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Ministry forces evictions at day care

By **JOAN RANSBERRY**
Staff Reporter

Three children, including a three-year old, have been kicked out of a Stouffville

non-profit day care centre. Sheila Keogh, spokesman for Children's House Nursery School and Day Care, confirmed Monday that three children have been

removed from the Church Street child-care facility. The provincial government, through the Ministry of Community and Social Services, ordered the day

care to reduce its numbers in order to meet ministry standards, said Keogh, who works from an Aurora office. "It has nothing to do with the children," said Keogh.

"The children were very happy. It's just that there was a slight over-enrollment at that (day care) centre."

Since the day care is under the jurisdiction of the provincial ministry, requirements must be met, stressed Keogh.

"They ordered us to reduce the numbers to meet the licence capacity," said Keogh.

Joe Fecht, director of day care services for Simcoe County and the Regional Municipality of York, said his office received complaints that the newly licenced Stouffville centre had enrollment problems. "There was a concern about over-enrollment. We are looking into this," he said.

Lilo Reters of Goodwood is furious with the decision which bars her three-year-old son from the local centre. "He's shoved out," said

Reters. She is also upset with the timing. Reters said she was told on Thursday not to return on Tuesday with her three-year-old. "I was in shock. There is no notice," the mother said.

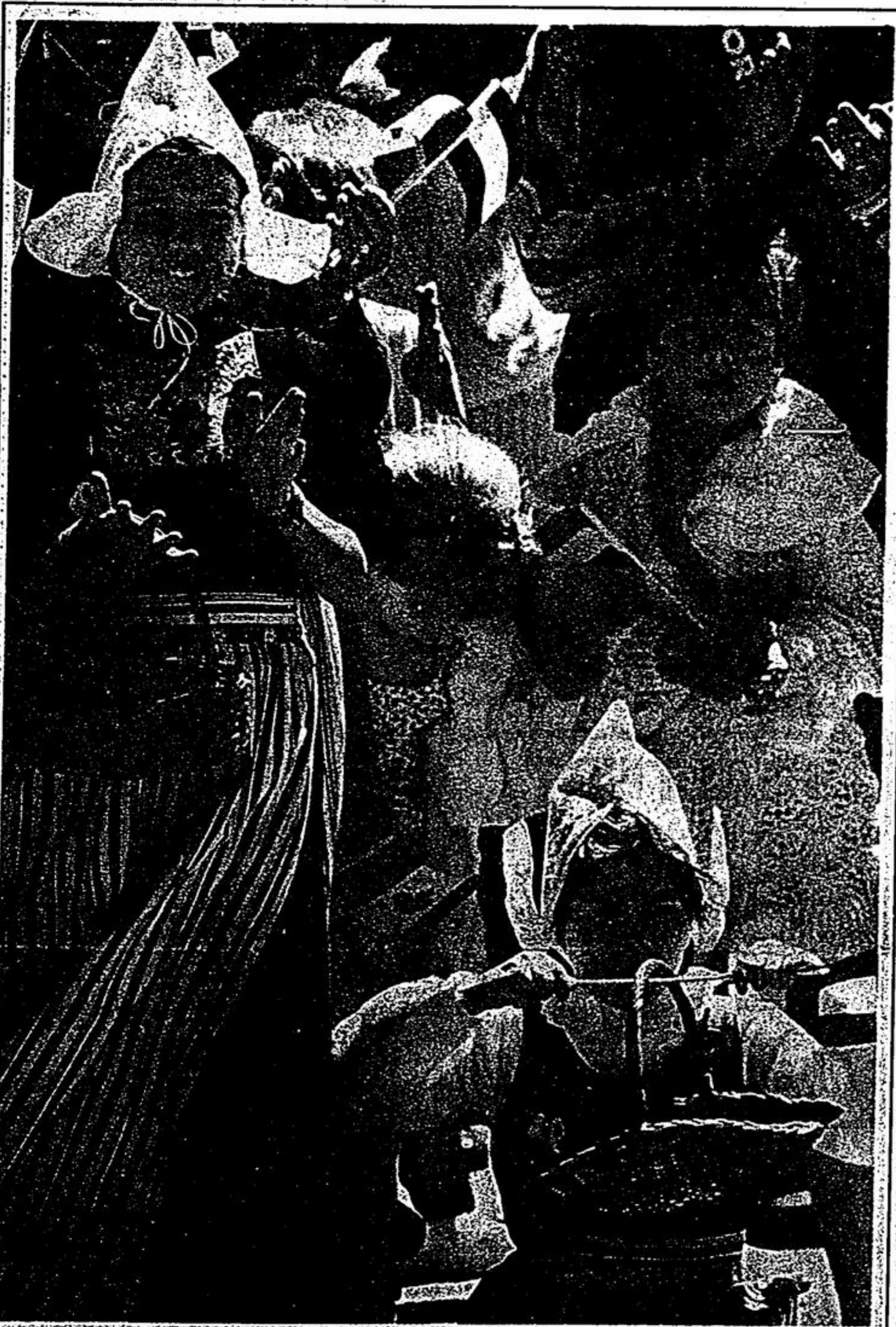
Peter Reters has attended Children's House Day Care twice a week for the past 16 months. "It came completely out of the blue. It's a real shock. It will upset Peter," said Reters.

The working mother challenges government officials regarding this decision.

"Why do we have to make other arrangements for Peter? I work. What are the other working mothers doing? This is not appropriate notice. It isn't fair," said Reters.

Reters said the day after she was told that Peter was

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Celebrating VE Day

Children in Dutch traditional costumes applaud the speeches made at the anniversary celebrations of VE Day on Main St. Saturday. See B-1 for more.

Photo: **SJOERD WITTEVEEN**

Enumeration for election begins May 11

The search to find eligible voters in readiness for the June 8 provincial election gets under way in Durham-York on Thursday.

Enumeration, the first step in making the voters' list, will run until May 17.

Across Ontario, more than 40,000 enumerators, working in pairs, will identify about 6 million electors within the four days.

Enumerators in Durham York expect to find around 60,000 voters.

In the last provincial election held in 1990, 61 per cent of the electorate voted in Durham-York.

Lorie Wells, Ontario's assistant chief election officer, pointed out that to be eligible to vote in this election, "individuals must be 18 years of age on election day, a Canadian citizen at the time of the voting and a resident of Ontario for more than six months prior to election day."

No information is required by enumerators concerning an elector's marital status or occupation, stressed Wells.

Individuals may choose to register their initials in place of names. Meanwhile, there is no requirement to indicate Mr., Mrs., Miss or Ms. prefixes.

In undertaking their duties, enumerators, carrying formal identification, "will visit each household" to determine the names of all qualified electors in the residences, said Wells.

Enumerators will ask questions relating "only to voter qualification," Wells added.

Each enumerated elector will be given a form, an enumeration receipt listing the elector's name, electoral district and polling place.

Gormley carver is just ducky

By **BRUCE STAPLEY**
Correspondent

Gary Shropshire drove home from Ocean City, Maryland last weekend with a world class redhead.

Shropshire's redhead award was declared second in its category at the 1995 World Wildfowl Carving Foundation World Championships in that American city. Shropshire, a 38-year-old Gormley resident, finished next to the five-time defending champion carver from Ohio. His creation, which took 150 hours to complete, was up against the handwork of 14 other entrants in the Shoot and Stool Gunners category, including three former world champions.

"I was really surprised. That's the stiffest competition in the world. I would have been happy just to be in the top seven," said Shropshire. It was his first ever world competition.

Shropshire, who is manager of aquatics and minor facilities for the Town of Richmond Hill, has been carv-

(Please see page 2)



Master carver

Gary Shropshire of Gormley, returned from the world wildfowl carving competitions with a second place ribbon last week.

Photo: **SJOERD WITTEVEEN**

People

Woman keeps her promise: To live

By **JOAN RANSBERRY**
Staff Reporter

Let the record show: Pat Robinson is a woman of her word.

In the late spring of 1985, Pat whispered to God, "Give me 10 more years and I'll throw a party you'll never forget." On Saturday, Pat Robinson kept her word - more than 100 family members and

friends gathered together at Pat's home in Stouffville to celebrate life in all its splendor.

"During the fun, everyone, especially Pat, took a few minutes to look back to May 9, 1985. It started out as an ordinary day. It ended as a day never to be forgotten.

Pat was lying on the couch watching television when the pain struck. It felt like her head had exploded. Pat's 13-

year old daughter Cheryl responded to her mother's scream and woke her father. Nine-year-old Rhonda didn't understand what was happening to her mom. Although Ron Robinson's wife was only 37-years-old, he knew something was very wrong.

Ron called an ambulance. Pat was first taken to Scarborough Centenary Hospital and later transferred to St. Michael's Hospital in downtown Toronto.

Test showed that Pat had a ruptured cerebral aneurysm, a life-threatening brain malfunction.

Simply put, Pat was at death's door. Emergency surgery was performed. Pat didn't regain full consciousness for three weeks. While in the coma state, the family held an around-the-clock vigil.

Shortly after Pat returned to work, she was told more surgery was required. A second aneurysm, buried deep

inside the brain, needed to be removed. The doctors were blunt: The aneurysm was a ticking bomb. It would go off. When it did, death would come quickly.

There was no option: an immediate return trip to the operating room was in order.

It took a surgical team eight hours to remove the second aneurysm. The family resumed the around-the-clock vigil. The recovery period spanned a full year.

Pat tired easily. Her speech and memory were both affected. She took pills and more pills. Pat rested and rested some more.

Gradually, the body and the brain mended.

Pat attributes her successful recovery to a fighting spirit, excellent medical attention, a loving family and the support of friends and neighbors.

She had fun planning her "comeback" party. It was, indeed, a day to celebrate.



Pat Robinson, second from left, celebrates life with husband Ron and daughters Rhonda and Cheryl (right).



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