

# Brunch, music, to remember Ralph's dream

By MELANIE NIXON  
Herald Special

Ralph Ursel was a man with a dream. A dream that would wed the community in which he lived to the musical arts which he so loved.

Although Ralph never lived to see the fulfillment of his dream, his inspiration and enthusiasm ignited the creative passions of those with whom he shared it, and other continued on with the torch, transforming the chrysalis of his idea into a viable reality.

May 1, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the cultural centre gallery, Halton Hills is invited to savor a slice of Ralph Ursel's dream. Arts Alive '88, the week-long festival of the arts being held at the Cultural Centre, is commencing their scheduled activities with "Remembering Ralph - A Classical Brunch", in tribute to Ralph Ursel, whose impressive list of accomplishments includes co-founding the Georgetown Choral Society, founding the original Globe Productions and Halton Hills Arts Council, being instrumental in erecting the Halton Hills Cultural Centre, running Summerfest for a number of years, and obtaining the title of Lions Club Citizen of the Year for his community involvement. He was a popular pianist and entertainer in local circles, and also taught music and science at Georgetown District High School.

In 1968, Festival Five held their first classical brunch in honor of Ralph's dream, and it was such an astounding success that it was decided to repeat the event for Arts Alive '88.

The brunch this year offers the same delectable menu as the one enjoyed at Festival Five (i.e. quiche, juice, rolls, salad and fruit), but the entertainment is new. Featured this year is harp/flute duo "Divertimento". The name may sound somewhat like an Italian opera to the uninformed, but it is actually a "musical term referring to a composition for small instrumental ensemble, written primarily for entertainment, and thus usually rather light in style." In this case, Divertimento also refers to two musically gifted ladies: Marianne Carefoot, flutist, and Sandra Fann, harpist.

Marianne Carefoot is a freelance flutist and teacher who graduated from the University of Alberta with a Bachelor of Music, and has since resided in Toronto. She has performed with the Niagara Symphony Orchestra, Edmonton Symphony, Courtenay Festival Orchestra, and as principal flute with the Etobicoke Philharmonic.

She has performed on CBC and has appeared as soloist with the Etobicoke Philharmonic and Courtenay Festival Orchestras. Marianne Carefoot includes Robert Aitken and Marcel Moysse among her teachers. She has been teaching flute to students of all ages since 1973, both privately and at Upper Canada College, Haverhill College, as well as for the North York and Scarborough Boards of Education.

Sandra Fann, freelance harpist, is active both as a solo entertainer and as part of Divertimento. Her concert



Marianne Carefoot, flute  
Sandra Fann, harp

career includes performances with the National Ballet Orchestra and the Kingston Symphony, and numerous concerts in the Toronto

area, including for the American Harp Society - Canadian Branch, the Pauline McGibbon Centre, Sunnyside and Oakville Hospitals.

school concerts for the Toronto Board of Education, the Bau-xi Art Gallery, and for the Toronto Musicians' Association Annual Dinner and See the Music Festival. Broadcast performances include a taping for national CBC television and in-concert recording for the Australian Broadcasting Commission.

Sandra Fann holds a Bachelor of Music from the University of Illinois, where she studied with Charles Kleinschuber. She studied with Carlos Salzedo at the Summer Harp Colony of America in Camden Maine, at the Cleveland Institute of Music with Alice Chalifoux, and with Judy Loman of the Toronto Symphony.

Sandra Fann is renowned for her sensitive interpretations of a very wide and varied repertoire, "From Back to Led Zeppelin" which she developed during four years as soloist in the Greenery Lounge of the Plaza II Hotel and four years at the Delta Mississauga Inn.

These two talented ladies pooled their expertise in 1985 to form "Divertimento". With a repertoire chosen for its wide audience appeal, they have been in steady demand for corporate and private occasions. The duo has performed in a diversity of settings - from the intimacy of the Old Mill Wedding Chapel to the grandeur of the Royal York's Imperial Room, from poolside birthday parties to penthouse holiday season dinners, from wedding celebrations in the gardens of historic McLean House to Black Tie corporate celebrations at the Four Seasons Hotel.

Their carefully selected repertoire spans a wide range of classical, jazz, pop, and traditional folk music, including Bach, Mozart, Puccini and Debussy; Hoagy Carmichael, Gershwin and Carlos Jobin; Stravinsky, Paul Simon and the Beatles. Arrangements can be made for special requests, and music selected for each appearance is a balance of classical and/or non-classical music to suit the ambience of each occasion.

The duo frequently provides musical accompaniment for special occasions in private homes as well as churches. Divertimento's satisfied clients also include Northern Telecom, Toronto Arts Awards Festival, the Manufacturers Life Insurance Company, the Canadian Ski Association, Brettons, Lehnhoff Corporation, Tupperware Canada, and the management and/or clients of the following establishments: L'Hotel, Courtyard Cafe, The Boulevard Club, Inn On the Park, the Elmwood Club, Albany Club, Granite Club, Cafe des Capains, Sutton Place, St. Lawrence Hall, Hart House, Valhalla Inn, Ontario Place and several others.

The cost per ticket for this event is \$10, and tickets can be purchased in person at Royal LePage Real Estate Ltd. (Guelph Street) during office hours, and at Georgetown and Acton Public Libraries. (Note: the price of tickets covers menu only. Entertainment is being provided by the Ralph Ursel Memorial Fund).

For more information on this or any other event relating to Arts Alive '88, please call 877-5185, ext. 260, 268 or 877-7915.

## Opening exhibit



The works of artist Valerie Nichol of Acton are currently being displayed at the Gallery House Sol. The artist combines texture, color, and other elements in her abstract works, to create an overall atmosphere. Many of her works are based on the musical compositions of her husband, composer Robert Daigneault. The exhibition continues until April 7 at Gallery House Sol. (Herald photo)

## Speyside artist tells politicians art needs support, encouragement

Speyside artist Vallery Mokrytzki was in Oakville March 16 lobbying on behalf of the Oakville Group, a small core group of artists.

Arts groups were able to speak to their Member of Parliament at a special meeting held at the Oakville Room at the Oakville Town Hall.

She spoke about the diversity in her group, which includes artists who work at ceramic sculpture, fibre works, woodcuts, water color and oil painting.

Ms. Mokrytzki advocated support for community area artists because of the significant contribution they bring. "There must be a belief by curators and directors that regional art is significant, which, like a self-fulfilling prophecy, will have a positive effect on the quality of art produced."

She said that an old concept is sometimes perpetuated that distant fields are greener which ignores the fostering of area artists.

## Women view Peel's heritage

NORVAL-Sixteen members of Brampton West Women's Institute and four visitors met at the Peel Heritage Complex in Brampton at 1:30 p.m. March 8 for the Tweedsmuir History meeting.

Wilma Archdekin convened the meeting. Tweedsmuir histories and scrapbooks were on display.

Following the opening ode, the collect and national anthem, president Isobel McKay introduced Mr. Bazzer who spoke of the beginning of the Peel Museum in the former registry office in 1968 which is now the art gallery of the complex.

The museum moved to the court house from 1960 until 1966. Following major changes, the former Brampton jail is now the museum. Interest has increased dramatically from the 6,000 visitors in 1966 to 18,000 in 1987.

In 1988 from Feb. 3 until June 17 the display is in recognition of One Thousand Years of Christianity in the Ukraine.

July till October will feature Dolls in Canada followed by the annual

Christmas Show. The art gallery has a permanent collection and features contemporary artists and sculptors.

The archives established in 1977 has increased public awareness of the Region of Peel heritage. Records, photographs, documents and maps date from 1905. The staff members go into the community to bring information to groups.

The staff is interested in the historic pictures dating 1800 and later to produce photographic images for their collection. Charlotte McClure, acting secretary, read the minutes.

In answering the roll call, my impressions of the tour, the members felt fortunate to have the Peel Heritage Complex in the community with a friendly, competent staff. The layette articles are to be taken to the Salvation Army Family Centre, Main Street North, Brampton.

Members were reminded of the community euche and crokinole evening to be held at Huttonville

## 'Pitch-in' is working

According to the results of a survey of participants in Ontario's 1987 Pitch-In Campaign, the campaign is an overwhelming success and extremely important in helping to clean up and beautify local communities while educating participants about the need to respect the environment year round.

"This helps to explain why, at the beginning of March of this year, we had already been notified that more than 800 environmental improvement projects, scattered throughout the Province, were planned for Pitch-In '88 which takes place May 2 - 8," states Jack Craik, President of the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, co-sponsors of the Pitch-In Campaign with Sunoco Inc., and the Ontario Ministry of Environment.

The comprehensive mail-in survey which was returned by an overwhelming 57 per cent of the

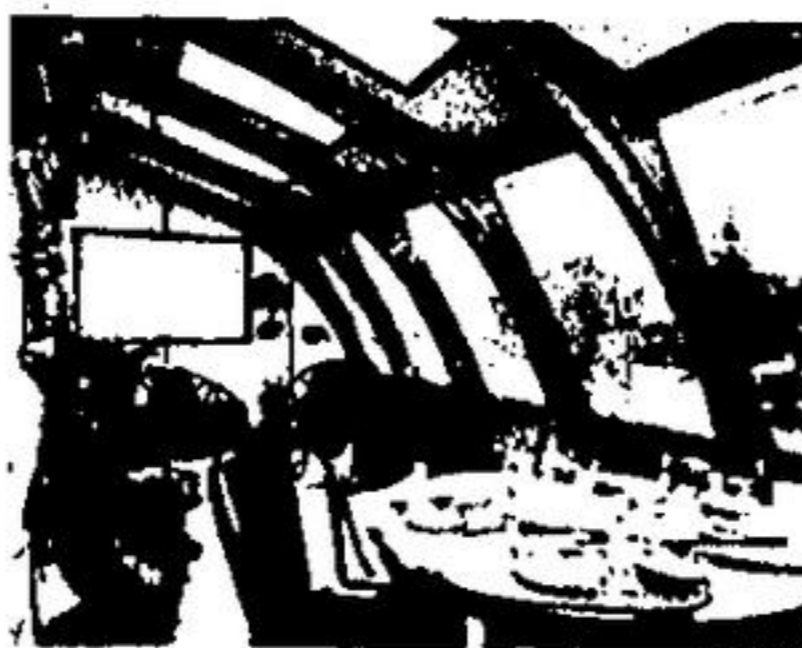
more than 1,200 organizations canvassed, clearly demonstrated that Pitch-In is becoming a partnership between industry, the provincial government and local government.

"Community wide programs are becoming an increasingly common occurrence," states Rick Morgan, Executive Vice-President of The Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, adding "13 per cent of the projects involved more than one group and some involved more than 20 organizations!"

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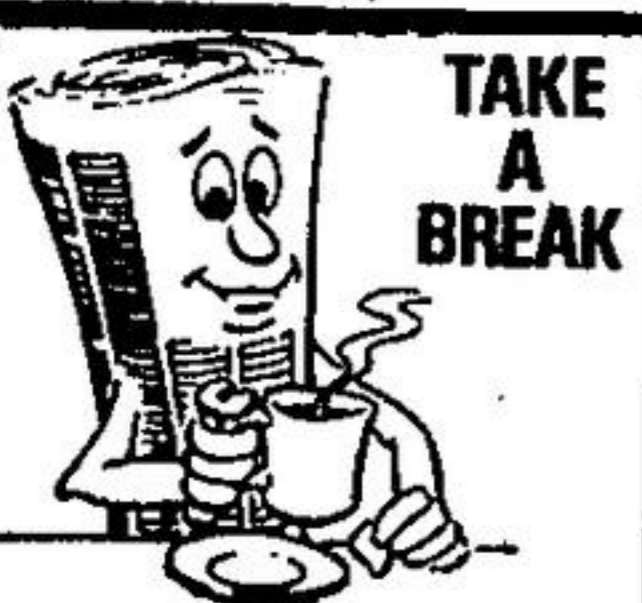
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- SPECIAL GUESTS -

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John McDermid (M.P., Brampton-Georgetown)  
Sinclair Stevens (M.P., York-Peel)  
Bill Kemping (M.P., Burlington)

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