

A tribute to Hugh Munro

By Sheila Greason

SPECIAL TO THE JOURNAL ARGUS

The Township of Zorra lost a distinguished resident November 17, 2001 in the person of Hugh Munro. Hugh lived all of his life in Zorra Township and was one of its staunchest supporters. "Oxford County is one of the finest counties in Ontario," he was often heard to boast.

His family was number one with Hugh. He was very proud of every one of them and supported them by attending hockey games, skating presentations and baseball games, just to mention a few. Children, grandchildren and a great-grandchild were great sources of energy for Hugh.

As I happened to be a patient in the hospital where Hugh spent his last days, I was a witness to the dedication of Hugh's family. Many sleepless nights were spent at his bedside so that he would not be alone. He died with his family at his side — a tribute to an honoured father, grandfather and great-grandfather.

Hugh Munro was very active in public life. He served terms on East Nissouri Township and Oxford County Councils. He was Warden of Oxford County in his thirties. Hugh was also a member of the

Stratford on Avon Shrine Club and the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority. Hugh was also a member of East Nissouri Union Church.

For a number of years, Hugh Munro was a partner with Hutton Transport in Uniondale.

One of Hugh's strengths was his ability to listen and give advice (or was it constructive criticism!) Many a driver had their driving skills evaluated by Hugh. Many a minister had their sermons and the timing thereof constructively critiqued by Hugh. "You were over-time today," would be his parting comment.

The Upper Thames Conservation Authority was an organization especially dear to Hugh's heart. He became a board member in 1977, and was elected chair in 1985, an office which he held for six years. His last visit to Wildwood was on October 1, a beautiful fall day to be in his favourite park.

Hugh Munro had a genuine love of people. He took a real interest in everyone he met and wanted to find out your background and your ancestry. He would then proceed to tell you anecdotes about your family that you, yourself often did not know.

Hugh often shared pearls of wisdom for liv-



Hugh Munro was a familiar figure at the St. Marys arena in winter and at area ball parks in the summer. This photo was taken at Booster Weekend last year.

ing. One of these was, "Never kick a dog when it's down." Another was, "Never tell a lie — that way you don't have to remember what you said." Hugh lived by these words of wisdom, exemplifying them in his own life.

In closing, even though the passing of Hugh Munro was a sad event emphasized by a great sense of loss, we, his friends, neighbours and family have much to celebrate. His

reunion with Mildred, the love of his life, is cause for celebration. Although he tried his best to carry on, it must have been difficult. His passage from pain and suffering is also cause for giving thanks. The quality of life was not the one which Hugh would have enjoyed.

Hugh Munro leaves a legacy for all of us to emulate. His integrity and straight-from-the-shoulder honesty were rare commodities.

BROWNS WI

Handmade quilts highlight November meeting

A beautiful array of handmade quilts was the highlight of the November meeting of Browns Women's Institute.

The Agriculture and Canadian Industries group under the convenership of Sue Day welcomed everyone and introduced Judy Newman, our speaker. Judy gave us a wonderful trunk show of her quilts and wall hangings which she began making eighteen years ago. A special quilt Judy displayed was a signature quilt made for a family wedding and signed by the guests and wedding party.

She prefers 100 per cent cotton fabrics and does all her own hand quilting. Quilts should be stored in a pillow case or sheet and never in plas-

tic. Fifteen members and two guests answered the roll call by displaying a quilted article and telling its story.

Susan Towle showed a quilt pot holder she made and received 100 marks for in 1940 while attending a Teachers short course in Hamilton.

Pennies for Friendship were collected from members at a rate of 10¢ for each quilted article in their home with a limit of \$1. After some exercise during a commentary led by Sue Day everyone participated in a contest "Keep 'em in Stitches" won by Carol Miller.

Co-President Carol Miller presided and members were thanked for helping with a very successful euchre luncheon which was well attended earlier in

November. A thank you note was read from Nicole Roefs who was the recipient of the Browns W.I. award for the highest point girl at the 52nd annual East Nissouri/Optimist Dairy Calf Club awards banquet.

Janet Uren will contact the Federated Women's Institute of Ontario to inquire how Women's Institute members can show support for the women of Afghanistan.

The Christmas meeting will begin with first course at 11:45 a.m. on December 12 at Browns School. A car trip will follow to Annandale National Historic Site in Tillsonburg for Christmas Tea and a guided tour of Annandale House fully decorated for the season. A stop will be made at

Coyle's Country Store en route.

A time to view the quilts, visit and enjoy lunch concluded the meeting. Visitors are always welcome at Browns W.I. events and can receive more information by contacting one of the co-presidents at 349-2871 or 349-2575.

Euchre Party

The regular Euchre Party was held on Thursday, Nov. 29 at 8 o'clock in the School. The winners were as follows: high - Connie Kittmer and Sue Day; lone hands - Roberta Atwell and Andy Kittmer; low - Edna Wiseman and Bob Jeffrey. Door prize winners were Donna Jeffrey and Roy Monteith. The next euchre will be on December 15 at 8 p.m.