



**CRAFTY GENTS:** Joe Snook and Don Weaver display their Christmas table centrepieces at Acton High School's Craft Show on Saturday, Nov. 24. The show had a variety of unique crafts. - Ted Tyler photo

## Christmas season has dangers

The Town's Fire Protection and Prevention Services is reminding residents that although the Christmas season is a joyful time of year, it can be the worst when tragedy strikes in the form of fire or accidents.

Injuries and deaths occur at an unusually high rate at this time of year, the Service notes, and most are preventable. "Whether the result of careless cooking, driving

under the influence or the unattended use of candles, they all make for a very dangerous cocktail," a release from staff notes.

Chief of Operations John Martin says, "The accumulation of activities that surround the Christmas season can make it difficult at times to keep focus on the more normal day-to-day activities. Today's lifestyles are such that concentration

levels sometimes diminish and safety is compromised.

Use common sense, slow down and keep our focus on safety as well as other activities going on, the Service advises. It also reminds everyone that residents in Ontario must have at least one working smoke alarm on each floor in the home, including the basement, and this time of year is ideal to practice an escape fire plan.

## Sword wielding woman leaves trail of wounded, broken glass

A female wielding a samurai sword on Sunday evening at about 8:45 p.m. at the corner of Steeles Ave and Martin St. in Milton was arrested and charged after leaving a trail of wounded men and shattered glass in her wake.

Halton Police said the woman had become involved in a domestic argument with her boyfriend when at one point she took a samurai sword he had on display and struck him on his shoulder, arm and on the side of the head. The altercation drew the attention of his brother who told her to leave the apartment.

Still in possession of the sword, the female crossed the street to the PetroCan ser-

vice centre at Steeles Ave and Martin St. and broke one large window, police said, then smashed in two glass doors, turned randomly up to a car in the lot and smashed two windows in it. Then she entered the service centre store and began to approach the staff. When an off-duty firefighter intervened, he was slashed across his one arm. Employees finally got her under control.

Police were alerted and soon on scene. First aid was rendered to the off-duty firefighter until paramedics arrived. The female was taken into custody. Due to injuries she sustained she was taken to Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital for treatment.

The off-duty firefighter, Steve Reynolds, 42, was taken by ambulance to Hamilton General Hospital and treated for severe lacerations. The female's boyfriend was treated at Milton District Hospital for non-life threatening injuries. He has not been identified.

Charged is Rachele D. MacDonald, 21, of Milton. She has been remanded in the custody of the Vanier Centre for Women in Milton.

Investigation by police closed the service station on Monday. Police are asking anyone who may have witnessed the incident or has information relating to call Detective Fishbein or Crimestoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

BRANCH No. 197  **LEGION NEWS**  
By James Hayes P.R.O.

Comrades,

There was a good crowd at the Branch last Saturday afternoon enjoying fellowship with friends and family. Now as we start into the Christmas holiday season with company Christmas parties and family get-togethers. May I submit my annual request to spare a thought for those we know who are shut-in and unable to enjoy the social life of our town?

A phone call can mean so much, especially at this time of the year.

Santa's Visit: Santa Claus will be making his annual visit to the Branch this Sunday, Dec. 9. Entertainment starts at 1 p.m., with Santa scheduled to arrive at 2:30 p.m.

Sports: The sign-up sheets for inter-legion competition, have been posted on the sports board in the Branch; please check the deadline dates, and any pertinent rules. If in doubt, ask sports chairman Frank Single.

### Coming Events:

Annual Christmas Turkey Roll, Dec. 15 2-6 p.m. in the games room. Come on down, you know that's a good day.

New Year's Eve Party: The tickets are on sale now at the bar in the games room, \$30 per person.

Yours in comradeship,  
Jim Hayes,  
Branch 197 PRO.

## Libraries offering free wireless internet service

Halton Hills Public Library is offering free wireless Internet service at both its branches in Acton and Georgetown. Anyone is welcome to bring a laptop and use the facilities - no password required. All one needs is a wireless ready laptop.

If you are looking for a place to do some computer work outside of the house why not visit the library? asks Geoffrey Cannon, manager of public services, who worked hard to bring wireless services to Halton Hills Public Library.

Not only does the library offer free Internet access, but there is also a wealth of information resources on site as well as friendly staff to help you find what you need, he says.

Wireless is really just an extension of the Internet and word processing service the Library already provides to the public, Cannon says. It took awhile to build the appropriate security, but now anyone can bring in a laptop, find a comfortable chair and surf the net.

A growing number of libraries in Ontario are offering wireless Internet access.

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# staying Alive

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Check Out Our Coming Events:

Sat. Dec. 15 - Tragically Hip Tribute.  
**PRACTICALLY HIP**

Sat. Dec. 22 - Stevie Ray Vaughn Tribute  
**COULDN'T STAND THE WEATHER**

Mon. Dec. 31 - A Rockin' New Year's Eve  
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**ONE NIGHT STAND**  
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