

The Independent & Free Press

Weekend Edition

Ken Nugent, Publisher

Steve Foreman, Advertising/Production Manager

Lorne Drury, Editor-in-Chief

John McGhie, Managing Editor

Carol Young, Business Manager

Dave Coleman, Director of Distribution

Nancy Geissler, Circulation Manager

News Editor: Cynthia Gamble

Staff Writers: Lisa Tallyn, Herb Garbutt

Photography: Ted Brown

Advertising Sales: Dianne Fascinato, Sharon Pinkney, Pat Tosh,

Cindi Dermo, TerryLynn Guest, Jeanette Cox, Mary O'Brien

Classified Manager: Carol Hall

Accounting: Pat Kentner, Rose Marie Gauthier

Production: Mary Lou Foreman, Kevin Powell, Shelli Harrison, Dolores Black, Debbie MacDougall

The Independent & Free Press is published every Wednesday and Sunday at 211 Armstrong Ave. Georgetown Ont., L7G 4X5. It is one of the newspapers published by Metroland Printing, Publishing & Distributing Ltd., which includes: Ajax/Pickering News Advertiser, Alliston Herald/Courier, Barry's Bay This Week, Barrie Advance, Bolton Enterprise, Brampton Guardian, Burlington Shopping News, Burlington Post, City Parent, Collingwood/Wasaga Connection, East York Mirror, Erin Advocate/Country Routes, Etobicoke Guardian, Flamborough Post, Georgetown Independent/Acton Free Press, Kingston This Week, Lindsay This Week, Markham Economist & Sun, Midland/Penetanguishene Mirror, Milton Canadian Champion, Milton Shopping News, Mississauga News, Newmarket/Aurora Era-Banner, Northumberland News, North York Mirror, Oakville Beaver, Oakville Shopping News, Orillia Today, Oshawa/Whitby/Clarington This Week, Peterborough This Week, Richmond Hill/Thornhill/Vaughan Liberal, Scarborough Mirror, Stouffville/Uxbridge Tribune, Today's Seniors, City of York Guardian.

Advertising is accepted on the condition that, in the event of a typographical error, that portion of the advertising space occupied by the erroneous item, together with reasonable allowance for signature will not be charged for, but the balance of the advertisement will be paid for at the acceptable rate.

In the event of typographical error advertising goods or services at wrong price, goods or services may not be sold. Advertising is merely an offer to sell which may be withdrawn at any time.

Editorial and advertising content of The Independent & Free Press is protected by copyright. Unauthorized use is prohibited.

Price: Store copies 50¢ each; Subscriptions \$26.00 per year by carrier, \$92.50 per year by mail in Canada; \$130.00 per year in all other countries. Plus G.S.T.

Second Class Mail Registration Number 6869. The Independent & Free Press is a member of The Canadian Community Newspaper Association and The Ontario Community Newspaper Association.

Mailing Address: 211 ARMSTRONG AVE. GEORGETOWN, ONT. L7G 4X5
Telephone: 905-873-0301 Fax: 905-873-0398
e-mail: independent.freepress@aztec-net.com



Show your spirit

As December approaches, this community's custom of caring and sharing heads into high gear.

Already we have seen fantastic examples. Earlier this month the two Scout/Guide food drives in Acton and Georgetown gathered more than 20,000 lbs of food for the local food banks. This will enable the more than 200 families who rely on the food banks to have regular meals during the Christmas seasons.

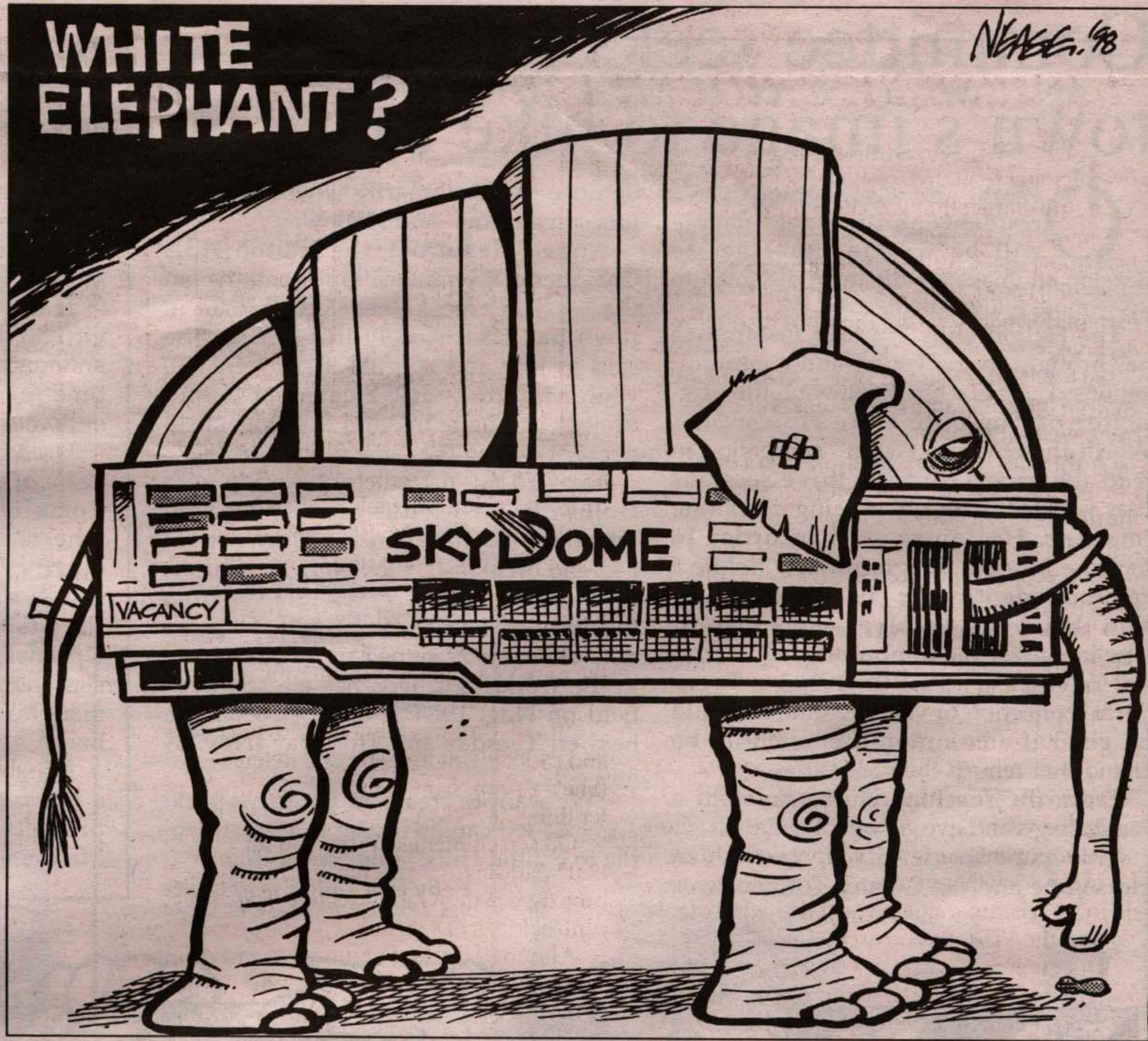
Local groups like the Salvation Army, IODE, St. Vincent de Paul, and Acton Rotary Club are participating in the Christmas hamper program to ensure the needy have a traditional Christmas dinner.

Businesses like Canadian Tire and Barrager's Cleaners are ensuring the children and adults are kept warm during the season. Barrager's Cleaners continued its traditional Coats for the Community drive. The business has cleaned donated coats that will be distributed in the coming weeks by Halton Hills Community Support and Information.

Georgetown Canadian Tire, in partnership with local schools, launched Project Warmth, which collected sleeping bags and clothing for the homeless.

All these groups aren't alone in their efforts. During the next month you will be reading more about toy drives and fund-raising efforts. We encourage everyone to participate because the joy of the Christmas season is not just one day, it's all the wonderful caring and sharing days leading up to it.

And that's the true gift of Christmas.



Acton shows its generosity

Dear editor,

Acton has shown its generosity and compassion yet again. Even though the community (mainly through schools and churches) donated around 2,600 lbs. of food at Thanksgiving—without being asked to—they responded overwhelmingly to the Nov. 7 Scout/Guide Food Drive.

The eager Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, Venturers, Sparks, Brownies, Guides, Pathfinders and Calvinist Cadets from Acton, along with the Beavers and Cubs from Limehouse, went door-to-door to pick up the bags of food and/or cash, and then helped sort the food. In total more than 8,600 lbs. of food and \$180 were collected.

Our sincere thanks to all the youngsters, parents and leaders who helped in the Food Drive. Our thanks also to the New Tanner for kindly distributing the bags with the newspaper, to Acton IGA for donating the bags, to Leathertown Lumber for supplying tape for boxes, and to everyone who donated

Letter of the day

Arena decision 'unfair'

Dear editor,

Please allow me to take this space to thank the hard-working, community spirited people who worked so hard to save the old Acton Arena—The Heritage Acton Committee, the Acton Agricultural Society, the three Acton councillors and the general public.

As the story goes, the year before the new arena opened the old arena was perfectly safe to use. As soon as the new arena opened, the old one was no longer safe. Strange isn't it? It is no wonder the people of Acton are frustrated and extremely disappointed with the outcome. Six months, just a lousy six months was all that was asked.

We are not stupid people. If the building could not be fixed for a reasonable sum and it was totally unsafe, we would not expect anymore. If on the other hand, the only decision being accepted is that of the town engineer, who could be very biased in his opinion, then I think this decision was very unfair to the people of Acton.

However, dignity in the face of adversity. Like the residents of Eden Mills and their bridge, we will go forward and hopefully will work together to help the Agricultural Society get a building we can all be proud of.

Elizabeth Cole, Acton

food or cash.

If anyone still has a donation please call the FoodShare at 853-0457, or drop in on Tuesday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., or Saturday 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. We are located at 153 Perth Street.

You can also drop food or cash donations at the many stores and banks in town who display our boxes.

On behalf of the less fortunate in our town—thank you for your kindness!

Acton FoodShare

PUD



Our Readers Write

The Independent & Free Press welcomes letters to the editor from our readers. All letters must be signed and include an address and a daytime telephone number. Letters may be edited for content and length and can be mailed, delivered to our office address at 211 Armstrong Ave., Georgetown, Ont., L7G 4X5, faxed to us at (905) 873-0398 or e-mailed to: independent.freepress@aztec-net.com