

# GRAPEVINE



## Free Skates

Thanks to the generosity of the Acton Firefighters Association, people can skate for free at Acton arena on Sunday (December 16) from 2 to 3:20 p.m. Participants are asked to bring a non-perishable food item for Acton's FoodShare food bank.

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Again this year, the Rotary Club of Acton will pick up the tab for skaters at Acton arena over the holidays. Free skates are booked for December 27 and 28, again on January 2, 3 and 4 from 2 to 3:20 p.m.

## Save the date

The grand opening of the renewed and expanded Georgetown library and Cultural Centre is slated for Saturday, January 26 at 11 a.m. The festivities include musical guests, all-age entertainment, free coffee, cake and contests. For details visit [www.hhpl.on.ca](http://www.hhpl.on.ca) or call 905-873-2681.

## Donor appeal

Don't know what to give a loved one for Christmas? Give a holiday miracle by donating blood in their name.

Until January 2, nearly 100,000 life-saving "miracles" are needed for hospital patients from coast to coast, many who will spend their holiday receiving cancer treatment or undergoing life-saving surgery and emergency care.

The next Acton blood donor clinic is December 20, from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Acton Legion on Wright Avenue, sponsored by McNabb Printing. To book an appointment call 1-888-2DONATE (1-888-236-6283) or online at [www.blood.ca](http://www.blood.ca)

## Wall to wall walkers

The Dufferin Rural Community Centre will expand its hours to open five days a week in the New Year to meet the needs of a steadily growing group that pays \$2 per visit to use the indoor facility in Prospect Park on Mondays/Wednesdays and Fridays.

As moms round the track, their pre-schoolers play in centre field, and the pole

walking group regularly draws a large crowd from Breslau, Burlington and Oakville.

The Dufferin Centre will be closed December 24 and 26, and January 1 and re-open for indoor walking on January 2, from 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

## Perfect gift

Still looking for something for that hard-to-buy-for person?

How about honouring them with a ceremonial brick to be installed in the Citizens' Hall currently under construction at the Acton Town Hall Centre. Proceeds from the buy a brick campaign will help pay to make the heritage building fully accessible with an elevator. For information call 519-853-5302 or visit [info@actontownhall.com](mailto:info@actontownhall.com)

## No community dinner

Lack of a kitchen means there will not be a Community Christmas Dinner this year in Acton – "regretfully" according to planning committee chair Ann Adema who said in an email: "Perhaps someone special will step forward with an alternate option – we believe in miracles." To those planning to attend this year's Community Christmas dinner, Adema said they are sorry, and plan to continue the tradition next year

Grapevine heard that ongoing construction meant Bethel Church could not host the holiday party, and no other suitable location could be found. Adema said any one with questions can call 519-853-3687.

## Film delays

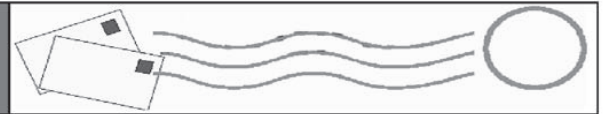
No word who or what will be filming east of Acton on Tuesday, but the Town has issued a courtesy notice advising motorists of potential controlled traffic stoppages – no longer than three minutes in length – on December 18 from 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., in front of the Cedar Springs Motel.

Town staff said they could not identify the film company involved – they believe it is a television production – until all of the required permits were issued, after the Tanner deadline.



**HOLIDAY HORSES:** Cody and George, two Percheron owned by Leah and Steve McLean's Tara Oaks Stable, have been a fixture in Acton this holiday season, most recently pulling wagon loads of excited kids through the streets as part of the Acton BIA's Holiday Magic on Main & Mill last Thursday night. – Frances Learment photo

## Letters



# Santa calls

To the Editor,

The Town of Halton Hills Recreation and Parks Department would like to extend a very special thank you to everyone who contributed to the annual "Santa Calls" program.

A big heart felt thank you to Rick Chambers from Optimist Club of Georgetown who assisted in recruiting over 25 volunteers over three days. Their efforts are inspirational

and have made a lasting impression on many children. In this busy world, it's wonderful to have people who will take the time to share with others.

To the school principals, kindergarten teachers, and parents - thank you for participating in our 2012 program and helping to make it such an incredible success.

A final thanks goes to the McGibbon, Subway and Toppers

Pizza for providing the fuel for Santa to call so many children.

With everyone's contributions and hard work Santa spoke to over 1,045 kindergarten children and their families to wish each and everyone a very Merry Christmas.

Sincerely,

Frank Prospero  
Recreation Supervisor -  
Community Development  
Halton Hills, ON

# On thin ice

To the Editor,

I am writing about the article titled "Thin Ice Idiot." What gives you the right to call the man who fell through the ice, an idiot? You don't even know him and if you do, not well. I know him and he is far from an idiot.

He is a family man with four kids and just had poor judgment that night. He is embarrassed by what he did and does not need to be called an idiot. Think about what he went through that night and his family when they found out. I know I didn't sleep Sun-

day night. I feel you owe him and his family an apology.

Name withheld for privacy of family.

*Editor's note: The intoxicated man risked his life, and possibly the safety of emergency responders. If the shoe fits...*

# The need is great

To the Editor,

The Acton Salvation Army wishes to thank all who support our annual Christmas Campaign either by Kettle Donations or Letter Appeal. This makes it possible for us to assist families in need not only during the Christmas Season but throughout the year with accommodations, food and clothing.

However, to date our donations have dropped by 40% and if the trend continues we will not be able to assist those in need as we have in the past.

I know sometimes bad news elsewhere may influence the way we give locally, but be assured your donations are used right here in the Communities within our Ministry and are used

for the intended purpose you desire.

If you have forgotten or placed the letter aside I ask that you help us help others in this ongoing Ministry.

May you have a Blessed Christmas and may God Bless you all.

Major Sam Roberts  
(Officer/Pastor)