

# Hillier couple win award

Bill and Rosemary Hunter of Hillier have been named "Humanitarians of the Year" by the Prince Edward County Animal Awareness Society (PAWS).

PAWS asked for nomination letters from the community citing individuals who have demon-

strated their compassion for stray animals.

Mr. and Mrs. Hunter currently have a household of 18 cats, two dogs, and a yard full of geese, turkeys and chickens.

"I started taking strays in in 1978", Mrs. Hunter says. "We had a budget, so a cat was out of the question until it died. Morris was our first stray and others have been moving in ever since."

The rules of the house state that the cats must be fixed, and receive appropriate shots every year.

"Some of our cats have come to us through a local vet, others have wandered in, and still others have come from private individuals who were unable to keep their pets any more, but didn't want to take them to the Humane Society", Mrs. Hunter says.

And how do they all get along?

"It takes a while for a new cat to establish their position in the pecking order", Mrs. Hunter explains, "but Olive is the Margaret Thatcher of the household - she rules with an iron fist. Things have been really peaceful since she decided she was the boss."

The Hunters received a plaque from PAWS, plus the privilege of



Bill and Rosemary Hunter have been named PAWS "Humanitarians of the Year". The couple have 18 cats, most of which are strays or have been routed to them through a local vet.

again be looking for letters from the community in order to award the 1996 Humanitarian of the Year. If you or someone you know is worthy of this award, please send your letters to PAWS, P.O. Box 2198, Picton, Ont. K0K 2T0.

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## Local Government

### Hillier Township Reeve Coghlan wants water for Consecon

Hillier Township Reeve Vic Coghlan is a busy man these days.

"Hillier has received a lot of good news this last year", he says. "We've got White Rose moving their nursery operation to the Huyck's Point Road, and the water project in Consecon well underway."

White Rose Crafts and Nursery Sales will employ about 50 people seasonally and is expected to be operational in time for the 1995 growing season.

"It's a real shot in the arm for us", says Mr. Coghlan, "and the White Rose people have been just great to deal with. It's something that's going to benefit the whole County."

Consecon has received \$6.5 million dollars from the provincial government for their water project.

"The situation in Consecon was just terrible", Mr. Coghlan says. "An environmental study was completed in 1989. Ninety-seven wells were tested and of those, 81% were contaminated. Eight percent of them were completely unfit for human use."

The village has reached an arrangement with the City of

and served on boards like the Water Commission, the Arena Board and the Recreation Committee in Wellington, and was on the first Fair Board.

He first ran for council when people started approaching him and suggesting that he get involved.

He is well-qualified to represent Hillier. Although he was born in Maynooth, and worked for many years in Trenton as a tool and die maker, he has lived in the Township for 50 years. He and his wife, Violet, live on Highway #33 at Cold Creek Road.

He has served one term on Council, two terms as Deputy Reeve, and became Reeve last fall.

He would like to see the Township attract even more businesses, and feels that Consecon, in particular, will expand rapidly once the water problem is taken care of.

"We have to plan ahead and be ready for changes when they come", he says. "I expect we'll see the official County plan back on the boards before too long."

Mr. Coghlan feels that the cost of education poses a real problem for the smaller Townships like Hillier.

"Sixty-six percent of our taxes go to education", he says, "and a further 15% go to the County. That doesn't leave the Township with much left over."

Although this is a continuing problem, Hillier has had a balanced budget for the last two years, "and we've done a pretty good job of holding taxes down", Mr. Coghlan says.



Hillier Reeve Vic Coghlan

He feels that further costs could be saved by the sharing of services between municipalities in the County.

Last fall's elections resulted in a new council for Hillier, and according to Mr. Coghlan, "everything is going great. I'm real happy with the people we've got working for the Township".

Although he has served in many different capacities in local government, there is one thing left he would like to do.

"Someday", he says, "I'd like to be Warden of Prince Edward County."

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ter to sit outside. "We put on a sunporch last summer", Kathy says, "and we're in the process of insulating it now. We're hoping that if we heat it, residents can sit out and watch the street most of the year."