



### Musical mention

Katy Haralampides received her honor graduation diploma when Uxbridge Secondary School held its commencement exercises Nov. 6. Katy was also the recipient of the W. Laurence Evans Band Award for Leadership and Performance. The presentation was made by Mr. Sulev, head of the instrumental music department at USS.

— Jim Thomas

### Craftnotes

*Karen Grimes and Linda Conde*

## Warp and weft: art in basketry

Basketry, the weaving or braiding of containers or baskets, is a craft that is literally as old as the hills.

This craft was practiced by Canada's aboriginal peoples long before our ancestors arrived. Basketry was used to make containers as well as floor mats, sandals, hats and water jugs.

Basically, there are four methods of basket making: plaiting, weaving, twining and coiling. The first three methods all involve using the weaver's tools of warp and weft.

The warp is the base consisting of several strands, and the weft is the strand which is interwoven in and out of the base strands. Coiling is the wrapping and sewing of fibres into a basket shape.

There are many materials that can be used in basketry. One of the traditional fibres is cane, a member of the rattan family.

Cane is used for chair seats and handle wrapping, while the pulp, or cane centre, is woven into finer implements. Centre cane is round and available in varying thicknesses.

Lapping cane is flat on one side and rounded on the other. When using cane it is important to remember that it is a very brittle material that will crack and splinter. It is essential that the cane be damp when used.

Early North American Indian basket-makers looked to nature to supply them with their basketry materials. They used supple branches from young trees, reeds, and various other stalky plants to fashion their containers and mats.

Today it is popular to use recycled materials for baskets. For example, newspaper or brown paper grocery bags, folded twice into strips, weave into fairly strong baskets.

Small baskets made of these materials, and painted bright colours, are ideal party favor baskets for children's birthday parties.

With the resurgence of the "country crafts" look, coiled baskets are an interesting touch. In coiling there is no warp or weft.

This method of basket-making may be the easiest, and novice basket-makers would be encouraged to try this. Rather than weaving the construction together, coiling relies on simple sewing technique.

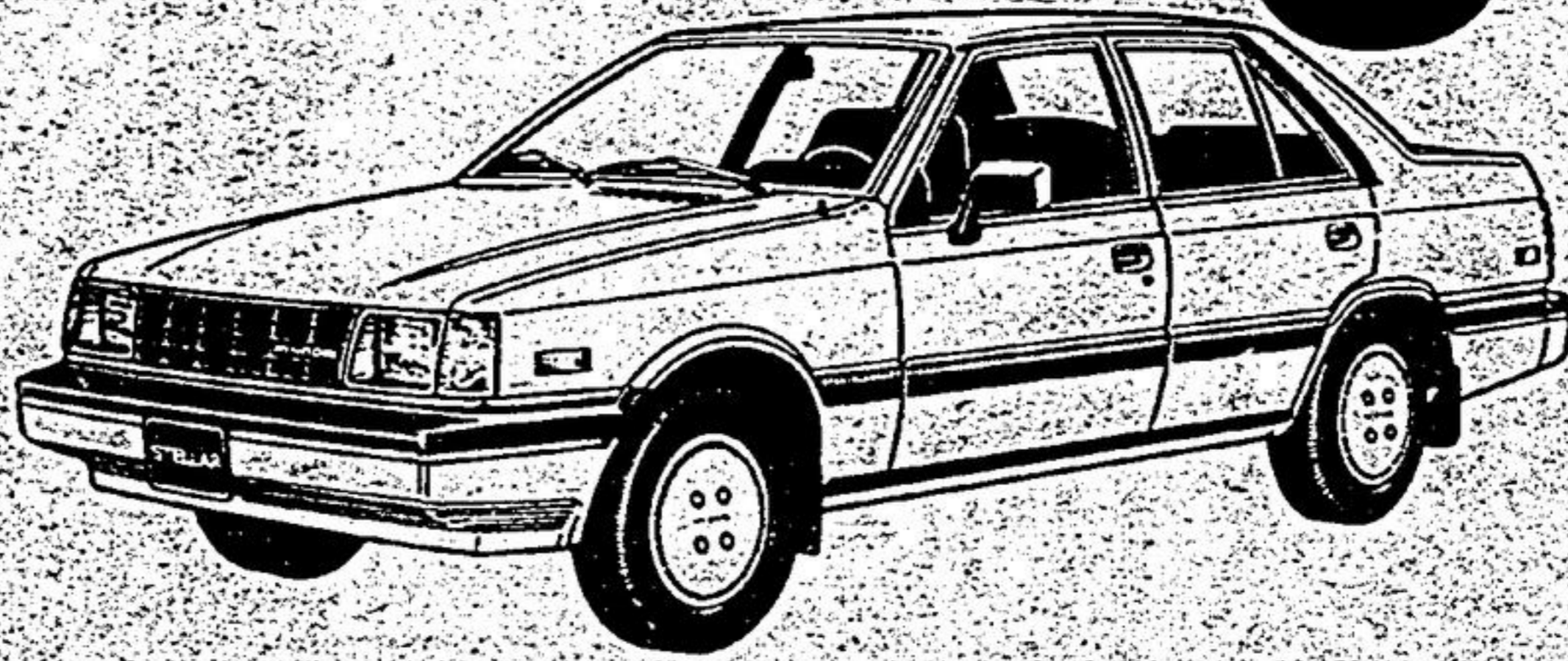
Coiling consists of a base core such as sisal or twine. The base core is wrapped in fabric or colorful string. As the core is wrapped, it is attached to the coil that precedes it by stitching row by row.

This form of basketry was very popular with North American Indian basket-makers.

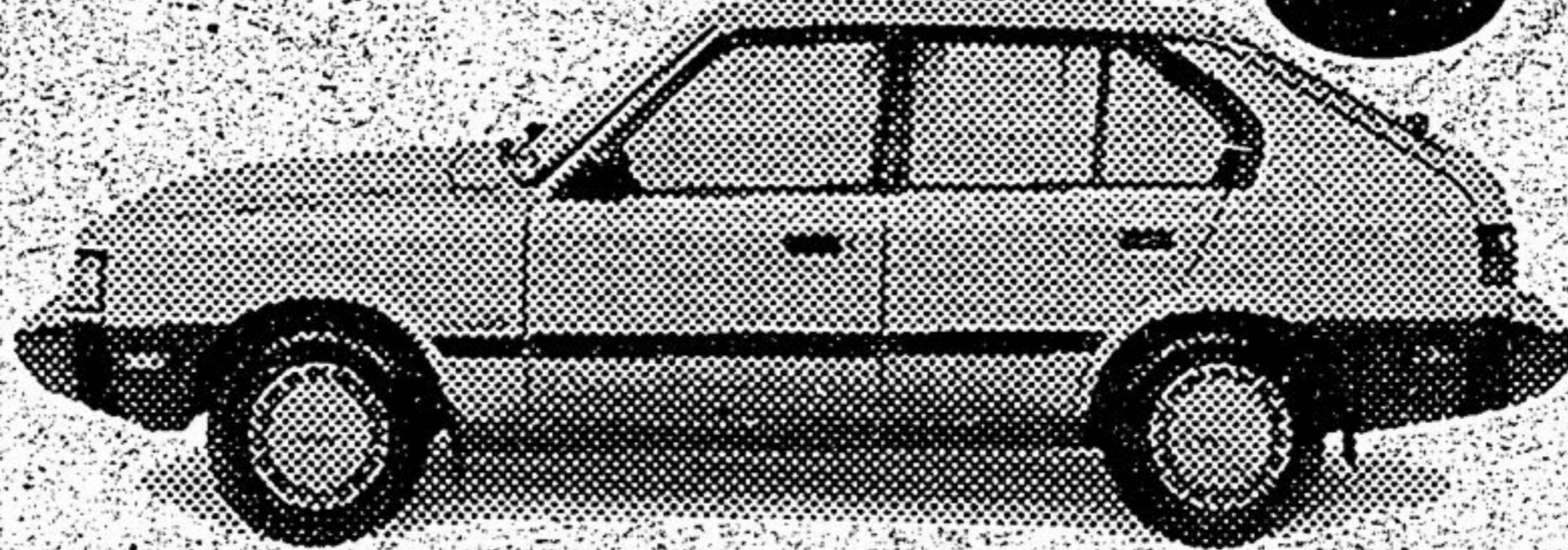
Going Christmas shopping today? Plan to attend the Markham Guild of Village Crafts annual Christmas sale on now at the Penalty Box Lounge, Centennial Arena, at the corner of McCowan Rd. and Bullock Dr. The sale runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Markham Guild of Village Crafts will be holding Christmas mini-sales every Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. from Nov. 20 to Dec. 19. The mini-sales are to be held at the Guild building, 98 Church St. in Markham.

# Going



# Going



# Going



Will not be undersold!

## Gone?

Will not be undersold!

It's last call at Jackson Motors, Markham's largest volume Hyundai dealer. So, in addition to the biggest selection in the area, we also have clearance prices which means we have your new Stellar, Excel or Pony. Tomorrow might be another story. The 1987 Hyundai clearance sale at Jackson Motors. We've got your new car. For now.

147 Main St. N.  
Markham  
471-4505

