Jeweller, historian keep history alive practising their crafts

From page 32

buried on site," he added with a smile.

Although jousting is a very unforgiving sport, size and toughness are not the key ingredients of a good knight.

There are many women in the sport, as well. Adams' wife is an American Jousting Association champion.

"You need horsemanship and you need heart. Let's face it, it takes balls to put yourself in the path of a few thousand pounds of charging knight, horse and armour. You have to want to go out there and get hit.

"For me, it's a dream come true."

Dennis Turcott had a dream, as well. He dreamed in gold and silver and imagined precious gems. Turcott is a goldsmith who has been designing and custom manufacturing handmade jewelry since 1966.

"I actually went through school to be a lab technician," Turcott said.

"But the thought of doing the exact same job every day wasn't very appealing. I wanted a job that would be a continuing learning process and that would keep my hands busy."

Turcott spent more than eight years apprenticing with some of the finest goldsmiths in Canada.

He worked as a hand engraver and a mould maker, learning all the tricks of the trade.

"Goldsmiths are a dying breed," he said. "There will always be a few of us around, but 90 per cent of jewelry manufactured in Canada today is mass produced with machines."

Part of the problem, Turcott said, is the lack of training opportunities. The college programs aren't extensive enough and apprenticeships are few and far between, he said.

At his store, Aquarius Jewellers in Keswick, Turcott produces beautiful custom pieces to fit all types of budgets. From engagement rings to nautical charms, if you can dream it, Turcott can make it.

"There are also very few people out there who can work from the design stage right through to finished product like I do."

Working from the design stage is what George Duncan's craft is all about.

The Markham resident is an architectural historian specializing in early Ontario buildings.

Duncan produces hand-drawn architectural drawings of old buildings to document their historical value.

"These records are valuable for preserving history, even when we can't preserve the building," said Duncan, who also works as the heritage co-ordinator for the Town of Richmond Hill.

"I started doing it because of the frustration I felt over the loss of the history of old buildings that were either demolished or radically altered."

Duncan comes by his love of architecture honestly. His great-grandfather, James Duncan, was an architect in Scotland in the 1860s.

In fact, Duncan still has some of his ancestor's original tools, as well as a 1910 drafting table made in Quebec.

With a degree in urban geography and a natural creative talent, Duncan has published six books dealing with architecture in Ontario and has been called upon to produce drawings of threatened historical buildings.

One of the hardest and most eye-catching features of the drawings is the lettering. Every draftsman has his own style of lettering for titles and labels that marks a piece as his own.

"Good lettering is what separates a good draftsman from a mediocre one," Duncan said.

With advances in technology, hand-drawn architectural documents are becoming a lost art.

Computer-assisted design software programs allow designers to produce drawings in a fraction of the time and at a fraction of the cost.

But Duncan plans to keep the art alive by continuing to publish books and draw old buildings.

His new book, *York Country Mouldings From Historic Interiors: 1820-1920*, is a study of interior trims of old houses.

"It's more of a technical guide for people interested in restoration. To me, architecture is an art form. It's an art that needs to be kept alive."

ASTHMA?
We can help.
Call
The Lung Association

THE LUNG ASSOCIATION

HEARING AIDS
LECKIE
HEARING SERVICES
"OVER 29 YEARS EXPERIENCE"
MAY IS HARD OF HEARING MONTH
SALES, REPAIRS & BATTERIES FOR ALL MODELS
HEARING AIDS & ACCESSORIES • HOME VISITS
Testing Available
FREE PARKING
• Digital & Programmable Aids
• Registered Vendor for ADP - DVA - WSIB
• TTY Sales & Repairs
• Amplified Phones
• FM Systems
• Swim Plugs
VOICE & TTY
(905) 883-1665
10350 YONGE ST., SUITE 103. 4 LIGHTS NORTH OF MAJOR MACKENZIE

Notice of Completion
Environmental Study Report

Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (Schedule C)
Warden Avenue from Steeles Avenue to Major Mackenzie Drive
Town of Markham

The Region of York has completed a study recommending that Warden Avenue be widened to a seven lane urban road section between Steeles Avenue East and Apple Creek Boulevard, in the Town of Markham. The study also recommends improvements to the section of Warden Avenue between 16th Avenue and Major Mackenzie Drive to a five lane urban road section, with modifications to the vertical alignment. These improvements have been recommended to address existing capacity and operational concerns and to ensure that future travel demands on Warden Avenue are accommodated in a safe and efficient manner.

The study has followed the planning process approved under with the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment for Road Projects, Schedule "C" undertakings. As required, an Environmental Study Report has been prepared and is available for review at the following locations, beginning May 15, 2001:

The Regional Municipality of York
Office of the Regional Clerk, 4th Flr.
17250 Yonge Street
Newmarket, ON
L3Y 6Z1

Town of Markham
Office of the Clerk
101 Town Centre Boulevard
Markham, ON
L3R 9W3

Milliken Mills Community Library
7600 Kennedy Road, Unit 1
Unionville, ON
L3R 9S5

Unionville Library
15 Library Lane
Unionville, ON
L3R 5C4

Administration Centre & Support Services
445 Apple Creek Boulevard, Suite 100
Markham, ON
L3R 9X7

The public will be able to review the study and submit comments until June 15, 2001. Should the public express no comments or concerns within this review period, the Region of York may then proceed with the construction of the recommended improvements for Warden Avenue. If any concerns cannot be resolved in discussions with the Region of York, the Minister of the Environment can be requested to order an Individual Environmental Assessment for the project. Requests should be forwarded to the Minister of the Environment at the following address:

Minister of the Environment
2 St. Clair Avenue West
Toronto, ON
M4V 1L5

A copy of the request must also be forwarded to the Region of York.

Information collected will be used in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and solely for the purpose of conducting the environmental assessment. All comments received will become part of the public record. Names and addresses will remain confidential.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact:

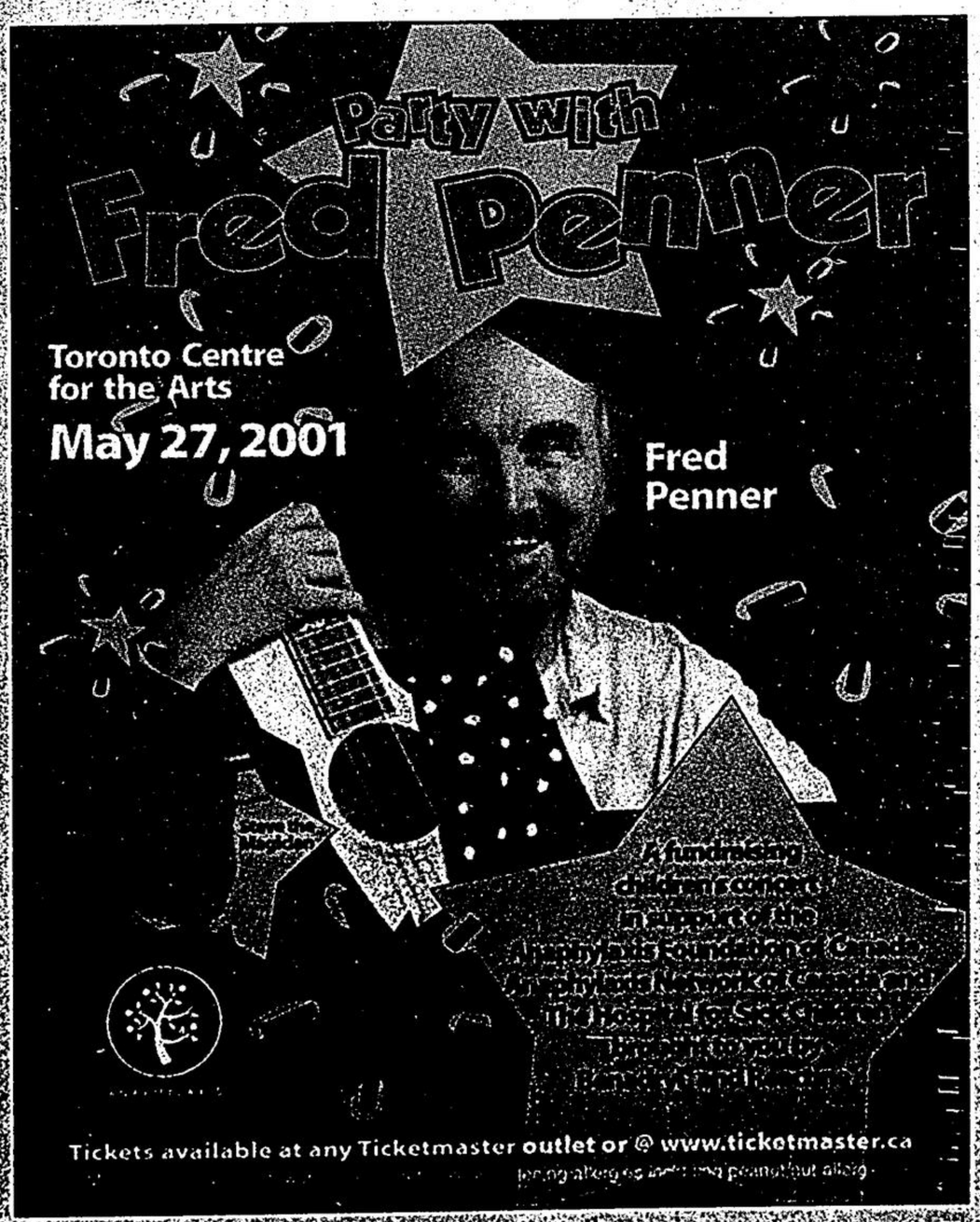
Peter Cholewa, P.Eng.
Project Manager
Regional Municipality of York
Newmarket, ON
L3Y 6Z1
Tel: (905) 764-6345, ext. 5048
Fax: (905) 836-4590
e-mail: peter.cholewa@region.york.on.ca

Scott Thorburn, P.Eng.
Cole, Sherman & Associates
75 Commerce Valley Drive East
Thornhill, ON
L3T 7N9
Tel: (905) 882-4401, ext. 187
Fax: (905) 882-4399
e-mail: scott.thorburn@urscorp.com

York Region

Flyer WATCH
Inserts for Thursday May 17, 2001

Sears*
Future Shop*
Ontario Lottery Corp.*
Zellers*
Hy & Zel's*
A&P*
Today's Homes*
IGA - Markham*
IGA - Unionville*
Cornell Hair Salon*
Canadian Tire - Steeles*
Canadian Centre for Academic Enrichment*
Forget Me Knot*
Scheli Ace Building Centre*
National Sports*
Home Depot*
Sobeys*
Canadian Tire - Stouffville*
Cashway*
Canadian Tire R. Hill*
Canadian Tire - Aurora*
IGA - Aurora*

*selected areas only

NO ONE DELIVERS RESULTS LIKE WE DO!
To find out more about how to reach your target market and get the same great response from your flyer distributions as these customers, call us today!
MARKHAM ECONOMIST & SUN (905) 294-8244 Stouffville Tribune