



A SNOW PILE: Town workers spent days clearing snow around Acton after the storm that blew through last Saturday night. Piles, like this one on Kingham Road, could be found all around town. - Justina Pemberton photo

# Quite a storm Saturday...

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moval in downtown Acton. They were still at it cleaning sidewalks as of Tuesday afternoon. They were also sanding rural streets, making it a safer drive for rural residents.

It was impossible for residents to walk the streets of Acton, with sidewalks buried in deep snow. Roads and parking-lots were sheets of ice and some residents couldn't get into their driveways. Trees were down in rural areas, traffic was slow and, in a lot of cases, schools cancelled.

Town workers ensured roads and sidewalks were clear so commuters, were safe.

Tuesday, the day dawned bright and beautiful, the only traces of snow were drifts and ice shimmering in the sun's rays.

# Arnott not surprised his bid for Speaker fell short

Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott is not unduly upset by the fact he wasn't chosen Speaker of the Legislature Assembly in a recent vote on Wednesday, Nov. 28. Liberal MPP Steve Peters was elected to the position, ahead of runner-up Michael Brown.

"The Legislative Assembly is well served by the competitive race to become its new Speaker," Mr. Arnott says.

"I wasn't really surprised by the final result, given the Liberals' 71-seat majority in the Legislature," said Arnott, who is a Progressive Conservative. Nevertheless, he says he is satisfied with his strong showing and for having drawn attention to several key issues and responsibilities of the Speaker. He was eliminated after the third ballot, finishing ahead of Liberals David Zimmer and Lorenzo Bernardinette.

"It was important to have a competitive race in order to



Ted Arnott  
MPP

help strengthen and improve the workings of the Legislature," said Arnott. "I believe my candidacy accomplished that."

Arnott's proposals included decorum in the Legislature; more effective security in the Legislative Precinct; and completing renovations to the exterior of the Legislative Building, the seat of the government of Ontario.

"I hope that Mr. Peters will serve effectively and impartially for the people of Ontario," said Arnott. "I am also hopeful he will take some of my suggestions and I will continue working constructively with Mr. Peters and all MPP's."

Arnott has 17 years' experience as an MPP and has served as an assistant Speaker for four years.

## 'Tis the season...

by Justina Pemberton

Amanda Paton, caregiver at the Parkside Rest Home on Main St. in Acton, is organizing the "Warm-Up Operation" with the residents of the home.

Many residents haven't seen their families in years and have a difficult time over the holidays. When one resident told Paton he hated the gifts that his family sent him every year, she reminded him that there are people out there who have worse situations. It was then that Paton decided to put together the "Warm-Up Operation" to show residents what the Christmas season is all about.

Paton is going out and buying Tim Horton's gift certificates, blankets and socks to take into Toronto in two weeks to distribute to the homeless with residents.

"I'm trying to show the residents that even making a difference in one person's life over the holidays feels good," said Paton.

Tim Hortons in Acton is chipping in with a large sum of gift certificates to add to what Paton purchases herself. Residents are very enthusiastic and one made the suggestion of socks.

"Think about how often your socks get wet," said the resident.

If you would like to make a donation to Paton's "Warm-Up Operation" please feel free to drop off blankets, socks or Tim Hortons gift certificates to Amanda Paton at the Parkside Rest Home, Monday - Thursday 2 p.m. - 10 p.m.

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