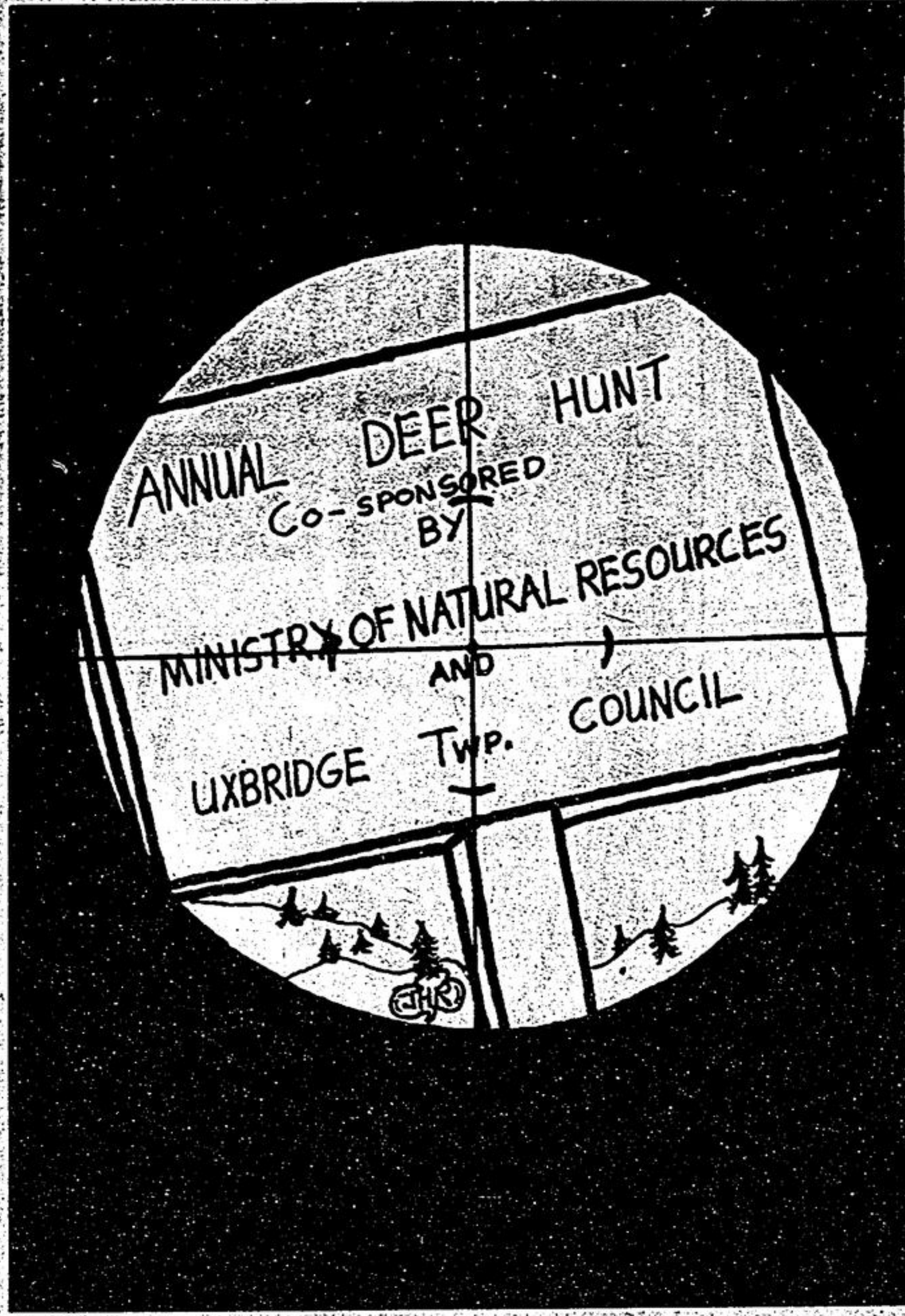


Editor's Mail Service?

Dear Jim:
The staff at the Stouffville Veterinary Clinic believe in supporting our local merchants and so we were delighted to receive an invitation to the Stouffville Florist's Christmas Open House on Sat., Dec. 7, 1985.
Unfortunately, although it was addressed correctly and post marked Nov. 26, 1985, we received it Jan. 22, 1986.
That's 57 days to travel from one end of town to the other.
Now that's service!
Sincerely,
G.A. Gall, DVM,
Main Street West,
Stouffville.

Dear Editor:
A few words of praise for the Lions Clubs of Goodwood, Claremont and Stouffville.
When an emergency arises, members are always quick to respond.
The fires at Glasgow and Goodwood are prime examples.
I hold the Lions organization in high regard.
Beverley Graham,
R.R. 1, Goodwood

To The Editor:
It's during a time of tragedy that a community shows its true stripes.
The Goodwood, Claremont and Stouffville communities have shown theirs.
I'm referring to assistance provided families made homeless by fire at Glasgow and Goodwood.
The response has been heart-warming.
I'm pleased to live in such an area.
Dennis Cormier,
R.R. 1, Goodwood



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ROAMING AROUND

Cheques or chargex?

BY JIM THOMAS

Will that be cash or chargex?
How often have you heard that asked? Every time I go shopping, (which isn't that often), I hear it--like a broken record. And I hate it.
For my reply, particularly in places where I'm not known, produces strange reactions.
If I say cash, and it's an item worth \$100 or more, the clerk's forehead furrows like my wallet's full of counterfeit.
If I say neither; I'd like to pay by cheque, the gal or guy stiffen up as if my sole purpose for being there was to rob the place.
I swear some have never heard of cheques.
Next time, ask for one.
"I'm sorry Sir, but you'll have to use one of your own," is the stock reply.
There was a day when stores carried blanks. All you had to do was write in the name of your bank and your account number. But not any more.
Today, even personal cheques are suspect. To get one okayed, the clerk demands your telephone number, your driver's licence, your social insurance card and sometimes even your birth certificate. She can't believe there's a person alive who still writes cheques. Even with all this, she usually requires approval from the department manager.
While ten other chargex patrons are whisked through the line, you're left standing, like a suspected Al Capone.
"It's that guy over there with the dark-rimmed glasses, the trench coat and the pencil behind one ear," you know the clerk is saying. While she stalls for time, someone puts a call through to the bank JUST TO MAKE SURE!
It's not worth it.
So why don't I use chargex, like everyone else?
Good question.
I have one. It's a Scotiabank VISA, issued back in 1983, I think. But I haven't used it; not once.
Sure, I've been tempted, if nothing more than to cut through some stores' bureaucratic red tape, but each time I've changed my mind. It's like taking that first drink or that first cigarette;

I'm afraid I'll get hooked.
Thousands have, maybe tens of thousands.
I don't want to add my name to that list.
Okay, call me old-fashioned; out of touch with reality; I don't care. All I know, our bank account can stand no more strain; no more 'free' rides; no more hidden costs.
Chargex seems like getting something for nothing until the bills start pouring in. That's when the perspiration starts pouring out.
While most folks, (including store clerks), may think me a little strange, I've found one person, (besides my wife), who goes along with my aversion to chargex. Her name is Joan Fischer, a financial manager of national prominence. Joan firmly believes money doesn't grow on trees. And she's right, at least she's right with respect to trees at 381 Rupert Avenue.

Budgeting is her business.
In a recent article published in a Toronto daily, Joan comments: "Credit cards should be used only if you can pay them off, in full, every month."
To show her contempt for this "easy come, easy go payment plan", Joan keeps a pair of scissors on her desk and insists clients use them. She watches while they do it just to make sure none have hidden temptations.
Chargex, Visa and MasterCard, they all serve a useful purpose, I suppose. However, people are human, we humans tend to get carried away.
Personally, I prefer the Buy Now-Pay Now Plan. I also prefer paying by cheque, even if it puts department store clerks to a terrible inconvenience and prompts some very strange looks.
Yes, I'm a throw-back to the pre-chargex era. I just don't trust those little plastic cards nor do I trust myself. The two mistrusts go hand in hand.

Editorials

Repudiate deer hunt

Uxbridge Twp. Council has given its approval to a 4-day deer hunt in the northern part of the municipality.
While members didn't request the hunt, by not rejecting it, Council gave consent; to everybody's shame.
Under the guise of alleged auto accidents and crop damage, the Ministry of Natural Resources, (Maple Branch), continues to pressure municipalities into holding deer annihilation days. (They once tried it in Whitchurch-Stouffville too; but it didn't work).
The Ministry made it sound like Council really had no say in the matter; that the presentation was simply a public relations gesture on their part. What a dictatorial attitude! The Twp. should have turned down the application and called their bluff.
Apart from the destruction of many of these beautiful animals, two other issues irritate us greatly.
The Ministry, by its own admission, claims the hunt "will provide recreational opportunities"; a sporting gesture, we're sure the deer will find less than attractive. Unfortunately, their opinions can't be expressed.
The lowest of the low blows comes with the revelation fawns will also be 'fair game' for hunters during this 4-day 'blast'.

And this is recreation? How naive and glib can politicians be?
We're disturbed by the Ministry's decision to proceed. We're equally disturbed by Council's weak reaction to it. Regardless of the end result, members could have done themselves proud by saying "NO".

Kids' loss too

Recent fires have inflicted heavy losses in the Stouffville-Goodwood area.
In two of these, adults and children were made homeless: People are sensitive to this sort of thing; and rightly so.
In a third blaze, at the property of Don and Evelyn Lehman, Boyer Street, Stouffville, children, many children, are also affected; even more directly than most folks think.
For the blaze destroyed a workshop maintained for helping kids. Dozens and dozens of bicycles were repaired there, then given away to children less fortunate than our own.
Stouffville is now deprived of this service, a service we can ill afford to lose. No, this town will never have another "Beanie" Lehman. But let's hope there's another children's workshop. Together, we can make it happen.

From the files of '67

This week, The Tribune turns back the pages of time to June 29, 1967. The following items are gleaned from this issue.
Linda Sargent, a Grade 12 student at Stouffville Dist. Secondary School, swept five of nine academic awards for the year 1966-67. Others to be honored at fall Commencement Exercises included Jill McWhinnie, Judy Reesor, Peter Sanderson, Barbara Little and Katherine Burkholder. Jill McWhinnie had the highest standing in the school.
Toronto Maple Leaf goaltender Johnny Bower agreed to attend the grand opening of Ratcliff's new I.G.A. Foodliner on Main Street, Stouffville.
Work was scheduled to begin on the building of a one million dollar 90-suite apartment at the rear of Dublin Street in Markham Village. It will be double the size of the Village Squire Apartment to the south; The Tribune said. Douglas Meharg Limited of Markham is the owner of both.
Thirteen-year-old Patricia Houston was the winner of the coveted Dr. Richardson Academic Prize when

Orchard Park School, Stouffville, held its graduation ceremonies. Board chairman Ted Topping made the presentation. Others honored included Heather Bangay, Sharon Donner, Nori Grimshaw, Larry Bacon, Lynn Patrick, Peter Burkholder, Jane Sanderson, David Williams, Donald Wood, Elaine Borland, Blair Clarkson and Douglas Greenfield.
Planning consultant estimates placed the population of Stouffville at 7,800 by the year 1980.
Michael Hockley, Malcolm Albright and Alvin Norton finished first, second and third in Claremont's Centennial Beard-Growing Contest. Other participants were Alvin Redshaw, Pete Davis, Mike Valentino, Fred Fiss, Bob Geer, Dave MacDonald, George MacKenzie, Ray Ward, Gary Coppins and Paul Nesbitt.
Work was reported moving ahead on construction of a new Recreation Centre at Ballantrae. The new gateway entrance was donated by Ivan and Carrie McLaughlin, Stouffville, R.R. 2.
Two Queen Scouts, Tom McFadden, Baker Avenue, Stouffville, and Barry Timbers of Mount Albert were chosen to represent South Lake Simcoe District of the Boy Scouts of Canada at Expo '67.
"Speedy" a raccoon, entered by Vivian Ann and Edwin Wilcox of R.R. 3, Stouffville, was selected the Grand Champion at a Pet Show held in the Stouffville Park. There were 79 entries. The Friendliest Pet was "Fifi" a poodle, shown by Harvey Schell of Stouffville and the Largest Pet was a Clydesdale-Welsh mare shown by Bill and Kim Hassard, also of Stouffville.

Smile of the week

Dear Editor:
I hope you'll include this personal item in your "Smile of the Week". It seemed humorous to me at the time.
As a member of a particular church choir, we were lining up (without our gowns) in the lobby, preparing to enter the sanctuary. Several of the congregation were there too.
One choir member, (a personal friend), whispered in my ear that her slip was showing and would I tell her if she'd adjusted it right.
Instead of just looking, I gave her skirt a slight tug to bring it down a little. Unfortunately, I tugged too hard and it came down too far--right to the floor.
The men went hysterical. The ladies giggled and the woman went red as a beet.
From then on, I kept my hands to myself.
Sincerely,
Fred Dobbs,
Ballantrae



While the exact date this picture was taken isn't known, Paul Stover, (left), of Stouffville, Street North, Stouffville, believes it was 1960--(twenty-six years ago). Accompanied by Jim Foote, (right), now of Pickering and Larry Foote, (centre), now of Dorset, they pulled this 30 lb., 2 oz. pike from the waters of Lake Simcoe. This was one that didn't get away and the proof is in this photo. --Jim Thomas

At an Inter-Area Track and Field Meet held in Stouffville, the following received championship awards: Frances Smith of Lemonville and Keith Liedtke of Orchard Park, (Sr. 'A'); Jackie Wightman, Orchard Park and George Ham, Orchard Park, (Sr. 'B'); Sharon Barry, Summitview and Bill Hassard, Orchard Park, (Intermediate); Kim Hassard of Orchard Park and Joanne Dodge of Lemonville, (tied), and Mark Chamberlain of St. Mark's, (Junior).
There was a good attendance at a dance in the Atha Community Centre with Frank Barkey the Master of Ceremonies. Spot prizes were won by Joe and Florence Symes; Joy Taylor, and Aylmer Hood. The 50-50 draw was won by Dave Hawthorn.