

Regional Councillor 'Pat' McKenzie

Views differ on first year

Acton's three represen-tatives to area and regional councils are just completing their first demanding year in

How do they feel about regional government now? The Free Press has asked the same set of questions of each councillor, in a special New Year's "round up".

G. W. McKenzie, the retired former principal of the Robert Little school, of the finance committee.

Les Duby, the former new area government level, mayor of Acton, sits on are simply embroiled in long Halton Hills administration range planning and interim committee, while former decision making, as we feel Acton clerk-administrator our way under the new ad-

Joe Hurst sits on the works ministrative concept. committee. The interview with these three men begins in this

The men reply in alphabetical order. What has been the most

outstanding success of

week's issue, and will be con-

cluded next week.

regional government? Duby: The only success to Robert Little school, date must be provincial in represents Acton on regional character. The province has council. He also sits on lialton, succeeded in having its way lills council and is chairman with municipal reform; and after only one year, we at the

Hurst: The outstanding success to date has been the holding of the mill rate at a reasonable level.

McKenzie: Our former system of Municipal Government with a council in every township, village and town and a County Council to control some of the needs that concerned everyone had been in effect for 100 years. It needed updating. Some Counties are re-structuring their local government (Oxford County and the city of Woodstock) and others are accepting Regional Government as we did.

Success in a major change cannot be measured in one or (Continued on Page 3)



Councillor Joe Hurst



Councillor Les Duby

TUSS The Actom Ifree

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Goal reached

BRIAN OLSEN and Brent McNiven take a breather from riding their bikes through snowy fields and take a look at the view of Acton in the background.

Death for hybrids just ''freeloaders''

By Peter McCusker Hybrid waterfowl in Acton's Fairy Lake will be destroyed when a Conservation Authority official arrives to designate which waterfowl are the hybrids.

"The hybrid birds don't know enough to fly south and they're freeloaders," says Harold Townsley, Acton Community Centre manager. The reason the hybrid fowl must be destroyed is because of their human dependence.

Wildlife biologist D. G. Dennis of the Canadian Wildlife Service Environment Canada, has said, "Our service does not favor the over wintering of wild waterfowl with man's assistance at Ontario latitudes. The reasons are simply that once a migration tradition becomes disrunted, man becomes responsible for the maintance of the original birds and their descendants that have never

learned to migrate." So some of the birds at

Fairy Lake must go.
Wild waterfowl at the lake were introduced in July 1971 when Earl J. Brears, an Acton high school teacher, and a group of students, began the project with wild mallards, wood ducks, and seven Canada geese which had wings

With wings clipped, the wild waterfowl couldn't migrate the first winter.

Problem "But somebody from time to time would pop a domesticated white farm duck into the lake," said Esther Taylor of Main St.

The inter-breeding of the white farm ducks and the wild waterfowl produced a number of hybrids of which eight or ten are known.

Another problem with the lake lowl is the easy access to

feed. Mr. Townsley said, "These birds aren't stupid, they know where the food is." The birds are fed in the morning required amounts stated by biologist Dennis. The large birds

are fed one half to three quarters of a pound of corn, and the ducks receive one quarter pound daily. Mr. Townsley said they are fed each morn-

But the other main feeder of the waterfowl, Esther Tayfor, said she adds 20 lbs. of her own feed daily for the birds. She said she feeds the birds twice daily, in the morning and in the evening

around five o'clock. Miss Taylor said that in the morning, she includes to lbs. of her own corn and two loaves of bread and in the evening she distributes 20 lbs. of the town's and another 10 lbs.

She admits it costs her \$50 a month for the feed and the only reason she is buying the feed is "because I suspect there would be a squalk about the feed bill."

"The way I have to ask for it you'd think I'm eating it. At

times they wouldn't get fed." Miss Taylor declares.

"If they're hungry they eat like hell, and I don't blame them," she said. Fat ducks

thinks they should have discontinued the feed in the fall so the hirds would migrate. He said the birds are fat and some Mallards weigh as much as 12 lbs.

Biologist D. G. Dennis stated, "A waterfowl will consume several times the amount of food they actually require to maintain themselves in good condition."

Are the birds at the lake overfed? It depends on the number around at feeding time. Esther Taylor said that there are close to 200 birds in the evening and Mr. Townsley quoted the mumber of birds ranging from 100 to 150. "It's hard to tell because

"THE HYBRIDS don't know enough to fly south and they're

freeloaders," said Harold Townsley, arena manager. The blond duck

may be one of the controversial hybrids.

they're spread out so far," he

Miss Taylor questioned the. destruction of the hybrids during the winter but Townsley said the birds mated in the spring so the time to get Mr. Townsley said he rid of the hybrids is now. This supports the winter works slogan, "Why wait for Spring,

do it now." Miss Taylor considers the danger of the hybrids a remote one because they don't fly and they weren't very successful in nesting this

ducks make it through the he concluded. winter," she said. They can't go now, it's past the migratory season.

"In other places as well as in Acton, Canadian geese are changing their migrating habits. If they can get food here, why the hell go south and face American guns?" she asked.

Outers end drives

p.m. Regrettably, the success

of this program has led to a

be handled by the relatively

small group of students in-

A Toronto man, Percy

Firefighters were called with

Firefighters were called to

Main St. N. at 4.05 a.m.

The sounding was due to a

malfunction in the system, a

short in the warning system

sounded.

at Base Borden near Barrie

Georgetown and Acton.

a resuscitator.

The Acton high school of the Outers' program at the Outers club have ceased their . local school required monthly paper and bottle equipment purchases. This

The group had been recycling program as operating a newsprint and initiated by Keith Black and glass recycling project in the his geography students. town for the past year and a During the past year and a half. During this time, the half, the Outers have pur-commitment of local citizens chased about \$5,000 worth of to the program has been the outdoor equipment, therefore key to its success, and the their initial objective has club wishes to thank all those been fulfilled. who have participated in this project.

of groups as fund raising projects and the development

No rent. for hearing

Halton Hills council chamber will be available to the Chairman Ontario Highway Transport Chairman Board for a hearing with no rental charges asked.

Councillor Ern Hyde demanded they pay rent, and member of the Halton Board asked "Why should we donate of Education and board our council chamber? The chairman for two years, will truckers pay good money for not stand for re-election when

these licences. Councillor Harry Levy sald he would agree under normal circumstances, but pointed out the hearing was necessary mainly to change the names of the three municipalities to Halton Hills on the licences of the cartage companies. "This enables them to enter any part of Halton Hills

Hyde agreed to the free use of the hall when the explanation was offered.

Councillor Ric Morrow suggested a policy for future rental of the chambers be decid-

Councillor Dick Howitt recommended the caretaker be paid extra since extra work would be involved. "This should be charged to "I only want to see the poor the group renting the space,"

Percy Hughes, 71, of

Acton's Community Centre. Frits De Haan of the St. John Ambulance service applied mouth to mouth resuscitation. Mr. Hughes' medical record shows he has suffered two strokes previously.

He was in Acton to watch his grandson play bockey in the Acton Centennial Atom A Tournament.

Glass and paper drives have been used by a number Actonians sleep as sirens sound

No one was injured in a Christmas morning fire in lot Hughes, 71 of Glendennan Ave., suffered what was 27 concession road 2 Nassagaweya at 9 a.m. The believed a stroke or heart chimney fire caused no centre Friday afternoon.

need led to the adoption of the

steps down

Sunday but no fire was found. Main St. S. and Mill Street Bill Priestner, a charter were checked and the call was tagged a false alarm. air raid emergency sirens in the Toronto-Hamilton area the board holds its inaugural sounded to wake sleepers. meeting Jan. 9.

Dies at arena

Glendennan Ave., Toronto, dled Friday afternoon after suffering what believed was a stroke in the parking lot of

St. Joseph's broken into

Joseph's Roman Catholic Church was broken into between 1 and 7 a.m. Christmas morning, according to Ontario Provincial Police here.

Persons unknown broke into the church by way of a basement window but no vandalism occurred and nothing was stolen. The tabernacle, however, was

found on the floor with the casing damaged.

Father Smye said that the flowers that were also on the altar were carefully taken off and placed onto the Roor. He said that it would be impossible for a person to carry the tabernacle but two could lift it down.

St. Mary's Church in Hespeler was broken into the latter part of this year.

Three digits for regional roads?

made by Halton Hills finance the local roads remain as committee is implemented. they have been known for

Citing 22 Sideroad, the local name and Halton Road 20, as slowed down by the different asked to consider the change.

road numbers for local roads The committee suggested and regional roads could be Regional roads could have eliminated if a suggestion three digit numbers, while

The idea was turned over to examples, the finance both fire chiefs and the works committee pointed out fire committee for a report and and ambulance calls can be the Regional council will be

Community response has The Outers, therefore, are increased steadily within the cancelling all further paper duration of the program. The and glass collections. They .tonnage of glass and paper sincerely hope that any was sufficient at the persons or group interested in December drive to keep the continuing this community crew of Outers working to 11 service project, which yields approxiamtely \$300 per month, will take up the situation which can no longer project. Information

The Outers, therefore, are

Information concerning markets, prices and other

member of the Outers. The Outers would particularly like to thank people who have contributed significantly to this recycling program, Dave Dills for the use of his truck, hundlers and scrap paper, Ben Larsen for the use of a storage area for glass and L. O. Johnston and Alan Tremills, each for

storage area for paper.

details is available from any

Holiday accidents

No one was injured in a two car collision on Queen St., Dec. 24 at 2,30 p.m. Warren Craig of B.R. 4, Brampton. was driving the vehicle which was in collision with a vehicle driven by William Knight of attack at the community R.R. 2, Acton. The Craig vehicle sustained \$250 in damages to the front end and the Knight vehicle sustained \$600 in damages to the rear.

A vehicle driven by Oral Goulding of 333 Queen St., Acton, failed to stop at the Bower Ave. and Willow St. intersection I a.m. Christmas morning and skidded into a house at 26 Willow.

The vehicle sustained \$350 damage to the left side and property damage totalled

New baby female At 3.30 Monday morning the a Christmas bundle

The only Christmas baby born at Guelph General Hospital to an Acton or district parent, was a daughter to Mrs. Vesna Mance of 203 Main St. N., Rockwood, She gave birth to a 3856 gm. or eight lb. eight oz. girl at 5.53 Christmas morning. No Acton babies were born at Christmas.



OOM-PA-PA, Jim Coles and Barry Buchanan played the sousaphone and tuba back stage during the annual concert at Acton High School.