

Join the band wagon

Keep Acton Santa Claus a-float

Santa in Georgetown Saturday

That jolly man dressed in red will be making two special trips to Halton Hills in November. In honor of his coming, there will be two parades. Nov. 16 Santa Claus is in Georgetown and Nov. 23 he will be in Acton.

His first visit begins on Sinclair Avenue in Georgetown at 1:30 p.m. From there he travels past the Market Place Plaza down Highway 7 to Maple Avenue, turning onto Main Street. We can thank the Lion's Club for sponsoring this visit. After the parade refreshments and hot dogs will be served to those in the parade at the Lion's Hall.

About 50 groups will have floats or attractions along the three kilometer route. One of the six bands present will be the Brampton Clown Band. The best band will receive an award. Service club and local business floats will be competing for prizes: best overall float, best service club float and best theme float. This year's theme is "Christmas Morning Magic."

Four people opposite the IGA on Highway 7 will judge the attractions. Three former citizens of the year and the District Governor of Lions have this job.

So if you are planning to go, consider standing near the judges. The bands and people on the floats should be a little more enthusiastic passing that point. Other good places to watch from are the Georgetown Market Place, Holy Cross Church on Maple Avenue and Main Street.

If you or your organization want to be part of the parade call Lion Derek Ezekiel at 877-0350. Next week's Herald will feature information on Santa's second visit, in Acton, sponsored by the Acton Firefighter's Association. If you want information about Acton's parade call 853-1315.



SANTA CLAUS

In Halton

Worker recycles for charity

Guy Hardy of Burlington's Tridon Ltd., presented a cheque Friday for \$700 to the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, generated from the sale of used office paper and tab cards.

Mr. Hardy, an employee of Tridon Ltd. for nine years, sought permission from Tridon Ltd.'s management two years ago to set up a recycling program in their Burlington plant.

Employees have been depositing their pop cans and office papers in special bins supplied by Tridon Ltd., and collected by Mr. Hardy. Mr. Hardy then flattens the cans, sorts the paper and arranges for collection by Halton's Recycled Resources Ltd., the Region's recycling contractor, for processing and re-sale.

When presenting the cheque, Mr. Hardy urged citizens and businesses to participate in Halton Region's recycling programme.

"This donation would not have been possible without the efforts of Tridon's employees and the commitment this company has to recycling," said Mr. Hardy. "It has taken effort and hard work, but we all reap the benefits," he said.

The Acton Santa Claus parade needs more than a booster club - it needs participants. Last year at this time there were 25 floats planned; this year there are 12, reported Scotty McCristall, chairman of the parade. The parade is Nov. 23 at 1 p.m.

"We need participation from the whole community. We can't put on a parade without that help," he added. The parade will go on regardless of how many participants, but it is not likely to match last year's parade which was one of the best in Acton ever, Mr. McCristall said.

He did not know why less people were interested, particularly when the Acton Firefighters' Association did more advertising this year. Three bands are scheduled to play: a Mississauga bugle band, the Sea Cadets and the Acton Citizen's Band. There will be more bands if the parade grows in the next week, Mr. McCristall said.

Four judges will be awarding prizes to the best floats in the following categories: best service club float, best school float, best commercial float and best other float. The theme of the parade is Fairy Tale Christmas. The parade starts at McKenzie-Smith Public School. From there it travels down Mill to Main and ends at River Street where the Acton Free Press once was.

Mr. McCristall said anywhere from Acton Boulevard to the IGA is a good place to watch the parade. There will be coffee and snacks at the YMCA for everyone and soup and refreshments at the fire hall for adults.

If you want to be in the parade call Scotty McCristall at 853-1315.



IN PRAISE OF WOMEN

Leo Rampen has captured "dramatic fleeting moments" in women. His work is on display at the Gallery. House Sol. The artist was at the Gallery Saturday to talk to patrons. (Herald photo)

Children must think in danger situations says author Gossage

By BRIAN McLEOD
Herald Special

The Halton Regional Police Force hosted a crime proofing seminar in Burlington last Thursday for Crime Prevention Week.

The emphasis was on youth with workshops on child molestation, alcohol abuse and streetproofing. Mr. Richard Gossage, author of A Parents Guide to Streetproofing Children was on hand to offer his advice to parents and police officers.

Mr. Gossage's philosophy is to educate children in a positive manner. Instead of making rules for every situation, he says that children should be taught to look after themselves better.

"They feel that if you don't follow a certain rule, something will happen to you. We say that you must look both ways before crossing the street or you will get run over. Instead we should say, look both ways in order to cross the street safely," he explained.

Discussion is Mr. Gossage's main tool. "If you don't discuss it with your children, you don't know if they agree with you. We must make sure that they agree and that it makes sense," he said.

Mr. Gossage thinks that teenagers are the most vulnerable. They are at the age when they want to demonstrate their own independence. They do that by acting as adults and adults usually do not set good examples of streetproofing, he said.

"Teenagers must learn to pay attention to their own clues rather than their own peer groups," said Mr. Gossage.

Mr. Gossage's pet peeve is "don't talk to strangers. Children do talk to strangers," he said. He cited an example when a reporter ventured onto a playground to talk to several children about a recent death of one of their friends. "All but two of 25 kids talked to that reporter," he said. "Children have to be taught that nice people behave in certain consistent ways and bad people will usually put them under pressure," he explained.

Mr. Gossage feels that if children are taught that there is always time to check back with their parents, then a large part of their problems will be solved. "Kids have great instincts, they must learn to trust them," he said.

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Globe Productions is looking for another seven or eight men, 16 years of age or older, to fill small roles in its forthcoming production of Li'l Abner. There is also a need for tenors in the chorus of this show. For more information call the Producer Audrey Houston at 877-7229.

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