

Arts

County Roads a 'labor of love' for author Culbert

By KATE GILDERDALE
Correspondent

Global Television reporter and cameraman Terry Culbert's fascinating new book, *County Roads*, is the culmination of the author's natural curiosity, his love of people and animals and his affable, outgoing personality.

Culbert offers a cornucopia of stories, which run the gamut from the heart-warming tale of abandoned beagles Cookie and Crumbs in Brampton, to the strange and wonderful saga of a Cambridge man's painstaking recycling of British Austin Minis, the cars which became synonymous with the Swinging Sixties.

"I've been with Global for 16 years and I've been a one-man band. I'm an old-fashioned cameraman/reporter and I've travelled the province for the last six years doing just positive stories," explained Culbert.

His book was inspired by his role as Bill Braham's main cameraman and field producer on Global's *News at Noon*, for which he reports on all manner of human interest stories and general curiosities which catch his practised eye wherever he travels.

Eighty of his favorite stories

from the show are featured in *County Roads*.

"I did most of the photography and cartoons in the book and I've made some wonderful friends along the way, including John and Madeleine McCabe at the Chicken Coop Bakery in Greenbank."

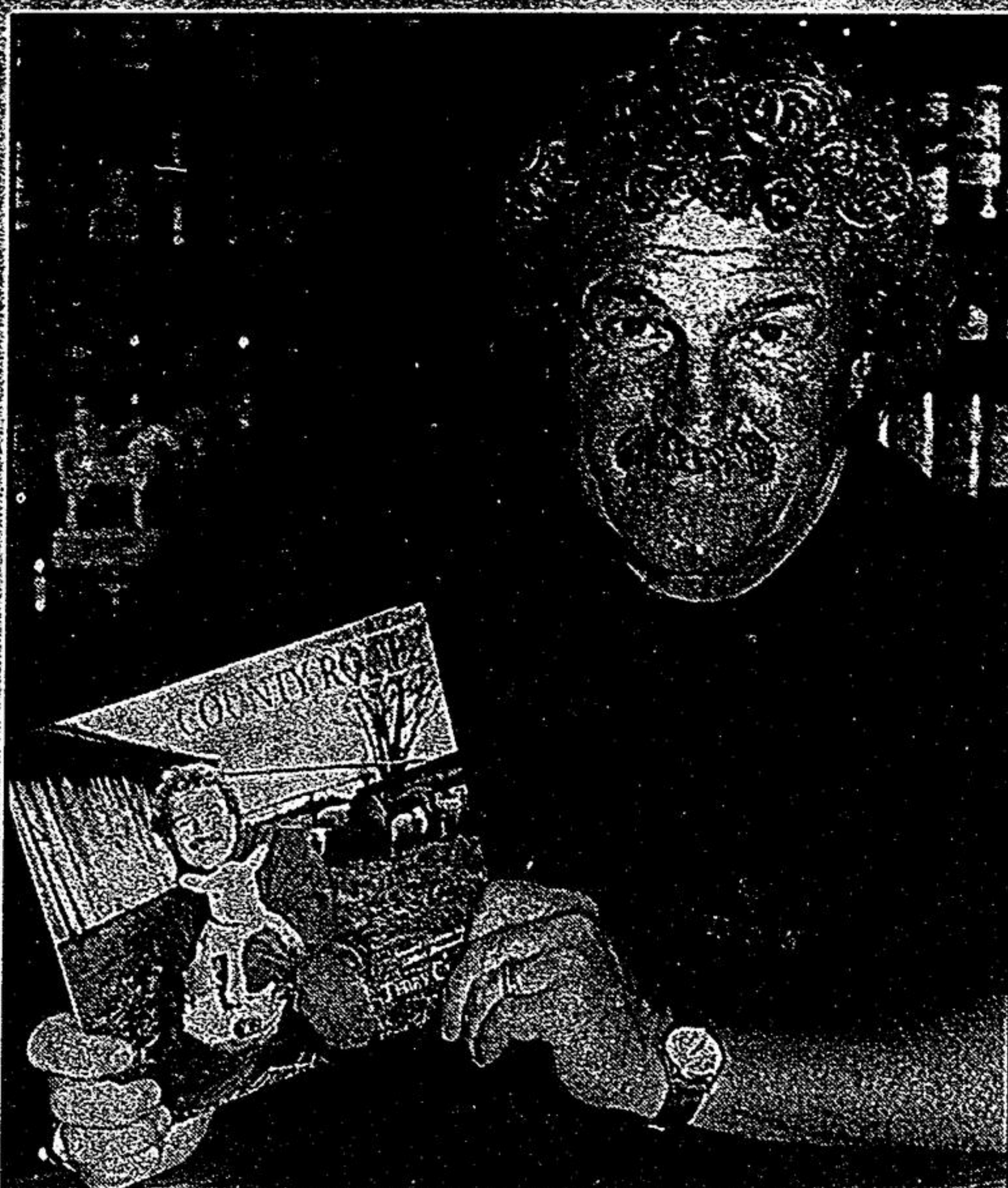
The McCabes are featured in the book, as is railway artist Bob Heard and his fine painting of the Stouffville railroad station in its heyday.

In *County Roads*, Culbert displays a special knack for unearthing fascinating facts about things most of us have long taken for granted.

One example is *Lady on the Swing*, which sheds light on the history behind the permanent Paul Willison Chrysler billboard located at the corner of Eglinton Ave. and Victoria Park Ave. in Toronto.

Another is the story behind *The Big Apple*, a long time landmark for drivers travelling the eastbound Hwy 401 near Colborne.

With his rural background and fervent love of the old country, Culbert has also uncovered such gems as a pub on the outskirts of Wal-



Author Terry Culbert and his book *County Roads*.

Photo: LORI EMMERSON

favorite television show, *Coronation Street*.

"I'm of Irish farm stock and my people came to Lucan, Ontario in 1840," said Culbert, whose book reveals that the Canadian village was settled by the Irish and is named after a village in County Dublin, Ireland. The author visited the original Lucan on one of his many trips to what he engagingly refers to as "the olde sod."

It comes as no surprise to learn that the author is a partner in *The Feather's Pub* on Kingston Road in Toronto, where the ambiance is unapologetically British and the range of beers on tap a major drawing card for connoisseurs of fine brews.

He and his family have lived in Markham for the past eight years and was a special guest at the *Whitchurch-Stouffville Library* last Thursday evening when he read excerpts from *County Roads* and signed copies of the book for local residents.

"My book is a labor of love," said Culbert.

County Roads is available from *John Lord's Books* in Stouffville.

laceberg called *The Rovers* and Neil Malcolm and was christened in honor of its Yorkshire natives Marilyn namesake on Marilyn's

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