

NEWSLINES

Harvest craft fair to benefit hospital

Build a scarecrow, make a corn-husk doll and check out the offerings of artisans and musicians at the annual Springridge Farm Harvest Craft Fair next weekend (October 17-18).

The fund-raising event for Milton District Hospital attracted 8,000 visitors last year and earned \$4,000 for the hospital foundation.

In addition to the offerings of Springridge Farm's own gift barn there will be 40 craft exhibitors at the fair. For the children a corn maze will be constructed and there'll be a chance to jump in the hay stack, carve a pumpkin and visit the "boo barn".

Autumn favourites like apples, cider and preserves will be available and there will be a marshmallow roast and barbecue as well.

Springridge Farm is located on Bell School Line north of Derry Road. The event runs from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days.

INSIDE



Margaret Elliott, of Scotland, is the clan chief for the Elliots. She's on a tour of North America to get in touch with others who have the famous surname.

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Pam Lopera, special events coordinator at Andrews Scenic Acres measures the farm's prized 250 pound Atlantic giant pumpkin. Similar giants were trucked into the local farm for the great pumpkin challenge held Thanksgiving Day.

Photo by GRAHAM PAINE

Greatest, biggest pumpkin wins

The greatest pumpkin of them all was determined at Andrews Scenic Acres Monday at the third annual great pumpkin challenge.

Paul Pearson's entry weighed in at 216 pounds and earned the Bishop Reding High School student first in the Atlantic Giant division.

Despite less than perfect pumpkin growing conditions, according to contest organizer Bert Andrews the winner was close in size to last year's biggest.

A 149 pounder, grown by Derek Mewhinney, a student at Holy Rosary School, was the second biggest giant and Jonathan Getty of Hillsburgh took third place with a 98 pound pumpkin.

In the regular jack-o-lantern pumpkin division, Scott Peddie of Oakville grew the winner weighing in at 57 pounds.

Peter Merry of Milton was second with an entry weighing 56 pounds and the third prize pumpkin

at 54 pounds was entered by Donna McPhail.

The contest is open to students only and the \$400 first prize money in each division is split between the winners and a charity of their choice. Paul Pearson shared his win with the youth group at Boston Presbyterian Church while Scott Peddie donated half his winnings to the Hand-in-Hand Resource Centre in Oakville.

Mr. Andrews said the Thanksgiving Day crowd far exceeded his expectations. Generally the Saturday and Sunday of the long weekend are busiest. In addition to the contest, special events included a haunted forest, pony and wagon rides, a giant sandbox and animal corral.

Visitors over the weekend were encouraged to plant pumpkins next spring to provide entries for the '93 weigh-off.

The farm is located on 10 Sideroad, east of Highway 25.

Officer's conduct subject of hearing

By KAREN SMITH
The Champion

A local realtor has told a public hearing that an off-duty police officer tried to run his car off the road in a dispute over ownership of a lawn sign.

Lamont Leone of Milton testified at a Board of Inquiry hearing yesterday that in September, 1989, the Toronto policeman ran toward him waving his fist after he removed a roadside sign near the officer's home in rural Milton.

Guglielmo Catalano of Metropolitan Toronto Police faces allegations of discreditable conduct under the Police Services Act in the two-day hearing which is expected to end today at Town Hall.

The manager of Royal LePage Realty on Main Street, Mr. Leone told the hearing he and four other real estate agents were driving back from viewing new real estate listings when he decided to stop and pick up the sign which was property of the company.

The sign, which was situated along No. 15 Sideroad on public property in front of Mr. Catalano's home, said Mr. Leone, was advertising for clean fill.

Because he could clearly see under the cardboard that the disguised sign belonged to Royal LePage, Mr. Leone put it in his car, he told the hearing.

Retrieving the lawn signs is common practice by real estate agents, he testified, because they're expensive.

But when he took the sign, continued Mr. Leone, Mr. Catalano came running out of his house toward the car swearing, waving his fist, and yelling at the real estate agents to give him back his sign.

Out of fear, said Mr. Leone, he drove off. He then testified the off-duty police officer began chasing him in his pick-up truck at high speed eastbound on No. 15 Sideroad dangerously trying to get him to pull over.

During the ordeal, a real estate agent in the car yelled out that Mr.

see MAN SAID on page 2

Yes - no sides to square off at special meeting

Those looking for more information about the October 26 referendum will be able to hear speakers for both the 'yes' and 'no' sides explain their positions at Bishop Reding high school next week.

The Milton Jaycees, long sponsors of candidate information nights for various elections, will host a referendum information evening next Wednesday (Oct. 21). It will feature one speaker from the 'yes' side and one from the 'no' camp.

While both factions have expressed interest

in attending, as yet no one has revealed who will speak for their side, said Jaycee organizer Colin Best.

The event will get underway at 7:30 p.m. and run until 10 p.m. The two speakers will be limited to 10 minutes in their opening remarks, followed by questions from the audience for the bulk of the evening. Questioners from the floor will be allowed one query apiece until everyone wishing to do so has had one chance to address the speakers.

Mr. Best said the Jaycees asked that both the

'yes' and 'no' camps refrain from overtly political statements in an effort to examine the constitutional amendments without tacking on partisan baggage. "We don't want anybody to grandstand."

All Milton area provincial and federal Members of Parliament have been invited to the meeting, and asked to set up information booths in the foyer to outline their stand on the issue, but they aren't being asked to speak.

Mr. Best said the Jaycees will have seating for 300 people. Admission is free.