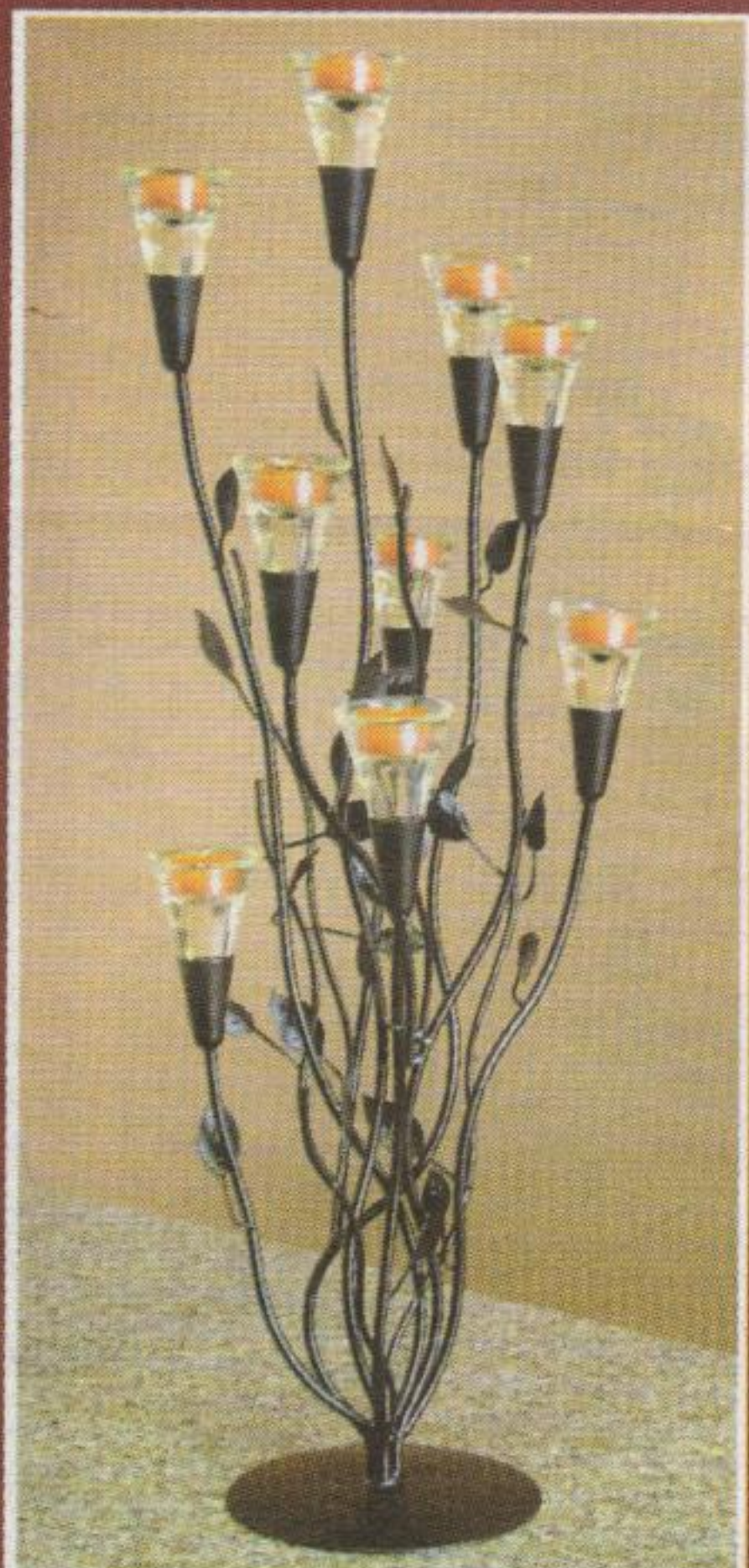


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Members of the Georgetown Pipe Band warm up before the Fergus Highland Games competition in August.

## Pipers not running out of wind

The Georgetown Pipe Band has been going strong for more than 50 years, since it began as the Girls Pipe Band in 1942.

Both men and women having been playing in the band since the late 1980s. Beginner drummers and experienced pipers can join any time of the year.

Pipe Major Tracy Porter meets with members at the Lions Hall on Thursdays. Although practices take place year-round, summer is their busiest time with Highland Games competitions. Starting the season in Georgetown, the Games take place every Saturday throughout the region until the end of August.

Piper Margaret Hoggett came to this music later than most players. She studied the instrument at Sheridan College when she was 35. Hoggett looks forward to the performances, even though she originally intended to play on her own.

"It's something

that has to be shared with other people," she said. "It's a whole culture of its own—another world out there."

It's a world spectators are happy to share when the Georgetown Pipe Band performs annually at the Georgetown Santa Claus parade, Lions Club conventions, and the Bread and Honey Festival in Streetsville. The band also travels to Buffalo's St. Patrick's Day parade, and the Peach Festival in Lewistown, N.Y.

In August, the Georgetown Pipe Band will be competing at the world's championship in Glasgow, Scotland.

For more information contact Margaret Hoggett, 905-873-3081.

—By Patricia Post, special



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