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Ted's announcement

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Raiders
blank
Cougars



Do you want to get rid of the winter blues? Are you ready for some outdoor fun and excitement? The Acton BIA is busy planning its third annual Acton Winter Carnival this Saturday and Sunday. It kicks off Saturday night with a community dance at the Acton Town Hall Centre. Doors will open at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$5 at Dollar Stretcher Daze and Acton Home Hardware or \$7 at the door. On Sunday, Prospect Park will be buzzing with lots of outdoor activities for the entire family and all events are free. For details and a schedule check out www.downtownacton.ca or email actonbia@cogeco.net. Left, Halton Police and Halton Hills Firefighters have challenged each other in the Chili Cook-off. Preparing their secret recipes are from left, Jeanne Walton and Laurel Barnett from Halton Police with last year's winner Andrea Clark of Tanner's and the Halton Hills Firefighters team Robert Guerin and Ed deRoos.

Photo by Ted Brown

Town joins GTA appeal for fed/provincial funding

By **LISA TALLYN & CYNTHIA GAMBLE**
Staff Writers

*No storm funding added to 2014 town budget
See Town taxes to go up 4.9% on pg. 3*

No specific funding was added into the 2014-operating budget to deal with the December 2013 ice storm.

"The full recovery will take years, rather than months due to the damage that was done," said Mayor Rick Bonnette at Halton Hills budget committee Monday night. "In 2014 the focus will be

on the clean up. Our proposed 2014 budget does not include any adjustments for the costs related to the ice storm. When the staff are able to do an assessment on the damage and see what trees survived and able to develop a plan, costs will be addressed through funding from other levels of government, reserves or the

2015 budget process."

"I know some people don't think the clean up is being done quick enough, but people, we had a major, major event, an ice storm, followed by 20 cm of snow, followed by a polar vortex which froze everything. It's been a very difficult time for our Public Works and Hydro. Again patience will be

a virtue," he said. He reminded there are 900 kms of roads plus parks— that's a lot of trees and a lot of work to be done.

Bonnette said Halton Hills is joining other GTA municipalities in appealing to the federal and provincial government to provide recovery funding.

Town staff will be meeting with the Province tomorrow (Friday) to advance the Town's application.

See GTA, pg. 3



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