

**Merry Christmas & Happy New Year**

Happiness is a Christmas filled with laughter and good times with family and friends. Enjoy it!

from  
**CAROL, PAT, JANE & WENDY**  
**CAROL'S**  
HAIR & BEAUTY SALON  
85 MAIN ST. S. 877-2881

**CHRISTMASTIME**

In the tradition of the holiday season, may your week enjoy the warmth and coziness that makes Christmas so special. And to all our friends and loyal customers a special "Thank you!"

**GEORGETOWN TIRE SALES LTD.**

345 Guelph St., Georgetown  
873-1605 or 1606

**TOWN OF HALTON HILLS RECREATION REPORT**

Learn To Skate With Us This Winter

There are still openings left in our Parent and Tot Learn-To-Skate for preschoolers, CanSkate lessons for children ages 5 years and up and Power Skating for those 7 years and up wishing to improve their skating skills specific to the game of hockey. Parent and Tot commences Monday, January 16th, 1984 while CanSkate and Power Skating begins the week of January 9th, 1984. Register NOW while Christmas gift certificates are still available!

**New Cross Country Ski Workshop!**

Bring the whole family to either Cross Country Skiing Outdoor Instructional Workshop:

Beginner I Saturday, Jan. 14th, 1984  
Beginner II NOW Sun. Jan. 22, 1984

Both Workshops will be held at the Jack Smythe Field Centre in Terra Cotta from 12:30 to 4:30 with Rob Taylor at the cost of \$6.00/person/workshop. PRE-REGISTRATION ONLY. Call 877-5185 ext. 260 for more information. Group size is limited - first come, first served.

**Aquatic Winter Registration**

Aquatic registration begun Monday, December 19th! Winter swimming lessons at the Acton and Georgetown Swimming Pools start during the week of January 2nd-7th. Registration for youth and adult swimming lessons, synchronized swimming, springboard diving, Red Cross Leaders Course, and more starts soon. All registration takes place at the swimming pool during office hours - Monday to Friday 6:00-8:00 p.m. or Saturday and Sunday 1:00-4:00 p.m. For information please call the pool during these office hours.

Acton Pool - 863-3140  
Georgetown Pool - 877-7721

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL 877-5185 EXT. 219 - EXT. 288**

**CORRECTION**

Re: Countdown to Christmas Flyer Deal 367, page 4, item number 89-5581 Refills. Copy reads: Package of ten. This is incorrect. It should read package of 4.

**ASSOCIATE STORE**  
Sherry Lawton Limited  
228 Guelph St., Georgetown  
Phone and Telex 877-8147  
Service 877-8148  
Hardware 877-8149  
Sporting Goods 877-8148

**TALLY HO!**

May your holidays be a gathering of love and togetherness! We greet our friends and wish you joy at Christmas.

At & Pat  
**Family Barber Stylists**  
5 MAIN ST., NORTH

**Christmas Greetings**

On that first Christmas, a special Star shone bright over the Mother and Child. May the Christmas star of peace, joy and happiness shine brightly over you and yours for Christmas and all through the year.

**FIRST LINE TELEVISION SALES & SERVICE**

5 MILL ST. E. - ACTON - 853-1057

**HOLIDAY GREETINGS**

May every glowing moment of your holiday be filled with all things bright and beautiful. Thanks to our devoted patrons.

**Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year**

From GRACE & INGRID

**Bendelea**  
Dressy & Bath Boutique

124 MILL ST. E.  
ACTON  
853-1421

**It's lonely now in the big brick house**

by **Bill Smiley**

"Morning, dear."

"Hi sweetie. Did you get some sleep?" Insomnia was the big bane of an otherwise healthy life.

"Hardly any. I was sick all night with a cold. Let's make the bed. You have to get away early today." It was Professional Development Day for teachers and I had 30 miles to drive.

We began the bed-making. She gasped, and said "I'm sick" and fell to her knees. I tried to lift her onto the bed, but couldn't, with only one arm useful.

"I'll get you a glass of water," and I headed for the bathroom. I heard a heavy thud, rushed back to the bedroom, and she was lying on her back, bleeding from a cut on her head, where she'd struck the sharp corner of a chest of drawers.

"Did I fall? Why did I fall?"

I was alarmed, but not panicky. I got a cold compress and tried to staunch the bleeding. "Stop putting your fingers in your cut it only makes it worse."

She rolled over onto her face and said, "Don't leave me. Don't leave me."

By this time I was panicky and spent ten minutes trying to get our doctor through an answering service, then through the hospital. I thought she was just knocked out by the blow on the head.

Stupid people kept asking how old she was, and whether she was breathing. I tried to find a pulse and held a mirror in front of her mouth, but my hands were shaking so much I couldn't tell anything.

I finally phoned an ambulance. The young men did everything they could, then took her to the hospital, still in her dressing gown.

I can't believe the insensitivity of hospital administration. While the medical staff was trying to save my wife, I was told I must sit down and answer a lot of ridiculous questions: address, her age, telephone number, insurance number, all that garbage. Not a single personal note. I almost told the clerk to stuff it.

Our doctor appeared, a nurse took me gently by the shoulder, and I groaned, "Don't tell me. Don't." He did.

I hadn't left her. She'd left me. I've always thought I was pretty tough. I shed a few leaky tears when my mother and father and brother died. During the war, I had a buddy one day and an empty bed the next. But this time I cried like a baby, despite efforts to pull myself together.

Every time someone said a kind word, my face would crumple and I couldn't speak. Could barely get a word out.

The rest of that day is a blur. I took a last look at my sweetheart, my Old Battleaxe, my constant support, my favorite bickering companion, the oft-upset mother of our children, the scolder and spoiler of our grandboys. I kissed her, touched her cheek, and wept. And wept.

Took a taxi home. No jacket, just a shirt. It wasn't home. I vaguely remember people, old friends, coming in. Jeanne Sauve held my hand and stroked my head and didn't say anything foolish. Perrie Rintoul put his arm around my shoulders, insisted I eat, and made soup and peeled a banana. I had to laugh, amid my sobs, at the banana. Typical man.

One of the worst ordeals was calling the kids and my wife's dear and close sister. I'd get to the phone, blurt the news as quickly as I could, then choke up completely.

I've always admired people who could cope with grief, without a lot of hysterics and sentimental nonsense. I couldn't. The next few days were spent in limbo or some such territory.

I was useless. Everyone else pitched in, neighbors and friends brought vast quantities of food. My big sister arrived and took over, and kept things on an even keel, washing dishes until her hands were shrivelled, ironing shirts, putting things away until I still can't find anything.

I did manage to hold up pretty well at the funeral home. The only problem was that all the men patted me heavily on my broken shoulder, and all the women hugged me, further increasing the agony of that wing.

My brother-in-law delivered one of the finest, most honest eulogies I've ever heard. Phone calls came from all over North and Central America. Donations flooded in to a scholarship in my wife's name for piano students. Readers of my column who don't know me, nor I them, wrote consoling letters.

My son, Hugh, came up two weekends in a row from the city, just to keep me company, and did, in his good-hearted, ham-fisted way. He carefully put away in the tool-shed, my old lawnmower, which had been left out to go to the dump. He shovelled the sidewalk for the first time in 18 years.

And my grandboys were great. They knew what it was all about. They knew their beloved Gran was gone. They stayed out of the way, didn't fight once, and only showed their feelings by taking my hand, or curling a little arm about my neck.

Broken shoulder in September. Broken heart in November. But don't worry. Shoulders heal. Hearts are just pumps. I'll survive. But it's lonely in the big, brick house.

The days are very long. And the nights are longer.

**McDonald's & You**

**COMMUNITY CALENDAR**  
Christmas Eve Service

Come to the Christmas Eve Service of Norval and Union Presbyterian Churches at Union Church, 7:30 p.m., Dec. 24. Congregational Carol singing at 7:15. A Christmas story will be presented by a youth group followed by a Christmas Cantata from the joint choirs. All welcome.

**Carols**

Come to a family Christmas Day service of Carols at Norval Presbyterian Church, 9:45 a.m., Dec. 25.

**HAND**

The ever intrepid Halton Hills Action for Nuclear Disarmament will meet next Wednesday, Dec. 28, at 7:30 p.m. in Trinity United Church, Acton. The slide-tape What will happen to Canada in a nuclear war will be shown. All welcome.

**Red Cross**

The Georgetown and District Red Cross Office will be closed Dec. 27. In an emergency call the Distress Centre 877-1211.

**Welsh Christmas**

Jabberwock and Sons Full Theatre Company will present Dylan Thomas' "A child's Christmas in Wales" at the John Elliott Theatre on Thursday, Dec. 22 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$2 and are on sale at the Acton and Georgetown Public Libraries. Sponsored by the Halton Hills Public Libraries.

**Here's your chance!**

Always wanted one of those beautiful, wildlife paintings for your home? Here's your chance! The Public Library (in Acton and Georgetown) is offering an original painting by a talented, local artist, Reg Finlayson. For each \$2 donation, you receive a chance to be the lucky winner. Support the library! Come on in and one day soon, you may be taking home more than just books.

**Open House**

Leisure and recreational activities will be on display at a Weekend Open House sponsored by Halton Hills Recreation & Parks Department, the Libraries, the Public Health Unit, the Board of Education, the Georgetown 'Y', and the Credit Valley Artisans Groups. Organizations will provide demonstrations, exhibits, information, and "star attractions." The Open House will be held in February. Community groups wishing to participate should contact Halton Hills Recreation & Parks Department at 877-5185, ext. 260.

**Toy-Food drive**

Your local Bumper To Bumper store has joined forces this Christmas with the Salvation Army to deliver gifts to those less fortunate than ourselves. Bring in your unwrapped toy or cans of food to your local Bumper To Bumper store, drop it in the specially marked bin and get a driving mug for only 50 cents as a token of our appreciation. Remember, it's times like these that your help can make this Christmas that much more joyous for those who need it. Your gifts will be distributed by the Salvation Army—so do it with the pros this Christmas and get your gift to Bumper To Bumper now.

Sharing is Caring, make it a way of life. Drop your gift at Mavalk Sales Limited, 53 Mountainview Rd. N., Georgetown.

**Hayes - Rouse wed**

Father R. Diodati officiated at the double-ring wedding ceremony of Maureen Anne Rouse and Raymond Alexander Hayes, September 24 at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Acton. Marie Zions was soloist accompanied by Reta Donovan on guitar, and Pat Salt provided the organ music for the ceremony.

Maureen is the daughter of Sy and May Rouse of Acton and is an executive secretary with a Mississauga computer company. Raymond is the son of Edward and Isabel Hayes of Georgetown and is an electrician with a Toronto contracting firm.

Escorted down the aisle by her father, Maureen wore a white chiffon gown with a high neckline and dotted Swiss yoke outlined in French lace. The bodice was circled with seed pearls. The gown had a semi-high waist with a lace overlay and a flowing skirt with a border of flowered lace matching the gown and had a wide lace band with a sprinkling of seed pearls. The bride carried a cascade of pink and wine roses with baby's breath.

The Maid of Honour was Beth Reynolds of Guelph, close friend of the bride. Bridesmaids were Christine Hayes of Georgetown, sister of the groom; and Marlene Rouse of Toronto and Patty Kingdom of Ohio, cousins of the bride. The girls wore full-length silk Jersey gowns in rose and wine with matching chiffon over-blouses. Lauren and Julie Gray of Toronto, cousins of the groom, were flower girls. They wore ankle-length dresses in pale pink with white Swiss dots. The dresses had short capped sleeves and white chiffon ruffle collars and were made by the girls' mother. White ballet slippers and gloves completed the charming picture. The bridesmaids carried bouquets of pink carnations interspersed with wine rosebuds, stephanotis and baby's breath. The flower girls carried matching small sprays of the same flowers.

Best Man was Don Gibson of Georgetown, friend of the groom; and ushers were Tony and Mike Rouse of Acton, brothers of the bride; and Gary Taylor of Georgetown and Steve Hutchinson of Mississauga, friends of the groom. The ringbearer was Geoffrey Gray of Toronto, cousin of the groom.

Following the ceremony, a dinner-dance was held at Halton Hills Place in Milton. The bride and groom were piped into the hall to the tune "Mary's Wedding". The bagpipes were played by Gord Crozier. The bride's mother received guests wearing a China pink full-length French crepe gown with a draping cowl neckline and cuffs trimmed in silver beading. The mother of the groom

Raymond Hayes and Maureen Rouse were married at St. Joseph's Church in Acton.

wore a crepe over taffeta floor-length dusty rose gown with a lace trimmed over-jacket. Grace was said by the bride's father and a special Scottish blessing was recited by Mrs. Jean Thompson, great-aunt of the groom, visiting from Scotland.

Telegrams conveying good wishes read at the dinner were received from Ireland, Vancouver, Calgary and Winnipeg. The wedding cake was made by Mrs. Kay Hart, neighbor of the bride, as a wedding gift to the couple. Guests came from as far away as Ireland, Scotland, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York and Calgary, as well as from Toronto, Guelph, Georgetown and Acton. The bride was married on her 22nd birthday and had the biggest and best party of her life.

Prior to the wedding, the bride was guest of honor at three miscellaneous showers given by Marj and Teresa Rouse of Etobicoke; Pat Robinson of Acton; and Christine Hayes of Georgetown. There was also a presentation to Maureen by her fellow workers. Don Gibson held a stag for the groom at the Oddfellows Hall in Georgetown.

The couple spent a week honeymooning in Lake Louise, Banff and Vancouver, and then went on to spend the second week in Hawaii. Maureen and Ray have made their home in Erin.

**Ballinafad**

**Yule dance festive time**

by Winifred Smith

A large crowd attended the Christmas dance at the Community Centre on Saturday night. Everyone seemed in a festive mood, dancing to the excellent music provided by Gary Foot's orchestra. Some prizes were given out to a few lucky couples. It all added up to an enjoyable evening.

Sorry to hear Mrs. John Loughman is in Brampton hospital where she is to undergo surgery.

Mr. and Mrs. Leo Jamieson had a family get-together at their home over the weekend. It was a pleasure to see Sheila, Susan, and Marion out to church on Sunday with their mother.

Christmas Communion was observed during the church service on Sunday. There was a good attendance. The Sunday School scholars grouped in a circle in the front of the church as the minister lit the Advent candles and explained what each one represented. The junior choir sang adding to the service. It was announced that the Christmas Eve service at the church would be at 9:00 p.m. There will also be a service on Christmas Day beginning at the regular time 11:45 a.m.

A Joyous Holiday Season is wished for all.