

# Four seek two Halton Hills council places



**Les Duby**

Now a 19-year council veteran, Les Duby decided to run again for area council because he thinks his experience is important. He is the only one of the three original area councillors still running, and when he made the decision this year he thought he would be the only candidate with experience. (Since then, regional councillor Pat McKenzie decided not to retire, but to run for area council.)

No one is going to accomplish anything as an individual, Mr. Duby observes. "It's ridiculous to think you can arbitrarily change anything."

"One must earn the respect of his fellow councillors."

Les and Alice Duby live on Churchill Rd. N. and their family has grown and are away from home. He is personnel manager at Beardmore's. The long-time councillor was Acton's last mayor before regional government.

He is concerned that the mayor and regional councillors are now being required to devote full time to the positions. He wouldn't want any

councillors to get the idea that area council is a full-time job. "We must reserve the right for any taxpayer to be able to run, whether employed full time or not. I have had that privilege."

If the job were full time, area councillors would have to have full time pay, too.

Phone calls and contacts have to be made, too. Phone calls and contacts have to be made, too. Phone calls and contacts have to be made, too.

I support Halton Hills council's work wholeheartedly, says Mr. Duby. "We've overcome parochialism at the table. Both Esquesing and Georgetown representatives have been very fair, and I am sure they found Acton's representatives very fair."

In this period of inflation it becomes more and more difficult to run a municipality and yet fulfill the requests that may come before council.

All the arenas have been brought up to date. Georgetown needs a library or improved facilities. Acton has been fairly treated, with as

much work on streets and roads. Much has been engineered and planned for the future, such as the work on Main St. S.

After five years the new council will have to be very budget conscious, Mr. Duby stresses. There are many things we have no control over and sometimes delegations want things that they can do without. Everything has to be considered carefully. "I'm very conscious in 19 years that all new councillors and present councillors should realize the limitations."

On the subject of recreation, he thinks we should maintain our present level, but be aware of the escalation of costs. So much has developed and increased in recreation in the last five years, yet we still hear "There's nothing for the kids to do."

On the subject of Focal Properties request for a huge development at Georgetown, Mr. Duby says council's decision to not allow the project to proceed without full study is (Continued on Page 12)

Dave Whiting is making his first bid for public office, and he doesn't have particular issues yet that he has picked sides on.

He was an officer with the R.C.M.P. for nine years, and wasn't allowed to hold public office then. However, all during these years he was particularly interested in municipal affairs. He has lived in western Canada, Ottawa and Toronto before coming to Acton three years ago. He left the Mounties in August and is now a real estate salesman with Fobert Real Estate in Georgetown.

He, his wife and two children live on Kingham Rd.

He wonders if governments aren't doing "a little too much for us." Take the issue of fluoride in the water. He quite agrees fluoride is good for children's teeth. "But is it the government's business to look after our teeth?" We're getting to be overgoverned people, as well as overtaxed, he thinks.

Recreation is another example.

"Every time you turn around somebody is doing something for you."

With his nine year stint in the R.C.M.P., he is particularly interested in the policing situation in Acton and he terms the situation "pathetic."

He was involved out west in the policing system which had a central office, with the men working out in a hub around it, as they do here, and he thinks it can be done more efficiently.

"We should have a division of our own," he declares.

Figuring one officer per thousand population, we should have six police officers here, with a sergeant in the office during the day. Mr. Whiting sees part of the sergeant's duties as working with the people of the town.

(At present, no policeman stays in the Acton office during the day, and the direction comes from Georgetown.)

"And these six men should live in Acton," ex-Mountie Whiting thinks. He has found it is important for the police to know the people they serve. "They should get out and walk on foot." You have to socialize to get to know people.

"They're paid good money and they should be prepared to do the job."

He believes the police office space here is seriously inadequate. In particular he thinks they need a lock-up, so they do not have to go out-of-town with a prisoner.

"In this day and age you've got to have a good police force."

On another subject, he thinks the town hall should be saved. "If you're going to put money in it and do it properly, it should be kept and good use made of it."

Living in Kingham himself, he believes condominiums are the thing of the future.



**Dave Whiting**

There's a good tax base and you can get more house in the area. However "we don't have the services for the tax dollar."

Planning must be done carefully. Parking, for instance.

Dave Whiting is satisfied that the official plan was

adhered to in the decision not to allow a new shopping centre here. "That's what the plan's there for." They take a long time to prepare, and should be followed, he says.

He is one of four running for the two area council seats on Halton Hills council.

## Autos hit

One of four vehicles involved in a collision on Main Street North Saturday afternoon escaped damage.

Halton Regional Police state the pick-up truck driven by Roy Nellis, R.R. 1 Acton, received no damage.

Damage to a parked car owned by David Cunningham, R.R. 4 Rockwood, is about \$100, say police.

The same figure applies to the damage estimated by police on the vehicle driven by John Orr, of Kitchener.

Halton Hills	
Your choices in the November 13 municipal election:	
Mayor Thomas J. Hill Peter Pomeroy (one to be elected)	
Ward One (Acton)	
Regional Council (one to be elected)	William Coats Roy Goodwin Ed Wood
Area Council (two to be elected)	Les Duby J. Ross Knechtel Pat McKenzie Dave Whiting
Ward Two (Esquesing)	
Regional Council	Russell Miller Acclamation
Area Council (two to be elected)	Nick Hunsley George Maltby Pat Patterson

**Ross Knechtel**



One of the candidates for area councillor in Acton is J. Ross Knechtel. He and his wife have been residents of Acton since June 1973. Almost all of his business career was with the Crown Life Insurance Company, a Canadian-owned company, in Toronto. When he retired in 1976 he was a vice president.

During World War II he served as a flying control officer with the R.C.A.F. for three years in England and France, retiring with the rank of Squadron Leader.

He is presently an active member of the Acton Curling Club and the Acton Tennis Club. His church affiliation is Trinity United where he is a member of the Board of

Management. Prior to moving to Acton he was active in community affairs in Toronto, such as the United Way, Boy Scouts, church activities and local political campaigns, etc.

The Knechtels have three sons. One is a chemist with the federal Department of the Environment in Burlington. One is a partner in a computer firm in Moncton and the third is a manager with Confederation Life in Toronto. They enjoy four grandchildren.

Mrs. Knechtel is a prize-winning photographer and many Actonians have seen her slide shows.

Ross Knechtel suggests that Halton Hills council

needs a fresh strong voice to adequately express the opinions and concerns of the citizens of Acton. If elected as area councillor, he hopes to help ensure that the opinions of this community are effectively presented at council.

Regional government is with us whether we like it or not, says Mr. Knechtel. A councillor must attempt to see that Acton citizens have enough information to enable them to reach intelligent decisions. "The councillors can then forcefully present them to council," he says.

In his opinion, if we don't improve our public communications, we will have "lots of regions but not much government."

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**G.W. "Pat" McKenzie**

G.W. "Pat" McKenzie says he is offering the people his experience as an area councillor, and if he is elected he will continue to work in the best interests of the entire community.

Retired principal of the Robert Little school, past councillor and deputy-reeve of Acton, he was elected to regional council in 1973 and again in 1976. He and his wife Mary live on Jeffrey Ave.

He is especially pleased that uniform water and sewer rates were finally adopted last Wednesday. "This major accomplishment provides an estimated annual saving per

home in Acton of \$157.26. With this financial saving secured for the people of Acton it was my intention to retire. However, when Peter Marks was unable, for business reasons, to be candidate, I was asked by many people to reconsider my decision." And so he is running for the first time for one of the two Acton area seats on Halton Hills council.

He has served as a member and chairman of Finance and Administration, Planning and Public Works committees and has represented council on Halton Conservation Authority, Library Board and

the B.I.A. in Acton. For the Free Press, he comments on some of the (Continued on Page 12)

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**Les Duby**

Area Councillor - Ward 1

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