

## Peanuts in Unionville

Did Charles Schulz make a secret trip to Canada? We doubt it, but this colorful Charlie Brown holiday scene, appearing to be as accurate as the comic strip, adorns the front lawn of Carlton Road resident Jack Daniels. — Sjoerd Witteveen

# Charlie Brown in Unionville

By NANCY HOSKIN

For over 14 years Jack Daniels has been entertaining children of all ages with his unique holiday decorations.

A professional draftsman with the Ministry of Transportation and Communication, Mr. Daniels began displaying his cut-out scenes when his children were young. He now has three grandchildren that come to admire his work.

Drive by the Daniels home on the corner of Carlton Road and Warden Avenue in Unionville. Santa Claus and his reindeer are displayed on the roof, Snoopy and friends are facing Warden Avenue and a manger scene is located by the front door, with a real doll sleeping soundly in the cradle.

Mr. Daniels won first prize with Snoopy and friends in 1978 when the Unionville Ratepayers Association judged homes on Christmas decorations.

This year he received first prize from the Unionville BIA (Business Improvement Area), which held its annual contest, again for the best decorated house. A huge grape vine wreath can be seen in Mr. Daniels' living room window — the prize for his talented efforts.

The contest was open to all families on Carlton Road and Main Street, in Unionville.

"There are other houses in the area that are beautifully decorated. Unfortunately, the BIA didn't go further afield, time was probably limited," said Mr. Daniels.

Mr. Daniels intends to make another storyboard for Christmas, 1987. Next year you will be able to see a mother and daughter mouse singing in choir outfits, a scene taken from a card he received.

Each cut-out is made from 1/4-inch plywood. Mr. Daniels estimates that each scene takes 50 hours to build. Once the wood figures are complete, they are painted by hand.

"My artistic skills have a lot to be desired," Mr. Daniels chuckled. "But, I enjoy making these scenes for the kids, from ages six to 60. It's a hobby for me, and the joy comes from seeing the children's faces as they walk by."

Regardless of any contest, Mr. Daniels' scenes go up each holiday season.

"Two years ago, when I displayed the manger scene for the first time, a mother and her two children knocked on our door," Mr. Daniels said. "They thanked me for displaying the scenes, both the serious side and humorous side to Christmas, and that meant a lot to me."

Mr. Daniels' first Santa Claus was made while he was living in North Bay. He read the instructions in Mechanics Illustrated Magazine. It now sits proudly in the front of his brother-in-law's home in British Columbia.

Another Santa Claus, built by Mr. Daniels, is displayed on his son's lawn in Markham. This Santa was built for his grandchildren two years ago, for a Christmas gift. You can see him at 65 Parkway Avenue in Markham.

There are many residents in Markham that have taken the time and effort to decorate their homes for the holiday season. Make sure you take a drive one evening soon and enjoy the bright lights and scenes, like Mr. Daniels'.

## Alzheimer society meets at library

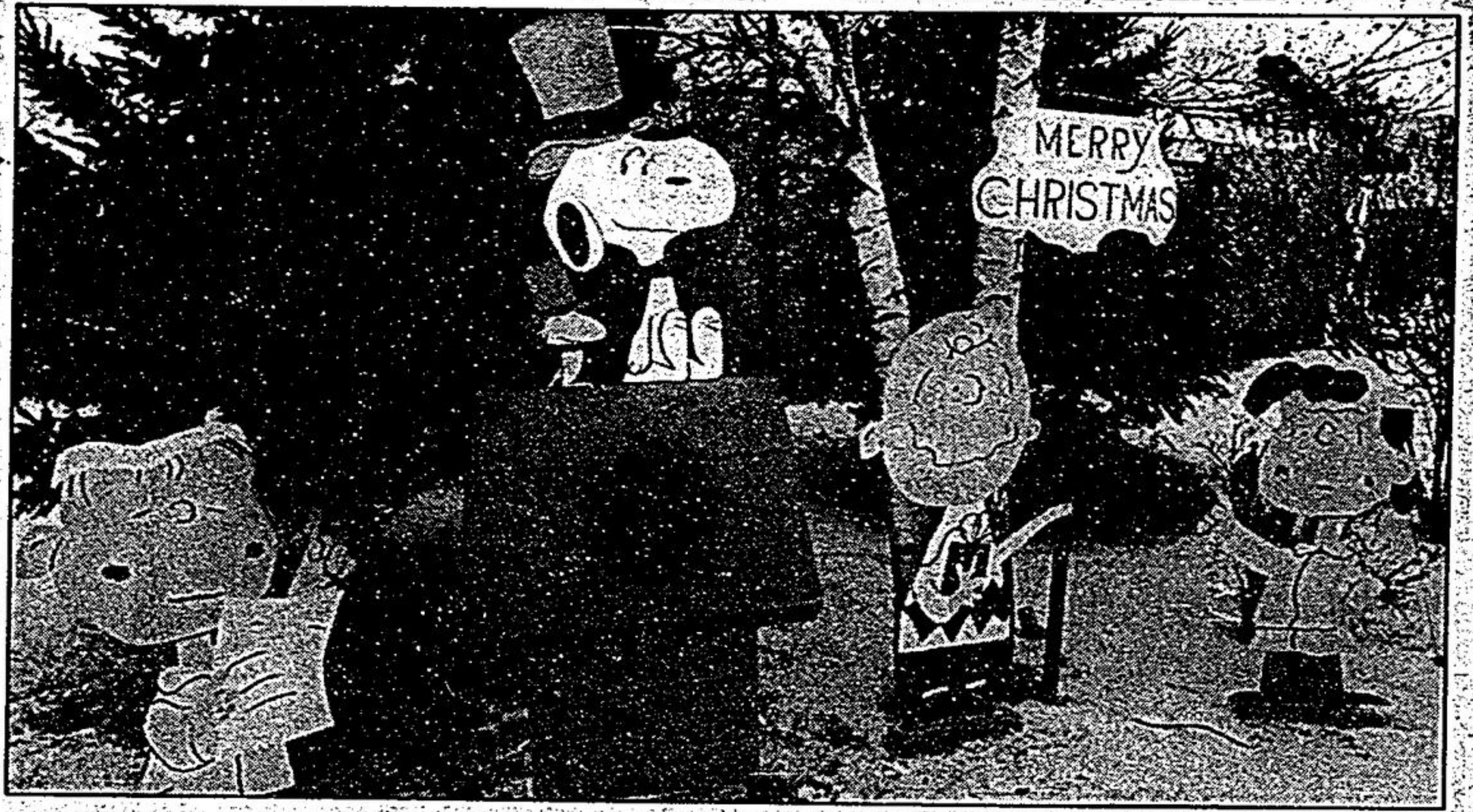
The Alzheimer's Society Support Group for Markham/Unionville meets Wednesday Dec. 17 at 7 p.m.

The meeting will take place in the Markham Community Library, Hwy 48 and 7, not the Markham Community Centre as was published in Wednesday's Economist and Sun.

For more information call 471-1504.

## Cards are on sale

UNICEF Christmas cards will be on sale in the Markham Community Library from 1 to 9 p.m. each day the library is open until Tuesday Dec. 16.



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