

# Strawberry Festival a smash

This weekend's Strawberry Festival was a five-star event.

With better than perfect weather and a line-up of fun, thousands of people turned out. Each and every one of them had a great time. With a tremendous team work effort on behalf of the Business Improvement Area and the town, downtown Stouf-

ville, was transformed into a full scale, fun-filled family festival.

Harvey Anderson, a local senior, said it best:

"It's the best thing Stouffville does. It's real community spirit."

Picking a favourite event at Strawberry Festival was an easy task for the Volk family. For mom, Ruth, it

was the Stouffville Fire Department's fire house; for dad, Robert, it was the food; and for the three kids, Michael, 9; Mathew, 7; and Mark, 4, it was the midway's dragon roller coaster.

"The Strawberry Festival is set up for the family," said Ruth. "It's a good time."

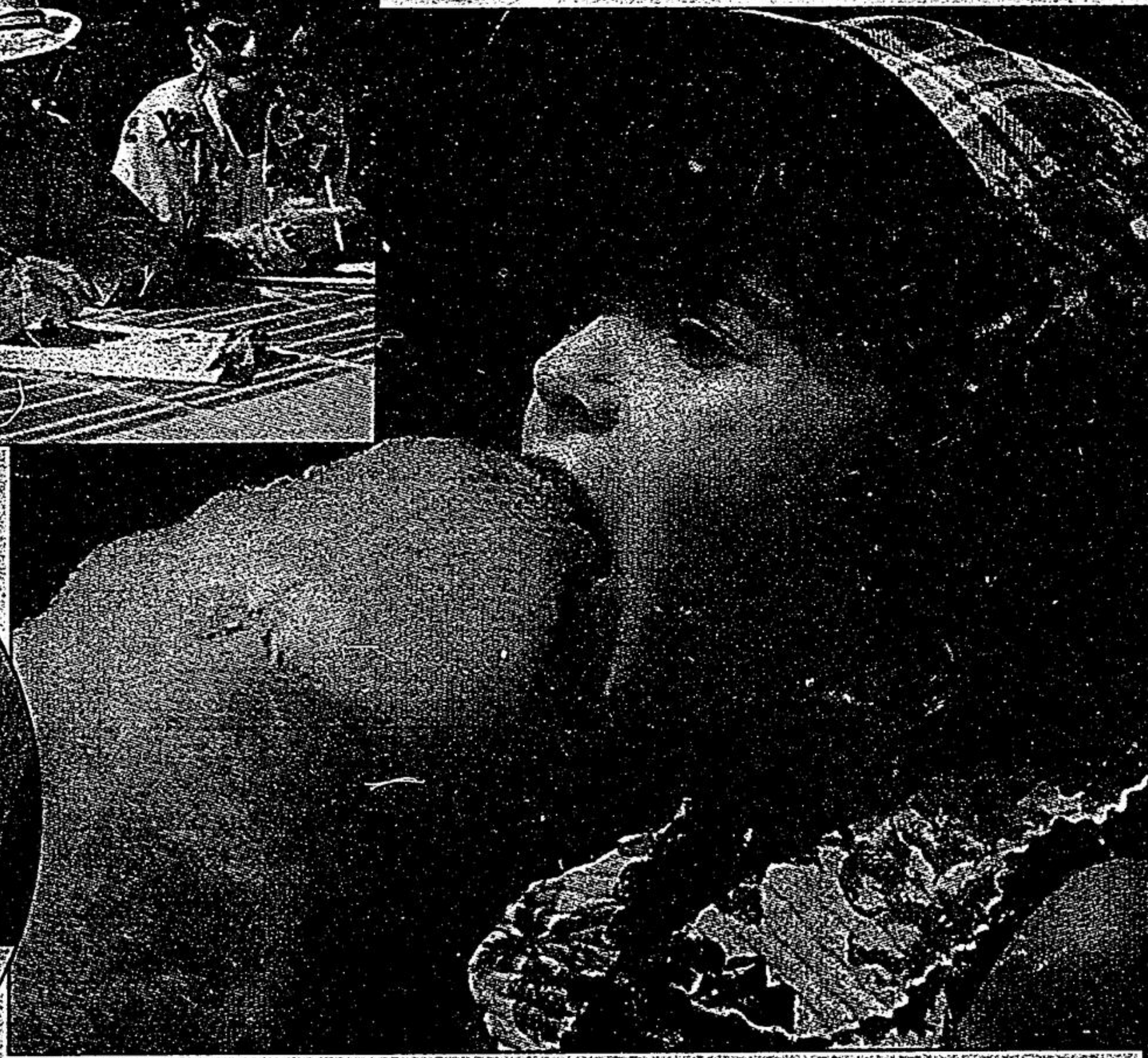
Retired teacher Ed Herbert wouldn't miss the Strawberry Festival for all the world. "I love every minute of it," he said. "I've lived here 40 years.

I enjoy seeing all the people."

Laurie Griffin likes to shop and her son Jaret likes to nap. With the six-month-old sound asleep in his stroller, Laurie was able to saunter from vendor to vendor. "I love to shop. With all the crafts, it's wonderful. You're never too old for this festival. At 92, Pauline Grove knows a good time when she sees one. Holding a Canadian flag in her right hand,

Pauline made her way through the crowd. "I come every year."

Brendan Tunney, 2, was spotted giving mom and dad a tour, while Cody MacCarl, 5, had a tight grip on a dinosaur. His sister Amber was more than impressed with the midway. From kids to dads to grandmas, everyone was at the festival this year and it showed. - J.R.



Photos by SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Thousands of people attended this year's Strawberry Festival along Main Street. Here are just some of the faces, and places caught during the annual outdoor fest.

Clockwise from centre: Andee Streick, 6, enjoys a festival staple: candyfloss; Ruth Leckens shows off all her strawberry jewelry; Kenny Davie, 10, (left) and Joseph Dowzer, 10, both of the third Stouffville Scouts, sell berries on Main Street; Mason Joyce, 4, enjoys a watermelon; Ryan Sweeney, 8, and his dog Lucky take a break; Holly Barker, 3, gets to dance with Lynda Szalay of the Kick Up A Fuss Cloggers; and Hayley MacLaren, 10 months, was declared the Grand Champion baby in the annual baby contest after judges (from left) Dee Miller, Bill Butler, and Elizabeth Dart finished a tough task. For more Strawberry Festival photos please turn to pages 14 and 15.

