

Police blame local thefts on professionals

Halton police do not believe two recent large thefts from Acton retail stores are related, but caution local merchants and their employees to be vigilant as crime analysts believe that professional boosters carried out the thefts.

"There have been a number of thefts similar to this in the GTA recently," said Halton Sergeant Jeff Dunham on Friday, adding in the theft from Sobeys on February 24, three men went to the pharmacy area and selected cosmetics, toiletries and baby items valued at \$1,336, and left the store through a vacant checkout without being witnessed.

"The theft was discovered during a stock audit and confirmed by the closed circuit tape," Dunham said, adding police are still trying to determine if any clear photos of the suspects, described as white males, of average build and aged 30 to 40, can be gleaned from the tapes. In the theft from Giant Tiger on February 20, two black women were seen entering the story just before losing and quickly moving through the aisles. Staff saw them leave carrying a large plastic bag and when they checked the aisles they found empty clothing hangers and approximately \$500 worth of clothing missing.

The two women, aged 20 and 40, both six *Continued on Page 2*



Smart meters for every home





Mike Dawkins presented with the President's Award at houseleague dinner. Page 13.



A new Board for Acton Seniors Centre was sworn in at the AGM on Feb. 24. Page 15.



"Mr. Legion" Gord Mc-Cutcheon has 85 candles on his cake. Pages 5 & 8



BUDDING BAND PLAYERS: Beginner classes for Acton Citizens' Band started in October of last year and attracted young and old to practices in the Wallace St. band hall under Bandmaster George Elliott shown here with his proteges. Six members of the Lee family are among the 21 member group, some proficient on other instruments as well. They include, front row, left to right: Silas Lee, Josiah Chang, Dana Godek, Briana McBurney, Aquila Lee, Caleb Chang. Middle row: May-Lynne Chang, Ian Engstrom, Matthew Norton, Zachari Continenza, Angus Agnew, Philemon Lee. Back row: Bandmaster George Elliott, Christian Norton, Janet Agnew, Albert Lee, Marc van Asseldonc, Tiffany McBurney, Titus Lee. Missing are: Jim Dills, Mark Engstrom and Jordan Lenc. - *Submitted photo*

Designed to help consumers save energy By Frances Niblock

Smart Meters will help the Halton Hills Community Energy Corporation expand its culture of conservation and help residential and small commercial customers save money by using their electrical appliances during less expensive off-peak hours.

Following a directive from the Minister of Energy, all hydro meters in Ontario must be switched to Smart Meters by December 31, 2010 and locally, the process is underway.

In early April, Georgetown residents will find door hangers at their residences informing them that their meter has been swapped for a Smart Meter. The second area of deployment will be the north side of Mill Street in Acton. Swapping approximately 20,000 metres will take 18 months.

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