

Please note: we cannot guarantee that a notice will get in the newspaper.

Christmas Hampers
The Salvation Army, together with the Lakeside Chapter of the IODE, Acton Rotary and St. Vincent De Paul, will provide Christmas Food Hampers to families in need. Applications are available only at the Salvation Army Family Services Office, 120 Mill St., Acton, during office hours Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Applicants must apply in person and provide identification. Deadline is Dec. 14.

Storytelling group
Learn new stories and technique and share your own personal Christmas favorites on Dec. 11, 7:30-9:30 p.m. in the Municipal Trust, Guelph St. and Mountainview. Details Nora Savage, 853-1187.

Centennial presents
Centennial Middle School presents the musical, Santa Knows Best. Fun for all ages!! December 12, 13, 14 - 7:30 p.m. at the John Elliott Theatre. Tickets \$5 each. Call Centennial 877-6976.

Twins + Association
Parent and expectant parent support group for families with twins and triplets. Meeting Dec. 12, 8 p.m. Grace United Church, 156 Main St. N., Brampton. Christmas social. Info: 905-454-4504.

Christmas Wraps
Demonstration how to make healthy appetisers on Dec. 12, 7-8:30 p.m. at the Georgetown Seniors Centre, 318 Guelph St., Georgetown. Tickets, \$3 at the library or the seniors centre.

VON foot care clinic
The Victorian Order of Nurses will hold a Foot Care Clinic at the Georgetown Hospital. The cost is \$15. For info and appointment call 1-800-387-7127 or 7128. Foot Clinics are by appointment only. Dec. 12, 19, 1-4 p.m.

Cancer Support
The Prostate Cancer Support self-help group meets at Peel Memorial Hospital on Tuesday, December 12, 7-9 p.m. in the auditorium. Info: Tony or Joyce Parker at (905) 877-2935.

Amnesty Intl. day
Amnesty International invites everyone to place a lighted candle in their window on Sunday, Dec. 10, Human Rights Day. Amnesty International Group 196 (Halton Hills) extends an invitation to its monthly meeting on Dec. 12, 7:30 p.m. at St. Francis of Assisi School. Info: 877-8853.

Historical Soc. meets
Join the Esquesing Historical Society on Dec. 13 at Knox Church, Main St., Georgetown at 7:30 p.m. as we celebrate our 20th anniversary. We invite everyone to bring a favorite toy from the past.

Community CALENDAR

Seniors talent show
You are invited to the

Glen Williams Seniors Drop-in Centre on Dec. 13, noon to 3 p.m. for brown bag lunch, followed by a talent show at St. Alban's Parish Hall. Info call Irene, 877-9876.

Friends of the Library
Friends of the Erin Township Public Library will host a Christmas Open

House, Dec. 13, 7-9 p.m. at the library, Main St., Hillsburgh.

Coffee Hour
Ladies, you are invited to a neighborhood Coffee Hour, Dec. 13, 9:30-11 a.m. in Allendale Auditorium, Halton Manor, 185 Ontario St., Milton. Hosted by

Milton Christian Ladies Coffee Hour.

Keepers of the Fire
The Women's Centre presents Keepers of the Fire, a film on native women on Dec. 13, 7-9 p.m. at the Milton Children and Youth Centre, 917 Nipissing Rd., Milton. Call 853-5807.

SENIOR'S CORNER

A Time To Remember



Christmas is a time for MEMORIES
No matter how many Christmas Seasons have come and gone there is always one special one. Thank you those who have shared their memories.

THE CHRISTMAS GIFT
- Mary Gooch

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THE CHRISTMAS GIFT

By Mary Gooch

It was the Thursday evening before Christmas in 1988, and all through the house the Gooch family was busy getting ready for Santa Claus. I was working away alongside my husband, Joe, our son Bob, our daughter-in-law Kath, and our beautiful baby granddaughter Lynnea Rose.

Joe was helping Bob to set up our tree. All of a sudden Joe swayed, sat down, and passed out.

We tried for a few anxious minutes to revive him, but to no avail. We phoned for the ambulance. It seemed hours -- fifteen minutes probably -- until we heard the wail of the ambulance screeching to a stop outside our bungalow.

The attendants worked over Joe, and it seemed like an eternity before his chest rose in a uneven rhythm. I followed the ambulance to Milton District Hospital, which was about ten blocks away. Upon arrival, Joe was rushed up to the Intensive Care Unit. I stayed with him while holding his hand, and prayed that he would live.

At about midnight, I reluctantly left and went home for the longest night of my life, being afraid that at any moment the phone would ring to say my Joe has gone. The phone did not ring.

At six o'clock on the Saturday morning, I phoned the hospital and found out that Joe was holding his own. I called Bob, scaring him to death, to tell him his father was alive, but had not regained consciousness.

Returning to the hospital, I took the elevator up to Joe's floor. Joe was conscious at last. He smiled at me and went back to sleep. I went out to speak to the nurses, while turning my head away from Joe's room. We talked for a few minutes; then, hearing a noise, I turned and saw Joe getting out of bed, dragging his intravenous apparatus behind him.

Joe went home that evening. He lived until he was ninety-one. My best Christmas gift ever, was having my husband back beside me again.



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