

Traffic, parking survey finds no big problems

No additional off-street parking is required in Acton, according to the Traffic Operations Study commissioned by council. The report was done by M.M. Dillon Limited, consulting engineers and planners, at council's request, and was presented last week. It will be forwarded to Halton Hills council.

The \$5,000 cost is 75 per cent paid by the Department of Transportation. The study of existing traffic conditions was undertaken in an effort to find appropriate solutions to any specific problems. Investigation of accidents brought several recommendations. Mill St. is considered too narrow for parking. Hills and hidden intersections are a problem on Main St. There was no pattern to the accidents at Mill and Main so no recommendations could be made. Markings and signs were included in the recommendations.

The study identified that there is no capacity deficiency at the three intersections studied. High levels of service are experienced at the Main and Mill intersection. Queen and Acton/Meadvale intersection, and Queen and Churchill intersection.

Specific recommendations include operational improvements to the Main and Mill intersection, erection of hidden intersection signs on Main Street South, preparation of a new traffic by-law, more frequent repainting of pavement markings, earlier replacement of traffic signs, and better parking by-law enforcement.



The Acton Free Press

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\$14,040 LIP grant for Lions' pool

A \$14,040 Local Initiative Program grant has been recommended for the Acton Lions Club centennial pool project at the high school. The project will employ five people, drawn from local Canada Manpower Centres. The Lions will supervise their employment here.

applications in Halton county for LIP grants, with six granted. The largest project approved is Halton Helping Hands with 16 employees, and a grant of \$49,500. In Georgetown, the Furniture Repair Workshop for the Handicapped will receive \$6,380 to support its three employees.

previously with government grants. The Youth Housing System Group Home, a halfway house for drug users in Oakville, will get \$15,444 for five employees.



Alan McNabb

Passes exams

Alan McNabb, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. McNabb, 47 Cobblehill Rd., has recently passed the Canadian Chartered Accountant exams and will qualify in June.

Thursday edition

Next week's Free Press will be published Thursday, Jan. 3 instead of Wednesday, to allow the staff to have a New Year's holiday. The Free Press office and plant will remain closed Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 31 and Jan. 1.

Hat's off to Halton Hills

Like Cinderella, Acton's heading to drastic changes at the stroke of midnight on Monday, December 31.

On Tuesday, Jan. 1, Acton has no council, no town works or office staff, no parks and recreation board, planning board, development commission, committee of adjustment.

On the first day of our centennial year, everything will change as Acton steps gingerly into regional government as a part of newly-named Halton Hills.

Mayor Les Duby is helping steer 32,000 people of Acton, Esquimes and Georgetown into a united group, and the strain of many meetings probably boosted the quality of a bad case of the flu he had at Christmas.

Acton's wind-up meetings merged with Halton Hills committee meetings to set up the system and beat out a procedural bylaw, based on Acton's.

Double-duty Duby insists that Halton Hills organization is coming along fine, thank you, compared to other areas.

Long an advocate of regional co-operation, he insists something had to be done.

"This is it. And we're going to have to live with it. We weren't able to come up with anything better ourselves."

"Basically parochial views are being shelved, and all are working in the best interests of everyone."

For a while everything will remain the same, as far as most of the people of the town and immediate district are concerned.

In his last week as mayor of our pleasant little town, Mayor Les Duby says he wants to make sure things remain easy for the people here.

As the new councillor-elect from Acton to Halton Hills, mayor Duby has shared in many meetings of the new council, not as councillor but as a member of the pro tem committee making recommendations to the new council after it's sworn in Jan. 3.

While Goutouski missed the last meeting of County Council, he has written a letter to both Warden Anne MacArthur and to John White, Minister of Treasury, Economics and Intergovernmental Affairs.

In his letter to the warden he refers to a letter Mrs. MacArthur wrote to him Jan. 19, 1973. In that letter the warden promised the 1973 dinner would be put on within the budget as set.

will be appointed, other recommendations must follow and many, many matters of concern are not yet decided.

So, in commenting on how things will be in Acton next week, the mayor is giving his personal opinion.

In the middle of January, everyone will leave Acton's town office on Mill St. but two. Those remaining will be Mrs. Lorna Clarke who will take sewer and water bills and Ron McKnight.

Clerk Grant Usher becomes deputy treasurer of Halton Hills and he'll be moving to 36 Main St., Georgetown, the former Georgetown town office which becomes the treasury department.

He'll be in charge of all licensing and have responsibility for taxes. Hugh Patterson, assistant here, goes to the same office as purchasing agent. Heather Dumarsh, Joyce Pickles and Susan Lockébie will be leaving the Acton office as well to work in Georgetown.

All the Acton office and works staff will be automatically part of Halton Hills staff.

Alf Duby, superintendent of services for the region, will work under general superintendent Frank Morette, formerly Georgetown superintendent, and Esquimes' Bud Snow will be superintendent of roads.

But Acton's town works yard will still be here, with our equipment, whether Mr. Duby is here or in Georgetown. Certainly the former town men will be working out of here for a while at least.

With ratifications of Mick Holmes as fire chief, he certainly won't be always in Acton in his new full-time post. But the volunteer brigade system remains and all present contracts for fire protection in parts of Esquimes and Nassagaweya will be honored. New agreements are being drafted now.

Hopefully mutual aid will be maintained, the mayor thinks. Boundary changes will likely evolve. Two deputy fire chiefs will be needed, in the mayor's opinion. The top man will be busy with administration, fire prevention work, etc. and Mr. Duby pointed out the fire marshal's office has recommended a full-time chief for Acton for the past several years.

"I see no reason why Acton people should have to travel to Georgetown for anything," asserts the mayor. "Townpeople can go to the office."

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Bus passengers down 1,054

The second year of Acton's Christmas bus service showed a decrease in passengers, according to the figures tallied by Ted Tyler of Tyler Transport.

One bus, driven by Ken Budd, provided a regular 20 minute bus service leaving the town hall and covering three areas with routes set up for the east, central and western sections of the town.

From December 10 until December 24, the service ran from 9 until 6 p.m. daily as a town subsidized Christmas service for residents. Last year bus was free but this year, with a ten cent fee required, the numbers of people using the bus were not as large.

According to Ted Tyler, continuance of the holiday service is dependent mainly on the attitude of the new council. "There is no way it can be provided by the town without subsidy," he said.

According to last year's passenger count there was drop off of 1,054 people using the buses.

Two hurt Dec. 26

Two people were hurt as a result of a two-car collision which occurred at the junction of Highway 24 and the Fifth Line in Eramosa on Wednesday, Dec. 26, at approximately 4:50 p.m.

Ian Outerbridge, of R.R. 1 Alton, was driving a '73

Mercedes Southbound on Highway 24 when he collided with Andre Van Exen, or R.R. 3, Acton, who was proceeding westbound on County Road 27, driving a '64 Ford.

An ambulance was summoned and Mr. Van Exen was

Warren Grove and central Bovis' subdivision areas counted 544 in '72 and 387 in '73.

For route three to Kingham Hill, Lakeview, and to the senior citizen apartments, covering the west side of town, 496 residents used the bus as compared to 278 for the

treated at the Guelph General Hospital for severe facial lacerations and a broken nose. His passenger, Linda Van Exen, 47, received a fractured left ankle.

Damage to the Outerbridge vehicle was estimated at \$2,000 and to the Van Exen Ford \$700.

13 days in 1973. Total number using the bus for ten days in 1972 was 2,434. For 13 days in 1973 the count read 1,380.

Route one, to the east side of Acton, showed the largest number of residents utilizing the service.

Sweepstake ticket drawn

Post-Christmas excitement at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ken Budd, 180 Silvercreek Parkway, Guelph, this weekend came over a special phone call last Friday alerting Ken that a ticket he had purchased last October on the Irish sweepstakes had been drawn.

The call was from Ted Tyler Sr. of Acton who notified Ken's name on the list in a Toronto daily newspaper.

Ken Budd is a well known figure in Acton, as the bus driver of the Christmas bus service through town.

Single collision

Only one accident was investigated in town during the past week. The road was snowy and icy when a car driven by Peter Jenkins, Guelph, was in collision with a parked pickup truck owned by Gordon Varcoe, R. R. 2 Rockwood.

The collision happened at Mackenzie Lumber on Dec. 24.

Damage to the truck was estimated at \$200 and to the car at \$500.



A FORGED NOTE, supposedly from new Halton Hills mayor Tom Hill, says "Thanks for the furniture". Mayor Les Duby is left with a hammer for a gavel and picnic table and bench instead of his regal chair at the last official meeting of Acton

council. The tables from Acton council chamber are destined for the new council room of Halton Hills, now being refurbished in the basement of Esquimes township hall. The room here will become a drop-in centre for senior citizens.

Warden's dinner overspent

Goutouski, a Milton businessman who, as a one man delegation expressed concern about overspending for the warden's dinner last year, has once again expressed his concern about overspending on the annual event.

According to figures Goutouski has secured from the county administration

building, the \$1,500 budget for the 1973 dinner in honor of Warden Anne MacArthur was exceeded by \$2,624.66 for a total expense of \$3,924.66.

The dinner in 1972 for Warden Jim Swanborough cost \$3,824.59. The budget for that dinner was also \$1,500.

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letter to both Warden Anne MacArthur and to John White, Minister of Treasury, Economics and Intergovernmental Affairs.

In his letter to the warden he refers to a letter Mrs. MacArthur wrote to him Jan. 19, 1973. In that letter the warden promised the 1973 dinner would be put on within the budget as set.

"This year I have appointed a special committee to review the matter of an annual dinner in honor of the warden and this committee will be reporting to council from time to time so that in the event a dinner is held, I can assure you that it will be within the budget guidelines established in our annual budgets," Mrs. MacArthur

In his letter Dec. 21, Goutouski reminded the warden of that commitment and asked for an explanation.

"I'm sure the dinner pleased all those who attended, the bills have been paid and my only comment is 'this 1973 County Council has been dishonest in their conduct and by their actions

be said.