

Downtown's Pioneer Days plus Arts Council's Summerfest adds up to one great summer weekend

By CHRIS AAGAARD
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They go together like beer and pretzels, ham and eggs, music and comedy.

With only a week and a half left, organizers of the Georgetown Business Improvement Area's Pioneer Days and the Halton Hills Arts Council's Summerfest are fitting the final pieces of a fun-filled weekend which, for many local residents, officially heralds summer.

Even to a greater degree than last year, the two events are closely linked, located barely a block away from each other.

Summerfest, which kicks off white Pioneer Days are already in full swing, has lined up arts and crafts displays, folk singing, children's activities, a special visit from young author Gordon Korman and many other interesting items for its Church Street, Georgetown, location.

Held last year in Cedarvale Park at the Main Street South - Maple Avenue intersection, this year's event is that much closer to the library-cultural centre which will open this fall. Next year, Summerfest activities will likely be focused inside the arts centre.

Summerfest will run between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. June 20, taking advantage of



the open space afforded by having Church Street between Main and Market Streets closed to traffic.

But its most outstanding offering this year begins at 7 p.m. where, under the direction of Ron Hill and the chairmanship of Nornic Studio's Bev Nicholas, a group of amateur actors and singers have cooked up a gala dinner-show.

RIOTOUS ACTS
About 16 different acts, all featuring local talent, are planned for the "Old Tyme Music Hall" to be held in the Sacre Coeur Church hall on Guelph Street. It's a riotous collection of musical and

straight theatre: for instance, the "Terra Cotta Theatians" will perform "Furred Oak" followed by a quartet which has called itself "Scrambled Eggs and Ham".

Popular young singer Brenda Archer, who had the title role in the Georgetown and District High School production of "Anne of Green Gables" last year and also joined the Choral Society's "Broadway Tonight" show a month ago, has been given her own special segment at the Music Hall.

Plays of dubious literary repute include "Mary, the Magnate's Daughter" and "The Drunkard", and there's at least a dozen more selections planned for the evening.

Meanwhile, Pioneer Days will be winding to a climactic end on Main Street after three days of fantastic shopping opportunities, great entertainment, fashion shows and mini-parades.

Pioneer Day events begin with the first street dance outside the McGibbon Hotel at 7 p.m. The Dolly Varden Revue, with an extensive repertoire of Burton Cummings and Guess Who tunes, will headline the dances Friday and Saturday nights as well.

SALE FEVER
As usual for this time of year shoppers can mull through all kinds of sales without being bothered by traffic - except from other bargain-seekers. The Georgetown Elkettes will launch Friday night's fun at

6:30, Marion's Country Band will follow about an hour later and the "Pine Valley Squares" will cap off the country-style entertainment for the evening before Dolly Varden hits the stage at 8:30 p.m.

The Elkettes will twirl in the noon hour Saturday followed by the Pennies-worth-North Halton Sports bicycle parade for kids.

The Blue Valley Home-steaders with their brand of bluegrass and Marion's Country Band will keep the country atmosphere fresh for all celebrants. At 2:30 p.m., the Oldest Pioneer Award, sponsored by the Halton Hills Herald, will be presented shortly before the annual pioneer fashion show.

More musical entertainment at 3:30 with the Metro

Connection Quartette - four Scarborough barbershoppers who have twice swept barbershop awards in Salt Lake City.

Throughout the Pioneer Days - Summerfest weekend, participants can slake thirsts at the Hotel, enjoying (weather permitting) the sidewalk beer garden. And, keep an eye out for old-fashioned pioneer costumes.

While admission to most Summerfest and Pioneer Days activities is free, tickets for the Old Tyme Music Hall dinner and show can be purchased at \$10 each at Charis Pottery in Glen Williams, Moore Park Plaza, Georgetown Fabrics, The Country Cheese Shoppe on Mill Street and the GLT box office, through Greta Lee, 877-5407.

Visits with Ma Bell

Bell Canada has decided to take part in Georgetown's Pioneer Days celebrations this year. The Bell building at the corner of James and Main Streets will be open for public tours from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will offer the curious a look-see at what goes into the familiar installation vans as well as the workings of one of the company's construction trucks. In addition, the public will be invited to tour the administrative offices and other rooms within the building.

Photos and stories in this supplement from Herald files, including Pioneer Days '80



Ward's Coun. John McDonald and Halton Hills Arts Council publicity co-ordinator Gail Finlayson figuratively toast the joint effort involving Summerfest and the local Business Improvement Area's Pioneer Days to come up with a fun-filled weekend starting Thursday evening. The mugs will be on sale throughout the Main Street area and keep an eye out for the hats, too. (Herald photo)

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