



FEEDING THE HUNGRY: Each Thursday a truck-load of fresh food from the Food for Life program arrives at three Acton locations including St. Alban's church where volunteers including, Dante Chabot (left), Nancy Gordon and Sharon Mashinter, and David Mashinter unpacked and sorted the bounty at the Food for Life program. - Frances Learment photos

Don't be a victim - lock it or lose it

Halton Police warn motorists about the dangers of identity theft resulting from unlocked vehicles, or leaving valuables in plain sight, particularly during the holiday season, as part of the annual *Lock it OR Lose It* campaign by the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police (OACP). The campaign is a proactive crime-prevention program that encourages drivers to take precautions to protect their vehicles and vehicle contents from theft, particularly during the holiday season.

Each year around the holiday season, police services across the Province utilize *Lock it OR Lose it* as part of their efforts to prevent crime and encourage everyone to take some simple precautions to ensure their vehicles and personal belongings are secure. "Our police service is joining police services across Ontario this holiday season urging motorists to lock their vehicles and ensure valuables are not left in plain sight," said Deputy-Chief Andrew Fletcher in a press release.

He asks motorists lock their vehicles and put items such as laptops, tablets, Smart phones, or unopened presents in the trunk or glove compartment of their vehicle so that they are not easily accessible to those that would commit these crimes. The *Lock it OR Lose It* campaign is an opportunity for the Police Service to educate and heighten community awareness on the prevalence of identity theft directly stemming from theft of item from unlocked vehicles. The opportunity

to gain access to your personal information, whether through lap tops or other personal documents left in your vehicle can have a horrendous impact over the holidays or at any time of the year. During the *Lock it OR Lose It* campaign, police officers will examine parked vehicles to confirm that they are locked and that no valuables have been left in plain view. Officers will place small notices on vehicles that have been checked, to indicate what safety pre-

cautions were neglected and to offer simple crime-prevention tips for drivers to protect their vehicles against theft. Alternatively, the notices can be filled out to congratulate drivers who have secured their vehicles. "By taking simple precautions when it comes to securing our vehicles is an effective way to prevent against these types of crime" Deputy-Chief Fletcher said, adding "this has to be one of the easiest ways for people to take some simple steps to pre-

vent becoming a victim of such a senseless crime." The number of stolen vehicles has dropped dramatically recently, with 4,500 fewer motor vehicle thefts in 2012 than there were in 2011, and a 57-percent drop from a decade ago. Despite this positive trend, Ontario's police leaders and community partners are concerned that in 2012 there were 12,739 incidents of identity theft and identity fraud reported to police, a five-percent increase over those reported in 2011.


CASTING CALL

A CHRISTMAS PLAY

Sun Dec 22 @ 7 pm
Tues Dec 24 @ 7 pm

Actors who audition for the nativity scene find themselves in humorous & insightful dilemmas. Includes traditional songs.

ALL WELCOMED. NO COST.



365 Queen St. Acton
actoncrc.com



Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year

<u>Holiday Hours</u>	
Tuesday December 24	9:30am - 3:00pm
Wednesday December 25	CLOSED
Thursday December 26	CLOSED
Friday December 27	9:30am - 6:00pm
Saturday December 28	9:00am - 4:00pm
Sunday December 29	CLOSED
Monday December 30	9:30am - 5:00pm
Tuesday December 31	9:30am - 3:00pm
Wednesday January 1	CLOSED
Thursday January 2	Open regular hours



RBC Acton
370 Queen St. E. Acton ON
519-853-6101

GET INVOLVED. BE A VOLUNTEER!!



Wastewise is an environmental charity, established since 1991 in Halton Hills. We accept and sell gently used goods in addition to recycling a variety of items and in return donate funds to schools and other community organizations for green projects. Consider making a difference by volunteering in the used book, sports or kitchen section or by applying to be a board member. Many hands make light work... and a stronger community

WASTEWISE
A COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER FOR HALTON HILLS

• Reduce • Reuse • Recycle • Repair

36 Armstrong Ave, Unit 3, Georgetown • 905-873-8122
www.wastewise.ca
MON-SAT 9-5, THURS 9-8

