

**Park Lincoln Mercury**  
Hwy. 7 between Georgetown & Acton

We are pleased at this time to extend a warm and sincere welcome to Ron Jackman who joins our sales team with 35 years experience. Ron would like to take this opportunity to extend his personal wishes for a happy holiday season to all his customers past, present and future.

**Ron Jackman**  
877-2261/798-7822

our classic embossed

# BOSTON ROCKERS

NOW ON SALE

BUY FACTORY-DIRECT AND SAVE!  
Quality Hand-Crafted Canadian Heirloom Furniture for Over 130 Years

**DOMINION CHAIR**  
SINCE 1860  
• BASS RIVER N.S. •

Steeles Avenue  
Hwy. 25 & 401, Milton  
Telephone: 875-4687  
Monday-Saturday 9am to 9pm  
Sunday: Noon-9pm

## Christmas tree customs

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5 from Paradise.

The time of year the play was held created a problem for the actors and the organizers. How do you find an apple tree with leaves on it in the middle of the winter? In Germany, someone solved the problem by cutting down an evergreen tree, probably a spruce or pine, and tying apples onto it. As well, the tree was hung with round, white wafers to remind the audience that even though Adam and Eve were expelled from Paradise, the birth of the baby Jesus would bring redemption.

The idea of a Christmas tree hung with apples amused people in Germany so much that before long many families were setting up Paradesbaum or paradise trees in their own homes. The custom persisted long after the miracle plays were no longer performed.

Ever since, red and green, the color of the apples hanging on a pine tree, have been the official colors of Christmas.

The wafers that once hung on the Paradise tree were replaced with cookies in the form of hearts, bells, angels and stars. With time - perhaps because so many decorations got eaten before the tree was taken down - the cookies were replaced with decorations made out of thin, painted metal. When families combined the decorations on the Paradesbaum with the candles on Martin Luther's Tannenbaum, they created the Christmas tree that is still found in homes today.

The first Christmas tree in Canada was set up in Sorel, Quebec in 1781, by Baron Friederick von Riedesel. The baron, who was born in Germany, selected a handsome balsam fir from the forests that surrounded his home and decorated it with white candles.

The next recorded Christmas tree appears in Halifax in 1846, when William Prior, a local merchant, cut down an evergreen and decorated it with glass ornaments imported from Germany to please his German wife. After that, the custom spread quickly as German and British pioneers settled throughout the growing nation.

The Christmas tradition that is celebrated in Canada today has borrowed many customs from many lands, but families who have come from all over the world have all adopted the Christmas tree as the symbol and centerpiece of the festive season. As much as decorating the tree, choosing the tree has become a tradition of its own.

Bundled up families go to Christmas tree lots in the city or drive to plantations in the country in search of the right tree. On some choose-and-cut farms, the growers may welcome the family with hot chocolate, a bonfire or a wagon ride through fields covered with beautifully shaped trees.

Decorating the tree is an especially important job that is shared by everyone in the family. These days glittering glass ornaments, electric lights, and shining tinsel have replaced the gilded fruits, pine cones, sweets, apples and candles that once were used as decorations. But the ceremony itself has changed little over the centuries. Glittering with color and light and topped with a star or radiant angel, the Christmas tree, green and lush in the winter, is a symbol that life is eternal while the presents below it are reminders of the love, joy and close ties that are shared by families and friends.

As it has for centuries, the evergreen still symbolizes our belief in renewed life and the hope and faith that dwells in all mankind regardless of race or creed. It is a symbol of joy and a delight to all.

**LEN TUITMAN AND STAFF PRESENT**

**GREEN THUMB GARDENING**

**LIVING CHRISTMAS TREES**

Are you thinking about having a living Christmas tree this year? Many people like the idea of planting their Christmas tree in the yard after they have finished with it. For many people it is a practical and memorable method of putting evergreens in the yard. There is some risk in planting shrubs and trees at this time of year. And some major difficulties in planting them if the ground is frozen. But, with a little foresight and planning it can be done, and done successfully.

Follow these few tips for a living Christmas tree this year.

- \* Store potted tree in unheated place, but protected from wind and sun. A garage or porch is ideal.
- \* When brought into the house, put a container or saucer under the pot to catch any run off from waterings. Keep soil moist but not wet.
- \* Decorate tree with care. Next season's growth buds could be damaged if the branches are not handled gently.
- \* Do not keep the tree in the house for more than 10 days. When moving it outdoors, slowly adjust it to the cold outdoor temperatures. Place it in a sheltered area for a few days before planting it in the yard.
- \* During late fall, before the ground freezes, dig a hole for the tree. Bring the soil into garage or area where it won't freeze. Line the hole with straw or leaves. Then when you are ready to plant the tree after Christmas it is a fairly easy task. Mulch the straw, leaves or other organic matter over the root zone to protect it until Spring.

Each week Christine Cole of Tuitman's Garden Centre and Landscaping, Highway 25, 1 mile south of Acton, 853-2480, will be presenting helpful tips and information to assist you in creating your garden showplace!

"Yes, the increase in fuel prices have had an effect on my husband."

**FOR TRAVEL INFORMATION - GIVE US A CALL**

**TUI ROOS TRAVEL AGENCY**  
ASSOCIATE NETWORK  
232 GUELPH ST., UNIT 10, GEORGETOWN  
873-2000

**HALTON CREDIT UNION IS INTRODUCING BANKING EXCELLENCE IN YOUR AREA**

**HALTON CREDIT UNION** is owned by the people it serves: over 10,000 members who live or work in the region.

Providing banking excellence, **HALTON CREDIT UNION** has been committed to your community since 1957 when it was established by a group of Milton residents to provide the ultimate in personal service for the area.

And it is this factor which enables us to respond to the needs of our members far more effectively than other financial institutions whose customers do not own them.

As an introduction to our five branches, **HALTON CREDIT UNION** offers you bonuses to join our membership by simply opening any one of our various accounts which best suit your needs. These bonuses can be worth hundreds of dollars to anyone taking advantage of this special offer.

We know you'll recognize the value of both the bonuses offered and membership in **HALTON CREDIT UNION**. Because investing in us is like investing in yourself and your community.

**BONUS**

PERSONAL LOANS AT PRIME RATE FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS

Date BONUS processed: \_\_\_\_\_

Processed by: \_\_\_\_\_

Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Branch: \_\_\_\_\_

\* BONUS available only on new loans advanced between Dec. 1, 1990 - Jan. 31, 1991.

Milton 878-4168  
44 Main St. E.

Oakville 338-0811  
464 Morden Road

Georgetown 877-6926  
187 Guelph St.

Acton 853-0911  
273 Queen St. E.

Burlington 335-0202  
1100 Walker's Line