

# Celebrating determination of women

By IRENE GENTLE

The Champion

Just seventy years after women were legally declared 'persons' in Canada, an upcoming art exhibition will help illustrate exactly how far the ladies have come.

Two local artists will be taking part in an Art Gallery of Mississauga show that celebrates the decade-long struggle of five Prairie women to have females legally considered persons in Canada.

The show runs from June 17 to July 25.

Nellie McClung, Emily Murphy, Louise McKinney, Henrietta Muir Edwards and Irene Parlby won their historical case in 1929.

Today, home-grown artists Bev Didur and Brigitte Schreyer will be joined by Mississauga area artists Patience Morrisey, Joyce Morris and Janice Mason Steeves in the upcoming exhibit.

All five are female artists with long, strong roots in the Prairies.

The show is the brainchild of the Manitoba born and raised printmaker Ms Didur.

Almost since moving to Ontario, Ms Didur has been trying without success to bring a Prairie show to this province.

"Manitoba wouldn't send their things here," said Ms Didur, who now makes Hornby her home. "It was one problem after another."

After learning that the stars of the famous case were being commemorated with a statue in Calgary, Ms Didur decided to shift the focus of her show slightly.

"People don't realize that if a woman was born in Canada and is more than 70 years old, they were not born as persons," she said.

Women and women's work has been a focus of Ms Didur's since her mother passed away in 1988.

Photo albums and a diary inherited then has been an inspiration in Ms Didur's efforts. "All the work I exhibit seriously is about women's work," she said.

Even so, there is no obvious theme in the Five Women From The Prairies show, which features three printmakers and two painters, said Ms Didur.

"Really what we decided to do is not work towards a theme. We're just going to do our work," she said. "As far as I'm concerned, everything women do is women's work."

Watercolour artist Brigitte Schreyer was born in Germany and carries around a German accent that has stubbornly resisted the years she has spent in Manitoba and Ontario. Despite this, much of who she is as a person and an artist is courtesy of her time in the Prairies, said Ms Schreyer.

"I went there (to Manitoba) when I was

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Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Watercolour artist Brigitte Schreyer prepares for her part in the upcoming Five Women From The Prairies exhibition at the Art Gallery of Mississauga. The show celebrates the 70th anniversary of women being legally declared 'persons' in Canada.

## PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE

### PROPOSED RECONSTRUCTION OF DERRY ROAD (REGIONAL ROAD No. 7) AT BRONTE STREET/FIRST LINE TOWN OF MILTON PR-1594A

The Regional Municipality of Halton is proposing to reconstruct Derry Road from approximately 300 m east and west of the Bronte Street/First Line Intersection and First Line/Bronte Street from approximately 130 m south of Derry Road to approximately 60 m north of Derry Road. Reconstruction is required to improve intersection capacity, road drainage, roadway safety, structural condition of the pavement and to upgrade the existing traffic control signal system.

#### A Public Information Centre will be held:

**DATE:** Thursday, May 20, 1999  
**TIME:** 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
**LOCATION:** Milton Alliance Church  
2850 Derry Road, Milton

The Public Information Centre will be an informal meeting to provide interested members of the public, especially those owners and tenants whose properties front onto Derry Road or First Line/Bronte Street, with an opportunity to discuss the project with Regional representatives.

Subject to comments received, the design will be finalized and the project will proceed to construction tentatively scheduled for 1999. If you are unable to attend the Public Information Centre and wish to provide comments or receive further information about this project, please contact:

Mr. T. Finelli, Design Supervisor  
Regional Municipality of Halton  
1151 Bronte Road  
Oakville ON L6M 3L1  
Tel: (905) 825-6030, Ext. 7615  
e-mail: finellit@region.halton.on.ca

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## ADVERTISEMENT

### ARTS/STARS

By Pat Adams

The people you will read about in this column are your neighbors. You meet them shopping in Loblaws, The Canadian Tire store and in the line up for Sam's Cheese at the market. I hope to introduce you to their creative side by turning the spotlight on just a few of Milton's stars of the arts.

### TAKE TWO!!!

Sandy Bennett and Helder DaSilva, both members of the Milton players, have just finished filming a full-length feature film titled "Dying Culture." The film is science fiction in the film noir style. Helder plays the lead role of a detective turned private investigator and Sandy has a costarring role as a woman of mystery. The film was written and directed by Jarrod Ferris from Oakville. Currently in the editing stage, the film will be an entrant in Robert Randford's Sundance Film Festival scheduled for January 20-30, 2000. The film has been entered in three categories including best foreign film. The Sundance Festival offers new filmmakers an opportunity to be seen by potential distributors. New York investors who have seen the film are quite enthusiastic about its potential and negotiations are underway for future financing of Ferris's other scripts. Sandy is currently appearing with the Players as Bobbi in The Last of the Red Hot Lovers. Helder last appeared with the Players in On Golden Pond.

### THE SOUND OF MUSIC

In an effort to provide a relaxed atmosphere for his customers, Brian Trevail, the Manager of Loblaws has been featuring local area musicians on Saturdays and Sundays. The sweet sounds of the Milton Choristers and area jazz musicians playing soft jazz can be heard throughout the store. In the next few weeks featured artists will include: Michael Brown, May 15, Danny Brooks, May 16, Vivian Clement, May 22, Michael Brown, May 23, and Andrew Burton, May 29.

Brian Trevail and Loblaws also provides a space for the Fine Arts Society of Milton on Tuesdays for their Paint In. A Bouquet of roses to Brian and Loblaws for their generous support of the Arts.

**GEORGETOWN CINEMAS**  
235 GUELPH STREET 873-1999

1 **THE MUMMY** PG  
Daily 6:45 - 9:15 p.m.  
Sat. & Sun. 2:00 p.m.  
Frightening Scenes, Violence

2 **ENTRAPMENT** PG  
Daily 7:00 - 9:15 p.m.  
Sat. & Sun. 2:00 p.m.  
Language May Offend

3 **NEVER BEEN KISSED** PG  
Daily 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.  
Sat. & Sun. 2:00 p.m.