

BRANCH
No. 197  **LEGION NEWS**
By Joyce Buchanan
Secretary

Hi again;

One day the snow will come, and then we will be able to complain again; I do hope it comes for Christmas Day. At least you can get out right now and finish your shopping.

The handicap parking signs on the lot have been repainted, thanks to KDN Pavement Marking. We thank you for this, as I am sure the handicap patrons do.

O.K. for the kids, Santa is coming on Sunday, Dec. 16, and the Amazing Robert will be here to entertain from 1:30pm - 2:30pm when Santa should arrive. I think this year he is going to see you all by families and the food will be served all the

time.

New Year's tickets are now on sale at the bar, so hurry and make your booking either in the main hall or in the Ladies' Lounge.

Jan. 1, 2002 is Levy Day so try to make it. We have different entertainment for you this

year. There will be food available; also you can pay your dues and be up to date.

I hear via the grapevine that a couple of curling teams have made it to Provincials. Good Luck.

To those who are ill, we wish a speedy recovery. Please don't forget the shut-ins.

Still have Bridge and Euchre at the Branch. No one has said when they stop for the holidays.

See you at the Branch

For those who have suffered the loss of a loved one, Christmas can be one of the most difficult times of the year.

You, your family and friends are invited to join us for a multi-denominational

Community Christmas Service of Hope

Sunday, December 16, 2001 at 3:00 p.m. - followed by refreshments

**St. Joseph's Church
64 Church Street East, Acton**

This service is being conducted under the auspices of the Acton Ministerial Association

If you would like to attend this service but need transportation please call:

853-0350 or 853-2399

Margaret and Bob MacKinnon
MacKinnon Family Funeral Home
55 Mill Street East, Acton

Heather and Ian Pasmore
Blue Springs Funeral Home
12 Church Street East, Acton



SWEET SOUNDS: Santa meets Sousa and Jingle Bell Rock were favorites as the Acton Citizens' Band, under the baton of Bandmaster George Elliott, rang in the holiday season with its annual Christmas concert, billed as "Sweet Playing in the Band" at the Legion on Sunday. - Frances Niblock photo

Budget time

While the Town treasurer cautions there may only be a small budget surplus this year, Mayor Kathy Gastle hints of good financial news that could keep any tax hike below the maximum 4.75 per cent increase target councilors gave to staff

"There are some other things pending that I can't respond to yet, because I don't know the answer...but we will be getting dividends from Halton Hills Hydro...so it's premature to say (4.75 per cent) is definitive," Gastle said, adding they haven't even talked about adding new staff.

"I know for a fact that probably every department will be bringing forward staff (requests), well that's all pie-in-the-sky. That may or may not happen. I would suggest

TOWN DIGEST

probably not, but I'm only one vote."

Storey Drive update

Residents living near 16 Story Drive will have to wait a little longer for repairs to the vacant property, left boarded up by the owners since a fire in August 2000.

The owners, who had erected a tall wooden fence around the property prior to the fire, walked away after the blaze, leaving an eyesore and a danger.

Neighbours petitioned the Town for help, complaining kids were smoking and drinking in the ruins of the

backyard and worried about swampy water in a pool filled with broken glass.

Last week, Acton Councilor Clark Somerville asked again for an update, noting a building permit has been issued and property standard charges laid against the owner for not cleaning the site up last summer.

Town clerk Karen Landry said the owner will be in court January 14 on the property standards issues, but it's unlikely an order requiring specific works on the site would be issued at the January hearing, more likely that could occur in March or April.

Since the property owner has fenced the entire property, the Town's acting director of building and zoning, Slavica Josipovic, said they'd be trespassing if they went on the property, so "we can't do

anything."

"Maybe it's too bad the rubble didn't burn down," a frustrated Somerville said.

Sign safety

Town staff will ask Halton to look at relocating an "Escarpment Country" tourist sign on Regional Road 25 south of Acton.

Kingham parking

Town engineering staff will look into reducing the speed limit on crowded Kingham Road to 40km/h.

Town council also asked staff to report on the cost and design to increase parking in the Phase One condominium area after the condo board approved a proposal for eight additional parking spaces, cut into the boulevard on the north side of Kingham near Highway 25.

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