

## Margaret Carr — toy consultant

## Markhamite's career is child's play

By GREG COATES  
Staff Reporter

When Margaret Carr visits your home, she always brings her toys.

The Markham resident works for The Toy Workshop Inc. Founded about a year ago by a mother of five in Richmond Hill,

the company is like the Mary Kay of the toy world.

Mrs. Carr and 50 other consultants in southern Ontario offer home workshops which allow parents to play with and experience the company's toys first-hand.

"We have a good collection of

educational toys," said Mrs. Carr. "Children have fun playing with them and develop various skills while doing so."

She added the toys — for children ranging from newborn to 12 years old — are 100 per cent guaranteed.

"They are exceptionally high-

quality toys which last from child to child. The company stands behind them," said Mrs. Carr, who has been conducting home workshops since last January. "We not only show toys, but we educate people about them."

The Canadian and European toys are fully tested before being added to the workshop's line. Battat, Ambi, Jumbo and Bambola are just a few of the toy manufacturers featured by the The Toy Workshop Inc.

"It was the toys that got me involved with the company," said Mrs. Carr, a mother of two. "They are great products. The service is ideal for people who really don't know what's out there or don't have the time to shop."

The company has more than 100 items in its inventory. Included are a variety of building toys, arts and crafts supplies, puzzles and games.

The products help children develop eye-hand co-ordination, as well as their large and fine motor skills.

"The children are learning these skills without knowing it because the toys really are fun to play with," said Mrs. Carr. "At our workshops we invite people to play with the toys. This way they really get to experience them and see their super quality."

Workshops are offered to any number of people, from a small



MARGARET CARR  
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group at a home to a larger group at a company, school or daycare centre. Each demonstration takes about one hour and participants are under no obligation to buy anything.

"As far as I'm concerned I don't sell toys, I give demonstrations," said Mrs. Carr. "The toys sell themselves."

Mrs. Carr recently finished a one-month exhibit of The Toy Workshop Inc. line at the Markham Library.

For further information or to book a workshop, call Mrs. Carr at 471-4692, Joanne Maika-White at 471-5736 or Lynn Bloxam at 471-1315.



Three-year-old Hayley Carr, daughter of Margaret Carr of Markham, enjoys a game featured from The Toy Workshop Inc. line. Mrs. Carr is a toy

consultant who offers home workshops in which adults can experience first-hand the company's products.

— Greg Coates

## IN BRIEF...

**MARKHAM BOARD OF TRADE LUNCHEON:** The Markham Board of Trade is kicking off its fall program with a luncheon meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 17 at the Chimo Hotel on Woodbine Ave. Guest speaker is Markham Mayor Carole Bell who will address the topic of growth and expansion in the community. Refreshments are from noon to 12:30 p.m. followed by lunch and then the mayor's address. Tickets, \$20 for board members and \$25 for non-members, can be purchased by calling 474-0730.

**FALL FASHION SHOW:** The Women's Committee of Markham is presenting Fall Flair, a luncheon and showing of fashions by Eleven Joseph of Main St. in Markham. The luncheon is being held Wednesday, Sept. 24 at noon at the Cedarbrae Golf and Country Club. Tickets are \$20 each and may be obtained by calling 471-4114, 887-5149 or 887-5766. Proceeds will go towards the Markham Stouffville Hospital Fund and other local charities.

**IAPA BREAKFAST MEETING:** The Upper-York Division of the Industrial Accident Prevention Association is holding a special breakfast meeting for its member firms Tuesday, Sept. 23 at the Chimo Hotel on Woodbine Ave. The subject of WHMIS (Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System) will be discussed. Guest speaker is Dave Friendly, environmental co-ordinator for Petro-Canada Products. Breakfast is at 8:15 a.m. with adjournment at 10 a.m. Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased by calling 965-8888.

**\$100 GIFT CERTIFICATE WINNER:** Tracy Ambrose of Pickering is the winner of a \$100 gift certificate from Sears Markham Place as part of a co-promotion with Coca-Cola Ltd. Visitors to Sears' Country Inn Restaurants were invited to try 'scratch and win' coupons which gave them a chance at free french fries or Cokes. Ballots were then entered in a draw for bigger prizes. Second-place winner was Phil Humphries of Uxbridge, who won a \$50 certificate. Edna Lacy of Scarborough won a Coke tote bag.

**K MART BACKS TERRY FOX RUN:** As an official sponsor of the annual Terry Fox Run, K Mart Canada Ltd. is currently preparing for the big Sept. 14 event. Across Canada, hundreds of K Mart head office and store management and staff have gone into training for the 10-kilometre run. As well, many others have signed up as volunteers to man registration booths, act as route marshalls or sell official run T-shirts. Last year, K Mart employees raised \$125,000 in pledges and donations in aid of cancer research.

## California Kiss

## New car wash in town

There's a new car wash in town. Newly-opened last week on Laidlaw Blvd. in Markham, California Kiss Car and Van Wash features a new type of unit in which your vehicle stays in one position during the wash. The Sherman Roll-A-Wash unit moves back and forth over the car, rather than the car moving through it.

Don Tallis, owner of California Kiss, said he opened the new business because Markham and Unionville residents were lacking a full-service car wash.

"The care and wash we put in is much better than oil company car washes," he said. "They do it to increase gas sales. We do it for a living."

He added a key attraction to customers at California Kiss is time and convenience.

"What we can do in 10 to 15 minutes would take well over an hour at home in the driveway," he said.

The full service treatment includes a complete car wash (using only fresh water), vacuum, floor

mats cleaned, ash trays cleaned, windows cleaned inside and out, panels and doors dusted and the vehicle shammy-dried.

The cost is \$6 for cars, \$7 for pick-up trucks and \$8 for minivans. A wash alone is also available.

"The customer brings in his car, stops it and gets out. We look after the rest," said Mr. Tallis.

California Kiss is located at 8 Laidlaw Blvd. in Markham. Hours of operation are from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Saturday.



California Kiss Car and Van Wash, Markham's newest car wash, features a new type of wash unit, the Sherman Roll-A-Wash. The vehicle stays in one position during the wash while the machine moves

back and forth over it. California Kiss offers residents a complete car wash, inside and out.

— Greg Coates