

Community



J.R. Artinger started doing art work at the age of 3. His work has been exhibited at art galleries in southern Ontario. Presently he is attending Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo. (Photos submitted)

Acton artist transformed walls into art murals

It has been a year since the unveiling of a monumental work of art at Acton High School. A mural depicting the history of Canada in 12 panels, was painted by former Acton student J.R. Artinger.

After Board of Education approval, Bill Taylor, a history teacher at Acton, had the idea to have his classroom painted and approached the art teacher, Yvonne Indart, about the project. It was through her that J.R. became interested in painting the mural.

Covering an expanse of 3 feet by 28 feet above a chalkboard in room 104, J.R. painted in acrylic right on the wall. "Many people believed I painted on sheets of paper," said he, "and later stuck them (the paintings) to the wall with glue. This misunderstanding could easily have happened," he further went on to say, "as I covered the areas I was working on with sheets of newsprint, so that nobody could sneak a preview of the final product."

"Ideas for the project were not sparse," J.R. stated, as he outlined how he went about it. First off, he looked at Canadian History and chose those events he and Mr. Taylor felt were most pivotal in the shaping of this country. History is told with the arrival of Cartier, Champlain's colony, the Conquest of 1759, The Battle of Queenston Heights, a portrait of Canada's first prime minister Sir John A. Macdonald. This is followed by a second series of pictures featuring Louis Riel, Sir Wilfred Laurier, World War I, World War II/The Nuclear Age, Quebec Separatists and Trudeau, and finally a portrait of Prime Minister Brian Mulroney. He then went about dividing the area to be painted on into equal sections. From there, painting before the start of school, at lunch, after school (one night he stayed as late as 10 p.m.), and during holidays, he eventually completed the immense work. It took him one year to finish it.

"Composing the content of each segment was easy," he stated. "I knew what was going into the painting to start with. From there it was only a matter of applying the paint."

Surprisingly, the painting was done right from the artist's head, with no preliminary sketches and no layouts. "First I formulated what I wanted the picture to look like in my mind and then I painted it. Of course, I referred to textbooks to get a good idea of how Canada's historic personages looked, but other than that I just painted everything straight out."

History teacher Bill Taylor said, "My classroom has truly turned into a 'history' room, where the key events and people of our past come to life."

Acton's J.R. Artinger studied painting under Robert Bateman and also has had commissions from universities in southern Ontario. His art works hang in collections across Southern Ontario, the United States and the Caribbean.

Pencil and Palette Club fall pre-Christmas sale

For the fourth year in a row, the Palette and Pencil Club's members are gathering together their artwork for a late Fall-pre-Christmas sale. There will be

original artwork in a variety of mediums, both framed and unframed, as well as other small items such as hasti-notes and book marks.

The sale will be held this Saturday, 1990 from 10:00 in the morning until 4:00 in the afternoon. The location is the St. George's Anglican Church Hall on Guelph Street in Georgetown. Everyone is welcome. There is no admission charge and there is good parking available. This is a good opportunity to show support for the local artist and at the same time pick up a few low priced pieces of original artwork for yourself or someone on your Christmas gift list.

This sale is the first major event of the Club's 1990-91 membership year, which began on September 1st. Elected at this year's annual general meeting were: president - Frank Anthony, secretary - Robert Law, treasurer - Marion Jonassen, program and social co-convenors - Bev Didur and Jean Horton, newsletter coordinator - Una O'Callaghan and Esme Nicholson is the member at large.

The Palette and Pencil Club is a guild member of the The Credit Valley Artists and its members meet regularly at the Cedarvale Cottage in Cedarvale Park.

New members are welcomed as are enquiries concerning the purchase of members' artwork. Please contact Frank Anthony at 877-5856 for any further information.

Consumer warning

Car seats slip through

The Hamilton Automobile Club has been advised by the Evenflo Juvenile Products Company Canada, through Transport Canada, that 53 U.S. Evenflo Seven Year Car Seats were erroneously sold in Canada. These seats do not meet the more stringent Canadian safety standards, specifically, they were sold without the tether strap, Canadian labels and Canadian instructions. The 53 seats affected were sold through the Canadian Toys R Us Outlets.

The non-complying seats are identifiable by the dark blue fabric with small diagonal slashes of red, grey and orange with a small grey pindot background. The restraints are in boxes marked with U.S. information, have a U.S. (Federal) State-

ment of Compliance label, U.S. instructions and do not include the tether strap.

To receive a free tether kit, Canadian labels and instructions consumers possessing one of these seats should contact the Evenflo Juvenile Products Company Canada by calling 1-800-265-0749 or by writing to Evenflo Juvenile Products Company Canada, 11 Bodine Drive, Brantford, Ont. N3T 5V7.

The Hamilton Automobile Club is affiliated with the 3.3 million member Canadian Automobile Association which operates a National Child Restraint Information Program in association with Transport Canada to inform the Canadian public on issues relating to the safety of children in cars.

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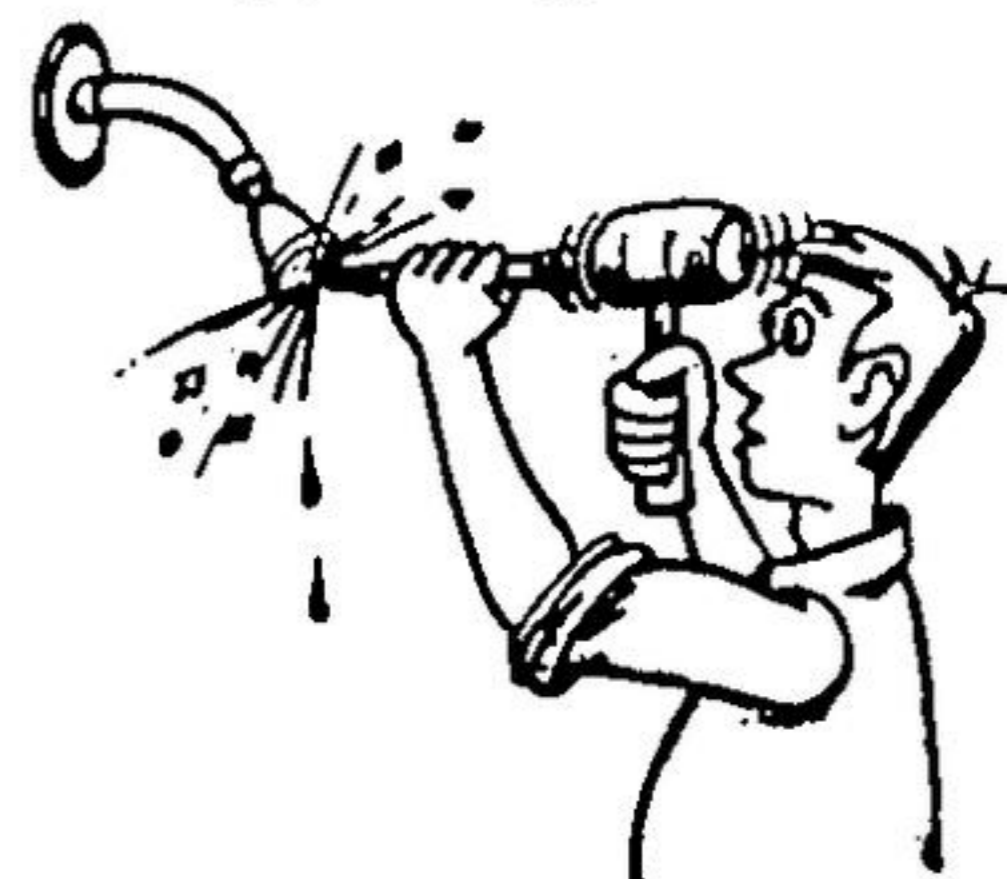


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