



Gary Fisher, shown in a tux and tails worn at a recent fashion show, has always been involved in the community. His latest venture is the position of chairman of the Strawberry Festival in 1989.

-Jim Thomas

Longtime involvement Gary Fisher chairs festival

By KATE GILDERDALE
After almost 14 years in Stouffville, 1989 Strawberry Festival chairman Gary Fisher hasn't lost any of his enthusiasm for involvement in community life.

Gary's job as postmaster brought him to town in 1975 and since then he's been active in everything from United Way campaigns to fundraising for the Markham-Stouffville Hospital; from local politics to the Chamber of Commerce.

He's worked in York Region's auxiliary police force and was organizer of the Crazy Olympics during the Canada Day festivities for four years.

"We had canoe races up the river and the toilet paper wrapping contest," he recalls, laughing. "We also had relay races where you had to make a sandwich during the race."

He credits Ged Stonehouse not only with coming up with the Crazy Olympics, but also for initiating Canada Day celebrations in Stouffville.

He hopes that participants from this year's Strawberry Festival will return in 1989 and he also has plans for a number of new events.

"I'd like to see activities for kids of nine and up," he comments. "I'm hoping we can do a BMX competition or display and a skateboard competition." Another possibility he's considering is radio controlled car races.

He'd like to find a sponsor for a scavenger hunt. "It could be a three-day event. Kids would have to bring back maybe 50 items from a list they'd be given," explains Gary.

"If people have other ideas or would like to help out, they should contact me," he said. "I've already heard from two people who want to be involved."

Gary, who was born and raised in the east end of Toronto, started his post office career in Scarborough when he graduated from high school.

"I worked with Canada Post part time while I was still at school, and when I left they offered me full-time employment." He has worked in a lot of different post offices during his career, moving up from postal clerk to superintendent.

In 1971 he was appointed a manager at Fairview Mall post office, which was known as a boutique post office. As well as offering regular services, the Fairview outlet sold Indian and Eskimo artifacts, Canadian paintings and books, offering a showcase for Canadian culture.

malls that promoted the idea of a prestigious shopping environment," Gary says. "The post office became a tourist attraction for individuals and companies."

In 1975, he and his wife Wanda left their house in Agincourt to start a new life in Stouffville. "We really thought of it as moving out to the country," he states.

It wasn't just his job that attracted them to the area.

"We had always wanted to live in a small town, and we thought this was our opportunity," observes Wanda.

On Friday nights, Gary can usually be found behind the counter at The Villager Menswear store on Main Street.

"I enjoy working there because it gives me the opportunity to meet people in a different environment," he contends. He has participated in local fashion shows as a model; he recently sported an elegant tuxedo at the Stouffville Trade Show.

When Gary is off duty, he is a member of the York-Durham Railway Company, a club dedicated to bringing back steam engines onto local rail lines.

The club holds monthly meetings, and is hoping to get permission from CN Rail to use its lines or to get a spur line where a steam engine could be run.

It's a shame to see the Canadian government letting so many of these historic engines go to the US," laments Gary.

He and Wanda spend a lot of time working on the family house on Main Street, which has been selected for this year's Tour of Homes on Sept. 25.

"I'm an expert stripper," he grins, indicating the beautiful woodwork throughout the house. He also enjoys working on his backyard and spending time with Wanda and daughter Elisa, 9.

The Fishers are avid campers, and summer vacations are spent at one of Ontario's provincial parks. His other favorite pastimes are stamp collecting and reading.

He once ran for council in Ward 6, but doesn't think he'd rush to get into politics now. His two years with the York Region Auxiliary Police Force were fun but hectic.

"We did things like crowd control at the fair," he says. "I wouldn't mind getting into it again one day."

As long as he lives in Stouffville, Gary will always want to participate in local events. "I like being involved. It may seem a bit of a pain when the phone rings and you have to rush off to another meeting, but I really enjoy it," he concludes.

TOWN OF MARKHAM 1988 MUNICIPAL ELECTION NOTICE OF REGISTRATION OF PROPOSED CANDIDATES ELECTION CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENSES

Take notice that every person who proposes to be a candidate for an elected office in the Municipal Elections to be held in the Town of Markham on November 14th, 1988 is required to file a Notice of Registration, in the prescribed form, with the Town Clerk no later than Monday, October 17th, 1988, at the hour of 5:00 p.m.

Also note that only a Registered Candidate can accept contributions and/or expend any campaign funds. A person becomes a Registered Candidate upon filing his Notice of Registration with the Town Clerk.

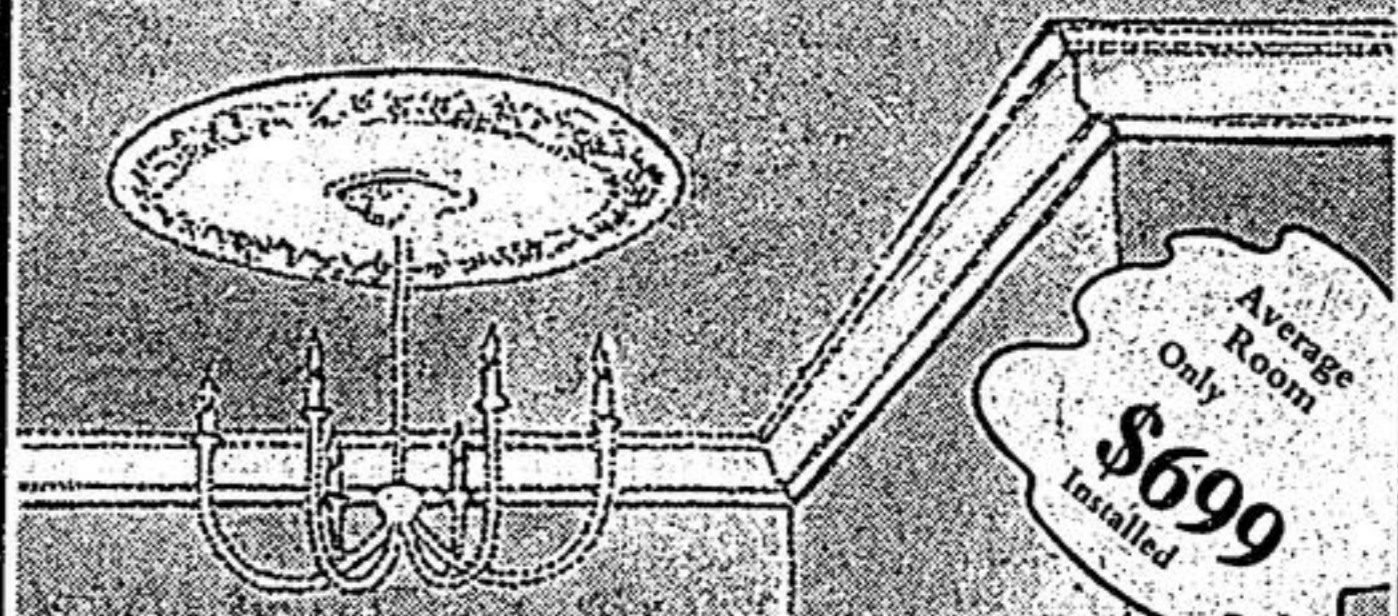
A person who proposes to be a candidate for member of the FRENCH LANGUAGE SECTION of the York Region Roman Catholic Separate School Board to be elected by the French Language Separate School Electors in the Region of York is required to file their Notice of Registration with the CLERK of the TOWN OF MARKHAM. Notice of Registration forms are available in any Clerk's office of an area municipality in the Region of York during normal business hours.

A copy of the prescribed registration form and relevant Sections of The Municipal Elections Act respecting Campaign Contributions and Expenses are available in the Clerk's Department, 8911 Woodbine Avenue, Markham from Monday to Friday during the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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Money raisers starting up

Orchard Park Home and School Association is gearing up for the new school year, with some fund raising programs already under way.

Hot dog and pizza lunches, a big hit with many students started last Friday, and cup cake sales will also be back this year. The association's major fund raising event in 1987-88 was Christmas wrapping paper sales, and orders for the current year can be placed between Sept. 23 and Oct. 13.

As part of the annual Meet the Teacher night on Sept. 29, the staff and the Home and School Association will be holding a school community barbecue. Classroom visits will take place between 5 and 7 p.m. with dinner being served from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

A General Meeting for the Home and School is planned for October and at that time the executive will present some suggestions for fund raising, as well as inviting suggestions from the floor. As many parents as possible are invited to attend, since voting on fund raising methods will take place that night. The date of the General Meeting will be announced shortly.

The Home and School will also be involved in other school support programs including safe arrival, fluoride programs and field trip assistance. Orchard Park Home and School Association's first year was very successful, but it wouldn't have been possible without the help of dedicated volunteers. Anyone who can offer help of any kind is asked to contact the executive committee.

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ADVERTISING CORRECTION

Eaton's Trans Canada Sale insert appearing in the Markham Economist/Stouffville Tribune, Wednesday, September 21, 1988. Due to supplier delivery problems, the following item is not available for immediate delivery. However, orders will be accepted for delivery by the date shown.
Page 57 - Item "D" Bauhaus Chair 15/AS30 Cover: Hampton Steel Blue - OCTOBER 20th.
Inadvertently, the error listed above appeared in our advertising. We sincerely regret any inconvenience or confusion to our customers.

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