

Castleton pie maker achieves perfection for third time



It took Earline Armstrong, on the right, 21 years but she finally won the category reserved for members of Warkworth Chapter No. 279 of the Order of the Eastern Star, entering a chocolate cream pie. Presenting her with a plaque was Jean Bryan. Photo: John Campbell

By John Campbell

News - Warkworth - Victory tasted every bit as good the third time around Saturday for Alie Ryken as it did the first time the Castleton resident won the Perfect Pie Contest in 2000.

Then she won with a maple pie, and she claimed the top prize again seven years later with a key lime entry.

Ryken entered two pies this year and the one she made with raspberries grown at her home was not only the best among those featuring local ingredients, it was the favourite of the three judges.

"I have lots of raspberries," she said of the fall-bearing fruit. "I'm still picking them."

Winning the 35th annual Perfect Pie

Contest, which again filled the Warkworth Town Hall Centre for the Arts, as well as earning an honourable mention for her apple pie, left Ryken feeling good. She's reached the point now where she is content to participate and not be concerned about taking home a prize.

"I didn't think I'd win," she added.

Ryken is more than willing to share what she knows about baking; a week before the contest she and her daughter gave lessons on how to make pastry at St. Paul's United Church.

Saturday's event, hosted by Warkworth Chapter No. 279, Order of the Eastern Star, raised approximately \$1,800, up about \$200 from last year. A portion will go toward the purchase of an echocardiography



A Perfect Pie doesn't come cheap. In fact, Marvin Stapleton and Rob Milligan pooled resources to submit the winning bid of \$400 for the top entry in last Saturday's contest, a raspberry pie made by Alie Ryken. Photo: John Campbell

machine; the remainder will be used to support benevolent projects funded by Eastern Star.

Most of the money was raised in the auction of the category winners, ably handled by Jim Nelson, who extracted \$1,250 from bidders with his affable manner, including \$400 for Ryken's masterpiece.

Worthy Matron Pat McLellan began the proceedings by asking the 150 or so present to observe a minute of silence for the two Canadian soldiers who were recently slain by two crazed, ideologically driven individuals; the show of respect was also accorded to veterans. Please see "Tastes" on page B15



Alie Ryken won the Perfect Pie Contest for a third time last Saturday, with a raspberry pie. She received a trophy sponsored by Campbellford Chrysler, a gosset duck from the Warkworth Business Association, a sculpture made by Paul Portelli, a \$25 gift from RBC, and a handcrafted calendar and key holder from RLS Design. Photo: John Campbell

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Shelter Valley Folk Festival announces year-end concert in Grafton

NORTHUMBERLAND -- After hosting a record-breaking Labour Day weekend event, the Shelter Valley Folk Festival organizers are holding a final concert for the year featuring Laura Smith.

On Nov. 30, Canada's Smith, who was one of the highlights of a recent Shelter Valley festival, will perform in Grafton for an inti-

mate Sunday afternoon of music, seasonal beverages and surprises, from 4 to 6 p.m.

The November fundraising concert will be an opportunity to enjoy Smith in an intimate setting, where she will be accompanied by acclaimed guitarist and producer Paul Mills (Stan Rogers, Natalie and Buddy MacMaster, Aengus Finnan and Chris Hadfield).

Smith, a Juno, ECMA and Gemini winner with a following from the Yukon to Denmark, will also share music from her latest album "Everything is Moving."

For more information and tickets, visit www.sheltervalley.com or call 905-349-2788.

The Nov. 30 concert is at the Grafton Town Hall/Alnwick Haldimand municipal building at 10836 County Rd. 2 in Grafton.

Tickets are \$25 HST included.

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