

Vandals with spray paint deface town, area

By Frances Niblock

Halton police are investigating a hate crime in Nassagaweya after an "ignorant racist" spray painted graffiti in Nassagaweya.

On Christmas Day, a white, backward swastika was found painted in the intersection of 15 Side Road and Nassagaweya Town Line. One kilometre south, obscenities and "other

words" had been spray painted on roadside signs, a large boulder and rocks.

Halton Detective Sergeant Peter Hodgson said they are treating it like a hate crime.

"If somebody who was a Holocaust survivor or had family that had gone through that experience, how would they react to it? I think it's despicable," Detective Sergeant

Peter Hodgson said on Tuesday.

Incidents in Acton

Halton police are also investigating numerous incidents of spray painted graffiti over Christmas in Acton.

The senseless vandalism angers and disheartens Rotary Club of Acton members whose \$100,000 bandshell, still under con-

struction in Prospect Park, was targeted.

"These deliberate acts of vandalism, boy I'll tell you, they've got to stop in our community," Rotarian Bill Beaton said on Sunday, after he and others viewed the damage with police.

"Having put together a pretty nice band-

Continued on page 3

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What's Inside

Plan new Acton medical centre



Acton Pee-wee Tanners took the trip to Midland and wrapped up the Silver Stick Championships during the holidays. Story on Page 13.



Acton merchants worried by a lull in buying before Christmas report record sales for the season as business increased late. Page 4.



Halton Hills Gymnastic Centre teams pick up medals in Syracuse NY and Burlington Ont. Page 12.



Acton Figure Skating Club held its annual Winterfest Club competition recently with both competitive and fun events. Winners of the Junior Pairs above were 1. Samantha Tennant and Amanda Vickery, 2. Linda Christopher and Morgan McPhail, 3. Sioban Evans and Justine McIntyre, 4. Ashley Kenny and Jennifer Stirtzinger. More photos on Page 9.

Also plan to renovate old one

By Frances Niblock

Plans for a new medical centre and improvements to the existing one should make Acton, which has a critical need for doctors, look a lot more attractive to potential family practitioners.

Acton Doctor Nather Alshakarji plans to build a new medical centre on the former Force Electric site, a vacant property bounded by Mill Street, Church Street, Eastern Avenue and Fellows Street, used during warm weather for Trunk Sale parking.

Dr. Alshakarji, who began seeing Acton patients part-time at the Acton Medical Centre following the August 2000 death of Dr. Brian Moore, has developed a loyal full-time practice in Acton, and helped establish an after-hours walk-in clinic.

Planner Glenn Wellings said Dr. Alshakarji's plans are all about "attracting new doctors to the community" and also building a facility that is self-sustaining.

The proposed plan calls for six offices and a pharmacy on the ground floor, along with a coffee shop. Preliminary drawings show

Continued on page 2

Council endorses use of local schools

An agreement that allows local residents to use local schools and allows the school boards to use Town pools, sports fields and tennis courts has been endorsed by Town Council.

The reciprocal agreement details how Halton's four municipalities and

school boards will use, and pay to use, each other's facilities, maximizing use of them while reducing capital costs to provide affordable rental space.

To keep the fees charged for facility use affordable, only the direct costs are recovered. Last year, the Town

received \$186,000 from the school board for use of its facilities and the Town spent \$124,000 to use board facilities.

Through the reciprocal agreement, the community has access to over 650 facilities in Halton.

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