

Editor's Mail

Ungodly

Maybe it's obvious now to the organizers, supporters and lookers-on that the Magic Day concept is not successful. Further infusion of capital and public relations' advertisements will not bring the desired crowds either. It's a concept that's flawed incurably because God has no place in it and isn't even invited to bless its programs. The kind of pride that figures everything will all work out to a happy conclusion without God's help, will always come to an ill end. It is spiritual law that is no respecter of persons and governments.

I ask you-contrast the success of the Christian School Fair Day and the United Church Fun Day with the dismal turnout for the Magic Festival program on Stouffville's streets, where the people could participate if they chose, and you may draw a similar conclusion. The Magic Town concept is not what Stouffville needs or deserves.

Let's be practical. Our community is in the midst of reaping the strawberry crop. Many are coming here to share in this blessing. So why not hold a Strawberry Festival and attract entire families to the area? This would be something tangible and good—at least to the taste buds.

Organizers of the Magic Town concept should realize this community has a Christian heritage that many are keen to see preserved for our children. The whole realm of magic runs counter to this heritage and will not be supported by those sensitive people who seek the guiding principles of God's Word—the Bible, which, by the way, does not endorse magical art.

I thank you for trying to bring our town into the focus of this province's citizens. I believe there's a better way to accomplish this and my proposal of the Stouffville Strawberry Festival is only one. There may be others.

Stojan Ninkovic

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Joyce Rowley



-1984

PAT WHEELER
THE TRIBUNE

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ROAMING AROUND



Oh what a weekend!

BY JIM THOMAS

I missed Stouffville's Centennial Celebrations. The year was 1977 and while I was here in person and attended some of the events, I didn't feel a part of the action. For I was then working at the Economist and Sun in Markham and provided no assistance whatsoever in promoting the program. However, once back at my old stamping grounds, I made up my mind I'd do what I could, (should I live so long), to support whatever historical milestone might come along. Little did I know, in 1978, such an opportunity would occur six years down the road—a combined Canada Day-Bicentennial Weekend. And what a celebration it was. I counted it a privilege to be involved.

This being a short week and a smaller-than-usual paper, I can't describe each activity in detail. However, I made notes of several occurrences that may have escaped the eyes and ears of casual observers.

Topping my praise list is the participation of Town councillors, their husbands and wives. They set an excellent example of community spirit and political solidarity that brought the municipality together like I haven't seen in years.

A word of commendation to Committee Chairman Tom Wood. While things may be 'Better in Ballantrae' (Tom's favorite saying), they are truly 'Better in Whitchurch-Stouffville' because of his willingness to take on this arduous chore.

Plaudits also to the 'servers' of Canada Day-Bicentennial cakes, both Saturday and Sunday—Marlane McKee Wetheral, Barb Scaife, Joe Lewis, Wilf and Nelda Morley, Jim and Lovanna Sanders, Margot and Tom Marshall and likely others we didn't see. The two cakes, provided by Stouffville Bakery were almost too good to eat.

It required 17 six-quart baskets of strawberries to feed the long lineups of citizenry. The berries were provided by McNeil Pharmaceutical of Stouffville and picked, washed and sliced by members of staff. The firm also provided the cream that was 'whipped up' by ladies at

McNeil's. That's what I call being a good corporate citizen.

A tip of the hat to the park caretakers: the grounds never looked better, resulting in compliments from out-of-towners, here for various reasons. As well as permanent employees, the summer staff also deserve a vote of thanks.

Although somewhat reduced in ranks, the Whitchurch-Stouffville Concert Band participated in Saturday's parade and presented an hour-long concert in the Park. They never sounded better, with the open air lending an instrumental 'flavor' that isn't always apparent indoors.

Speaking of Saturday's parade, Stouffville's Ted Dentay and his beautiful horse, attracted much attention. Excluding the rider, the spirited steed carried an 'arsenal' of equipment weighing 120 pounds. It's the most complete in-use cavalry outfit in Canada.

If I'd been a judge at Saturday's parade, top marks would have gone to Marg Sansom-Markezinis, daughters Heather and Heidi and their beautiful Russian wolfhound, 'Justice' from R.R. 4, Stouffville. They'd be a credit to any procession.

Slo-pitch, love it or loathe it, I can't omit mentioning Wayne Emmerson as the best single one-sport organizer in Whitchurch-Stouffville. Anyone who can put together a tournament of the magnitude seen here Friday through Sunday, is deserving of a medal. Great job Wayne.

Another 'good sport' award must go to Terri Bernhardt of The Tribune's advertising staff. Terri was asked to serve as a judge at a Pet Show in the Park Saturday, and got 'dumped on', quite literally. While 'perched' on Terri's shoulder 'Rascal', a pet raccoon, chose that moment to 'go to the bathroom'—down Terri's back. Fortunately, Duffin's Creek was handy, providing a convenient wash-down place for the 'joyless' judge. Even after all this, Terri presented 'Rascal' with two ribbons.

Attendance at the Community Worship Service in the Park Sunday was excellent—close to a thousand. I have two criticisms to offer, however, the guest speaker spoke too long and pastoral representation was one denomination too short. Dr. John Wesley White obviously times his sermons with a calendar instead of a clock and no 'community' service is complete without the presence of Father James Adams from St. Mark's Catholic Parish.

Mary (Mrs Jake) Baker of Tenth Line South, Stouffville, would never have forgiven herself if she'd missed The Tribune's Celebrity Auction in Latcham Hall, Saturday night. The beautiful framed painting, donated by John Roberts, art teacher on the staff of S.D.S.S., was a scene from the Baker family farm on Hwy 48, north of Ringwood. For this 'priceless' painting Mrs Baker paid \$150.

Would you believe—Norm Faulkner, Norm Clements and Pat Crowe of Cam Fella fame, all on the platform at the same time? It happened, Saturday evening, at Cam Fella Night in Latcham Hall. Pat Crowe, driver of the famous pacer, is now a full-fledged resident of Whitchurch-Stouffville proving that, as Councillor Tom Wood claims, things are 'Better in Ballantrae'.

The beautiful autographed quilt, completed by the senior residents of the Elm Road Apartments, Stouffville, and containing the names of many town residents, was sold at Saturday's auction for an even \$500. The purchasers were Norm Faulkner and Norm Clements of the Stouffville Stockyards.

A 1984 copy of The Tribune sells for forty cents. At The Celebrity Auction, Saturday, a 1923 Tribune sold for thirty-five dollars. 'Bun' Sellers, Harold Street, Stouffville, was the purchaser. Jim Bartley was the successful bidder on a 1977 (Centennial) issue of The Tribune. His price was \$31.00.

Editorials

Two-fold celebration did our Town proud

What a party! Under perfect weather conditions, the citizens of Whitchurch-Stouffville joined in the fun and pageantry of a combined Canada Day-Bicentennial Weekend, and had a ball!

It was an event geared for all age groups—children, young people, families and seniors. And all age groups joined in.

Sure, there were a couple of 'flat notes' in the chorus of things, but this was to be expected. It's not easy judging people's preferences when the preferences of people vary so greatly.

As will be repeated several times, members of Town Council went that extra mile and became an integral part of all activities. Their dress, in keeping with the 'Bicentennial' theme, transformed the occasion into something very special. For Whitchurch-Stouffville, the 'togetherness' feeling couldn't have come at a more important time.

When it comes to an event of such variance and magnitude, each of us has a choice, a 'memorable happening' that establishes an indelible mark on the mind. What we'll remember most is the singling out of seven senior citizens for special recognition—Walter Atkinson, Eugene Lemon, Carrie McLaughlin, Alma Oldham, Walter Pipher, Marjorie Richardson and Clara Wideman. A deserving tribute to seven deserving people, representing a cross-section of this municipality.

Less personal but extremely practical is the Town's Bicentennial Project—the portable bandstand. Critics of this venture, found themselves off base, when the size of the structure was revealed. We feel it will serve a very useful purpose.

Yes, we could write a book on 'the weekend' that was in Whitchurch-Stouffville. Those who participated in it were appreciative of it. We counted it a privilege to be part of it.

Reaped big dividends

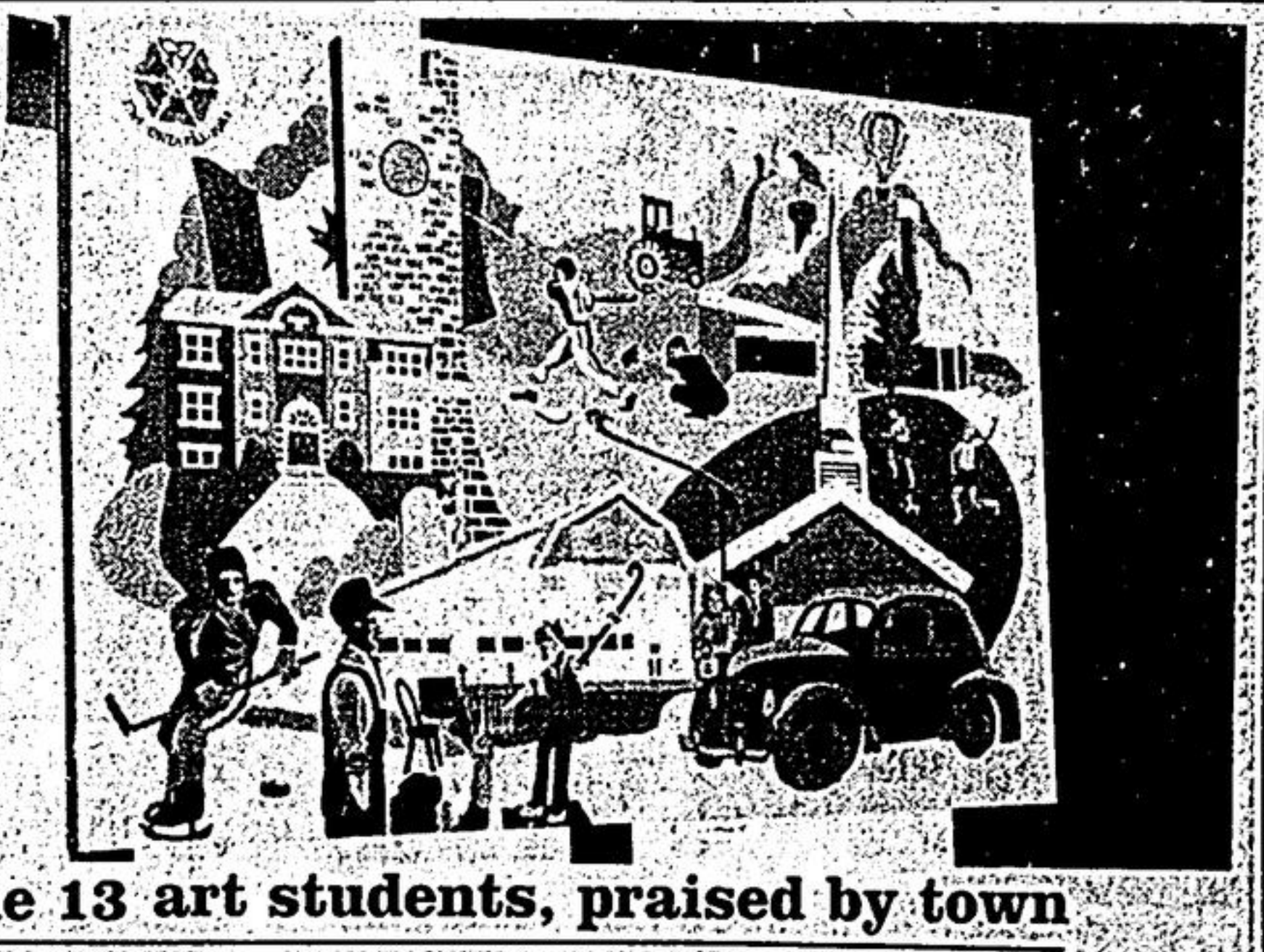
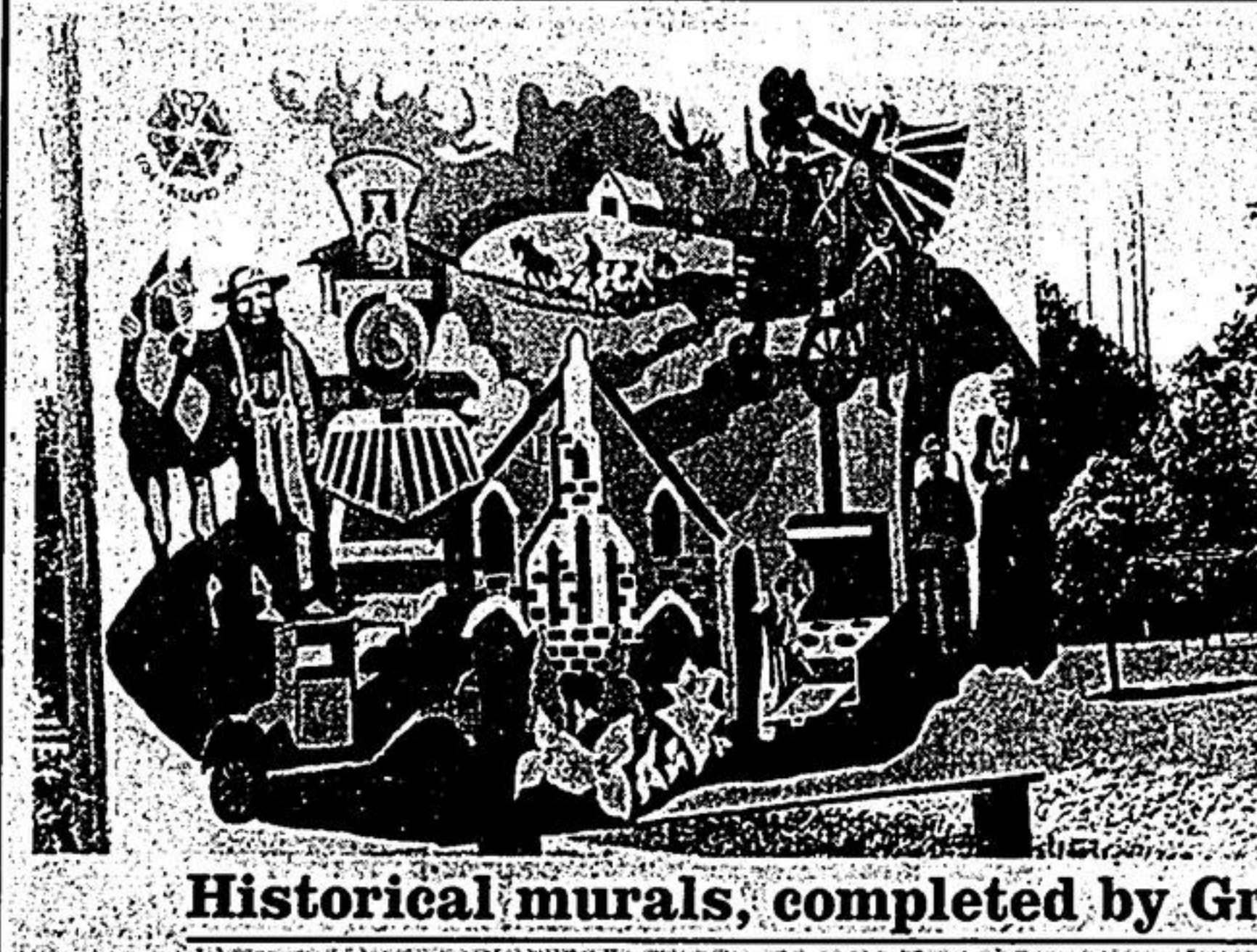
Hang the expense! This seemed to be Town Council's feelings towards Canada Day-Bicentennial Celebrations here last weekend—and it paid off; the biggest and best 'party' since Stouffville's own centennial back in '77.

Everything was first class, no nickel and dime stuff, and it showed.

Such has not always been so; and it showed then too. But not this time 'round. The Council, working in close co-operation with the Celebration Committee, presented a program that far exceeded our expectations. And the people responded in a very positive way. We've yet to hear a single complaint.

While many events were privately sponsored or self-supporting, there's little doubt the Committee's budget was over-spent. However, the real gainers from this affair will be the Town Rec. Centre Fund; the Markham-Stouffville Hospital Fund and the Town itself.

Certainly, financial guidelines must be established and, if possible, maintained, but no one can put a 'price' on an activity that involved and pleased so many people. Congratulations Celebration Committee and Council. You did us proud.



Historical murals, completed by Grade 13 art students, praised by town

The timing was perfect. Three days prior to Whitchurch-Stouffville's Canada Day-Bicentennial Weekend, two hand-painted murals, depicting the Town,

past and present, were erected on Main Street. The innovative portraits, were completed by twelve students in Mrs Wm. Warren's Grade 13 art class at S.D.S.S. The project was

requested by the Business Improvement Area board. The murals have been the subject of many complimentary remarks. In an effort to complete them by school-closing

time, the students worked during lunch periods and spares, Mrs Warren said. The murals are protected by a weather-resistant varnish and should last about five years.