

Santa Claus in town Saturday

With all the travelling done on Christmas Eve, it's only fair Santa Claus takes his time strolling to Georgetown from Acton.

This Saturday at 1:30 p.m., a week after appearing in Acton's parade, Mr. Claus will join the almost 40 other entries in Georgetown's Santa Claus parade.

Mark Rush, the parade's chairman, said this year's theme is "Santa's Toyland."

The parade route starts at A and P at Guelph Street and Sinclair Avenue and will then move on to Guelph Street. It will continue north on Guelph Street until it turns left on to Maple Avenue, then it will turn right on to Main Street until it ends at James Street.

The parade will have all dif-

ferent kinds of entries from bands to floats to antique vehicles to miscellaneous clowns, Mr. Rush said.

There are four bands in this year's parade. The bands include the Brampton Clown Band, the Acton Citizen's Band, the Oakville Shriners Band, and a band from the Georgetown Air Cadets.

Postal employees will also be on hand to take letters to Santa, Mr. Rush said.

The parade is about the same size as last year's, Mr. Rush said, adding it will take around two hours to complete.

Along with the army cadets, girl guide and boy scout troops, several service groups will also be on hand, Mr. Rush said.

Expected to show are the Lions, Lioness, Optimist and Kiwanis clubs.

The Kiwanis Club have "a float with a huge duck," he said. While Mr. Rush is not sure what most of the floats will be, he added, "I bet they'll all be good."

Also in the parade will be an antique fire truck, an antique model A truck, a double-decker bus and a Batmobile, Mr. Rush said.

Mayor Russ Miller, MPP Walt Elliot, Miss CNE Kelly Stewart and Santa Claus are among the guests expected in this year's parade, Mr. Rush said.

Mr. Rush also noted there will be five trophies given out at the end of the parade including best band, best theme float, best service club float, and best marching band.

Town gets deed to Fairy Lake

By DONNA KELL
the Herald

Halton Hills Mayor Russ Miller was scheduled to announce last night that Fairy Lake now belongs to the Town of Halton Hills.

The man-made lake in Acton was in the hands of Canada Packers Inc. who own the Beardmore Tannery property near Acton's Prospect Park off Highway 25.

Mayor Miller said Tuesday the land was donated to the town by company vice-president and secretary Alistair MacKenzie this summer following a council meeting where the Beardmore Tannery was approved for town servicing.

"He said 'we've had the lake appraised. You give us a tax receipt and it's yours,'" Mr. Miller said of his conversation with Mr. MacKenzie.

But acquiring Fairy Lake is the first hurdle the town has to jump to attain the lake for recreational use.

"The lake is polluted and needs some cleaning up. We can now say it's our lake and we can clean it up," Mayor Miller said.

Stores make pitch for Sunday shopping at Halton Region

Representatives from both the Hudson's Bay Company and the United Food and Commercial Workers union are scheduled to appear today at Halton Regional council to speak on Sunday shopping.

Halton's council will hear J.B. Agnew, vice president of sales promotions and marketing for the Bay and Simpsons and James Hough, Richard Pollock and Martin Thorne from UFCW local 1227.

The Bay representative will ask Halton to allow Simpson's and the Bay stores to open on a "trial" basis for four Sundays before Christmas.

This could be done if Halton council "expedites the bylaw process by holding a public meeting soon on the issue," Mr. Agnew says in a letter to Regional council.

Under the Retail Business Holidays Act amended in February this year, Halton council can grant exemptions to the provincial Sunday closing law.

A 60-page Halton Regional health department report scheduled to be released to the Town of Halton Hills later this month outlines causes of pollution that kept Fairy Lake unsafe for swimming for a third of the summer.

Ongoing studies of the lake, conducted this summer by a University of Waterloo student and paid for by Halton Region, show that urban residential runoff and some fecal coliform (excrement) from waterfowl contribute to the lake's high levels of bacteria.

Mayor Miller said for the past five years he has relentlessly asked Canada Packers to sell Fairy Lake to the town.

"I've been hammering at them ever since they shut-down (the Beardmore Tannery) that the lake should be in the hands of the town. They never disagreed that the town should own it."

The mayor was to formally announce the gift of Fairy Lake to Halton Hills at a meeting in the Olde Hide House attended by some employees of Canada Packers Inc.

The mayor said he hopes everyone is as happy as he is about the town's new property. "I think it's great," he said.

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