



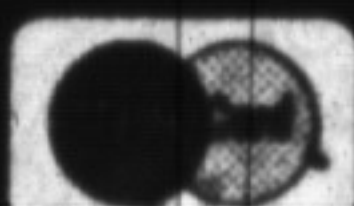
85th birthday

Former Campbellville resident Elva Hardsand-Jenson was treated to a surprise 85th birthday party recently at the Oakville Senior Citizens residence. About 60 relatives attended including great grandchildren (from left) Stephen Vellenga; Erin Campbell; Jessica Vellenga; Melissa Hardsand; Jamie Smith and David Vellenga. Mrs. Hardsand-Jenson has two daughters, four sons, 24 grandchildren and 32 great grandchildren. She was born October 11, 1904.

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Professionalism shines through from set to cast in Jimmy Dean

Just three performances remain before it closes

Come back to the 5 and Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean is a powerful play that challenges actors to deal with comedy, drama and tragedy — all in the space of a couple of hours. And The Milton Players Theatre Group has pulled it off extremely well.

Before the performance began, the audience was able to spend time looking at the set.

Luckily for the production crew, they had no set changes, so they were able to devote all their efforts and ingenuity into creating a fabulous, authentic-looking set.

The story takes place in 1975, but vestiges of years gone by surface in the trappings and decor of this 5 and dime store located in a drought-stricken Texas town.

Attention to detail

The crew paid a great deal of attention to detail: the soda fountain, a real juke box, a gooey strip of fly paper tacked to the ceiling, old comics and magazines, and numerous photos of James Dean plastered all over the walls. Songs from the past enhanced the mood created by this professional set.

The story revolves around the 20-year reunion of a James Dean fan club. The playwright chose flashbacks to 1955 to help explain what was happening in 1975.

The principal characters were each played by two people — then and now.

Often these then and now characters were onstage at the same time, but the fade-ins and fade-outs from one year to the other were well executed, causing no confusion in the minds of the audience.

Professionalism

The acting matched the set in its professionalism. The performers

Review

with ESTHER CALDWELL

were very much at ease onstage. The stilted gait of nervous or novice performers was not at all present.

These eight actors knew exactly who they were and they remained in character throughout. Even those times when they were silent observers, they responded in ways appropriate to their particular character.

Used props

The actors used props effectively. For example, they constantly reminded the audience that they were suffering under hot (99 degree Fahrenheit we are told), dry conditions in this small store. They repeatedly

wipe their brows and necks with handkerchiefs and fan themselves with paper serviettes.

The memory of all those strong personalities remains vivid: the loud-mouthed, insensitive Stella May, the timid Edna Louise, Sissy with her bravado.

Reveal secrets

As the play progresses, the characters reveal secrets or in some cases have their secrets painfully pried from them. And we feel for their disappointments and disillusionments.

The attention to detail was also evident in the choice of costumes, make-up and hairdos fashionable during the 1950s and '70s.

Don't miss seeing *Come to the 5 and Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean*.

This week, it's playing tonight and Friday and Saturday nights at the St. Clair Masonic Hall on Highway 25. Showtime is 8 p.m.

Drew 110 people

Art auction raises \$5,000 for charities

More than \$21,000 worth of art was auctioned at a recent Milton YMCA and Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) fundraising event at Holy Rosary Parish Hall.

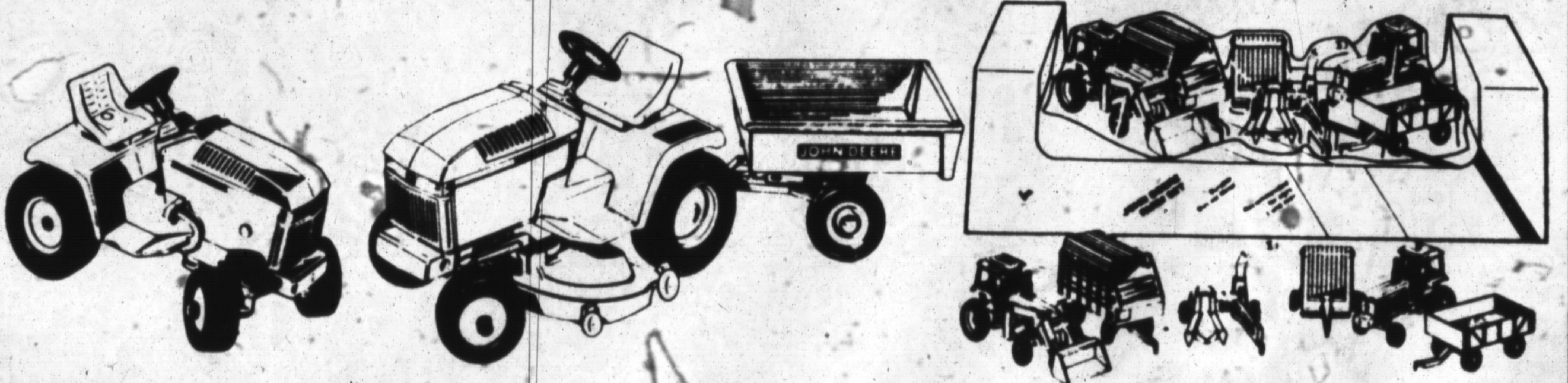
About 110 people attended the charity art auction Friday which featured limited edition prints, original watercolours, oils and acrylics, Inuit carvings and sculptures by popular artists.

The highest bid of \$1,900 was offered for an original signed and numbered aquatint by A. J. Casson, the sole surviving member of the famous Group of Seven, entitled *Lake Kasawigumog*.

Daphne Coulter of CFUW said the event was a great success. "People came out for a good evening and a lot of them went home with some beautiful pictures," she added. "The memory of this auction will grace the walls in their offices and homes for a long time."

More than \$5,000 was raised for Milton YMCA and CFUW.

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