

ADVERTISING FEATURE

# Valentine's Day

## The first Valentine card was sent by Charles, Duke of Orleans in 1415

For millions of Canadians, Valentine's Day is a day devoted to expressing feelings of love and affection for very special people.

But just how did this custom begin? Christine Bodt, manager, marketing communications for Carlton Cards, explained the history behind this popular occasion.

"Several historical events have contributed to our current version of Valentine's Day," Bodt said.

The Romans, for example, chose to celebrate the feast of Lupercalia during the month of February.

"It was held in honour of the pastoral God Lupercus and Venus, the goddess of love. To celebrate, maidens placed their names in an urn located in the public square. Bachelors would then select the names of their new mates," she said.

Later, people believed Feb. 14 was the day when birds chose their mates.

As a result, pigeons and doves have come to symbolize fidelity.

In 469 A.D., Pope Gelasius proclaimed Feb. 14 as the date to honour the martyr St. Valentine, as well.

The Pope made this proclamation in an effort to make Lupercalia more Christian in name. However, the actual identity of the true St. Valentine remains a mystery.

Some historians believe that after emperor Claudius II banned weddings, St. Valentine performed secret ceremonies to bring loved ones together.

Others believe that while imprisoned for refusing to denounce his faith, he fell in love with the jailer's daughter, sending her notes signed, "From your Valentine."

Some historians put yet another spin on this story, suggesting that Valentine also cured the daughter of blindness.

Charles, Duke of Orleans, is credited



See B.Y. page 12.



# FOR VALENTINES

## Give Only the Best!

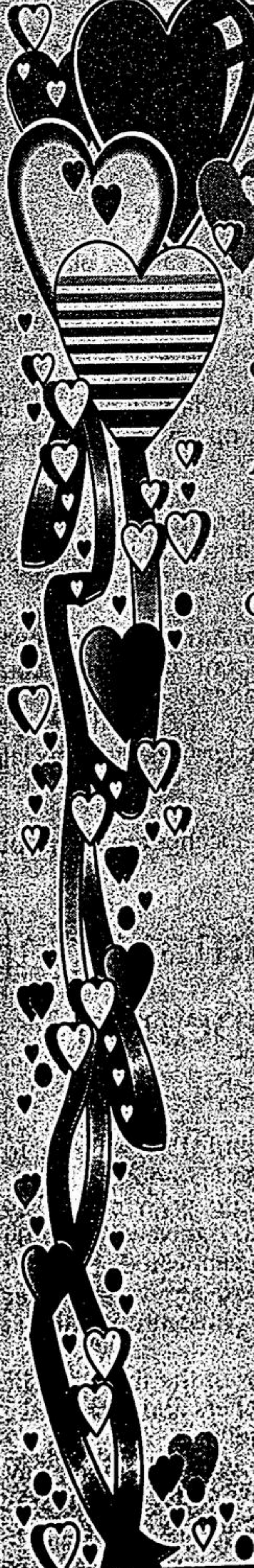
**Hand-made Fresh on the Premises**

**Chocolate Roses ♥ Gift Baskets**  
**Ice Wine Truffles ♥ Assorted Gift Boxes**  
**Chocolate Heart boxes filled with truffles**  
**And much more . . .**

### A Taste Beyond Compare!

*Proceeds of Valentine Sales will be donated to Mullings & Baby Trust Fund*

14811 9th Line, Stouffville (at Musselman Lake) Tel: (905) 640-8089



## MARCY'S ESTHETICS

I would like to introduce myself to those of you who might not know me, and tell you a bit about myself. My name is **Marcy Betz**, and I am from Stouffville. I am currently working at Country Hair Salon in Ballantrae. I am a graduate of Goshen Academy of International Beauty.

At the salon I am offering manicures, pedicures, facials, waxing and make-up applications for proms/weddings or just learning how to use makeup.

**For the month of Feb. I would like to offer that if you book a pedicure at full price I will do a manicure for 1/2 price.**

For those of you that have already dropped by and used my services, thank you, and for those of you who want to drop by and see what I have to offer, please do.

I am available Wednesday & Saturday at  
**(905) 640-1240**



# For Your Valentine



Enjoy a romantic gourmet dinner for two!

This special meal begins with homemade country soup or chef salad.

Gourmet meal to follow:

- ♥ 8oz CoHo Salmon Fillet with Dill Butter
- ♥ Grilled Boneless Chicken Breast with a rich Herb Sauce
- ♥ 8 oz. Prime Rib with Yorkshire Pudding

or

Chateaubriand Platter for Two

or

Our Famous Seafood Platter for Two

Valentine dinner will be served February 13 & 14  
 5 pm - 9 pm  
 Advance reservations required  
 Sunday, February 14  
 Buffet Brunch \$19.95 per person  
 11:30 am - 2:30 pm

**MAPLES OF BALLANTRAE RESTAURANT LODGE**  
 Hwy 48 1/4 m. N. of Bloomington Sd. Rd.  
**(905) 640-4882**