



"She's mine, all mine"

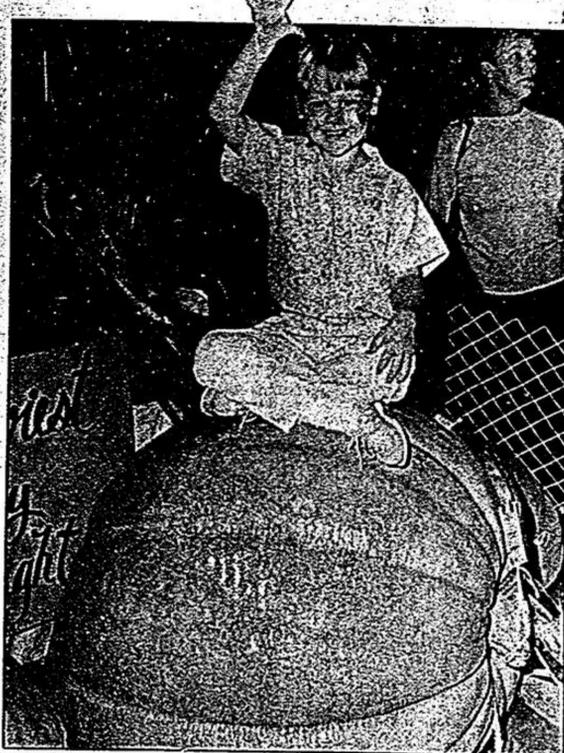
Twenty-two month old Letisha Buchta, daughter of Garry and Patti Buchta, Elm Road, Stouffville, accompanied 'Cocoa' in the Markham Fair Pet Contest, Friday. Unfortunately, there wasn't a class for 'Tish', a sure winner in any judge's books.
—Jim Thomas

Speedy porkers

A new event was added to the Markham Fair agenda this year and it proved a tremendous success.
Wally Townsend of Niagara Falls brought his racing pigs to the grounds. They attracted huge crowds.
In addition, he introduced a petting zoo to the kids — goats, rabbits, chickens, a calf, a donkey and a llama. Children by the hundreds gazed in rapture on the animals.
The Townsend pig races are now in their fourth summer. His was the first of its kind in Canada and the only one in Ontario.
The 'tour of duty' extends from Quebec through to Alberta from May through to Thanksgiving.
It takes four to six weeks to train a pig to race, Wally said.
They participate in five 'runs' each day.
The way it works, the owner explained, fairs purchase the service, then obtain sponsors to cover the cost.
The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville sponsored Saturday's event.

Markham teen clicks with pics

Fourteen-year-old Andrea Hurley, Albert Street, Markham, has once again excelled in the Intermediate Division of the black and white and color photography at Markham Fair.
Andrea, a student attending Markham Dist. High School, has her name engraved on the Vern Phillips Photography Plaque for the second year in a row.
She was also a two-time winner in the Jr. category.
Andrea's been taking pictures since age eight. She uses a 35mm Minolta 5000, a gift from her dad and Don Franklin, Markham, Best in Slides.
to her mother.
"My mother lets me use it and also buys the film," Andrea says. She appreciates the encouragement received from her parents.
Andrea looks on photography as a hobby. At this point in time, she doesn't know if she'll progress beyond this point to a professional level.
Other class championships were won by — Susan Wannop, Markham, Best Open; Edward Cooper, Toronto, Best in Black and White; Gerd Reicker, Markham, Best Junior; Lloyd Barthau, Markham; Best Senior



No squashing this monster

Don Jennings of Milliken retained the heaviest squash championship at Markham Fair. Four-year-old Carrie Miller, daughter of John and Esther (Byer) Miller found the monster an advantageous 'parking spot'.
—Jim Thomas

Council LACAC cautious

By BRUCE STAPLEY

There was mixed response Wednesday to the Whitchurch-Stouffville Historical Society's presentation of a plan that would see certain buildings in the Town officially designated for preservation.

Guests David and Janet Fayle of Richmond Hill explained to those in attendance at the Society's meeting at Summitview Public School how groups can be set up within a town to advise and assist the town's council as to what buildings should be included in such a designation.

The groups, called Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committees, already exist in 190 municipalities across Ontario, and Whitchurch-Stouffville is the only municipality within York Region without a committee such as LACAC.

Buildings designated would be given special status, and would be protected from demolition due to their being historically and architecturally significant. Restrictions would then be placed on the owners of such buildings, Mr. Fayle stated, but there would be advantages as well. Mr. Fayle is a member of the Richmond Hill LACAC.

"Certain grants are available through the Ontario Heritage Act for Restoration of such buildings, as well as the fact there is a prestige factor that goes with having a building designated, which can add to the value of the property," he said.

While Mr. Fayle stressed that LACACs serve only to advise and assist town councils, several in attendance expressed concern that they would lose control over their buildings.

"We already have the federal, provincial, and municipal authorities telling us what we can and can't do with our houses, now I'm afraid this would result in one more authority over us," argued Walter Austin, who owns a century house on Commercial Lane.

His fears were echoed by Nick Tatone, candidate for Ward Three in the upcoming municipal election. "The gentleman (Austin) raises some good points in his argument," he said.

Mayor Fran Sainsbury voiced her concern that buildings could be surrounded by new industry, but still required to be maintained as historical structures. "An old house isn't going to have much historical value if it is surrounded by modern business structures," she said, adding that sometimes it is advisable to relocate an old building, despite the fact that it is difficult to obtain grant money for a historical structure once it has been moved from its original site.

Historical Society chairman Ruth Burkholder felt that setting up of a LACAC would be a positive step for the Town. "I think we should have a LACAC in Whitchurch-Stouffville. There are buildings worth preserving."

While Mrs. Burkholder admitted there were no buildings currently in danger of being demolished (that should be preserved, she felt that might change with future development. She stressed the education function of a LACAC. "A LACAC provides the historical information to Council so they will know which buildings should be preserved."

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