

# Winning candidates big on door-knocking in campaign

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been approved residents in the ward aren't even aware of, he said.

Longer-term goals include improving police, ambulance and fire services for the ward. He'll be studying approved developments closely so he can tell his constituents exactly what kind of building has already been planned.

Ward 4 saw political newcomer Susanne Hilton come out ahead with 413 votes, to Fred Robbins' 320 and Jim Priebe's 161. It was Mr. Robbins' second try for a council seat. Mr. Priebe is known around the community for holding meetings in local parks to discuss town issues.

### STRONG OPPONENTS

Mrs. Hilton acknowledged she had very strong opponents. Her campaign success may have been due partly to knocking on all doors, where she found around 60 per cent of residents at home, and partly to her platform, which advocates a program of restorative justice and stewardship of the environment.

She wants to get both programs started right away. Restorative justice requires offenders, along with their parents, counsellors or the police, to come face-to-face with their victims to hear the impact of their crime. Restitution is then negotiated among the stakeholders.

On the more immediate front, she will respond to concerns of residents in her ward about sidewalks.

Ward 5 Councillor Harry

Bowes is the only incumbent. But it turned out to be an uncomfortably close contest for the former York Region school board chairperson. Mr. Bowes garnered 571 of the votes in Ward 5 to Brenda Lobraico's 513 and John Relph's 402. This will be Mr. Bowes' second term as councillor.

He did what he has done in his previous campaign: "Knock, knock, knock on doors," he said. "Talking to people, that is my campaign." Mr. Bowes won't have to worry about taking down his election signs, since he didn't put any up for this or the previous election.

First on his mind for his new term of office is fixing local streets and "we have to fight that subdivision," he said. That subdivision is proposed for the Tenth Line, north of Geoffrey and Aspen crescents and Alderwood Street. Mr. Bowes would like to see a separate exit on to the Tenth.

Rob Hargrave won Ward 6,

ending up with 685 votes. Running against him were Jim Hobbs who received 394 votes, Ron Snider who garnered 302 votes, and Owen Craig, who received 208.

He, too, is a fan of knocking on doors and talking to as many people as possible during an election.

He estimates that he may have visited about 80 per cent of the homes in his ward.

Four of the town's six major developments are in the works in this ward. About 3,500 homes are to be built in the ward over the next 10 years or so.

### SENIORS CONCERNS

Since seniors make up a significant part of the ward's population, Mr. Hargrave will be visiting all of the seniors communities.

"I want to make sure all their concerns are heard," he said.

Better communication between residents and council is a priority. Mr. Hargrave plans to hold quarterly town hall meetings and eventually

develop a website.

Mr. Hargrave is concerned about the existing neighbourhoods in his ward and is looking closely at the extension plans for Park Drive and Hoover Park Drive.

Park Drive is to be extended south and west to the Ninth Line, while Hoover Park Drive will be extended from the Ninth Line west to

Hwy 48.

Mr. Hargrave will make sure Hoover Park Drive doesn't become a bypass because it will go through a residential area with many families with young children.

### TRAFFIC CALMING

He's in favour of slowing traffic in these areas by using a variety of traffic calming

devices, such as speed bumps.

He'll be working on council to preserve parkland and the two ball diamonds in Memorial Park for residents.

Two councillors, Ward 1's Ken Ferdinands and Ward 3's Clyde Smith, were acclaimed. Both wards are in western Whitchurch-Stouffville, adjacent to Hwy 404.

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