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THE TRIBUNE

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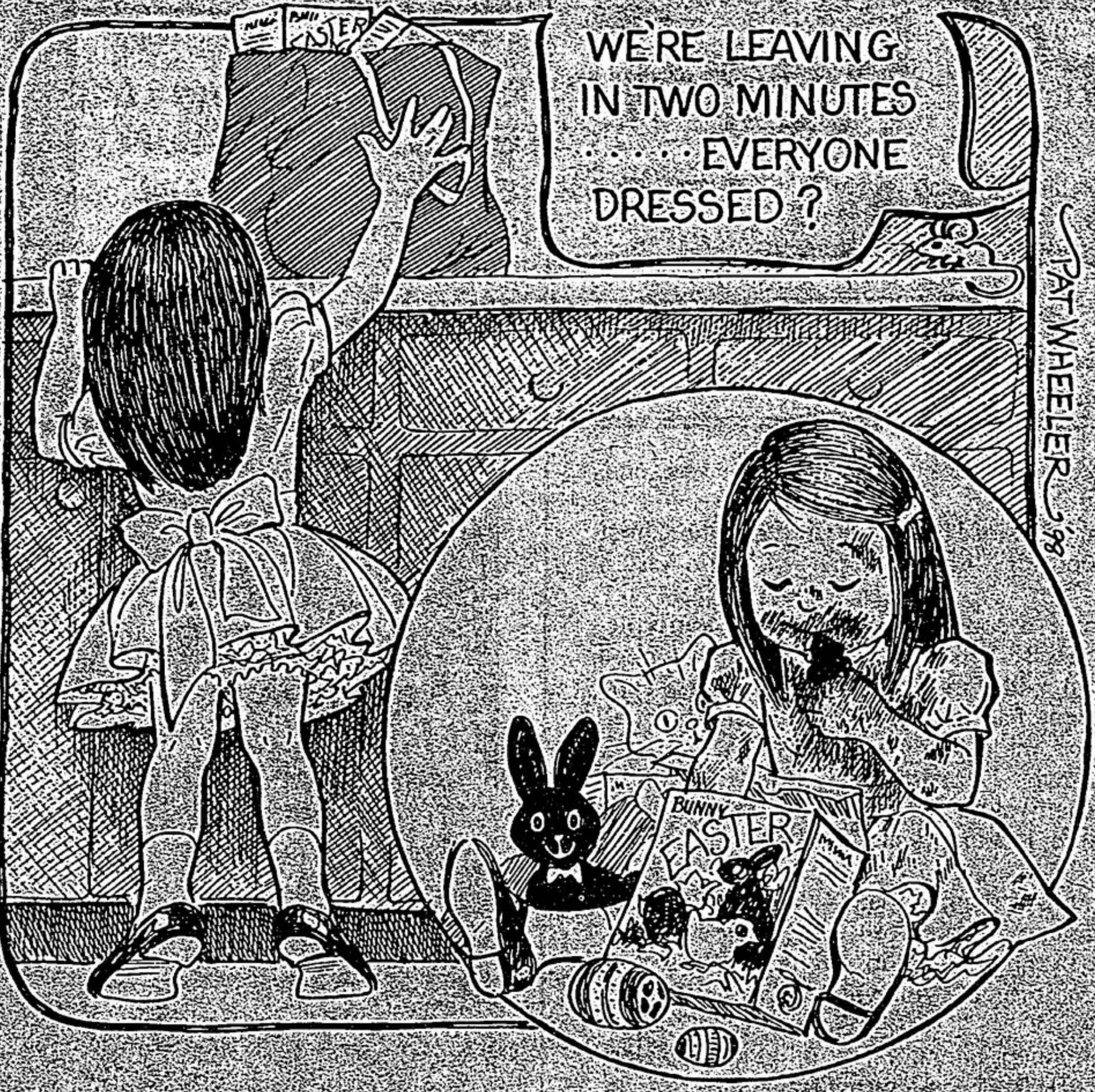
EDITORIAL

It's nice to be recognized

It is not often that we in the media are told that we have done something well. But it is especially rare when praise comes from your peers.

This made the announcement on Saturday night at the Ontario Newspaper Association Better Newspapers Competition that this paper and its sister publications in Markham and Uxbridge had won a total of seven OCNA awards, especially sweet. The awards included a first place win for *The Tribune's* Art in the Park festival in Uxbridge. Our photographer Sjoerd Witteveen won a second place award for his excellent sports photograph, and we won two advertising awards and an agricultural edition first prize. We are especially proud to have won second place in our circulation category of 12,999 to 24,999 copies. The finalists from all categories at the Ontario level are sent on to the Canadian Community Newspaper Association competition, the results of which will be released in June. We are pleased that our efforts are recognized by our profession, but we take a special pride in being able to present award-winning products and services to our readers and advertisers.

At *The Tribune*, we have one true goal: To be the best paper we can be. The awards presented to us Saturday were an indication that we are at least heading in the right direction.



Artistic balance needed in Stouffville

While culture is going through a difficult pregnancy in Stouffville, we can expect a live birth.

Here's my prediction: We'll see both an art gallery and a theatre operating in this town soon.

When the Whitchurch-Stouffville Library Board closed Latcham Gallery three weeks ago, board chairman Jan Williams simply stated that the closure was linked to financial reasons.

Williams did not elaborate. She did,

however, emphasize that the decision to close the 19-year-old gallery was unanimous.

Instead of trying to find out why the plug was pulled on the gallery, a group of gallery supporters faced reality, as we know it in Stouffville—Public relations skills, especially sharing information are seldom practiced in this town.

The powers that be simply don't like things being questioned. In this case, the preferred position was: The

Latcham Gallery is dead. That's the end of it. While I have great difficulty with being denied access to information, the gallery supporters don't.

Instead of wasting time and energy, the Latcham Gallery backers accepted the closure.

And, from there, they put the wheels in motion to re-open the cultural facility as an independent. I'm more than impressed.

Last night, Sharon Maude and Lynda



Off the Record
Joan Ransberry

Giles were expected to outline a business plan to Whitchurch-Stouffville Council. The pitch includes a request for a grant.

Of course, Latcham Gallery deserves council's support. It must be pointed out that it takes far more than council's backing. The public must now demonstrate that it has the will to not only re-open the gallery but to keep it open.

As well, the plan to convert the municipal building into a 400-seat theatre needs local government's support.

Julia Topping, chairman of the Music Town Theatre committee which oversees the Clock Tower Theatre committee, said the \$2-million project has reached the stage of selecting an architect whose job it is to transform the municipal office building into a theatre.

Topping met with an architect last night and went over plans to have 300 theatre seats on the main floor and 50 seats in the balcony.

In September, Whitchurch-Stouffville will move to new quarters at the Imperial Centre in the west end of town, leaving the municipal office vacant.

It's been suggested that the town sell the building for \$1. It's a sound idea providing, of course, Latcham Gallery is given comparable consideration.

Yes, both projects are ambitious. There's a lot of work to be done. In the end it will be well worth it.

The Latcham Gallery and the Clock Tower Theatre will help bring balance to this community.

Award winner dressed for success

Although it's definitely not the Oscars to the rest of the world, the night of the Ontario Community Newspapers Association awards is a big deal for people who toil for the town's tabloids.

Last Saturday, I was fortunate enough to be among those who attended. The good news was, *The Tribune* had been nominated for a number of awards, and one of the nominations had my name on it.

The bad news came in a memo from our esteemed editor-in-chief, notifying attendees of the final details of dress, decorum and dinner. Apparently, business attire was required. As regular readers and friends about town will know, this sartorial getup is as foreign to me as exercise, meetings, sports, pubs with no beer, and bond futures.

My inventory of possible outfits yielded a motley mish-mash, including a pair of cheap black pants—the kind that start life sharing store space with dayglo green vinyl micro-skirts and plastic lizard-skin pumps—whose zipper had expired on its fourth outing. I debated whether to return them at the time, but figured the outlay in gas would

cancel out any fiscal benefit.

I originally bought them to go with my son's Grade 8 graduation jacket, which we had purchased in Boys' Large, in the mistaken belief that Malcolm would get several years' wear out of it. At the time, it was so generously proportioned for his slender frame that he could have crammed another couple of friends inside it. Within a few short months, however, he had outgrown it, never having worn it in the interim.

It's a perfectly nice jacket—black, double-breasted, faux wool—and it fits me pretty well, but the only thing it goes with is those tacky pants. Bravely facing the inevitable (any woman will tell you it's tough to have to buy clothes) I headed for the stores in search of the consummate business suit.

The first thing I discovered was that you can't put it all together for

\$60. When I recovered from the shock of three-digit price tags and tried some stuff on, I found out why Buttons stayed miraculously in place, zippers ran smoothly up and down and skirts and pants skimmed over the lumps and made me look sylph-like even when I breathed out.

Dangling plastic thread—the kind that completely unravels a garment when you attempt to remove it with a short, sharp tug—was nowhere in evidence.

Hems hung evenly all the way round and everything—including me—was beautifully lined.

In short, I looked positively posh, almost like a real executive. And the evening was lots of fun, despite the absence of such Oscar delights as a bemused Fay Wray, the strangely upholstered Madonna and a bizarre song and dance routine involving a woman suspended just above the stage, ineffectually flapping her arms and legs about while encased in a sort of giant Jolly Jumper.

I didn't get first prize for my writing, but if there had been a category for Best Dressed Bag Lady, I'm confident my name would have topped the list.



Kate's Corner
Kate Gilderdale

STOUFFVILLE TRIBUNE

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