

# ST. Horticulture club plans grow

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Correspondent

This year, a venerable institution celebrates its 70th Anniversary with renewed vigor and enthusiasm.

On an April evening in 1924, a group of Stouffville citizens met at the home of Dr. Dales to discuss the poor state of the village streets and to look at ways of improving the situation.

As a result of that meeting, the Stouffville Horticultural Society was born. In the ensuing years, members of the society have come together at a wide variety of functions including monthly flower shows, community plantings, special events and talks by experts on all aspects of plants and gardens.

The society ushered in 1994 with its 70th Anniversary Meeting and Flower Show, which was held at Stouffville United Church on Monday, April 18. In addition to its regular monthly meetings and shows, the society will feature several special events throughout the year.

Today (April 23) is Earth Day. To mark this date, the society is initiating a planting program in the Peace Grove area located on

the lands around the reservoir on Millard Street, in co-operation with the town, and the Metro Toronto Conservation Authority.

The Horticultural Society's Second Annual Garden Contest is being launched this spring. Entries are invited in a variety of different categories and the purpose of the contest is to create interest in local gardens and to boost civic pride.

Categories include front entrance garden, back yard garden, spring garden and container garden. Entries will be judged on overall design, use of color and landscaping materials, harmony of plants and use of textures.

In May, residents will have the opportunity to buy specialty plants grown by society members from seed, or divided from existing plants in members' gardens.

By becoming involved in the society's new grass roots initiative, the Garden Club, members can exchange tips and ideas and take part in informal garden visits during the summer months.

This fall, the society plans to announce details of a special youth event, directed at public and high school students. In November, the society will hold a gardeners' Christmas event, fea-

turing demonstrations and the sale of fresh, silk and dried decorations and other gift ideas for gardeners.

Society meetings are held at 8 p.m. on the third Monday of each month from April to November in the lower level of the Stouffville United Church.

For more information on the Stouffville Horticultural Society, call Jill McWhinnie at 640-2405 or Helen West at 888-1512.

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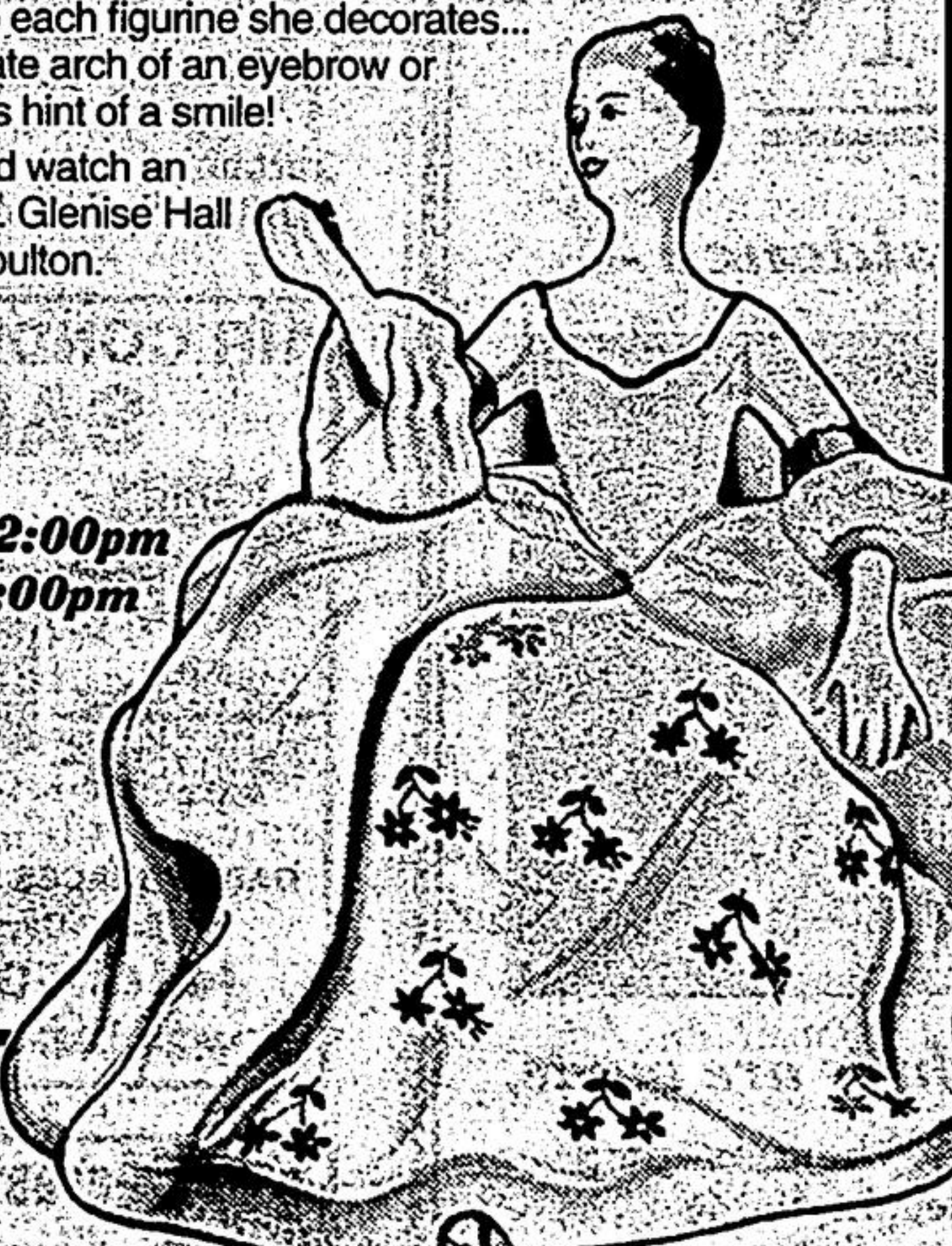


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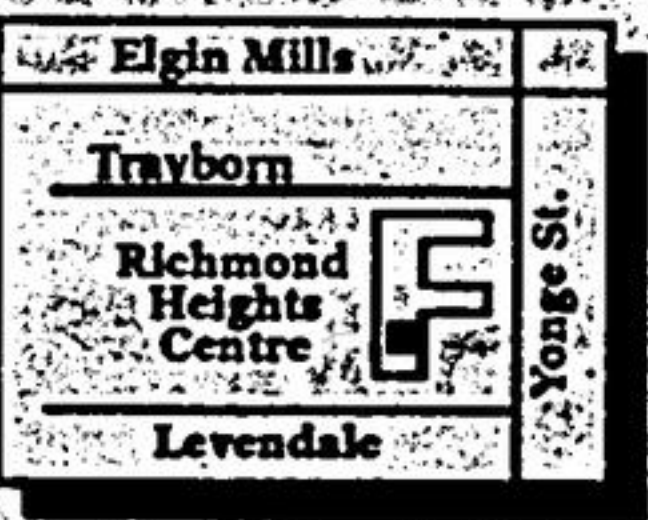
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