

Parade set for Saturday Santa Acton-bound

Acton may be mistaken for the North Pole this weekend, as the Acton Santa Claus parade rolls through town.

The annual event has once again been organized by the Acton Fire Fighters Association. This year's parade, with a fairy tale Christmas theme, starts at 1 p.m. on Saturday.

The parade will assemble at McKenzie-Smith Bennett School on Acton Blvd with the route beginning on Acton Blvd. to Queen St., following Queen St. west to Young St. The parade will then follow Young St. and turn west on Mill St. through downtown, to Main St. The procession will go north on Main St. to Knox St., concluding at Prospect Park.

"This is the first year we'll be ending at Prospect Park," said Bill Spielvogel, chairman of the parade, "but otherwise this is the traditional route."

It will take approximately one and a half hours for the parade to complete its route.

Spielvogel said there will be about the same number of floats as last year, approximately 43 vehicles. To bring festive music to the route, Spielvogel said five bands are scheduled to take part, including the Acton Citizens' Band, the Arthur High School Band, the Guelph-Ajax Drum and Bugle Corps, the Guelph Royales and the Acton Air Cadet Band. Children are reminded to bring their letters for Santa, as postal workers will be on hand to collect them.

"Come out and support the parade," said Spielvogel. "It's Christmas, and it's for the kids." For more information call Spielvogel at 853-2924.

—By Emily Thompson, special

What You Said

'Should police officers take part in high-speed pursuits?'



Deborah Hart,
court registrar,
Georgetown

"Yes, if people think they can take the law and run with it they will. If you don't try to stop them, they're going to kill someone one way or another. It's like giving the bad guys free reign. Why bother having rules if you're going to do that."



Bruce Millar,
Domino's Pizza
employee,
Georgetown

"Yes, they're trained to handle pursuits. You can't just allow people to get away with crimes. If you do, what's the value of having a police department."



Theresa Millar,
mother,
Georgetown

"Yes, I do. I think it's part of their job and they have to if they're going to catch people."



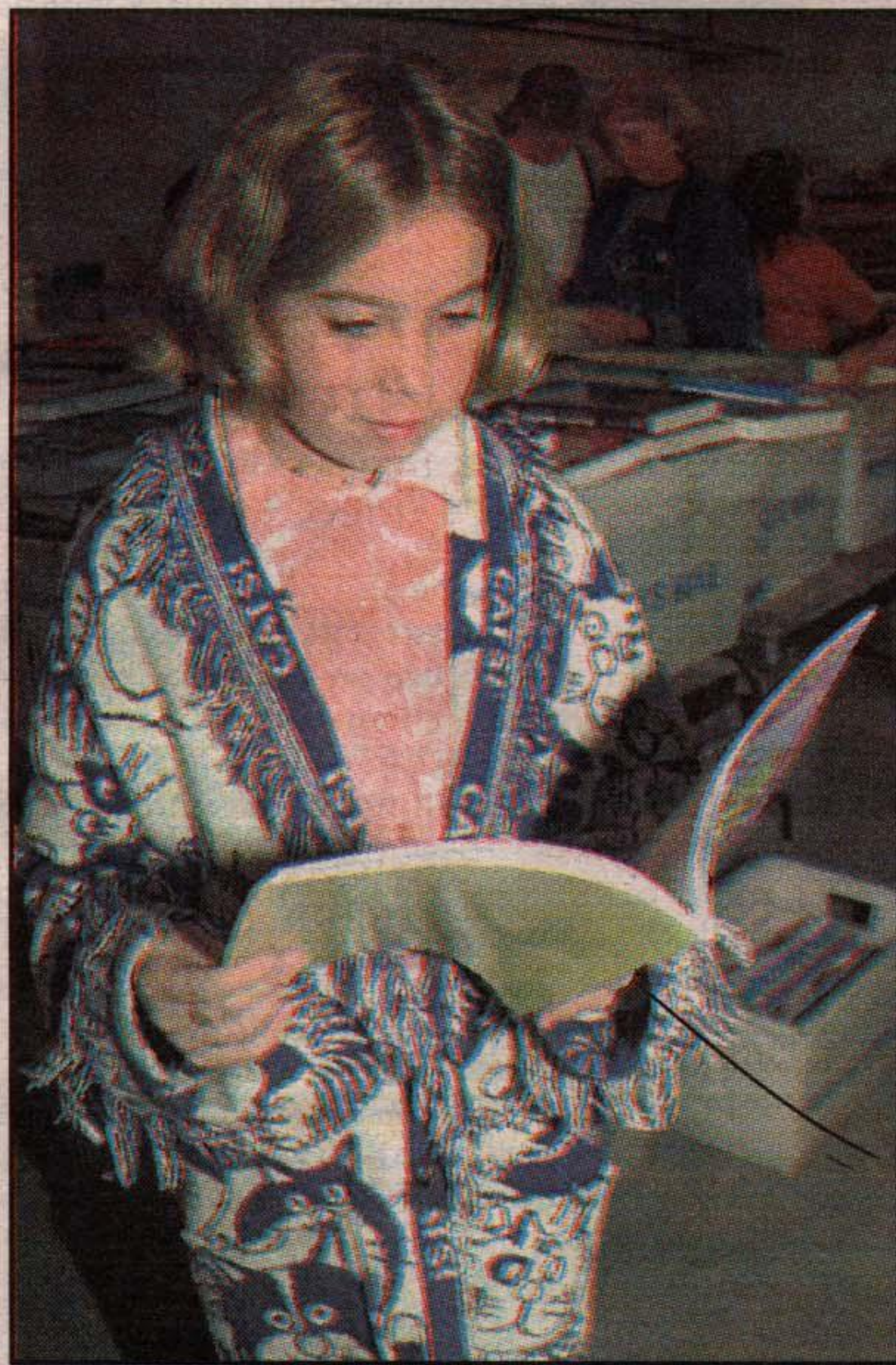
Betty Vistorino,
nurse,
Brampton

"No, there's a lot of people getting hurt."



Helen Steeves,
homemaker,
Georgetown

"It depends on how serious the crime is. If it's something very minor then they shouldn't take the risk. It also depends on the circumstances, what time of day it is and how many people are around."



Read all about it

Rachel Arbutnot takes a look through one of the many books at the recent Rodale Press and DDH Distribution Services book sale. The annual sale drew hundreds of customers looking to get a jump on their Christmas shopping. A portion of the proceeds from the sale will be donated to various local charities and educational institutions.

Photo by Herb Garbutt



Around town... ...in pictures



Helping hands

Students at Brookville School recently undertook a project to send aid to Hurricane Mitch victims in Honduras by collecting food, clothing, and medical and baby supplies. Among those helping pack the goods, which were distributed by the Salvation Army, were (from left) Elizabeth Demetrious, Kris Steddy, Lisa Tuff, student council deputy prime minister Ashley Codner, student council prime minister Dawn Brunswiler and Kirsten Lowe. The project was initiated by teacher Melissa Boudreau who had studied Spanish in Honduras this past summer.

Photo by Ted Brown

Parkette kickoff

Members of Acton BIA recently took shovels in hand as they officially kicked off construction of a parkette at 186 Mill St. East, formerly occupied by an Esso station. Imperial Oil agreed to fund the development of the lot into a parkette, and Acton BIA will oversee the project and maintain it for a five year term. On hand to take part were BIA members (from left) John McNabb, Janis Fread, Len Tuitman (who will be designing and constructing the parkette), Gord Chapman, BIA chair Brenda Watson and Norm Poulsen.

Photo by Ted Brown



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