

New generation re-introduces old custom

When Nicole Vautier of 29 Cemetery Lane, Stouffville and Michelle Olszewski, R.R. 4, Stouffville, went riding one Sunday, recently, folks stopped and stared. Nine-year-olds on a bicycle-built-for-two? True enough, and the girls handled the two-seater like pros. Actually, the twin-cycle belongs to Nicole's parents, Ron and Marsha Vautier, Cemetery Lane.

—Jim Thomas.

Going-gone!

STOUFFVILLE — Chocolate bars brought record prices during an auction at Orchard Park Public School.

Only the bars, as sold by auctioneer Norm Faulkner, as part of "Career Days," took the form of lawn chairs and television sets, hence the high bidding. They also helped the speaker demonstrate to the class of Grade six, seven and eight students, how sales are conducted, be they Chinese auctions or regular ones.

A Chinese auction, Faulkner explained, is one used in fund-raising for charity. In it, an item, such as a 45-cent chocolate bar, has a price of \$10 or more, set on it, and that is the price it will go for.

At a regular one, the auctioneer seeks the highest bid for whatever he is selling, and attempts to obtain it. Faulkner said nothing is guaranteed at an auction — "What you see, is what you get" — and sales are cash only.

He advised the students to always bid under the asking price.

His own varied background helped launch him into the business, he said, because it had taught him the value of items, an essential part of auctioneering.

Born and raised on a farm, he had later bought and sold pigs, as well as used furniture; worked in the parts department of a garage, and in a bank.

His first big experience in auctioneering took place in Uxbridge, where he was "so nervous, I couldn't look at the crowd."

He also participated in an auctioneering contest, which ended in a tie, and later attended a two-week course in auctioneering at Mason City, Iowa.

In answering questions from the class, Faulkner said the most unusual thing he'd ever sold was a pair of used rubber boots, while the cheapest item went for 25 cents.

He said buyers usually make their bids known by a wink or a nod of the head, prompting one student to remark that a friend of hers had winked at his girlfriend on one such occasion and the auctioneer took it for a bid.

"Who got the girl?" asked Faulkner.

Lady ministers

No different

STOUFFVILLE — Lady ministers are treated no differently than gentlemen ministers, Rev. Carolyn Holland of York Pines United Church told a Careers' Day class at Orchard Park School.

But ministers, be they men or women, are treated differently, she said.

"A lot of folks think ministers aren't really people, Rev. Holland continued. "But we're just like you, we laugh and we cry just like you."

A former dance instructor at Arthur Murray's, pastor Holland returned to school and later was assigned to a charge containing seven churches near Gander, Newfoundland. She's performed pastoral duties at Toronto General Hospital and at Brampton Jail.

"People don't like to be preached at but rather to be talked to," she said. She defined a Christian as one who believes Jesus Christ is the Son of God and tries to follow His example.

Rev. Holland crossed denominational lines when she predicted women would some day be accepted into the priesthood and priests would be allowed to marry.

"Are you married?" asked a student.

No, but I'm working on it," she replied.

Hold impressive service

STOUFFVILLE — Barclay, Sandra Hulme, Yvonne Holden and Diane White

Guest speaker was Rev. Ted Creen.

Dressed in their green uniforms, members of the Stouffville Boy Scouts added a touch of color to the proceedings and also sang in the main choir.

Individual recitations were delivered by students Andrew Green, who quoted from "In Flanders Field" and "My Poppy" by Danny Bonnard. Ted Collins and Blair Steel read their own interpretations of "What Remembrance Day Means To Me". The final song was sung by the Grade 1 choir.

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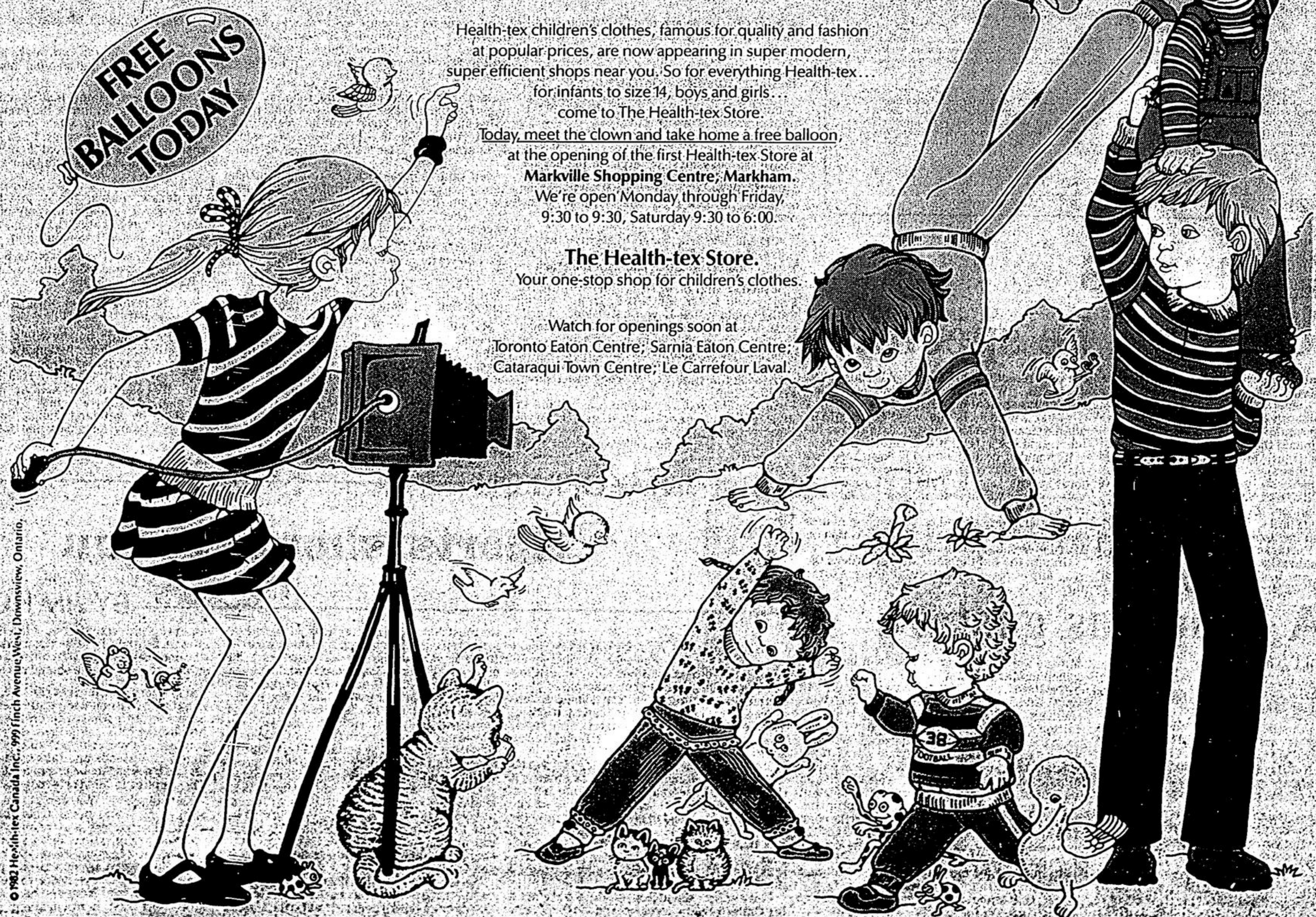
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