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## Stirling Santa Claus Parade

Santa Claus came to town, Stirling that is, last Saturday morning during the Stirling Santa Claus Parade sponsored by the Stirling

Historical Society. Crowds lined the streets to watch despite the biting wind.

## Village Council pass new parking time limits

by Jeff Wilson

Stirling Village Council have passed new time limits for three municipal parking lots within the village.

Roads Superintendent Doug Bolte told council at a special meeting held on Dec. 1 he had concerns about parking time limits at the North Street, Henry Street and covered

parking lots.

Council voted to institute the following parking time limits: North Street municipal lot - two hours; covered bridge municipal lot - two hours; Henry Street municipal lot - 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily.

Council also voted to have the parking spaces along North Street removed.

## GATT changes to hit farm marketing hard, says Buchanan

The federal government is "wiggling off the hook" of maintaining supply management for dairy products, and the egg and poultry, as currently provided through the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), says Ontario's Minister of Agriculture and Food Elmer Buchanan.

"The Liberal party was going to protect supply management. Now they're saying Canada's position doesn't have a lot of support from other countries," commented Buchanan.

Hastings-Peterborough MPP Buchanan feels "Canada's position has been to have other countries reduce their export subsidies, primarily on grains and oil-seeds going into our export markets. On the other hand we want to maintain supply management on our dairy products and our egg and poultry industries to ensure a Canadian supply and stable prices."

As of Sept. 1, Europe had stockpiled 29-million tonnes of grain; 303,000 tonnes of butter; 128,000 tonnes of cheese and 908,000 tonnes of beef.

"Most of this ususally ends up being dumped on to the world market in one fashion or another, which distorts markets," explained Buchanan.

According to Buchanan the new GATT rules would let countries put their own tariffs on as high as they way and then reduce them over time.

"The Americans are already talking about eliminating these tariffs in the next round of GATT negotiations, which they are set to start right away. So tariffication is at best a temporary protection for supply management because they could be gone in two years," pointed out Buchanan.

American chicken producers and the American legislators believe they are entitled to 50 per cent of the Canadian chicken market.

"They can produce their chickens much cheaper because they do it in a factory type situation where the people doing the work get significantly less than anything we call minimum wage here," said Buchanan.

The Minister concluded, "It's going to be bad for our farmers. Eventually it will be for our consumers. There's a short term gain perhaps in having cheaper prices but in the long term we won't have any domestic production and we'll be at the mercy of foreign producers for some of our food supply. That could mean only one thing - higher prices for our consumers."

See pages 2 & 11 for more  
Santa Claus Parade Photos