

Weekender

Comment

Local Fair is great show

The 1985 Markham Fair is almost here. The annual agricultural fair, slated to begin this coming Wednesday evening, is a celebration of rural living — a chance for all the best in rural life to be displayed for the urban folks who come from near and far for the event.

Putting on a fair is a mammoth undertaking. It must retain its rural character while attracting urbanites. If the Fair is too farm oriented, it won't attract non-farm participants; if it's too upbeat and slick then it no longer is an agricultural fair.

In the past, Markham Fair, which attracts approximately 60,000 people annually, has managed to strike a good balance as rural meets urban and past meets present in one large celebration.

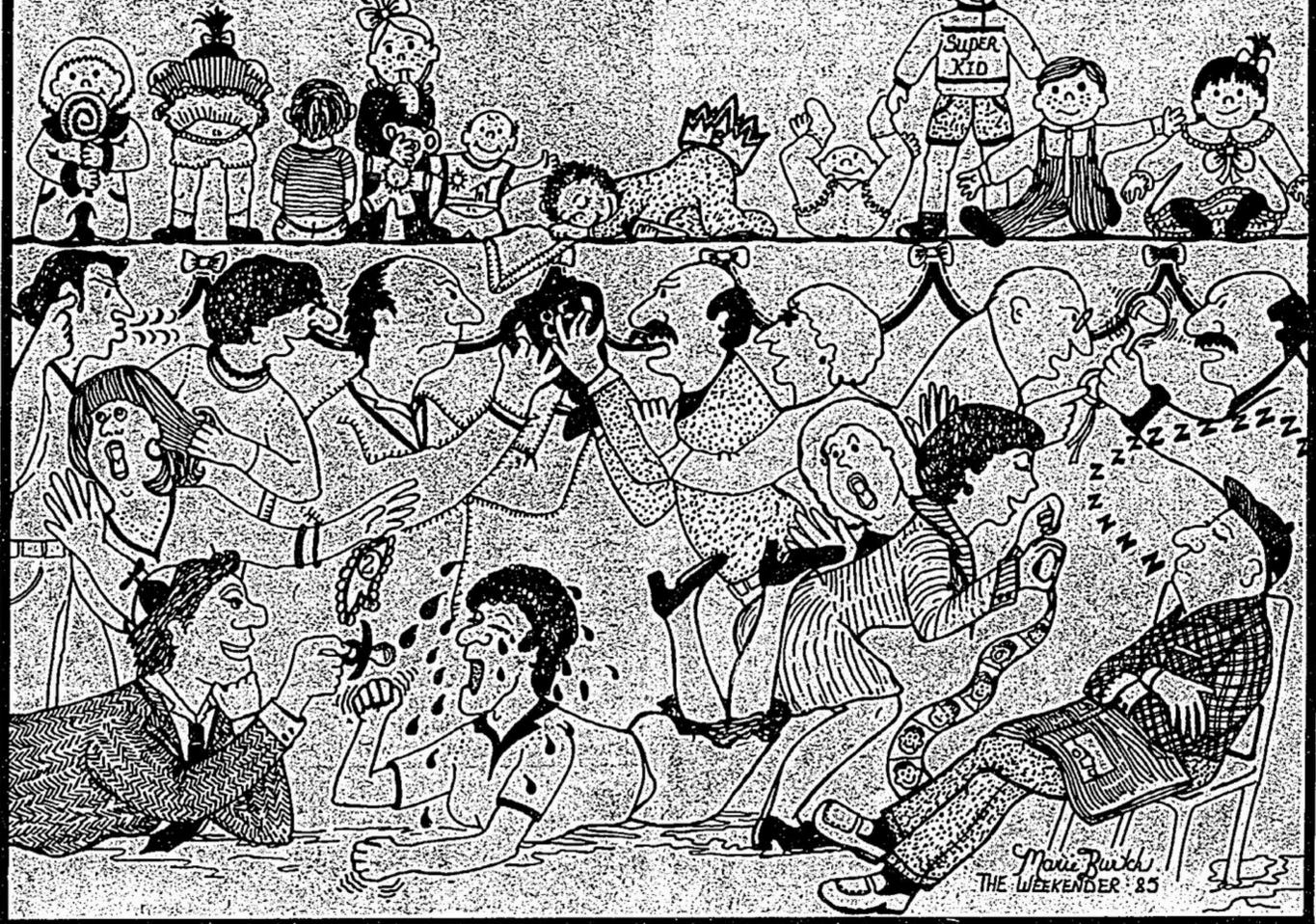
Markham Fair is a celebration in another way. It brings communities together through volunteers who give a great deal of their free time to making the Fair a success.

It's this group, many of whom have been involved with the Fair for many years, who really make it work. They help with parking or lend a hand in one of the buildings or serve on one of the many busy committees.

Even the location is ideal. Situated at McCowan Rd. and 16th Ave., the Fair is in a truly rural setting. The clean, modern buildings are attractive and there is plenty of parking.

Yes, Markham Fair has a lot going for it. But when the gates open Wednesday evening, all the effort will go for nothing without you — the residents of Markham, Stouffville and surrounding areas. It's a great show. Come on out and find out for yourself.

The Markham Fair Baby Contest Saturday, Oct. 5th at 9 a.m.



Marie Burke
THE WEEKENDER '85

Speaking Out:

What do you look forward to the most at the Markham Fair? (Asked on Main St., Stouffville and Main St., Markham)



Violet Irving
Retired
Stouffville

"I'm looking forward to seeing the Tommy Hunter show this year because he's never been before. He gave me a seat on the Bloor street-car in Toronto once."



Betty-Lou Bell
Hairdresser
Stouffville

"I'd have to say the community displays and the shows. There's a lot of nice crafts and things to see. The community puts a lot of work into it."



John Koshkerian
Student
Markham

"I've only been there once but the horse racing and the derby were good to watch. I also like going to see all the girls."



Gladys Vaughn
Retired
Stouffville

"I like going to see the quilts and crafts every year. I used to make them myself but I stopped. I usually meet my daughter at the Fair and walk around."



Tracie Flood
Student
Markham

"I like everything about the Fair. The rides and the exhibits and the shows — I like it all. I go every single year."



Colleen Barbe
Student
Markham

"I like going just to see my friends and watch all the kids enjoy themselves. I really like going to see the animals. I go every year."

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