

Youngsters are important to sport fishing future



Outdoors

Mike Hayakawa

Do you remember your first fishing expedition?

Chances are it probably took place when you were a youngster and an elder like your father or uncle took the time to introduce you to the rudiments of the sport.

The Ministry of Natural Resources realizes the significance of this time honored tradition and has declared the period from Aug. 2-10 as Take A Kid Fishing Week.

"Some of my fondest memories as a child come from the many hours I spent fishing a favorite lake or quiet stream," said Natural Resources minister Chris Hodgson in a news release declaring the inaugural occasion. "I want to do what I can as Minister of Natural Resources to see that children don't miss out on all the fun of learning to fish."

The week has been established to introduce children to the joys, challenges and responsibilities of sport fishing.

"Children tend to have a keen interest in the environment in general,"

said Hodgson.

"If we teach them to be good stewards of the fishery now, they can become important stakeholders in its future."

If you are an ardent angler, you might want to utilize this opportunity to take a youngster fishing.

In taking a youngster out for their angling debut a couple of suggestions could help you make that outing a fun and memorable occasion.

For starters, take them to a body of water where their chances of catching a fish will weigh heavily in your favor. The last thing you want is for a youngster, who generally have a short attention span, to get bored because the action is slow.

A stocked trout pond at a conservation area, private pond or a lake teeming with panfish are places where the chances of getting some co-operation from the fish will be the greatest.

In starting a youngster out,

employ the simplest form of tackle. A spin cast reel (push button model) and rod combination and simple hook and live bait rig is as simple a rig that you can start a youngster with.

Teaching a youngster to utilize their rod and reel beforehand such as in your backyard or an open field would give you a good head start.

Should the youngster enjoy their first few outings and maintain a keen interest then gradually expand their tackle arsenal and try wetting a line in different bodies of water.

The first outing need not be for an entire day but just long enough so that a youngster maintains an interest in the activity.

Allowing a youngster to bring along other personal belongings on that first outing could help alleviate some of their boredom that could take place if the fish fail to co-operate.

Because youngsters can be rather sensitive, be sure to offer words of encouragement.

Don't get upset if your young partner gets their line tangled up or if their reel seizes.

Even the most seasoned angler can experience foul ups with their tackle at any given moment.

During the times when the fish

aren't co-operating take a few moments to explain to your young companion why you employ certain tactics or accentuate the importance of conservation values.

Be sure that your youngster dresses appropriately for the occasion.

Whether you are wetting a line from dry land or on a boat, be sure that the youngster dons a personal

floatation device.

Taking a youngster out fishing could open the door to a lifetime of positive outdoor experiences.


DON VALLEY NORTH LEXUS - TOYOTA
ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



Margaret Cyrzan
Margaret Cyrzan earned a spot on the Ontario archery team at the upcoming Canada Games. The 22-year-old Markham resident gained a berth on the team by virtue of her effort at the recent provincial team trials in Caledon where she finished first in the Olympic-style bow division. That effort came on the heels of a successful indoor campaign which saw Margaret win the provincial indoor title and place within the top 10 in the Canadian Indoor Championships.

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York Region
Regional Municipality of York
Class Environmental Assessment
Water Supply for
Community of Bloomington, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville

NOTICE OF COMMENCEMENT OF PROJECT

At its March 13, 1997 meeting, Regional Council adopted a report authorizing the preparation of an Environmental Assessment for the Bloomington Area Water Supply in the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville.

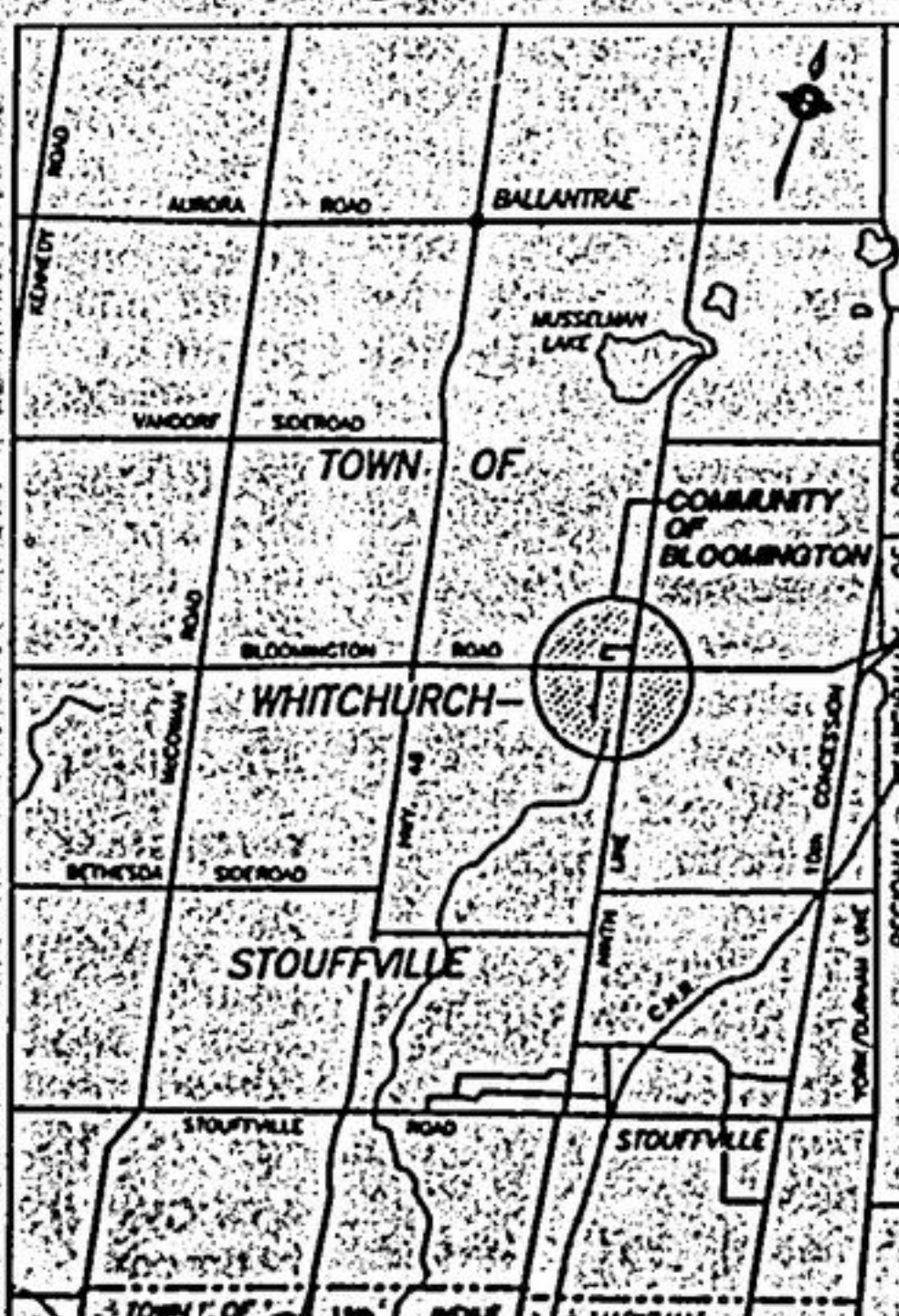
The project is being undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Class Environmental Assessment for Municipal Water Projects prepared by the Municipal Engineers' Association.

During the Class EA process, a public information centre will be arranged to outline the planning done, present alternative solutions being considered, and solicit public comment.

At this time, you are advised of the commencement of this project. If you wish further information or have any comments, please contact the Regional Municipality of York or Simcoe Engineering Group Limited, consultants for the project, as follows:

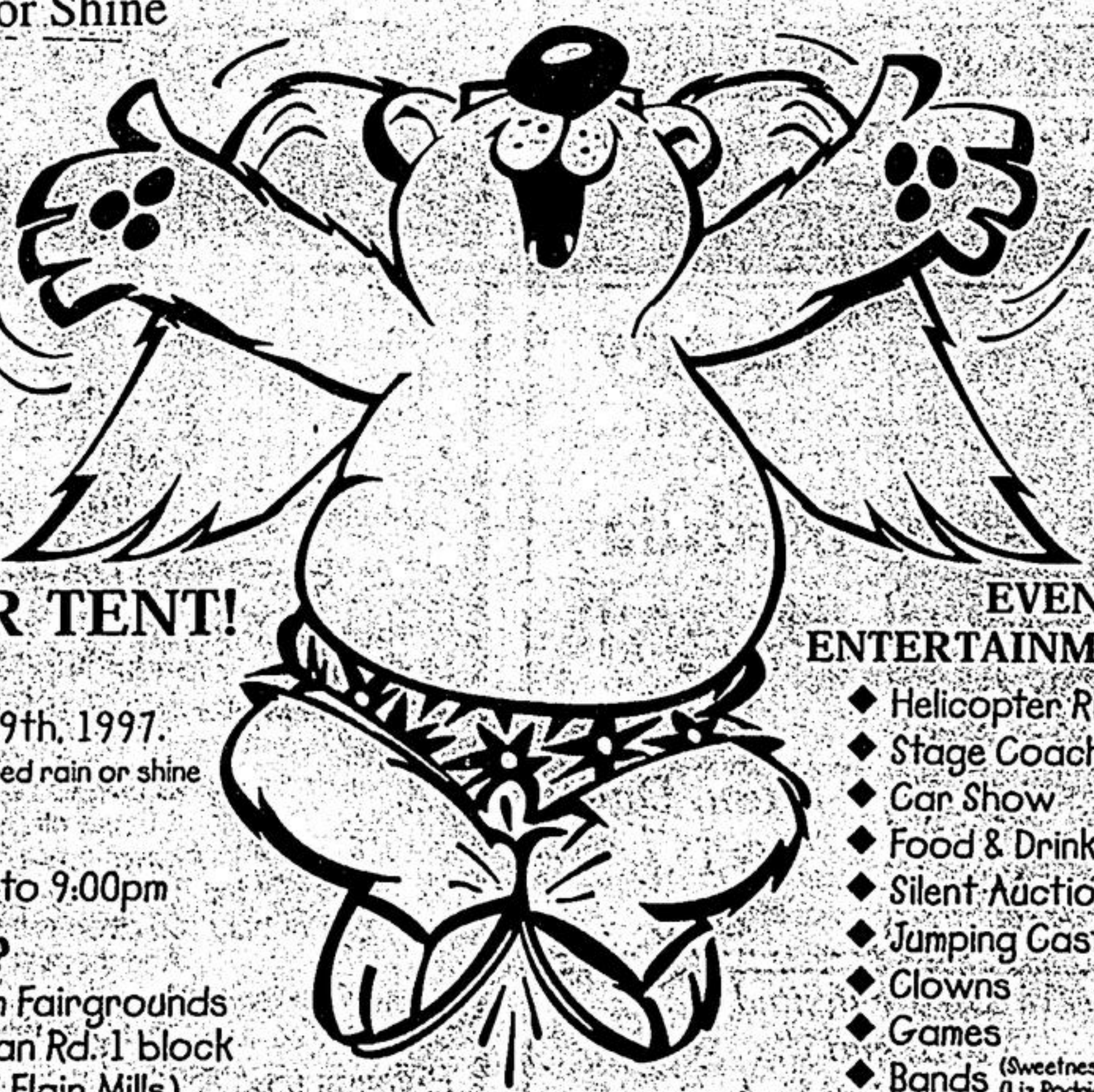
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