



CHRISTMAS PRESENT: Wellington/Halton Hills MP Michael Chong and his wife Carrie welcomed an early Christmas present on Wednesday, Dec. 15 with the birth of their son, William Cornelius Davidson Chong at 5:21 a.m. William weighed in at 5 lbs., 7 ounces at Groves Memorial Hospital, Fergus. Mom and Dad are both doing well. —Submitted photo

Stockings still hung ...

He was 45, married with wife and family, but he insisted his mother still hang his stocking up over the fireplace at the home where he grew up.

Hanging up a stocking at Christmas has been a custom, which goes back to the time when almost every home had a fireplace and "the stockings were hung by the chimney with care" in "the hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there."

In Canada, the traditional Christmas stocking actually dates back to the end of the 19th century. The first to mention Christmas stockings being hung from a chimney was the illustrator, Tomas Nast, through his drawings.

In Quebec and Acadia, children traditionally put their shoes close to the fireplace so that the Infant Jesus, and later "Père Noel" (Father Christmas), could put gifts there on Christmas Eve.

In some Quebec families, children hung their stocking at the end of their bed rather than hanging them close to the fireplace or putting out their shoes. This custom ended during the 1930s when Christmas trees started to be set up in houses with gifts placed underneath.

Children still hang up their "stockings", usually artificial confections which Santa's sure to notice when he arrives either by chimney or through the door, of course.

88 HTA charges laid

Halton Regional Police laid 88 HTA charges and issued 140 warnings in the third week of the Holiday RIDE program which encompasses all of Halton Region.

Police stopped 9,889 vehicles, administered 62 roadside screening device tests, issued 15 12-hour licence suspensions, made two liquor seizures and laid five other charges in addition to the 88 Highway Traffic Act infractions.

A Message From MICHAEL CHONG, M.P. Wellington-Halton Hills

A Very Merry Christmas
to You and Your Family
& Best Wishes
for a Prosperous and
Happy New Year

Toll Free to Riding Office:
1-866-878-5556



**Special Thank You to the Patients of Acton for
their generosity.**

Doctors & Staff
Acton Medical Centre

Absent from Photo Dr. D.W. Vanderbent, Dr. Vic Sabota and Louisa Larabieruk

The Regional Municipality of Halton

A Partnership That Works!



Holiday Waste Collection

**No Change to Your Collection Day
over the Christmas and New Year's Holidays**

**Halton Waste Management Site will be Closed on Christmas Day, Saturday, December 25, 2004
and New Year's Day, Saturday, January 1, 2005**

Please Note:

Garbage and Blue Box Collection will be picked up on your regular collection day. Collection times may vary due to the holidays and poor weather conditions, therefore, please place your waste at the curb by 7:00 a.m. on your scheduled collection day.

Please refer to your 2004 Curb Appeal Waste Management Calendar for further details or visit our website at www.region.halton.on.ca

Winter Tips for Setting Out Your Waste

- Place ALL items at the curb by 7:00 a.m. on your collection day, but not before 5:00 p.m. the evening before.
- In one Blue Box, place loose glass bottles and jars, metal food and beverage containers, aluminum foil, Styrofoam, plastic bottles and polycoat.
- In a second Blue Box flatten and place corrugated cardboard, fine paper, boxboard and newspapers.
- Tie cardboard in bundles no larger than 30"x30"x8".
- To save space, crush pop cans, large plastic bottles and beverage cartons, and fill boxboard boxes with other boxboard items.
- On windy days, place your Blue Boxes out for collection on the morning of collection day by 7:00 a.m. instead of the night before.
- Stack your Blue Boxes on top of one another and place heavier items on top to prevent papers from blowing away.
- Place garbage bags/containers on one side of the driveway and Blue Boxes on the other side of the driveway.
- Keep waste items clear of snow and visible to collect. Do not place items on top of snow banks.

