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BACKED BY his biography, Acton's last mayor Les Duby accepts his engraved plaque as Citizen of the Year Saturday night at the music centre. Chamber of Commerce president Betty Eastwood makes the presentation. On the left are son Rev. Laurie Duby of St. Catharines with his wife Mary Lou and on the right Alice Duby. The music centre was filled for the gala evening. More pictures and stories inside today's Free Press.

Acton's last mayor Citizen of the Year

A glowing citation brought Saturday's crowd at the music centre to their feet with happy waves of applause, as Acton's centennial Citizen of the Year was recognized. The town's last mayor, Les Duby, heard an outline of his many accomplishments and assurances that these kind words don't by any means indicate the end of his career.

Former Chamber of Commerce president Roy Goodwin read the citation and current president Betty Eastwood presented the traditional engraved plaque.

The hall was filled with beaming relatives and friends from varied fields for the hot turkey dinner, program, music, speeches and dancing.

Sing along
A voice known from garden parties and fall fairs for years back, Vince Mountford led the crowd in spontaneous singing and played two records which recalled the time Les accompanied Sleepy Marlin of Louisville, Kentucky, when he won the world fiddle contest at Shelburne. Les knows more words to songs than anybody else, Vince swears.

Paul Nielsen sneaked in Les's guitar and it didn't take much coaxing to get him playing again.
A "rogues gallery" of pictures and clippings from his career had been arranged by Hank Ruppert. "I feel stark naked," laughed the guest of honor. "I could streak down the hall right now."

Happened here
"This could only happen in a community like Acton," exclaimed Les. In reply he spoke informally and applause and laughter interrupted him several times. Even singing interrupted him as Vince Mountford would suddenly burst into song, followed by everyone.

"It's amazing to be recognized for things you like to do," Les said. "I've been pleased to do all these things and those who don't take an interest are missing something."
It does take members of a family to make people what they are; Les introduced his

wife (as the room sang You Are My Sunshine); mother Mrs. Winifred Duby of Rockwood (to strains of Let Me Call You Sweetheart); son Rev. Laurie Duby, rector of the church of the Good Shepherd St. Catharines ("I look up at him and call him Father"; brother George and wife Heather are in Edmonton.)

Daughter Lesley Ann Paterson and her two children have been visiting from Thessalon during school break and couldn't be here.

Barbara (Ware) Funk, husband Jim and daughter Wendy, niece of Eden Mills, who grew up in the family. (Jim Ware was unable to come awaiting with wife Barbara the arrival of a new baby in the family at Georgetown; brother George and wife Heather are in Edmonton.)

Brothers, sisters
In his family he welcomed brothers and sisters Ken and Donna Duby, Guelph; Mar-

garet and Gordon Cox, Rockwood, with daughter Linda; Lucy and Leo Synnott, Acton; Kaye and John Cottrell, Peterborough; Alf and Doris Duly, Acton with son Bob and Mardell Duly, Georgetown; daughter Judy and David Shannon of Acton; aunts Lacy Lyons and Rita Porter of Guelph; uncle Henry and Emily Porter, Guelph (who guided Les into Jr. OHA hockey).

Wife Alice's sisters Esther Taylor ("she taught me all I know about politics"), Beatrice Roy with daughters Michelle and Lynn of R.R. 1, Georgetown.

Speakers
Lorne Youngblut spoke on behalf of Beardmore. The Hon. George Kerr spoke amusingly; Mrs. Terry O'Connor replaced her husband who had sprained his ankle and read letters from Prime Minister Trudeau and Robert Stanfield. Vic Bristow spoke on behalf of the Lions. Mayor Tom Hill waved a greeting.

Last year's Citizen of the Year George Elliott read letters and telegrams including those from the Hon. Robert Welsh, mayors of Lenington, Ottawa, Muskoka, Colborne and Simcoe, ending with that of premier Davis.

Secretary Marjorie Staley presented flowers to Alice Duby. Mrs. Eastwood had a plaque for Chamber past president Ed Bendicks and Jennifer Worthington flowers for Ingrid Bendicks.

The Generation Gap played for dancing.

Centennial celebrations

The first of July weekend will find Actonians celebrating their centennial, right on schedule.

Various groups are working on plans to mark the occasion and more meetings are being held this week.

The park is booked up and the firefighters are planning their biggest fireworks display ever. The Rotary club is planning a giant barbecue.

The retail section of the Chamber of Commerce is planning old-fashioned days with costumes, street sales, and possibly a street dance.

And centennial coins from the Legion will be legal tender for the festivities.

First centennial tea is this Saturday at St. Alban's church, with a special display of historic memorabilia. Both chapters of the I.O.G.E. are making plans for centennial teas as well.

The curling club billed its big bonspiel which concluded Saturday as a special centennial event.

Car hits pole damage \$600

A car met a hydro pole Monday and the result was \$600 damage. The car driven by Raoul Knight, 24 Church St., struck the pole at about 4:40 p.m. at the Mill and Young corner. Damage to the car was estimated at \$500 and to the hydro pole at \$100.

Brakes failing was given as the cause of two accidents in town this week, according to police. Last Wednesday Robert Roughtley, R. R. 1, Limehouse, found his car without brake power on the Queen St. plaza and it struck a front window of Becker's store. The value of

the glass was estimated at \$250. The accident happened about 7:30 p.m.

In the Glenlea plaza parking lot Geraldine Chafe, 63 Church Rd. N., was driving when brake trouble reportedly caused her car to strike a parked car owned by Robert Wilson, Division St. Total damage was estimated at \$250 to the parked car.

On Sunday Frederick Lockerbie's parked car was struck by an unknown vehicle. Damage to the Lockerbie car was estimated at \$250. Mr. Lockerbie lives at 128 Church St. The incident occurred at 9:30 a.m.

Les in hospital

Relatives and friends of Les Duby were shocked Tuesday to learn he had been taken to Guelph General hospital at noon with chest pains. Despite a suspicion he might have the flu, he had been the life of his own party Saturday night at the music centre.

Affectionate best wishes go to Acton's last mayor from all his former towns people, and a host of other friends in the district as well.

Since implementation of regional government Les has had a heavy work load. He also recalls his chest being bruised in his car accident this winter. Last Sunday he sang in the choir and in the afternoon went to Kitchener to take some of the flowers from the dinner to Minnie L. Bennett. (She asked him to tell her Acton friends she is unable to write them now.) Monday he was at work followed by a long Halton Hills council meeting.

Same ice rental for two arenas?

Ice time in Acton arena costs \$12 an hour. In Georgetown it costs \$18 an hour. Both places are in Halton Hills.

The general administration committee of council faced this problem Monday night and came up with no solution. They sent the matter back to the recreation and recreation sub-committee with instructions to see if equalized rates can be worked out over a period of time.

"If I lived in Acton I would say bring down Georgetown rates to ours, and if I lived in Georgetown I would probably say the opposite," commented the director.

Chairman Roy Booth said they would have to find out how the recreation budget would be affected if Geor-

town rates were brought down to Acton, or Acton rates brought up to Georgetown, or a saw-off in between set as the rate.

Big loss
"There's no way Acton arena can continue to operate at a loss of \$41,000 a year," said Councillor Dick Howitt as he read a report.

"Let's not do anything to endanger the Legion hockey program," stated councillor Les Duby.

The Recreation director pointed out the actual cost of ice time in Georgetown is \$22.50, but \$18 is the top charge made. "So the town is already subsidizing right there," he added.

The director reminded the committee Georgetown also paid a grant of \$1 a boy who is playing hockey.

"If it is possible I'd rather see everyone charged \$25 an hour than a subsidy granted back, but I realize this would be complicated," said the recreation director.

Chairman Roy Booth said it seemed like a good idea to him. "We're subsidizing now but people don't know."

Councillor Les Duby wondered if it could be equalized in both Acton and Georgetown. He reminded the committee if the same subsidy were paid to a group with 30 members as is paid to a group with 300 members, the individual members would have to pay more. "My one concern is to avoid having the people in Acton pay a higher price simply for living in a smaller town."

Town to purchase \$100,000 "brain"

Halton Hills will soon get a \$100,000 "brain" to speed up business.

The new town is on the point of purchasing a Basic-Four computer from M.A.I. which will be programmed to do such time consuming chores as the tax roll and billing, accounts payable and general ledger work which consumes excessive time and man-hours under the present system.

The \$100,000 "brain" replaces a bookkeeping machine which treasurer Lloyd Peterson told the finance committee of council can't possibly keep up with the volume of business created by the amalgamation of the three municipalities. The previous machine was used by the former town of Georgetown.

"The computer will enable us to keep our finger on the town business," Peterson told the committee, which saw the system work during a visit to Richmond Hill last month.

Information on the computer is stored in discs and is made available by video display terminals which resemble a small TV screen. Separate printers are used to print out tax bills, general ledgers, etc. which are needed.

M.A.I. marketing representative David MacGowan told the finance committee Monday night that the computer is geared against obsolescence because it is modular and components can be added to speed up its operation. Modifications likely would be forthcoming, he admitted, but felt the system ordered would do double the amount of work the town needed done and then they could add components as needed.

Questioned by Councillor Ernie Sykes, MacGowan said he could guarantee service for the computer within two to four hours in the event it is needed, and it could be much quicker depending on the circumstances.

"We have had bad experience with service on equipment," explained Sykes. He said some councillors want a penalty clause in the sales agreement to make sure there is a minimum of down time.

MacGowan said this was possible but suggested the town might rather take advantage of their replacement service while the computer was being fixed—or having the work done at the MIA plant in Markham. Treasurer Lloyd Peterson said this would be feasible and preferable to a penalty clause. Information is stored in discs which could easily be transferred to the plant and run off on machines there.



ALFRED D. HALES, Wellington's MP since 1957, announced his retirement at a press conference Monday morning held at his Wolford Crescent home in Guelph. He submitted his letter of resignation at a Sunday meeting with the executive of the local PC party and, after 17 years of conscientiously serving his constituents, the politician has decided it's time to enjoy a quieter life with his family.

Instrumental music at Acton high next Sept.

A new course of studies will be offered to Acton high school students beginning next September and the school will have a qualified teacher on staff to handle the venture.

Dave Sale, a specialist with both his B.A. and M.A. in vocal and instrumental music, is presently on the staff of Milton high school. In September, however, he will be teaching the Acton students beginners and advanced instrumental music. Mr. Sale lives in Acton and plays with Acton Citizens' Band as well as the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony.

According to Ian Downie, vice-principal of the Acton high school, the hope of the Halton County Board of Education is to provide as many opportunities as pos-

sible for students in smaller high schools as well as to those in larger centres. Mr. Downie says supplying instruments is an expensive business but, with the Acton school rapidly expanding to a possible student enrolment of 600 next year, the larger numbers makes the instrumental program quite feasible.

Music for all
Mr. Downie sees the plan as one hopefully developing into a four year credit course. "It is our aim to develop music for all students throughout the school each year," he said. He explained that, last January, students in elementary schools were queried as to interest in the specialized program. Reportedly about 75 public school students expressed interest and 15 sen-

ior high school students wanted to participate.

"Hopefully," said Mr. Downie, "the senior class will build up." The vice principal sees the new program as one from which a school band will develop providing an important function in school activities.

Acton high school is the last of the regular high schools in Halton county to have an instrumental music program. Mr. Downie said that last year's commencement exercises in October had intensified interest in incorporating a music program into the Acton school.

Ginny Bliss, a former band instructor of a U.S. high school, had worked with a number of students, players from the Acton Citizens'

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\$886,000 cut from capital budget

Halton Hills Council lopped \$886,000 off the 1974 capital budget. Wednesday night, and revealed for the first time the theatre-hall had been dropped from the proposed Georgetown recreation complex.

The cut brings the capital budget to \$4,297,000 from the first submission of \$5,183,000.

Deleted from the budget was a \$300,000 facility for fire vehicles, suggested for the south-westerly end of Halton Hills, \$86,000 from the capital

road budget, \$100,000 for a computer, which will be paid out of current revenue, and \$400,000 from the recreation budget.

No definite statement was made stipulating the theatre-hall was the \$400,000 item cut from the recreation budget, but during the meeting Councillor Ern Hyde said he could see no reason it couldn't be made public that the theatre-hall was no longer being considered. He claimed Chapel Street school could help fill

the gap.

All councillors but Councillor Pat McKenzie voted for the \$886,000 cut. McKenzie emphasized he wanted a bigger cut. Both Councillors Ric Morrow and Dick Howitt pointed out they too wanted bigger cuts but were voting for this to start moving in that direction.

McKenzie predicted a seven or eight mill burden on the taxpayer for the 20 years, even with the reduction. He claimed most of the debentures were not self-liquidating. He said the recreation facilities must be staffed and operation costs would be high.

McKenzie said it would be irresponsible for councillors to double the total debt in one year.

Morrow retorted he voted for the cut and wanted more cuts. He said Georgetown did not issue any debentures which were not self-liquidating, and ended up in a surplus position at the end of the year.

McKenzie said he was finally hearing what he wanted to hear all along, "that we're going to sit down and see what we can afford". He said the fact architects are hired for several projects bothers

him.

"My proposal would put a ceiling of \$750,000 on all recreational facilities," he added.

Morrow pointed out the sewage plant is not added to per capita debt for the people in Acton and Esquesing.



BARREN AND DEPLETED of the usual rounds of outgoing mail the pigeon holes at the Acton post office look sad and alone this week with the only activity being conducted at the municipal building, that of local mail delivery. Postal officials hope to see production back to normal by the end of the week, meantime Acton citizens respond by sending out few letters and reportedly mail trucks have made no trips to or from the Acton post office since last Saturday.