



DISGUIISING HIMSELF as Santa Claus, Ron Kuiken, aided by Don Coats, delivered very special merchandise to shoppers on Christmas Eve. The articles were purchased at Halton Hills Furniture and Appliances.

Region staff cuts blocked at meet

Halton Regional Council's last meeting before Christmas ended with an angry exchange when Burlington Councillor Tom Sutherland attempted to have the regional planning staff reduced by two people.

Sutherland has long contended that the department is overstuffed. He claims the department should fulfill no more than a co-ordinating role in the planning for the region and if the role is restricted to that the department won't need all of the 17 people now on staff.

Sutherland flew into a rage when Chairman Rick Morrow insisted that the motion was out of order and council could

not entertain the suggestion until it comes as a notice of motion.

"Last meeting when I tried to make the motion you told me to put it on the agenda and it would be discussed. I complied with your advice and now you are doing a double-

take because you don't support the motion.

"Don't lobby for my support anymore. I'm sick and tired of your tactics I don't need it," Sutherland shouted.

Most of the discussion centred on whether or not the motion was legitimate and conformed with the rules of procedure but Oakville Councillor Archie Donaghey joined the fray when he told Sutherland the motion was "ill timed, ill conceived and illogical."

Inaugural January 5

Halton Board of Education will hold its inaugural meeting January 5 at the main offices, Guelph Line, Burlington.

At the meeting a chairman and vice-chairman will be elected by the 20 man board.

It is not known if 1977 chairman Rev. Garry Morton and vice-chairman Noel Cooper will seek re-election.

Halton Hills council will hold its first meeting of 1978 on January 16.

At the first meetings of Halton Hills Works Committee and Halton Hills Finance-Administration Committee on January 9 a new chairman will be chosen.



Thaw cancels ice rinks Car leaves scene

"After all the hassle about outdoor rinks, and with town forces all ready to have them set up by the Christmas holidays, Mother Nature made the decision.

The mild weather made it impossible for the works crew to do anything, but if a cold snap develops they will go ahead. Unfortunately it will probably be too late for the youngsters on Christmas vacation.

One of two drivers involved in an accident in the parking lot of the Dominion Hotel left the scene Thursday night.

The car owned by Michael Rogers of Fergus took about \$150 in damages from the accident, according to police.

The second vehicle reversed out of a parking spot beside the Rogers car, hitting it in the process.



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Two snowfalls cost \$25,000

Snow adds a lot to the Christmasy spirit but it adds a lot to the tax bite, too.

The last two snowfalls, up to December 22, cost \$25,000

of Halton Hills' taxpayers' dollars, and has left the snowplowing budget \$2,500 in the red. However, the sanding budget still has an equal

amount left in it, and there's \$500 left in the snow removal budget.

Adding to the cost is 1000 hours of overtime for 28 men who were out in the cold on 16 hour shifts to keep the roads open.

Snowplows covered 6,000 miles of roads, which includes the repaving of many streets and the number of passes needed up and down the streets.

The old bugbear, the filled-in driveway, right after it has been laboriously dug out, is one of the big complaints received by the works department, according to Frank Morette, General Superintendent of Works.

He says there's nothing the town can do about it, since lifting the snowplow blade for

every driveway would mean none of the roads would be cleared in time for people to get to work.

The freezing rain and resulting slippery roads accounted for 1,000 tons of sand and 50 tons of salt, enough for a fair sized beach and big pile of salt shakers.

Santa delivers to store's shoppers

Halton Hills Furniture and Appliances customers had an added treat when articles purchased were delivered to their homes on Christmas eve.

Because it was Santa's busiest day of the year, he was unable to help with the deliveries. As a result Ron Kuiken donned a suit and took

his place, assisted by Don Coats.

Of all the deliveries made during the day, about 20 were Christmas gifts, ranging from washers and dryers, to recliners to microwave ovens and stereos, according to store owner Jake Kuiken. Many were surprises, he said.



JOLLIEST - AND certainly the biggest - blood donor at Thursday's Red Cross clinic was Santa Claus himself. Kathy Beveridge of Toronto draws the Christmas-red gift of life from Santa's veins. Donors were down in number this time, says Henry Kroes, the organizer who doubles as Santa.

Donations down from last clinic

The current flu bug and the Christmas season have been blamed for the drop in blood donations Thursday at the Legion.

Blood donor clinic organizer Henry Kroes said 92 people donated one pint each, a drop from 115 at the last clinic in September. This year there were 15 rejections compared to 12 in September.

Mr. Kroes said a lot of people have been taking medication for colds and the flu, eliminating them from potential donation. He also explained that many people are too busy around Christmas to come out.

In spite of the drop in numbers, the amount of

children present had doubled, Mr. Kroes said. On hand to entertain the youngsters was Santa Claus, who took time out from his babysitting duties to donate a pint himself. High school students, called volunteers, are in charge of the sitting.

Once the blood is donated, the Red Cross workers rush it to Toronto, where some of it is used almost immediately. Volunteers from the St. John

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FIREFIGHTERS were called out Boxing Day to a car fire at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Don McIntyre, John St. Extensive damage resulted to the motor and hood of Debbie Rose's car.

Boxing Day car fire at home

Acton Volunteer firefighters were called to a car fire at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Don McIntyre, 42 John St., on Boxing Day.

The car, belonging to Deborah Lynn Rose of Barrie, had just been parked in the garage ten minutes before the fire broke out. A neighbor saw the flames coming from under the hood and called the department, says fire chief Mick Holmes.

When firefighters arrived at the scene they pulled the car out of the garage and doused the flames. Damage received to the motor and under the hood, the fire chief says. The cause is unknown.

ALL MEMBERS
Branch 197
Royal Canadian Legion

CONTRARY TO THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN OUR LAST NEWS LETTER THERE WILL BE A LEVEE ON THE AFTERNOON OF NEW YEAR'S DAY.

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