



Christmas In The Country

Famous People Players pre-Christmas show helps gallery

The Latham Gallery invites residents to support a great cause by attending a special pre-Christmas presentation at Markham Theatre.

On Dec. 10 and 11, area residents will have the opportunity to preview the Famous People Players' newest and most spectacular production, which is scheduled to play Broadway next year.

Music, folklore, fairy tales and incredibly realistic puppets of your favorite stars are brought to life in a breathtaking display of color, light and sound, creating a fabulous evening of entertainment for the whole family.

The spectacular show is being presented by volunteers from the gallery, one of only two public art galleries in York Region, whose existence is

threatened by unprecedented budget cuts.

Serving York and Durham Regions and surrounding areas, the gallery organizes art exhibitions, lectures, workshops, art classes, films and special events, providing a vibrant cultural facility for the entire community.

With more than 100 volunteers working to keep the gallery open, your

support is urgently needed. Tickets for the show are \$16 for adults, \$14 for seniors and students and \$10 for children under 12.

A special family package price of \$46 is offered for two adults and two children. Show times are 7.30 p.m. Friday and 1 p.m. Saturday and tickets are available now from the Markham Theatre box office at (905) 479-0201.

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PAMPER YOUR PET THIS CHRISTMAS



Don't forget pets at Christmas

Choosing the perfect Christmas gift for a pet owner doesn't have to cost a lot - in fact, some presents wouldn't cost a single penny.

You could, for instance, offer your services as a dog sitter or cat sitter for a weekend. It is never easy for pet owners to get reliable help for their animals when they are away from home. Such a gift would prove a godsend.

Here are some other imaginative and inexpensive gifts:

* Make a scratching-post or climbing frame for a friend with a cat. It will not only keep your friend's pet happy, but will also save wear and tear on furniture. Make one from rope wound around a table leg (make sure no nails protrude) or carpet the treads of an old stepladder.

* Give a beauty parlor voucher - \$15-20 would get first-class treatment in a pet grooming salon.

* Arrange for a pet photograph. You can prepay a professional photographer for a photo session and give the picture as a Christmas gift.

* Give a pet manicure. If the animal is frisky or you know the owner to be squeamish about cutting a pet's nails, arrange for a local groomer to do a professional job.

* Give greeting cards or stationery with animal drawings or photographs as a motif. Some animal societies and associations produce beautiful calendars.

* A simple but ideal gift for cat owners can be made from small empty cardboard boxes. Tape the lids shut and cut holes in one or two sides and the top. If you use more than one box, glue their sides together and cut interconnecting holes between them. Cover them with wallpaper. Cats will love to climb in and out, and ambush one another.

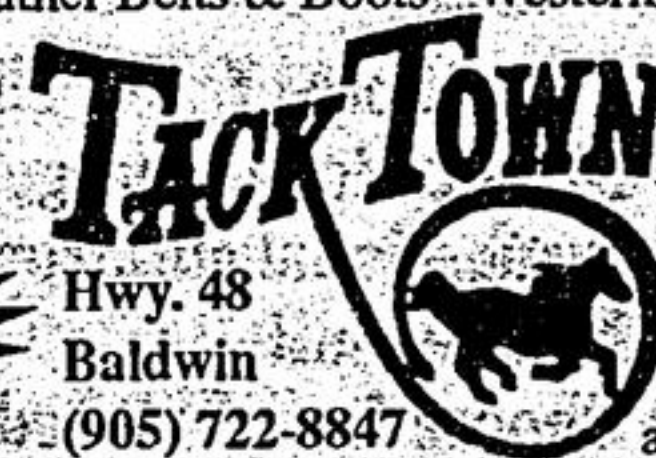
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