

Exclusive interview granted by Santa

The various time zones save him every year Santa Claus told The Acton Free Press during an exclusive interview following the parade in his honor Saturday.

Santa explained many boys and girls ask him how he can possibly make it to every child's home in just a few short hours Christmas Eve. Santa revealed he actually has more than 24 hours to make his around the world trip, and although he has to hurry from home to home, each stop is just as important as the next.

Just in Canada, for instance, there are four time zones, he said. So when it is midnight in Acton, it is still early in Vancouver, and he has already made his stops in Halifax.

And when he visits countries they are an entire day ahead, so all the youngsters there have already awakened, opened their gifts and enjoyed Christmas while Santa is visiting North America.

Santa says he is very thankful for the nice modern houses. Most of them, he says have fireplaces, just like the older homes. For many years, Santa told the Free Press, homes were being built without fireplaces, forcing him to crawl down very little furnace chimneys.

His bright red suit never gets dirty, though. It is treated with a very special solution which resists black soot. Sometimes he does get stuck in a chimney, but help is never far away.

If a house has no chimney at all, Santa says, he has to go through a window, unless Mommy or Daddy are still awake. He enjoys the milk and cookies set out for him, and usually ends up dieting the rest

of the year to make up for one night a year. "But it's certainly worth it," he chuckles.

Mrs. Claus is very patient with her husband's galleaving around the world. One year, after listening to her complain about never getting out of the igloo, he took her with him. However, she wanted to go home after the one millionth home and the reindeer were forced to make a detour back to the North Pole. "She hasn't complained since," Santa says.

Once his annual rounds are made for the night, Santa takes a hot bath and goes to bed—for about a week. When he wakes up though, it's back to work as usual, making dolls that walk and talk and wet. This year, his elves have even come up with babies that get diaper rashes and one that grows up from a baby to a toddler. There is always a new line of racing cars, or trucks and cars for the little boy of the family, and this year, electronic toys for the bigger boys.

Right now his elves are working round the clock to get all their orders filled. They too will soon be able to have a holiday, but for now, it's "go, go, go," Santa says.

Santa says he is having problems with disappointed children telling him he broke his promise on a particular toy or gift they wanted. Old St. Nick stresses he never promises anyone anything as complications arise sometimes making it impossible for all children to get what they want. He tries to make youngsters happy Christmas morning though, and wants everyone to appreciate everything they get no matter how little or small.



Acton firefighters were called to Holly Industries on Eastern Avenue last Thursday afternoon. There was plenty of smoke and the firefighters needed the use of the Scott Air Packs to clear the air.

Arts department has open house

Last Thursday, Acton High School Arts Department held their second annual open house.

Displays of art lined the arts wing while students in theatre arts, family studies, visual arts and music held demonstrations and set up displays in their respective areas.

Demonstrations included clay techniques, silkscreen projects, metric cooking, pattern making, makeup techniques and impromptu concerts by staff and students. Excerpts from Not Enough Rope and Adaptations, two plays that will be presented by the drama club,

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DUCKSDIE
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School News

High school

by Janet Rowe
 The Acton High film club has saved us all the trouble of having to go out of town to see a movie.

This Friday the film club will be showing one of the many movies they have booked for this year. The musical "Tommy" has returned to the school by popular demand and will be shown at the high school at 8 p.m. November 30. Advance tickets are \$1.50 and \$2 at the door. Come on out and watch a good movie this Friday.

Upcoming movies are Ice Castles, China Syndrome, Rabbit Test, If Ever I See You Again, Hot Stuff, Honey Pythons, and Now for Something Completely Different.

Last night the Athletic Society held their third annual Sports Night. For \$2, students could participate in obstacle, sack and relay races. Also ping pong, tennis dribble and balloon shuttle relays were open to all students. These events began at 2:30 and ran until 8 p.m. A dance followed for all those who

took part. The money raised by the Athletic Society will go to pay for crests and trophies.

Last week representatives from a number of universities across Ontario made a visit to Acton High to talk to students planning to attend University next year. Yesterday a similar program was operated except representatives from colleges came to inform students and answer any questions. All student-planning to go on to University or College next year must pick up applications at student services sometime this week.

The grade 12 law class is discussing major issues existing in our society. One group recently completed a three day presentation on law enforcement. The fourth day of their presentation will be spent in the Milton court house, on December 3. Mr. Shean, the law teacher, and 32 students will spend the day observing the daily procedures in a courtroom.

Toll free dialing

The staff of the Halton Hills libraries may soon be able to telephone any area in the 416 area code free of charge.

Betsy Cornwell, head librarian told library board members Wednesday evening her staff had been calling the

municipal office whenever they wanted to call Toronto, who in turn would patch them through to the town's Toronto line.

However, she continued they can no longer use this method due to Bell Canada changes in the system.

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Virtuoso visits school

Jim Ford, principal trumpeter with the London Symphony Orchestra spent last Thursday November 22 with the students of Acton High.

For two hours in the morning he held a clinic on the art of brass playing for the music students. During the course of the clinic he demonstrated the various trumpets from the large B flat down to the tiny piccolo B flat used for playing extremely high parts. He also played a replica of an ancient hunting trumpet, a coiled valveless horn used during the Baroque period.

In the afternoon he gave an informal concert with the Acton High band. He presented three solo works that not only showed his total mastery of the instrument but also demonstrated his ability to interpret music in a very lyrical and expressive fashion.

It was a rare treat for the students to hear a musician of his calibre and the sounds will be remembered for many months by those fortunate enough to have heard him play.

LOSING LAND
 In Canada as a whole, 53 percent of the land built upon by 71 expanding urban areas was formerly improved agricultural land, used for cropland, improved pasture, horticulture, orchards and vineyards. Past studies have shown that urban growth continues to take place in the most favored climatic areas.

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SECOND DRAW - 3 WAYS TO WIN \$100.
 The second draw is a 4-digit number. And if any 4 consecutive digits in your ticket number match the number drawn, you're a winner. For example, if you hold ticket number 123456, you would win if 1234, 2345 or 3456 were drawn. 900 - \$100 prizes in the 2nd draw every Thursday.**

THIRD DRAW - 2 WAYS TO WIN \$1,000.
 The third draw is a 5-digit number. And if 5 consecutive digits in your ticket number match the number drawn, you're a winner. For example, if your ticket number is 123456, you would win if either 12345 or 23456 were drawn. 60 - \$1,000 prizes every Thursday.**

FOURTH, FIFTH, SIXTH & SEVENTH DRAWS - FOR \$25,000 GRAND PRIZES.
 The next four draws are 6-digit numbers, each of them worth \$25,000 if your ticket number matches the number drawn. No subsidiary prizes in these draws. 12 - \$25,000 prizes every Thursday.**

EIGHTH DRAW FOR \$100,000 GRAND PRIZES PLUS MANY MORE CASH PRIZES.
 The eighth draw for the First Grand Prizes is also a 6-digit number. If your ticket number matches the number drawn, you win one of the three \$100,000 First Grand Prizes.**

And for this draw only, if the last five digits on your ticket correspond to those of the winning ticket number, you win \$5,000. Match the last four and you win \$100. And if you have the last three correct you win \$10. 3 - \$100,000 prizes, 27 - \$5,000 prizes, 270 - \$100 prizes and 2,700 - \$10 prizes in the Eighth Draw every Thursday.**

NINTH DRAW - 5 WAYS TO WIN A WIN FALL PRIZE.
 The Win Fall draw is a 2-digit number. And if any 2 consecutive digits in your ticket number match the number drawn, you win a free book of Wintario tickets on the next draw worth \$5. For example, if your ticket number is 123456, you would win with 12, 23, 34, 45 or 56. 150,000 Win Fall Prizes every Thursday.**

*Tickets issued in blocks of one million each numbered from 000000 to 999999. No series number.
 **Based on three million tickets issued.

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