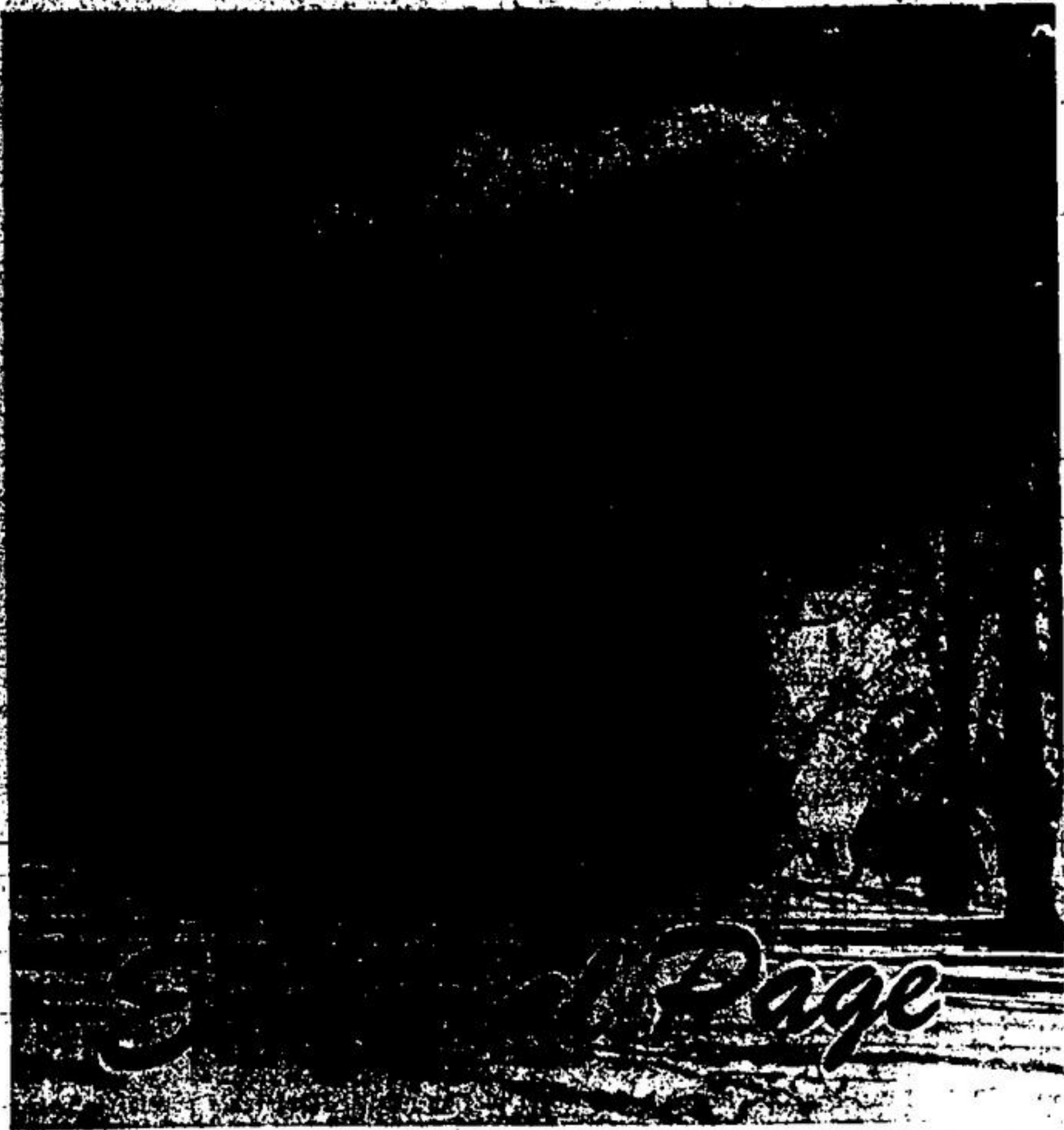


## "Winter Wonderland"



## Lines of Communication . . .

One of the greatest difficulties of local government is in maintaining clear lines of communication between the various boards and agencies.

So often disagreement and misunderstanding develop simply through the lack of communication between one group and another.

Every town, Acton included, has a number of boards and committees. In many cases the council may make appointments to the groups and never hear again from their representative on the progress, plans or accomplishments of that group. This lack of communication, often leads councillors to wonder just what that particular agency is accomplishing. In the meantime the agency may have grown upset by the fact the council decided not to act in a certain direction. Neither knowing the situation of the other, they grow apart and accomplish nothing.

The only established line of communication is through the members of council who serve on most of the various organizations. Their conveyance of information from council to their agency and from their agency to council can often clarify issues and answer questions before misunderstandings develop.

The complexity of the problem can be understood when you look at a list of the various organizations operating directly as municipal groups. There is the Acton Planning Board, the Committee of Adjustment, the Public Library Board, the Public School Board, the High School Board, the Hydro Commission, the Credit Valley Conservation Authority, the County Council, the Museum Board, the Fire Department, the Band, the

Industrial Commission and probably some others that we've missed.

If the council learns of the activities of these groups only at budget time there is a strong possibility the lines of communication are not open. The clerk of Halton has come up with a worthwhile plan in forwarding to each municipal council the minutes of reports and meetings of the County Council. This opens up to councillors the opportunity to read first hand—the proceedings and plans of that group.

The Committee of Adjustment forwards to council the date of hearings of any applications before it and the eventual disposal of that application. The Credit Valley Conservation Authority has for some time distributed minutes of their meetings.

Creek Conservation Authority has for some time forwarded minutes of their meetings to municipal councillors.

Naturally enough though, the minutes and other material are just so much waste paper unless councillors find the time to read them or at least scan them to develop the necessary background for capable administration.

Of course probably one of the best lines of communication for the groups to council or to the ratepayers is through the columns of the newspaper. There their activity or inactivity attracts the spotlight of publicity.

It is important that local government maintain clear lines of communication between its boards and agencies. It is imperative that these lines of communication be maintained for progress and accomplishment.

## Democracy's Safeguard . . .

(Marketing Magazine)

Ann Lander, 17-year-old high school student, recently won the Advertising Federation of America's Editorial Contest. Here in part, is what she wrote:

"Advertising gives us freedom of knowledge. Every public means of communication is supported by the advertising it sells.

"Without the several thousand trade publications which cover individual segments of our industrial fields, manufacturers would not know of new machinery and techniques available, retailers might never learn of new products available for their stores, and doctors would have to leave their patients and return to medical school to keep abreast of modern medical research.

"Without radio and television, we would be unable to hear the voices of our national leaders. During a political campaign, the men for whom we vote can become as familiar to us as our families and we choose our

candidates confidently, because we know them—thanks to advertising media.

"Without newspapers and magazines we would have no knowledge of important events which take place half-a-block or half-a-continent from our homes. Newspapers, often sold for less than the cost of the paper and ink, can give us facts from all over the world in a matter of hours. Magazines, published at a more leisurely pace, but still supported by their advertising pages, can utilize their staffs and freelance writers to find the long-range trends or to explore subjects which will interest and teach their readers.

"Advertising has been strongly criticized, and sometimes weakly defended. Perhaps the greatest commentary on advertising as a force for democracy is that there is no advertising industry behind the Iron Curtain.

"Dictators have much to hide—and nothing to advertise."

## THE GOOD OLD DAYS

### Back in 1912

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, February 1, 1912. Mellott Collier, 12 year-old son of Mrs. Collier, Brock Street, had the misfortune to break his arm while playing hockey on Sinclairs pond Monday evening. He had the injury attended to by the doctor and will be laid up for a while.

The Acton hockey team were far superior in a match between the Toronto Beavers and the locals here last Thursday when Acton trounced the visitors 11 to 0. The Toronto team seemed to lack the drive that Acton displayed—and as a result couldn't get one puck in the net.

Assurance was given this week by W. H. Grant, superintendent of construction of the Canadian Northern Railway that the electric road from Toronto to Guelph would undoubtedly run through Acton. Just when construction on this section of the road will begin could not be ascertained but it is quite evident that a number in this area will be given an opportunity to locate employment during this period.

Last week's cold spell and steady snowfall seemed enough to most residents who are looking forward to a change in temperature but the youngsters are certainly taking advantage of the situation and enjoying the winter sports.

Robert Joyce has been appointed as assessor for Esqueping Township and will be assisted in his duties by James Reid, who will take over the work. Both men will receive \$5 for their work.

The past week has seen a famine for soft coal. A number of those in town secure their supply from W. H. Storey and Son and the Corporation Power plant when they are getting in cars. The corporation had several cars on order but the railway began to run short and confiscated the car due short and the power house supply diminished to an infinitesimal pile. Wood and hard coal were put into use and finally Monday evening a car arrived and this relieved the immediate need. A further supply is enroute at the present time according to reports from the authorities.

Word was received that prospects of a new industry in town look quite good. Apparently a gentleman from Toronto was in town the first of the week and has been making enquiries regarding a railway siding to service a prospective industry. While nothing definite has been established it is believed the enquiries came from an authentic source.

R. C. McCullough and R. Standish have been appointed as town auditors and are expected to have the books cleared up within a few days. Salary for these men amounts to \$80.00.

Mr. N. F. Moore presents the Free Press with a copy of the first published map of Acton surveyed and drawn for W. F. and J. F. Adams. It shows only a comparative small portion of the town and is more or less limited to the central part. However, some places of interest are the steam shingle and stove factory, the steam tannery, grist mill and a saw mill.

### Back in 1942

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, February 5, 1942. The Fire Brigade had a call on Wednesday to the store owned by William Talbot, Mill Street and within a short time had a stubborn blaze on the roof under control. Apparently sparks from the chimney caught in the shingles and started the fire. Fortunately it was noticed in time and the alarm sent in.

Nine passengers and the driver of a Gray Coach bus narrowly missed serious injury when the heavy vehicle collided with a guard rail near Rockwood at the Eden Mills corner. Ten guard rails were torn out before the bus came to a stop in the ditch. The driver received a severe hand laceration when he smashed the windshield in order to scramble out along with his passengers. Damage to the bus was limited to a few dents and the broken windshield.

Rockwood school edged out Friday afternoon but the locals promise to give the visitors a trouncing when they return this Friday. Sam Brunelle and Frank Fowkes were scorers for Acton while C. Rushmore entered into the picture by giving assists. Vic Masters and Kerwin McPhail played a steady game for Acton but couldn't seem to beat the Rockwood goalie. George Holinger minding the nets for Acton kicked out a number of shots which appeared to be labelled for a tally.

Last Saturday was the biggest sale in license plates ever recorded by local issuer J. K. Gardner. He worked steadily from eight a.m. until 10 p.m. in the evening handing out plates. From all reports the sale this year exceeded that of last year and only a few were reported as having been picked up for not having their new licenses after the deadline.

The combined—Guelph-Acton combers edged out Waterloo Tuesday night 1-0 in a fast and interesting game in the twin city. Percy Neath, minding net for the Combers got his second shutout in two games but his opponent in the net for Waterloo played equally as well in spite of allowing one goal. Only two penalties were handed out by referee "Beet" McKay during the 60 minutes of play as both teams were determined to stay on the ice and play hockey.

The McCutcheon bowling team entered in the Guelph Commercial league came out with a win last night to draw within one point of top place. Norm Morton and Bill Corry were the two top bowlers for the Acton entry with Monty Rote coming along in third spot.

Chief E. Harrop is continuing to train the volunteer Civil Guard and Tuesday night lectured at the meeting of the Halton County unit when they met at Georgetown.

A dog owned by Miss Esther Taylor was struck by a car when it crossed the road on Mill Street Tuesday evening and the animal was instantly killed.

Last night's snowfall covered up the dirt and debris which has been evident for a few days.

## NEWS FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT

**MILTON**—Thieves broke into the new high school last weekend and being a hatchet and crow bars, smashed a hole in the vault wall and escaped with over \$900. Two days later someone entered the Brewers' Warehouse building and made off with some beer.

**BURLINGTON**—Council has trimmed the size of the Burlington and Suburban Area Planning Board from 12 to eight, and beefed up its Business Development Committee by adding two members to the present five.

**OAKVILLE**—The controversial question over the location of this town's city hall shows more people favoring a downtown site in the former town rather than the recommended location at the former Tratalgar Hall on the Seventh Line, says the Oakville Journal.

**BRAMPTON**—Saturday's opening of the new extension to Peel Memorial Hospital was well attended, when the first results of years of constant planning and unflinching effort were shown the public. The 100-bed extension is built in the form of a cross, and includes three operating theatres.

**STREETSVILLE**—The opening of the mammoth skating rink on the Credit River near here has caused a few headaches. It drew 13,000 skaters on a recent Sunday, and caused a traffic snarl so big that even Reeve Robert Speck was called on to direct traffic for two hours. The mile long, 20 acre ice surface has been lighted and cleaned by Toronto Township crews.

## Something From Another Land Is Roll Call Answer at Institute

The Ladies of Geopock W.I. held their January meeting at the home of Mrs. B. Johnson, Acton, with eight members and one visitor present. The president, Mrs. C. Allen, opened the meeting with the Institute Ode followed by the Mary Stewart Collect. Mrs. A. Thompson read the scripture lesson followed by prayer.

Each one answered the roll call by bringing something from another country.

Miss E. Pearen, Secretary, read the minutes of the last meeting also the thank you cards.

After the business was dealt with the meeting was turned over to Mrs. C. Binnie.

Mrs. C. Allen read a paper, "Teenagers Urged to Avoid Alcohol."

Mrs. Binnie gave a paper on temperance from the Stockholm

## Will Send Minutes To Local Councils

Beginning with last week's meeting, Halton County Council will forward copies of their minutes, by-laws and committee reports to all local municipal councils in Halton.

Garfield Brown, clerk of the County Council, said the move was designed to give local councils a better understanding of the business dealt with at the county level.

## Sugar and Spice . . .

BY BILL BURLBY

Sometimes I wonder whether I'll ever reach that high plateau of peace and quiet and gracious living that beckons from afar. Or is it only a mirage?

When the kids were little, I used to console myself, as I staggered around in a welter of bottles and diapers, illnesses and accidents, that everything would sort itself out when they got a little older. I could picture a pleasant sort of life when the youngsters ceased being so dependent.

It was the same with my job. As a weekly editor, I was convinced that no other occupation was so devouring of one's time and strength, so intrusive into one's private life. I could think of 44 other jobs that would be easier, more remunerative, and more productive of leisure for peace and contemplation.

And it was the same with the Old Girl. As she harried me from pillar to post, from basement to bathroom, as she tried to improve my character, as she flew into rages, I comforted myself, "She'll simmer down after a few years; She'll stop shoving me, her temper will improve, and she'll realize that you can't make a perfect husband out of a pig's foot."

What I had in mind was a gracious and dignified middle age. The kids would be well-mannered, unobtrusive, brilliant and obedient. The job would be interesting but easy, and would include long holidays and big money. The Old

Lady would be quiet, respectful, and appreciative of the privilege of sharing my life.

Oh, I know what you're thinking. He's just saying that. "I'll bet the kids are polite and nice, and everybody knows teaching school is a snap, and I've heard his wife is a lovely girl in every way."

Well, let me tell you something. My kids are more trouble now than they were when they sat in highchairs, hurling pabulum all over the kitchen, and filling their diapers every time you turned your back. Coping with 170-odd lively teen-agers every day is a short cut to the cemetery. And my wife has just finished bawling the daylight out of me for the same old reasons.

Let me give you a rundown on the serene, sedentary life of a middle-aged school teacher. Just a sample. A typical week. Monday, I worked all day, came home and did my lesson plans, wrote my column and let Piper the cat out, about 2 a.m.

She didn't come back though I went four times to the back door, the last twice in my pyjamas, and hollered into the snowy wastes. Kim, who had brought her home as a stray kitten a year ago, went blitherly all next day, and blamed the whole thing on me.

Tuesday I came home from work, shovelled snow for an hour, did the shopping, ran Kim over for her music lessons, shovelled more snow, picked up Kim, looked for a cat, prepared lessons and went curling. My wife gave me a horrendous blast for reporting a couple of hours at the curling club.

Wednesday was much the same, alternating snow shovelling with looking for cat. We discovered that the tom from next door had also vanished. I consoled Kim

with the suggestion that they'd eloped. Bed at 1 a.m.

Thursday night was Parents' Night at the school. Oyl! "I simply can't understand John's English mark. He works so hard, every night. And he's such a good boy!" A little questioning reveals that John hasn't missed a television program in four months, except for the three nights a week he plays hockey.

Friday morning, the cat turned up, looking ashamed. After school on Friday, we took two busloads of kids to the city to see a play. On the way home, the bus broke down and we sat on the highway in a blizzard for two hours. I delivered the last student to her home at 3:30 a.m.

Four hours later, the alarm called me to greet the same day, get Hugh's breakfast and drive him to the bus stop, where he embarks for his music lesson in the city. Sunday was pretty quiet. Just a communion breakfast at 9 a.m., a trip to the ski club with Hugh, dinner to prepare while the organist took off for a special service, and lesson plans into the wee small. Only break was a half-hour telephone conversation with a mother, who thought the teachers were picking on poor Sandra, because poor Sandra's best mark was 19.

Thirty years from now, if you happen to see a wizened up little old man going in five directions at once, you'll know it's Bill Smiley, running his grandchildren all over the place, pursued by the admonitions of his wife, and still dreaming of the day when life will be calm, gracious and dignified.

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Standard Time  
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6:33 a.m. (Daily except Sun. and Hol.); 8:58 a.m.; 11:33 a.m.; 2:08 p.m.; 5:08 p.m.; 6:33 p.m.; 8:33 p.m.; 10:08 p.m. (Sun. and Hol.)

Westbound  
10:27 a.m.; 12:57 p.m.; 2:57 p.m.; 5:27 p.m.; 7:27 p.m.; 9:12 p.m.; 11:32 p.m.; 1:02 a.m. (Fri. Sat., Sun. and Hol.)

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