

Henderson a humble and happy Citizen of the Year

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK
The Acton Tanner

Patience, good humour and a supportive wife.

George Henderson, the newly named Acton Citizen of the Year, said that's what helps him with his community work and his busy life.

Community involvement plays a major role in George's life - he is a Scout leader, church elder, faithful blood donor, coach, and Agricultural Society member. George is also a long-time letter carrier and secretary-treasurer of his union local.

Henderson, 48, said being chosen for the Acton Rotary Club award took him by complete surprise, but he's enjoying it.

"My kids may be a little embarrassed, but this week has been fun with a lot of phone calls, a lot of handshaking on the street," Henderson explained in an interview on Thursday.

"It's really nice that people in the community recognize you for what you've done and what you are working at."

"I was in Georgetown at a volleyball tournament this week and people there stop-

ped to congratulate me. Since I've split my career between Acton and George-town, it's nice to get that recognition since I have special feelings for both areas."

To some, George is the smiling mailman who has trudged through Acton streets as a letter carrier for 13 years, after joining Canada Post 23 years ago in Georgetown.

George said that his job, which allows him to be home most early afternoons to be with his family and his wife, Sharon, has allowed him to take an active role in community work.

"Since I can see my kids (Mark 20, Beth, 17, Matthew, 14 and Emily, 10) after school, I don't feel so bad about going out at night to all these meetings.

"Half of this award goes to Sharon who has always kept things running smoothly," Henderson said as he joked that Sharon insists he only goes to the meetings because he's nosy.

A Cub and then a Scout while growing up, George said his involvement in Scouting as an adult is what "keeps me refreshed." He helped

form the 3rd Acton Scout Troop 13 years ago after 13 years as a leader in Georgetown.

George has maintained his roots in farming by joining 4-H Clubs and Junior Farmers as a youth, and later the Milton Fair Board. Ten years ago he switched membership to the Acton Agricultural Society and was its president in 1992 and 1993.

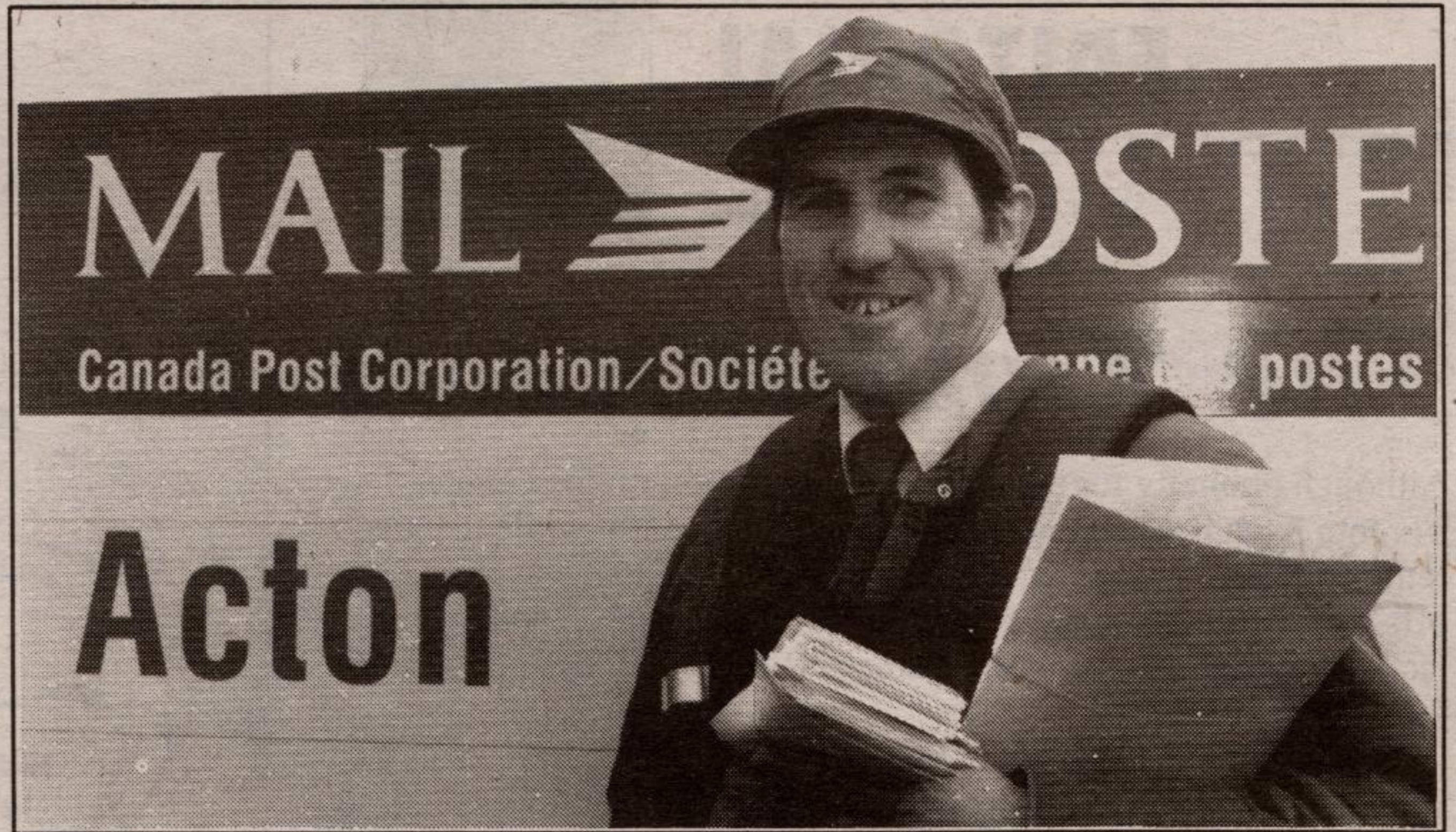
And he recently joined the choir at Knox Church, where he is also a member of the Kirk Session and sits on various church committees.

"I don't know an awful lot about music but I like to sing, so I'm learning to read music and trying to keep up with everybody else in the choir."

Even with a very full life he rarely feels like he has too much on his plate.

"Maybe I don't know enough to say 'no' sometimes, but it's a lot of fun and I've met a lot of nice people and made some great friendships, so it's all worth it."

George will be honoured at the Rotary Club's annual Citizen of the Year dinner to be held at the Acton Legion on May 24.



Citizen of the Year George Henderson as many Actonites see him day to day - as a letter carrier for Canada Post in Acton.



SPECIAL DELIVERY: George Henderson makes his way around the Canada Post office with the help of co-workers Shelly Wingrove, Leah Youngblut and Terry Christie.

Coalition urges public input

Special to The Tanner
For less than 29¢ per day, trustees can ensure that Halton kids count.

The Coalition of Halton Public Education Employees is urging the public to carefully consider the devastating impact of the many proposed budget cuts on the Halton community at large.

Coalition members include representatives from seven different employee

groups in the Halton Board. Many are also Halton taxpayers and have, or have had, children in the Halton public system. They know how deep cuts will negatively affect each and every student.

The Employee Coalition recognizes the trustees face enormous political pressure - especially from groups who resist any mill rate increase.

Spokesperson Erica Andrew said, "The Board's pro-

posed budget of \$285 million is already lean. For just an extra 29 cents a day - less than a cup of coffee, the Board can maintain the already lean proposed budget and ensure that our students receive a quality education."

The Coalition urges you to call or send a fax to your local public school trustee to express your support for maintenance of quality public education in Halton.

Watch for our "Garage Sale", Saturday May 4th!
For more info. please call 459-1337

HOME & Garden SHOW

Begins Monday April 22nd through Sunday April 28th.

Make your home beautiful both inside and outside with the help of ideas from Shoppers World Brampton!



The Child Alert Program has been designed by the Shoppers World Security Team, and includes participation of over 70 of our merchants. When your children are at Shoppers World Brampton, teach them to look for the Child Alert Sign in a merchants window... Child Alert is the sign to watch... for safer shopping!



SHOPPERS WORLD

BRAMPTON
ON THE CORNER OF HIGHWAY 10 AND STEELES AVENUE

It's a family affair!!