



Acton Firefighters were called out Sunday night to a blaze in an abandoned home on Elgin St. Vandals are suspected to have set the home on fire. The home was



formerly occupied by the DeForest family but has been abandoned for several years.

Arson suspected in Buchanan blaze

The Ontario Fire Marshal's office and the Halton Regional Police are investigating three fires in one home last Wednesday, causing an estimated \$10,000 in damages.

Susan Buchanan, 40 Acton Blvd. at 9.05 a.m. Deputy fire chief Bob Hyde told this newspaper fires had been set in three separate spots in the house—in the closet, the bathroom and the bedroom. There was no one home at the time of the blazes.

The back door of the house, usually locked, was unlocked when firefighters arrived, Mr. Hyde said. Halton Regional Police refused to comment on their investigation but did hint that there were suspects in the case.

Arson is also suspected in a blaze in an abandoned house at 44 Elgin St., Sunday. The house is slated to be demolished. Vandalism is blamed. Steam from a car rad had one motorist thinking his car was on fire on Saturday on Lot 32, Con. 2.

\$7,000 damage two car crash

A parked car received an estimated \$3,000 damage when it was struck by a vehicle on Church Street, December 15.

James McNabb, 47 Cobblehill Road, was driving a 1979 Ford west on Church St. when he lost control and struck the parked car. The parked 1975 Pontiac is owned by Danny Webster, 63 Brent St., Guelph. Damage to the McNabb car is estimated at \$4,000.

In an effort to avoid an unknown vehicle an Acton man was forced to drive his 1970 Mercury off the road, striking a pole.

Keith A. Aldridge, 262 Kingham Rd., was northbound on Churchill Road N. when an unknown vehicle, fishtailing on the icy road approached the Aldridge vehicle.

Damage to the car is estimated at \$750.

Jewellery stolen in break-ins

Two Acton residences were the target of jewellery thieves last week. Halton Regional Police say a house on Peel Street was entered and an estimated \$700 in

jewellery stolen. A Frederick Street residence was broken into December 15. Three yellow gold rings and a necklace were reported missing.

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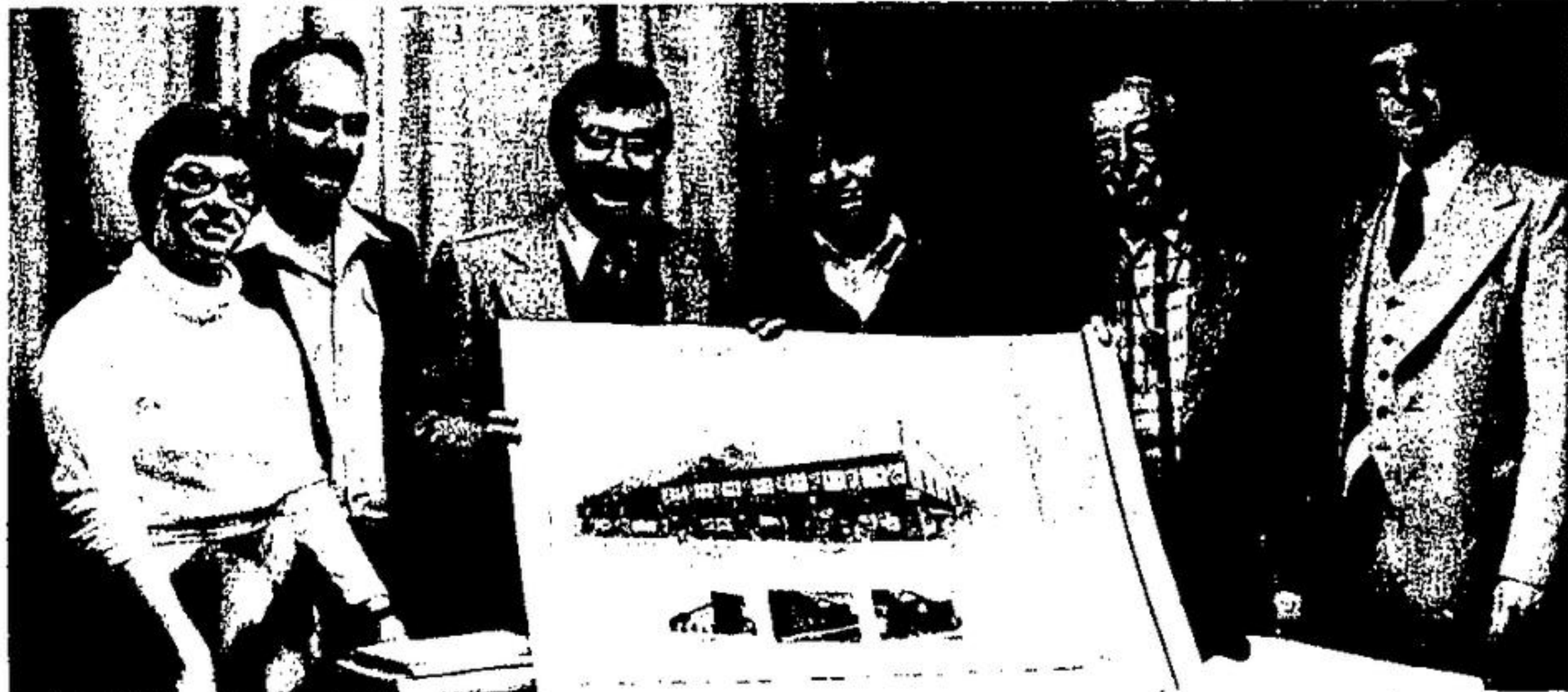
Christmas services

Trinity United Church will be having two special Christmas Eve services Monday evening, with the first, "Lessons and Carols" at 7.30 p.m. At 11 p.m., there will be the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Knox Presbyterian Church will be having a Christmas Eve Candlelight Carol service for families, neighbors and friends, commencing at 11 p.m. At St. Alban's Anglican church, a mid-week Holy Communion will be held Wednesday morning at 10 a.m. A candlelight Christmas Carol service will be held Sunday evening at 7 p.m.

St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church will be having a special children's Mass Christmas Eve at 7 p.m. Masses at 9 p.m. and midnight. Mass will also be celebrated Christmas morning at 10 a.m.

THE ACTON FREE PRESS
Authorized as Second Class Mail Postal Registration Number—0515



Plans for a downtown mall were recently unveiled by property owner Merv Pryhyta, Halton Hills councillors and the public are looking forward to the spring completion of the project. Left to right, councillors Terry Grubbe and Ed Wood, Mayor Pete Pomeroy, Shelagh Wirth, councillor Ross Knechtel, and Mr. Pryhyta with an architect's drawing of the proposal.

Five stores in downtown mall

One of downtown Acton's empty buildings will soon become a five store mall, brightening the town's business community.

Plans will soon be finalized for the mall to be located in the Morse Hardware building. When construction is completed the mall should be the same concept as Acton Mews, formerly the Dills Stationery Store beside Trinity United Church.

The Morse building has been unoccupied since the spring, when the store went out of business.

Property owner and architect Merv Pryhyta is optimistic about the success of the mall. Already some of the stores have been rented. Parking is available on Mill St. and in two town owned lots across the road on Willow St. Eventually parking will be provided behind the store.

Reconstruction of the building will commence early in the new year. Part of the present building will be used, while the back portion of it will be torn down and rebuilt, Mr. Pryhyta told The Acton Free Press.

The project was approved by Halton Hills Committee of Adjustment December 3.

One of the stores will be "Alma's" shoe store. Alma Swetman of Swetman Shoes will have medium to high grade leather men's and women's shoes. Her present shoe store will continue under a new ownership, specializing in family footwear.

Office hours change for holiday season

It's that time of year again when business hours change or are altogether forgotten. The Acton Free Press is no exception.

Classified advertising and news copy deadline are 5 p.m. Friday (December 21). The paper will be assembled Saturday, but will not come out on the streets until Thursday, December 27. The office is closed December 25 and 26. The newsroom will be closed December 24, 25, and 26.

For New Year's, classified advertising and news deadline is 3 p.m., Monday, December 31. Delivery will be Wednesday, as usual, and the office and news room will be closed January 1.



Christmas

... and we wish you the best of gifts: peace on earth, good will toward men! Thanks for your kindness and loyalty.

BETTY and CHARLIE CHEYNE

Thistle Custodial Service

98 Main St. — Acton

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just slightly ahead of our time

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	20" PORTABLE T.V. Black & White \$229⁰⁰
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	Compact Variable Power MICROWAVE OVEN with Defrost Setting \$579⁰⁰
	5" T.V. with RADIO DIGITAL CLOCK \$349⁰⁰

Season's Greetings

HALTON HILLS Furniture and Appliances

352 QUEEN ST. EAST, HWY. NO. 7, ACTON 853-0211

70 MAMMALS

More than 70 species of mammals live in or near Canada's forests. These include several members of the deer family, from the massive moose to the graceful white-tailed deer. The black bear is found in both eastern and western Canada, while the larger grizzly bear inhabits the northwestern forest lands. The smallest mammal in the forests is the tiny shrew, smaller than a man's thumb and part of our environment.

SLOW DOWN
Night driving demands slower speeds, states the Ontario Safety League. Vision studies show that your night distance shrinks the faster you go.

Jeanette Fernandes and Staff of

JEANETTES HOME FOR SENIOR CITIZENS

extend sincere greetings to friends and business associates and special thanks to the Lions Club for their support in 1979!



To The Citizens of Acton:

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve our Community. This year has been just delightful, the fastest most exciting year of my life. With 1980 just around the corner I'm looking forward to an even more challenging and productive year from a personal standpoint.

May I say when I went into this public life I wanted to do a job for the people of this town. I haven't changed my mind, if I can assist anyone please don't hesitate to give me a call at home 853-0195, my business 853-2310, store 13 Mill St. E. or Friday afternoon 1-3 p.m. at the Y.M.C.A. Bldg. "Acton Community Service Centre." Please Don't Be Shy — I'll Try.

To Actonians Everywhere:
May I extend to you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a V. Happy Healthy New Year.

Sincerely,

Ed Wood
Regional Councillor
Ward 1, Acton

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