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cookin'

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The Independent Friday Edition & Free Press

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Friday, November 27, 1998

16 Pages

17,700 copies



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What's on this weekend

Today

• Local illusionist Brent Mackie will perform his Experience the Magic show at Acton High School at 7 p.m. in support of the Halton Hills Mayor's Youth Action Committee.

• The Beatrice Aeros, including several Olympic team members, will be at the Acton Arena at 6 p.m. for a practice session with local female hockey players.

• Georgetown Globe Productions' The Pajama Game continues with performances tonight through Saturday at the John Elliott Theatre. Call 877-3700 for show times.

Saturday

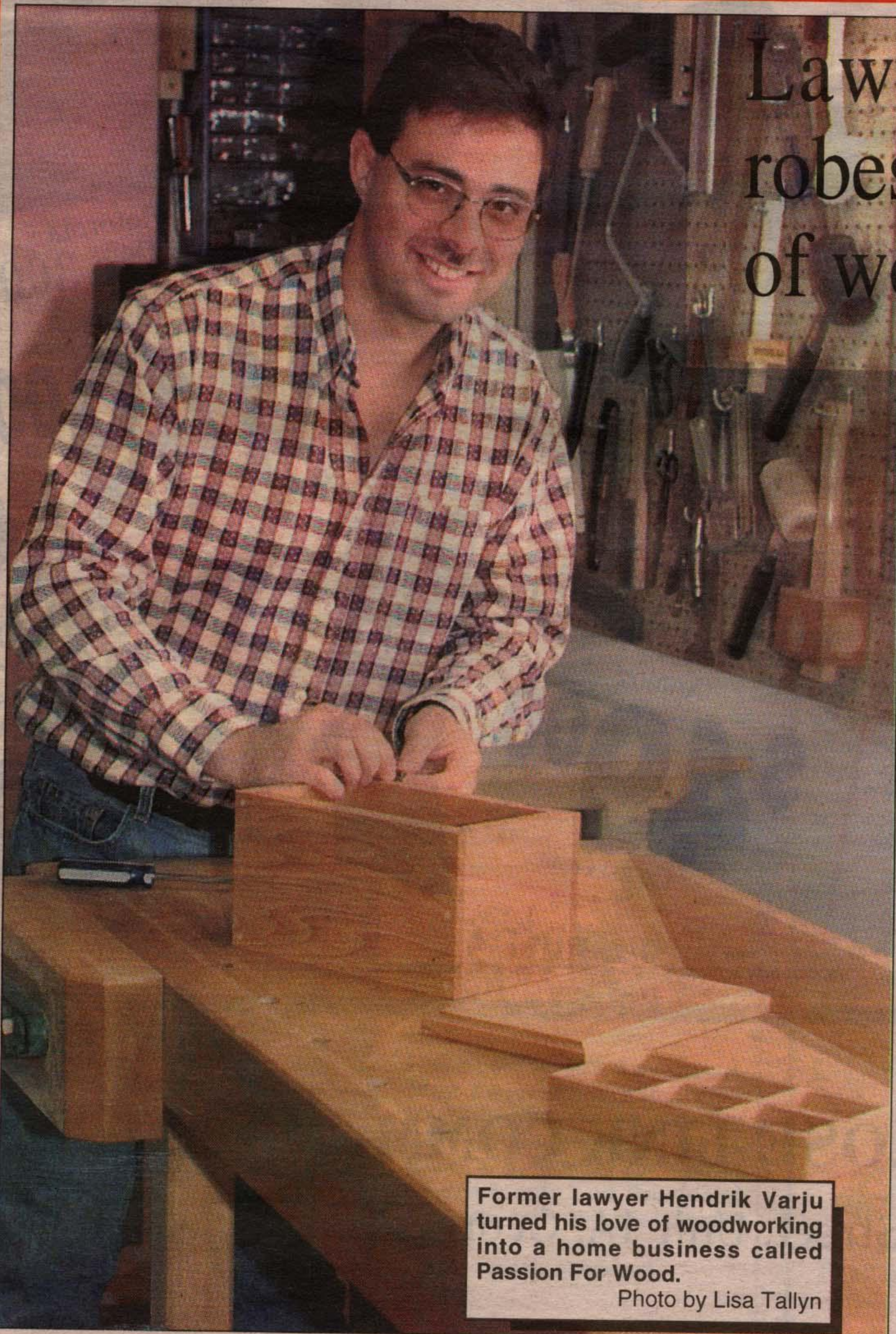


• Norval's sixth annual Lucy Montgomery Christmas celebration will feature a number of events beginning at 10 a.m. at various locations in Norval.

• The Georgetown Raiders host Brampton in Jr. A hockey action at Alcott Arena. Game time is 7:30 p.m.

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Lawyer turns in robes for his love of woodworking

In these tough economic times, few people have the courage to leave the security of their jobs and turn their hobbies into a full-time profession.

But that's precisely what 28-year-old Hendrik Varju of Erin Township did—walking away from a promising law career to turn his love of woodworking into a new career.

Since childhood, he had always been encouraged to be a lawyer, Varju says, adding his parents meant well instilling this goal in him; they wanted him to have opportunities they never had. However, during the years he spent at Queen's University and Osgoode Hall studying for his degree, Varju says he felt disillusioned. When he began to practise law at a small Toronto firm, Varju says he was miserable.

"I was in the wrong world," he says.

Believing there was a lack of ethics in the profession, he resigned from the Law Society soon after Christmas 1996.

"It wasn't that I wasn't good at it. It just wasn't me," he says.

Varju and his wife moved to Etobicoke where he began his business in his in-laws' basement. Earlier this year, the Varjus moved to Erin Township because the home industry bylaws there are ideal, he says.

Former lawyer Hendrik Varju turned his love of woodworking into a home business called Passion For Wood.

Photo by Lisa Tallyn

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