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in smash-up**  
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# The Independent Weekend Edition & Free Press

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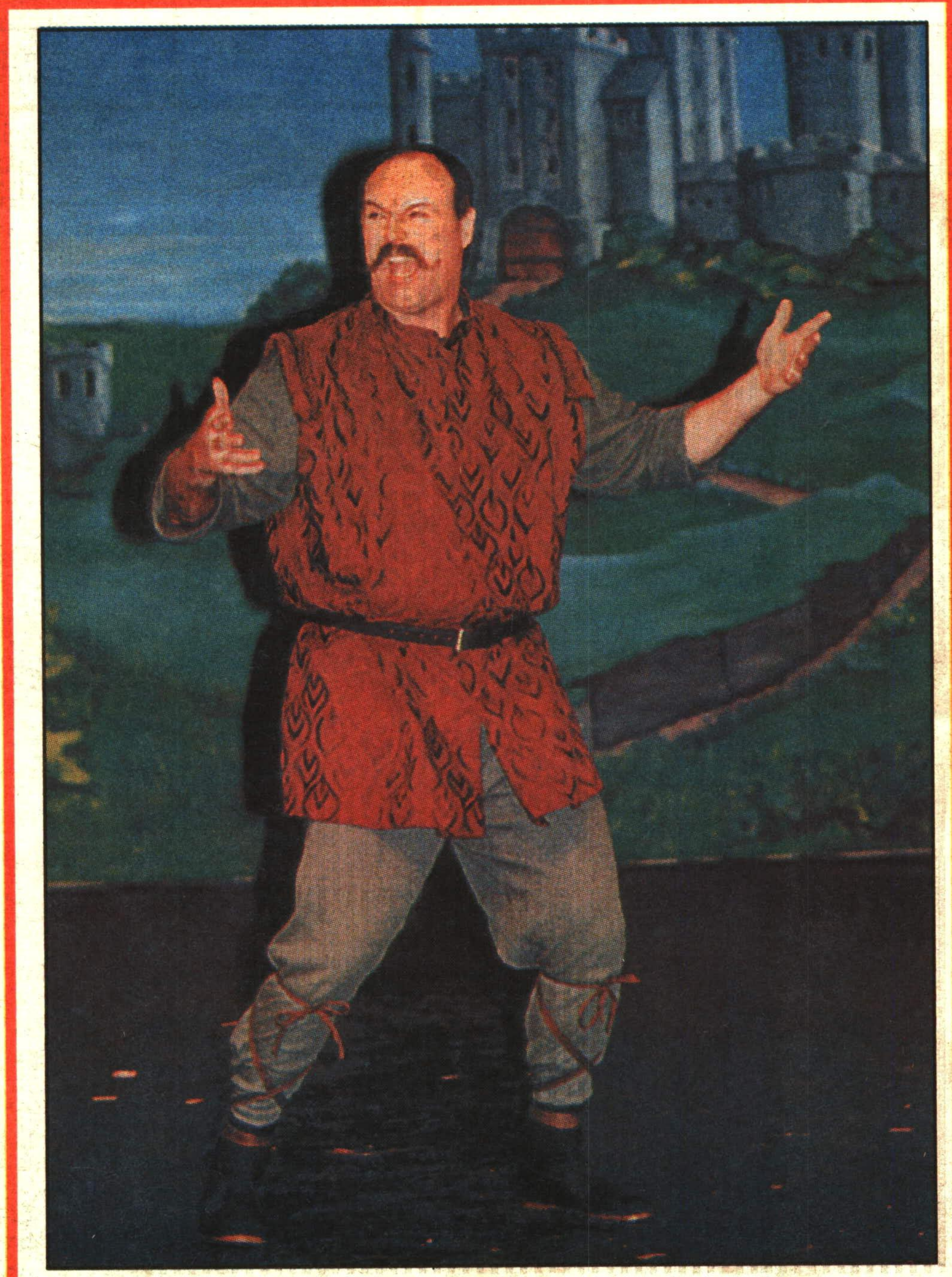
**NEWS AT  
A GLANCE**

**Lighting up**  
Celebrate the season at Georgetown Hospital's annual Tree Lighting ceremony on Wednesday (Dec. 4), at 7 p.m., outside the hospital's front lobby. This year's entertainment will be the Georgetown Children's Choir and the East and West Girl Guides. Along with carolling, enjoy hot chocolate, spiced tea and sweets.

**Homes evacuated**  
Several residents in the Smith Dr. area were evacuated Wednesday night because of a gas smell in their homes. A spokesperson for Halton Hills Fire Department said somebody poured gasoline into a storm sewer catch basin in the area causing fumes to enter the homes through floor drains. The fire department arrived on the scene at about 6:52 p.m. The town's Public Works Department suction truck was brought in to remove the gasoline from the catch basin. Police, ambulance, and Halton Region's Spills Response team were also at the scene.

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**In King Arthur's court**  
The world of King Arthur (played by Stephen Higgins) and the magic of Camelot came alive on the stage of John Elliott Theatre, as Georgetown Globe Productions' Camelot opened Thursday night with a benefit performance. The musical, featuring the music of Lerner and Lowe continues its run until Dec. 7.  
Photo by Ted Brown

## Plan for Gardens lands finalized

BY CYNTHIA GAMBLE  
Staff Writer

Halton Hills council has given the thumbs up to a master plan concept of the Dominion Gardens lands which will include a park, a Catholic high school, a fire station, a retail section, and townhomes and apartments. The stamp of approval was given at a special council meeting held Thursday evening. Parallax Land Corp., the developer, wanted council approval on the concept before yesterday (Saturday), since that's when the option to buy the lands from the Harding family ran out. All councillors present agreed to the proposed concept, except Esquesing Councillor Kevin Kuiack who argued that the process had been rushed and there had not been enough community input. However, Mayor Marilyn Serjeantson said, "The public process we've just been through, has been more thorough in the sense the public has been involved in the actually planning... and that's a real first. We've never had the workshops before.... It may not have been a long, drawn out affair, but it was done in a way that... I do believe the public who wanted to be part of it actually came and sat down with pen in hand and worked at it....I think we have achieved something we can be proud of." In a recorded vote, Georgetown Councillors Al Cook and Ron Chatten were the only ones to object to locating a future fire station on the site. The more centrally-located station fronting onto Mountainview Rd., would serve Halton Hills' future fire service needs— improving response times, for example, Fire Chief Bill Cunningham said. The Guelph St./Maple Ave. corner will be approximately eight acres of parkland, including a memorial gardens commemorating the Dominion Seed House's historical contribution to the town. The high school will be on 15 acres of land or less, fronting onto Guelph St. and with access off Mountainview Rd. as well. Some councillors suggested the building could be three storeys to  
See PLAN, pg. 5

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