



There was some humour to be found in the havoc wreaked by the weekend's ice storm. Resident Kerri Chaplin took this photo (above) of a very frosty snowman while photographer Jon Borgstrom found a listing Christmas tree.

Evacuation sites set up across town

Gellert Community Centre is now an evacuation site for area residents who are still without power.

The Centre, 10241 Eighth Line, has cots set up, food, showers, etc. and will remain open as long as the need exists.

Halton Hills Mayor Rick Bonnette says good progress has been made in cleaning up and restoring power from the ice storm, but there is significant damage and extreme ice conditions are hampering crews' best efforts.

As of Monday afternoon various areas in urban Georgetown and Acton remained without power along with many rural residents. This means residents should be prepared for a continued and prolonged period without power, especially rural residents, said Bonnette.

Warming sites remain open and are located at the Acton Fire Hall, 21 Churchill Rd. South, and the Halton Regional Police Services building, 217 Guelph Street in Georgetown.

"Main roads are in good shape, and we have brought in additional staff to assist in the clean-up and we are making progress with local roads. However, please be careful as you travel throughout our community. Icy conditions, downed power lines and tree limbs still pose a risk to safety, so take care," said Bonnette.

"I sincerely thank everyone for their patience. Please be sure to check in on vulnerable family members or neigh-



bours to ensure they are safe and healthy."

Residents are reminded to call 911 only in the event of an emergency. Residents can also dial 311 for more information or follow @bPreparedHalton on Twitter.

To report power outages or downed lines call 519-853-3701. The after hours number is 1-855-226-4173. Hydro's phone lines are overloaded with the high volume and it may take a while to get through.

Updates will be posted on www.haltonhills.ca

Newspaper office closed for holidays

The Independent & Free Press office will be closed from 2 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 24 until 9 a.m. Monday, Dec. 30 for the Christmas holidays.

The staff wish all our readers and advertisers a safe and happy holiday and remind everyone to not drink and drive.

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