

Miss Acton's reign busy, fun

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK The Acton Tanner

With a smile for everyone, an infectious laugh and poise beyond her years, Sonya Tonkovich's reign as Miss Acton is off to a good start.

The 18-year-old high school student, who moved to Acton with her family four years ago, entered the Miss Acton Fall Fair pageant at the last minute and was "stunned" to have won.

In a recent interview, Sonya said that representing Acton for the coming year is a "very big deal."

"I'd like to help out the town as much as I can because I like Acton. It's not my original home but I'm so comfortable here that it's my home now," Tonkovich said.

Tonkovich attended the Milton Fair where she judged entries and handed out prizes and later she appeared in a fashion show for the Acton Branch of the Canadian Cancer Society. She will join other Ontario Fair pageant winners in Toronto in February and will also represent Acton at the big fair - the CNE - next summer.

Tonkovich, who stressed the importance of agriculture and the feel of small-town life at the pageant, admits that moving to this area from Brampton was a shock.

"I love living in a small town but I also like the entertainment and excitement of a big city. My mom, who has always been an inspiration, suggested that I enter the pag-Following the Acton Fair, eant and I did because I dence in Mississauga.

thought it would be fun and a challenge," Tonkovich said.

She has had calls from two modelling agencies since the pageant and after much debate, decided she would at least speak with them.

"I never thought about modelling because I believe education is really important and I want to take a lot of time for it. Right now I've got a lot on the go and although modelling is not a priority, it might help pay my tuition," Tonkovich said, noting that she plans to attend university next year, possibly studying psychology.

Tonkovich, an OAC student at Bishop Reding Separate school, speaks four languages, volunteers and works weekends at a seniors' resi-

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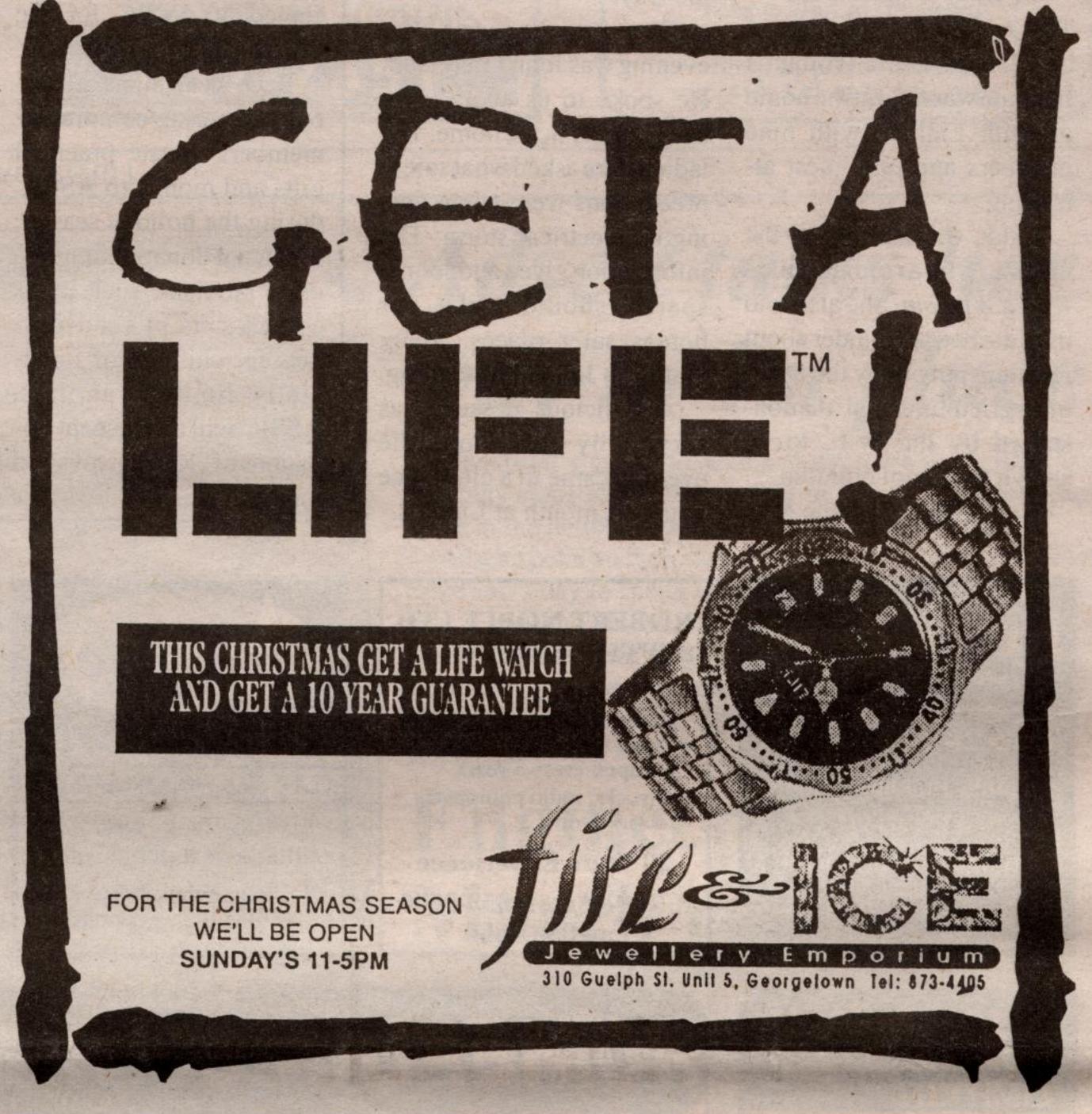
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AT HOME WITH MISS ACTON

Miss Acton Sonya Tonkovich, in back, stands between sister Tanya, 16, and brother Mark, 13, with mom Terry, brother Mirko, 9, and father John in their Turtle Lake Drive home. The family has lived in Acton for four years.

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