

Truckloads
of toys

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Minor hockey
scoreboard

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Skaters on
their way

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NEWS AT A GLANCE

Business break-in

■ Police are investigating a break and enter into an Armstrong Ave. business that occurred sometime overnight last week. Police report entry was gained into the building after a window was broken. Nothing was stolen however police say the culprits pushed a pickup truck out of the parking lot and attempted to start it, but were unsuccessful.

Police say the incident may be related to the attempted theft of a 1986 Dodge Aries from a Durham St. home at about the same time. Police say the car was broken into and damage was done to the ignition.

School mischief

■ Police have charged a 17-year-old male Acton High School student with mischief in connection with damage done at the school last week. Five windows were broken, resulting in about \$1,000 worth of damage. The accused is to appear in court on Jan. 17.

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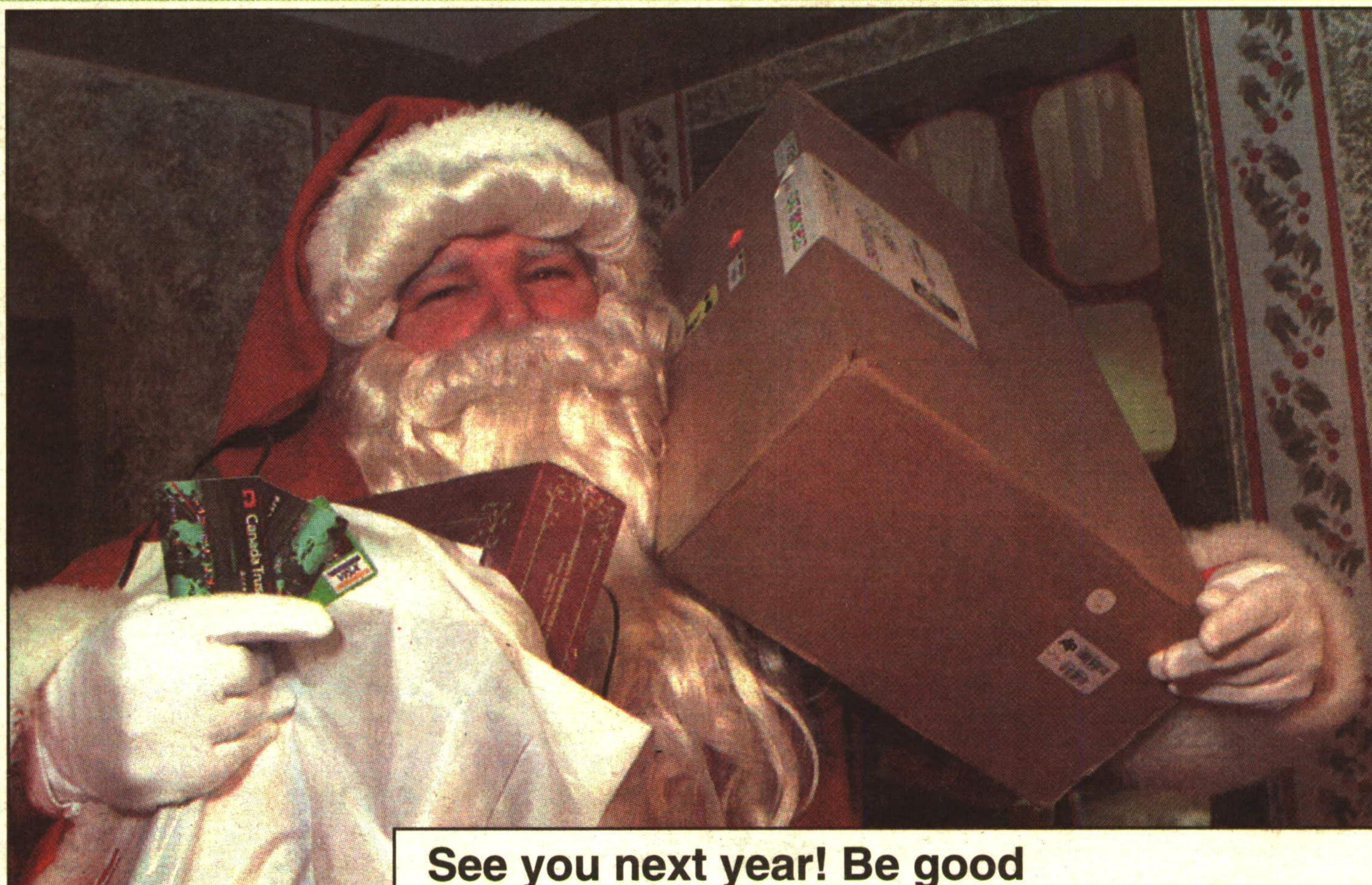


Photo by George Beshir

See you next year! Be good

Back at the North Pole, Santa Claus packs up his boxes and bags after his trip around the world Christmas Eve. With the first full moon since 1942, and Rudolph along for the ride, he reports the sky was well lit. The jolly old man is now resting until next year.

Provincial funding to town 'more than expected'

By LISA TALLYN
Staff Writer

The Town of Halton Hills got the official word last Friday it will receive \$976,328 in transfer payments from the provincial government for 1997 through its Municipal Support Program.

Town treasurer Andrew Koopmans said the grant is a little bit more than had been expected, but almost 36 per cent less than the town received through the program last year. The 1996 transfer payment was 34 per cent less than the 1995 provincial funding.

"It is not dedicated to anything," said Koopmans. He

added the money is classified as a revenue source and the town can spend it anyway it chooses.

The 1997 funding is the second stage of a two-year funding commitment to municipalities from the province.

The Municipal Support Program replaced three provincial programs; municipal roads, unconditional grants and grants for

northern transportation assistance.

Under the new program municipalities received a lump sum to cover a variety of services with all conditions removed. It was done to give the municipalities more flexibility to spend money on local priorities. Last year municipalities received \$896 million, this year the provincial contribution totalled \$736 million.

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