

Loughborough Township's spacious new community centre, adjacent to the venerable Township Hall, was officially opened last weekend. The \$221,000 building provides expanded quarters for the local library, a large auditorium, new offices for Clerk Neil Orser, and Treasurer Barbara Rogers.

Susan Powley, welfare administrator, has moved into the former office of the clerk and treasurer. The council chamber has also been moved to the new building.

As an integral occupant of the new building is the local branch of the county library system, the honor of declaring it officially open went to Mary Lloyd-Jones, who was a prime promoter of a county library system during her years on Frontenac County Council as Loughborough Township deputy-reeve. She shared the ribbon-cutting ceremonies with Loughborough Reeve Rein Vandewal.

Lloyd-Jones termed the signal honor "on a par with the famous 'Oscars' received by movie stars." In recalling her crusades for more cultural and community outreach programs, she noted she had often been called "a damned nuisance" and "sometimes even worse things" by her fellow county councillors. "If I have been a gadfly — I am proud of it. That's the way that many things get done!" she said.

In emphasizing her motto: "where there is no vision the people perish," she presented a painting with this inscription to Reeve Vandewal. She praised "the vision" of the people in Sydenham, who established a local library almost 85 years ago. She



REG WHITTY

noted "this was a unique distinction to have the first rural library in Frontenac County."

At the end of the First World War, it became Loughborough Memorial Library in tribute to the memory of the area's fallen warriors in the war. She stressed it will always be a memorial library, as it continues to provide ever greater service to the reading public under Librarian Joan Clark, through the county library system, headed by Marion Watkins.

One of the first new books to be circulated will be a History Of The Royal Canadian Legion 60 Years In Canada, presented by President Arnold Campbell of Sydenham Legion Branch 496.

President Diane Brett of Sydenham Women's Institute presented Vandewal with a \$2,000 cheque to provide furnishings for the building's foyer. This special WI fundraising project was headed by Fran Willes.

A new table for the new council chamber was provided by Sydenham Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion.

Warden Howard Gibbs of Frontenac County, in congratulating Loughborough Council on

this latest achievement, praised Vandewal "as a man of action and a man true to his word. He is not afraid to take a stand, and whether he says yes or no, he will stand by it."

Bill Vankoughnett, MP for Hastings, Frontenac and Lennox and Addington, presented a new Canadian flag. Larry South, MPP for Frontenac-Addington, was the provincial government representative. He noted the expanded library facilities would be an asset locally: "an informed population is one of the best assets any county can have."

Reeve Jack Moreland of Storrington Township represented Frontenac County Library Board. The Ontario government was also represented by David Brown, capital project analyst, information branch, ministry of citizenship and culture, and Larry Eshelman, director of Ontario library services, Rideau Region.

The Rev. John Heyer, pastor of Sydenham Holiness Church, offered the prayer of dedication.

The completely debt-free building, built at a total cost of \$221,000, was paid for through a \$125,000 grant from the Ontario ministry of municipal affairs, \$20,000 from the ministry of citizenship and culture and the balance from the township's park and recreation fund and the reserve capital expenditure fund. It features specially molded cement blocks to blend and match the original limestone of the Township Hall, which was built in 1874.

Robin Chubb of Verona was the architect, with MacInnes Construction as the general contractor.

Members of council in 1985

were: Reeve Rein Vandewal; Deputy-Reeve Claude Silver; Wilma Kenny, Douglas Steel, John Willes, councillors. John Willis did not seek re-election for 1986-88 term and has been succeeded by a former councillor, Thomas Foxton.