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

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 deficlency at the three intersections studied. High levels of service are experienced at the Main and Mill intersec-Queen and Acton / Meadvale intersection, and Queen and Churchill intersection.

icles on Friday. Both days

were counted in September. The peak accumulation of parked cars in the study area reached 133, at 4.30 p.m. on the Thursday.

Saturday the peak reached 143 at 5 p.m. Parking space in the study area is not fully utilized or overloaded, with a A total of 1029 vehicles was minor exception in one block. counted in an eight-hour period on Thursday and 1146 veh- shortage of space.

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. Data gathering Manual traffic volume counts were taken at three intersections. The locations and times of the counts were: Main Street and Mill Street-Thursday, September 6, 1973, 11:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and Friday, September 7, 1973,

Road-Friday September 7, 1973, 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Queen Street andActon Boulevard / Meadvale Road-Friday, September 7, 1973, 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. At the Main and Mill Streets intersection one spe-

Queen Street and Churchill

5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

bound right turn on Mill Street making shortly thereafter a left turn into the I.G.A. parking lot. Machine counts were taken

ately recorded, the west-

on Main Street (Highway 25) between Guelph Street West and Elizabeth Drive and on Queen Street (Highway 7) at the cast limit of the town. Pedestrian Volume Pedestrians crossing Mill Street in the area from Main

Street to John Street were counted during the same periods as the traffic volume counts at Main and Milli Streets. Parking Inventory

An inventory of the numbers and types of parking spaces was prepared. The area covered in the inventory included the following streets: Mill Street, both sides from Park Avenue to Eastern Avenue; Main Street, both sides from Knox Street / St. Alban's Drive to

Main Street to Eastern Avenue; Willow Street, from Bower Street to Church Street; John Street, from Bower Street to Church Street; Elgin Street, from Bower Street to Church Street; Frederick Street, from Bower Street to Church Street; Wilbur Street, from Bower Street to Church Street; Fellows Street, from Mill Street to Church Street: Eastern Avenue, west side from Mill Street to Church Street.

Street; Church Street, from

It included the three church-owned parking lots. but did not include any other off-street spaces. The num-bers of spaces identified were 652 on-street and 72 off-street

spaces, a total of 724. On Thursday, September 6 from, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and on Friday, September 7, from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m., the licence numbers of all cars parked on Church Street; Bower Street, were recorded every 20 mln-Continued on Page 2

from Willow Street to Mill cial movement was separ-The Acton Free

NINETY-NINTH YEAR NO. 26

ACTON, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1973

Fourteen Pages-Fifteen Cents.

\$14,040 LIP grant for Lions' pool

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.

The Lions club has been informed of the grant and has Canada Manpower.

The club had applied for a higher sum, to cover more of the cost of labor.

There had been 18 or 18

A \$14,040 Local Initiative applications in Halton county previously with government Program grant has been for LIP grants, with six grants.

The Youth Housing System

The largest project approved is Halton Helping Hands with 16 employees, and a grant of \$49,500.

In Georgetown, the Fur-niture Repair Workshop for the Handicapped will receive \$9,380 to support its three employees. The workshop already been in contact with had applied for six employees

become self-supporting. had \$104,000 available and rated the applications from receives \$7,800 to employ every community in the three persons. It has operated county.

The Youth Housing System Group Home, a halfway house for drug users in Oakville, will get \$15,444 for five

The Pre-School Experience Centre at Oakville with three workers will receive \$7,800. The grants were recommended by a Citizens Advisory Group with Peter originally: they hope to Marks as chalrman. They



Passes exams

Alan McNabb, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. McNabb, 47 Cobblehill Rd., has recently passed the Canadian Charfered Accountant exams and will qualify in June. He is currently a member of the Kingston branch of Thorne Gunne & Co. Wife, Trudy (Morris) is studying for her Ph. D. in Biochemistry at Queen's University in Kingston.

Alan McNabb

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.

Bus passengers down 1,054

passengers, according to the figures tailied 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

westerly 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

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

Two people were hurt as a Mercedes Southbound on

result of a two car collision Highway 24 when he collided

Two hurt Dec. 26

Acton, showed a count of 1,394 travelling on bus in '72 for ten days and, for 13 days in '73, 715 residents used the facilities.

The second year of Acton's According to Ted Tyler, the buses.

Christmas bus service continuance of the holiday Route one, taking in showed a decrease in service is dependent mainly Glenlea and east side of counted 544 in '72 and 387 in for ten days in 1972 was 2,434.

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

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

which occurred at the juncwith Andre Van Exen, or R.R. tion of Highway 24 and the 3, Acton, who was proceeding fractured left ankle. Fifth Line in Eramosa on westbound on County Road Wednesday, Dec. 26, at ap-27, driving a '64 Ford. proximately 4.50 p.m. Ian Outerbridge, of R.R. 1 An ambulance was sum-Ford \$700. Alton, was driving a 73 moned and Mr. Van Exen was

treated at the Guelph General Hospital for severe facial lacerations and a broken nose. His passenger, Linda Van Exen, 17, received a

been drawn.



A FORGED NOTE, supposedly from new Halton council. The tables from Acton council chamber

Hills mayor Tom Hill, says "Thanks for the fur- are destined for the new council room of Halton niture". Mayor Les Duby is left with a hammer for Hills, now being refurbished in the basement of a gavel and picnic table and bench instead of his Esquesing township hall. The room here will regal chair at the last official meeting of Acton become a drop-in centre for senior citizens.

For 13 days in 1973 the count read 1,380.

of Acton, showed the largest number of residents utilizing the service. Hills committee meetings to set up the system

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 has

The call was from Ted Tyler Sr. of Acton who noticed 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.

ted group, and the strain of many meetings probably boosted the quality of a bad case of the ilu he had at Christmas. (Although he didn't Route one, to the east side miss a church service.) Acton's wind-up meetings merged with Halton

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 bet-

Like Cinderella, Acton's heading to drastic

On Tuesday, Jan. 1, Acton has no council, no

changes at the stroke of midnight on Monday,

town works or office staff, no parks and recrea-

tion board, planning board, development com-

On the first day of our centennial year, every-

thing will change as Acton steps gingerly into

regional government as a part of newly-named Halton Hills.

of Acton, Esquesing and Georgetown into a uni-

Mayor Les Duby is helping steer 32,000 people

mission, committee of adjustment.

December 31.

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

For a while everything will remain the same, as far as most of the people of the town and immediate district are concerned. For a broken main, a fire, a fine-contact the usual people and the same people will respond.

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. These recommendations are confidential, mayor Duby says, as it's conceivable appointments could be changed when they come up at the first regular meeting of Halton Hills Council Jan. 7. "Hopefully there will be no change. We have to put faith in the decisions we made already." While staff heads

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

Hat's off to

Halton Hills

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.

They'll be available with information and can relay calls to headquarters. Clerk Grant Usher becomes deputy treasurer of Halton Hills and he'll be moving to 36 Main S.,

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 Lockerbie 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 Esquesing's 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 Actor in his new full-time post. But the volunteer brigade system remains and all present contracts for fire protection in parts of Esquesing 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 marshall'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. Townspeople can go to the office. Continued on Page 3

Warden's dinner overspent

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

man delegation expressed Warden Anne MacArthur was exceeded by \$2,424.66 for a total expense of \$3,924.68. The dinner in 1972 for Warden Jim Swanborough cost \$3,824.59. The budget for that dinner

> was also \$1,500. last meeting of County Council, he has written a

tion building, the \$1,500 budget for letter to both Warden Anne "This year I have ap In his letter Dec. 21, businessman who, as a one the 1973 dinner in honor of MacArthur and to John pointed a special committee Goutouski reminded the White, Minister of Treasury, Economics and Intergovernmental Affairs.

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

to review the matter of an annual dinner in honor of the warden and this committee In his letter to the warden 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 he said.

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