brought about a speedy arrest.

Facing charges of theft and possession under \$200, is Brent Bondarchuk, 17, of Buttonwood Cres., Markham.

Christmas shopping?

Two women, Jean Chinshue, 29, of North Taylor Mills, Richmond Hill, and Joyce Lee, 31, of Sea Island Path, Thornhill, face 13 charges of theft under \$200, following their arrest last week.

Police said the two were arrested after a security guard at Hillcrest Mall had followed a couple of women around to 13 places in the mall, the afternoon of Nov. 27, and watched them fill up their shopping bags with various items without paying for them.

Robert Woods, 18, of Dunlop St., Richmond Hill, faces charges of common assault, causing a disturbance and mischief to public property over \$50, following an altercation on a TTC bus at Arnold Ave. and Yonge St. in Richmond Hill, about 8 p.m., Nov. 27.

Southern region off police commission

NEWMARKET — The appointment of East Gwillimbury Mayor Gladys Rolling to York Regional Police Commission has deprived the lower part of the region of equal representation, Councillor Gordon Rowe of Richmond Hill told a meeting of the region last week.

Mrs. Rolling was recently appointed to a two-year term on the commission in place of long-standing member, Stewart Rumble of Markham.

Mrs. Rolling is one of three provincial government appointments to the board. The others are chairman Judge William Lyons and Gordon Cook of Vaughan, who was re-appointed this month for another two-year term.

Standing members from regional council are Tony Roman of Markham and Ray Twinney of Newmarket.

Rowe said he had worked with Mrs. Rolling for some years and had found her "most capable," and was sure she'd do a "tremendous job."

However, he was "extremely disappointed that Richmond Hill has

been deprived of equal representation on the commission.

"I think the distribution before was fairly equal and I'm sorry to see a change like this," Rowe said. He said, also, that Rumble should be congratulated for the work he had done, while on the commission.

Mayor Evelyn Buck of Aurora asked for a report "on the merits or demerits of increasing members on the commission. I was wondering if there could be wider representation, rather than worry about which area they come from."

Commissioner Ray Twinney was another one who didn't think the board was something that was restricted to any one area.

The most important thing for regional council was the budget, he said. So far as policy went, he didn't think it was to the advantage of any municipality to be on the commission.

Said Mayor Rolling: "I don't think it makes much difference. My thoughts won't change much, no matter where I sit."

Watch Cable 10 for civic election tally

RICHMOND HILL — Cable 10's civic election night telecast begins Monday at 8 p.m.

Again this year, the local TV station is the only live source of up-to-the-minute voting results from across southern York Region.

Reporters will be scattered throughout the area keeping tabs on returns from Richmond Hill,

Markham, Vaughan and Whitchurch-Stouffville.

In the studio, local political writers and commentators will provide continuing reports as well as analyze voting trends as they develop.

All candidates for council and school board positions, win or lose, are invited to come into the studio to express their views on the election outcome and their own plans for the two-year term ahead.

Educator A.S. Hill dies

RICHMOND HILL — Prominent educator A.S. Hardy Hill died last week at age 78.

Hill was head of the history and social science department at Oakwood Collegiate until retiring in 1964. He also coached the school's football teams and trained swimmers.

In 1959, while on leave of absence from Oakwood he made a survey of Middle East school systems for the United Nations.

He was on the senate of Victoria College for 34 years and an elder of Richmond Hill United Church for 20 years.

Hill was a graduate of the University of Toronto and Harvard University, and he obtained a PHD in political science from the University of London.

He is survived by his wife Mildred. Services were held Friday and burial was at Richmond Hill cemetery.

TOWN OF RICHMOND HILL MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS NOTICE TO EMPLOYERS

The Elections will be held on a regular business day - MONDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1976. In order that no one may be deprived of his or her vote at the Elections, EMPLOYERS ARE URGED RESPECTFULLY to cooperate in every way by making it possible for electors in their employ to vote.

VOTING HOURS 11 A.M. to 8 P.M.

C.D. WELDON
Town Clerk

December 1, 1976

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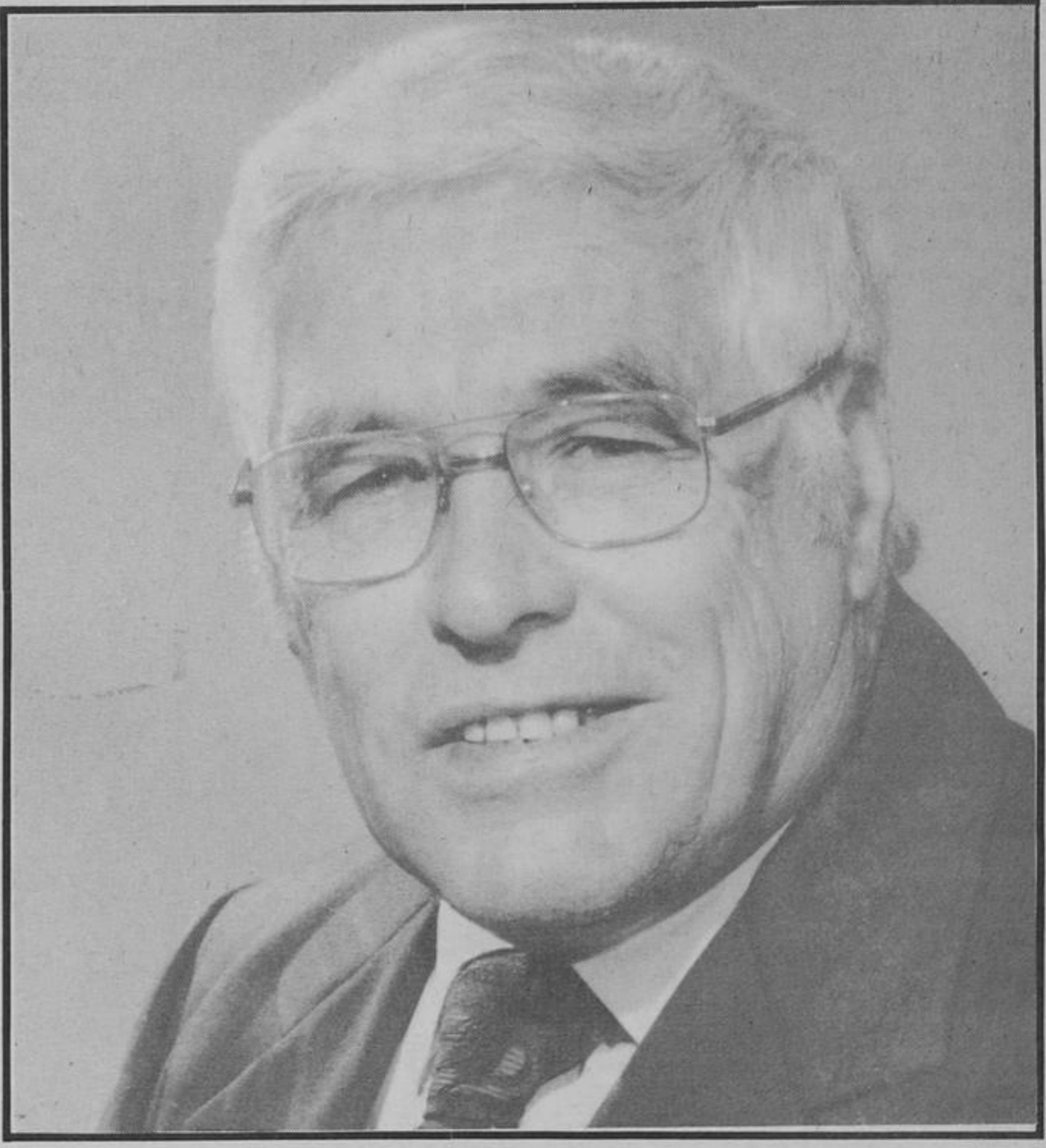
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Gord Rowe will get things done



The negative attitudes so characteristic of the Mayor's "all talk . . . no action" approach to managing the affairs of Richmond Hill, are most meaningfully reflected in the property tax increases during the past two years.

Expansion of our commercial and industrial assessment can relieve the homeowner's tax burden . . . and, at the same time promote more employment for local people. Yet, nothing is being done about it.

We need action NOW! And, we'll get it through the positive business-like leadership of Gord Rowe. A man who has served this community for eleven years in local government, six years in regional government, and 25 years as an independent businessman.

Gord Rowe knows this community, its people and its needs. He'll get things done!

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