

DISCOVER THE HILLS

Strawberry lovers say happy birthday to our country

By STEFFANI LOVIE

Banner Staff Writer

Caledon is putting on the ritz to celebrate Canada's 124th birthday. Fay McCrea, publicity chairperson of the Caledon Strawberry Festival, said July 1 celebrations get underway at 10 a.m. and will have something for everyone.

ANTIQUÉ CARS

"We're very excited about the antique car display that will be there. Last year we had 20 cars, but this year we're expecting about 75," Ms. McCrea said. "We're also having a heritage quilt display. One of the quilts was done years ago before the July 1 celebration was even called Canada Day."

The third annual strawberry festival and Canada Day celebration is being sponsored by the Caledon Agricultural Society and the Caledon Ratepayers Association.

"There are about 12 places in Caledon Township where you can pick your own berries. About four years ago, we decided to combine the celebration of Canada's birthday with the harvest of the crop."

PUPPET SHOWS

Ms. McCrea said the celebration will also highlight dunking booths, puppet shows, an antique quilt display, a remote control car obstacle race, a petting zoo, baseball games and more.

"There will be an opening ceremony at noon with brownies, guides and scouts. They'll march from the bandstand to the agricultural building with banners and flags - it should be quite colorful."

She said local members of parliament and town councillors will speak at the ceremony.

Heather Broadbent, heritage resource officer for the town, will speak about the history of the celebration as well as what it means to be Canadian in a fragmented country, she said.

"Aurora McMullin, a Bolton resident, will also be there selling her t-shirts that say, 'I'm Canadian First'. With (national unity) being what it is, it would be great to see everyone there wearing one."

2,000 PEOPLE

Ms. McCrea said she's expecting more than 2,000 people to show up for town's largest birthday party.

Live musical entertainment will be going strong all day with feature bands including Cellar Door, Peel Regional Police Country Line Band, Bonnie Neely and Family and Tempest - a Caledon teen rock band.

Ms. McCrea said a new strawberry feature has been added to the festival this year.

"There'll be a strawberry preserves contest, so hopefully, we'll get some scrumptious jam."

For those who just can't seem to get their fill of strawberries at the festival, the Knox United Church is hosting a strawberry supper from 4 p.m.-7 p.m. Takeout orders will start at 3 p.m.

The 82nd annual buffet supper is a joint venture between the Alton and Caledon Pastoral charges.

A wrap-up to the celebration is being planned by the town of Caledon's recreation department at the Caledon East ball park.

Entertainment, a military re-enactment and fireworks get underway at 6 p.m.



Member of the Caledon Strawberry Festival committee get ready for the annual Canada Day celebrations. The crew was out putting up signs last week. From

left to right are; Roger Klein, Mary Klein, Gil Wilkes, Polly Keyes, Fay McCrea, Mary Glassford and Jean Kelloway.

Strawberries at the Farmers' Market

Saturday is Strawberry Festival Day at the Orangeville Farmers' Market.

Strawberry shortcake with strawberries will be served free by members of market members.

The market committee want people to know that Broadway's reconstruction hasn't taken all the parking from the area. The municipal parking lots sit behind the co-op and where the Grand central Hotel once stood

usually have plenty of spaces in the morning," Ms. Gooding said.

As always, the Orangeville Farmers' Market opens for business at 7 a.m. and wraps up about 1 p.m.

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