



IT'S A LONG PARADE! These reindeer from Acton's Story Hour program enjoyed Saturday's parade. (Paul Nolan photo)

To The Voters of Acton

"I Think You're Great!"

I would like to thank all of the Citizens who took the time out of their busy schedules to vote on Election Day.

Thank you for your support and to the many of you who were personally involved with the campaign.

I look forward to serving on another term with Norm and Gerald.

Sincerely,

Rick Bonnette
Regional Councillor, Acton

ASSIC's future still unclear

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK
The Acton Tanner

Unwilling to take "No" for an answer, members of the Halton Hills Multi-Service Agency (MSA) Committee are searching for ways to convince the Minister of Health that a local, not regional approach is needed for elderly and disabled long-term care in Acton and Georgetown.

Members of the Halton Hills MSA are both frustrated and worried by a recent decision by the Halton District Health Council (HDHC) to recommend to the Minister that a central Multi-Service Agency (MSA) with four service areas to provide long-term care, be established in Halton.

More than 75 Acton and Georgetown service providers and users attended the meeting in hopes of persuading the HDHC to accept a home-grown solution for long-term care.

Helen Dubeau of Acton, chair of the Halton Hills MSA, hopes that the debate is not over and they are trying to set up meetings with people who "could help" influence the Province.

"We haven't given up," Dubeau said in a recent interview.

"There's a lot of community interest in keeping local control of these services.

"I stood in my own church to say thank you for the support we've received on this issue and was told to keep going and not to give up," Dubeau explained.

Dubeau, a volunteer with Acton Support Services and Information Centre (ASSIC) for 18 years and a

service consumer, said the future of ASSIC is uncertain because "a Regional MSA will decide where the dollars go and our money could be reduced."

Acton's Lorne Doberthien, president and chair of ASSIC, said the decision to go with a central MSA and Community Health Centre in Halton Hills is disappointing and a tragedy.

"If the Minister of Health approves a central MSA we really don't know what is going to happen as far as Acton is concerned," Doberthien said last week.

"In effect, the Health Council is trying to tell us what is good for Acton, but ASSIC's success has been that Actonites started it and ran it and kept it going for Acton.

"The main thing is that we want

funding in Halton Hills. We recognize that we can't have funding just for Acton alone, but getting it from a central location or Region will mean cutbacks in Acton and Georgetown," Doberthien explained.

"We see this (a central MSA and Community Health Centre) as being a hornet's nest down the road or the gradual demise of ASSIC."

When asked about the future of ASSIC, HDHC interim Executive Director David Hoff said that it's premature to talk about operational issues.

"But, I'm sure an MSA will recognize the historical contribution that organizations like ASSIC have made to the community," Hoff said.

Downtown shopping promo in high gear

The Acton BIA's Christmas Wish List promotion is kicking into high gear as shoppers begin their holiday shopping at downtown businesses.

Besides providing a financial boost to local stores, hometown shoppers have a chance to win a \$200 shopping spree at one participating business.

BIA co-ordinator Janis Fread handed out Wish List flyers at Saturday's Santa Claus Parade. The flyer included the following rules governing the promotion:

1. Pick up a Wish List in any participating business;
2. Record on the Wish List products or services you would like for Christmas from the business;
3. You must visit at least three participating businesses;
4. Record the name and address of the person you would like your Wish List sent to;
5. Record your name, address and telephone number and deposit the completed Wish List in the ballot box in any of the participating businesses;
6. One name will be drawn to win a \$200 shopping spree in downtown Acton;
7. Draw is Saturday, Dec. 10.

The following businesses are participating in the promotion: Acton Foodland, Acton IGA, Acton Pharmacy, Acton Photo, The Card Shop, Blue Springs Flower & Gift Shop, Clocks & Curios Plus, Doll Emporium, Entertainment Tonite, Freezer Frenzy, Friar's Friends, Halton Hills Furniture, Herrington Printing, Holland Shop, Home Hardware, Leathertown Feed Supply, McNabb Graphics, Needle Gnome, Super Cuts for All, TimBri Tea House, Towne Friar, Video 99, Wetherby's and Willow Lane Natural Foods.

Dan C. Dolliver

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We've moved!

Most people in Acton know that the Halton Regional Police have closed the office at 38 Mill St. E. Through the efforts of several people a new office has been set up at 12 Church St. E., the same building that houses the *Acton Tanner*.

This building is known by some as the MacKenzie Building, and to others at Leathertown West.

I packed up the old office and moved about four weeks ago. I'm slowly setting up in the new office, which has been opened since I moved.

The people of Acton expressed great concern when faced with losing their police office and I thank them all for their words of support. Special thanks to the members of the Acton Community Consultation Committee for their work in keeping the office in Acton.

I commend the work of Rick Bonnette, who was behind the scenes working with Mr. Dawkins and Mr. Bryson of the old Hide House, my new landlords.

Thank you Acton.

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