



**SANTA READS:** Over 120 youngsters were anxious to share their secret wishes with Santa last Thursday evening at the Rockwood Library. The festive fun included face-painting, crafts and a visit with old St. Nick. Giving Santa some much needed ideas were, from left: Caitlin and Tyler Stricker-Ogurrian, Charisma Hunter, Ozaay Naqvi, Kyla O'Driscoll, Emma Bouwneester, Faryshth Naqvi, Peyton O'Driscoll, Oliver Hazelwood, Andrea and Allie Babic. – Denise Paulsen photo

**EWCS NEWS**

**News & Events**

- The Gingerbread Men in the window of Erin's New to You Store are up for sale. Phone-in bids can be made by calling Caroline at 519-833-9696 x230. The bidding will end at 12 noon on December 22nd and the sculptures will be delivered (or could be picked up) on December 23rd - just in time to be the perfect Christmas present.
- **2011 Fill Up Your Tanks Raffle Tickets** are now on sale. Get yours for \$20 and have 12 chances to win \$500. Each month one person will win \$250 in grocery gift cards and \$250 in gas gift cards.
- **Messy Face Contest.** Do you have absolutely adorable pictures of your child/children, under six years old, eating, playing, and messing around? Enter our messy face photo contest to win a basket of toys! Photos can be delivered to our office or emailed to marlene.m@ew-cs.com along with an entry form which can be found on our website. Contest closes December 31.
- **Pilates.** EWCS's Older Active Adults recreational programs will be adding Pilates to the schedule. Every Tuesday from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the Erin Seniors Centre, the cost will be less than \$10/class depending on number of participants. All ages and skill levels are welcome. The yoga program is also still running in the Seniors Centre on Wednesdays from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m.

For more information on either class call Sherri 519-833-0087.

- Elmira Farm Services is holding a **Food Drive Raffle**. Bring in a non-perishable food item to Elmira Farm Services outside of Erin on Highway 24 and receive a ticket for their raffle. The prizes are a Barbeque, a boombox, and a replica John Deere Tractor toy. All donations support East Wellington Community Services Food Bank.

**Seniors News:**

Please contact Sherri Plourde for more information on any of the following senior's programs or events 519-833-0087.

**Active Adults Recreation Schedule**

All activities are \$1 per visit and take place in the EWCS Seniors Centre in Centre 2000, Erin:

- InStitches – knitting & crocheting group. Tuesdays 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Bid Euchure – Tuesdays 1 to 4 p.m.
- Garden Club – Occasional Wednesdays 7 to 9:30 p.m.
- Yoga – Wednesdays 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. (extra cost)
- Line Dancing – Fridays 10 to 11 a.m.
- Bridge Card Group – Fridays 1 to 4 p.m.
- Billiards and Darts Group – call if interested
- Book Club – call if interested

Would you be interested in a Wednesday morning or afternoon book club? EWCS Active Seniors is hoping to start a regular

# MPP Arnott zaps Liberal hydro rate policies

Skyrocketing hydro rates are becoming a serious hardship for many Ontario families—and it's about to get even worse, warned Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott.

"Residential electricity prices are expected to rise by 46 percent over the next five years, an average annual rate of about 7.9 percent," Arnott told

the Ontario Legislature last week, referencing the McGuinty government's own projections.

The Progressive Conservative caucus has established that rates have gone up 75 percent since the McGuinty government took office in 2003. In light of these numbers, Arnott later ridiculed the Liberals'

so-called "Ontario Clean Energy Benefit," which commits to a 10-percent rate cut. "After such massive increases, and all their broken promises, who will believe hydro rates are actually going down?"

In his remarks in the Legislature, Arnott read from an email he received from a single mother unable to afford to heat her

home: "I'm really concerned about how much I have to subtract from my grocery bill in order to keep the house warm and my son from getting sick ... I don't know where to turn but I'm sure hoping you can help."

The email also referenced the HST, which has already added eight percent to her hydro bill.

"In our area alone, there are thousands of families who already can't afford their hydro bills," Arnott later said. "It's a major problem and, when this government's even bigger increases kick in, it's only going to get worse."

# Government releases list of hospital projects, finally

After months of delay, the province has finally released the list of hospital project proposals from across the province. In May, after receiving no answers from the McGuinty government, Wellington-Halton Hills MPP Ted Arnott filed a Freedom of Information request.

"Finally we have lifted at least some of the secrecy surrounding Ontario's hospital proposals," Arnott said on Tuesday. "But there's no excuse for delaying the release of this list, which it appears they had all along."

The list shows 130 hospital proposals from across Ontario. However, it fails to provide all the information Arnott requested, including the status of the proposals and their estimated cost.

Arnott initially requested the list of all Ontario hos-

pitals with construction and redevelopment proposals, the status of the proposals, including estimated completion dates, the estimated value and the date on which the proposals were submitted.

Groves Memorial Community Hospital in Fergus appears to be represented amongst the 130 proposals on the list. It shows a proposal as submitted in January 2008, with an estimated completion date of September 2012. The list gives no indication as to whether the Ministry is actually prepared to support the hospital in order to move forward with planning or when actual construction might commence.

Mr. Arnott intends to appeal to Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario in an effort to compel the government to

release all the information he requested.

Speaking on Monday in the Legislature on the need for good government, Arnott again called attention to the Groves and Georgetown hospital proposals and the need for the Minister of Health to move ahead on those important proposals.

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The Best For Last

# Christmas Bazaar

December 11, 2010 • 9am - 2pm

St. John's Anglican Church  
112 Main St., Rockwood

Tea Room, Penny Table, Silent Auction

Join us at the Parade of Lights tonight (Dec. 9) for Bacon on a Bun, Chili, and Hot Dogs