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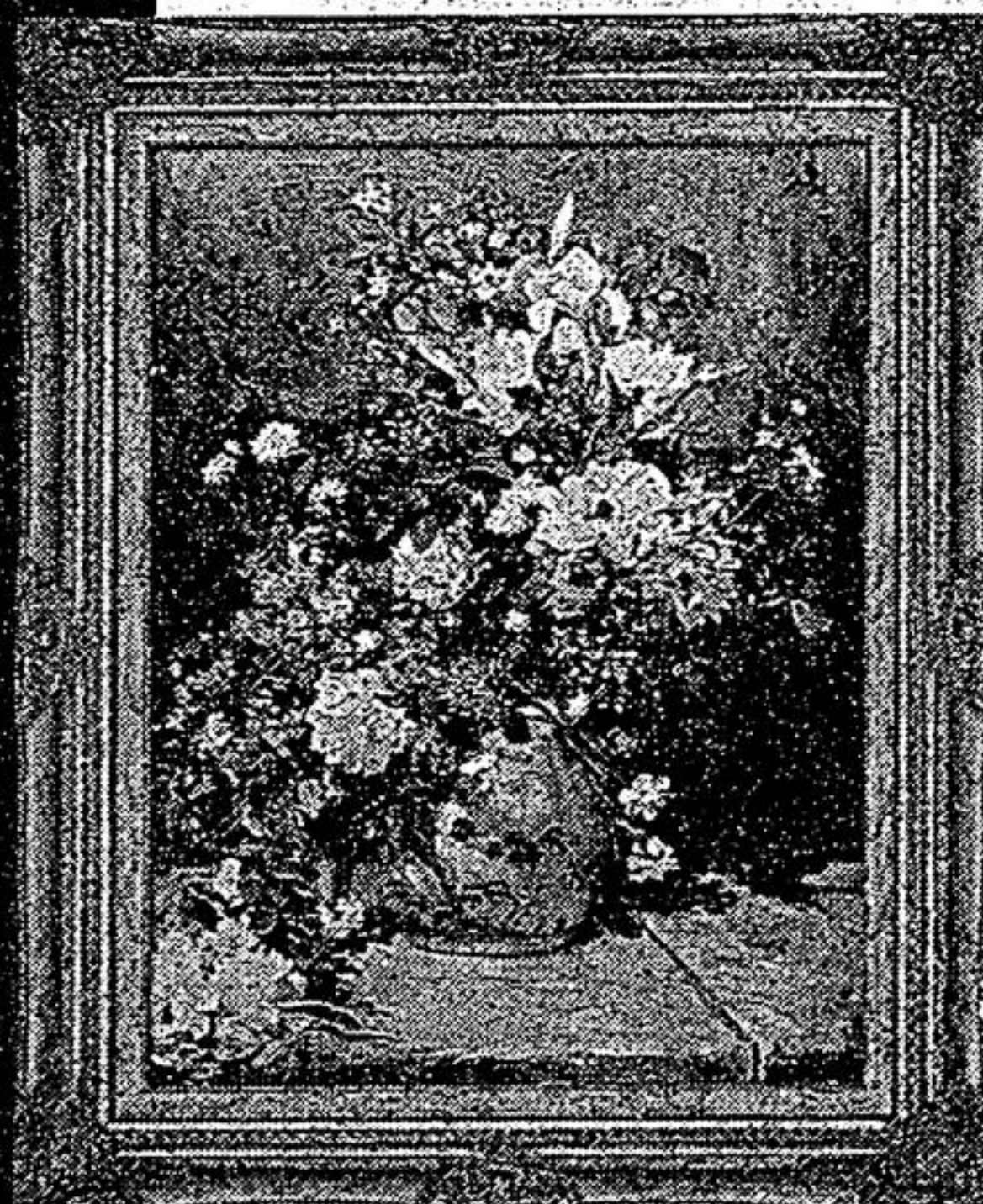
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Sat. Dec. 3rd
9am - 6pm
Sun. Dec. 4th
9am - 4pm

'Takes whole town' to put on parade

BY HANNELORE VOLPE
Staff Writer

If you don't want to get run over by a reindeer, don't stand in the middle of Stouffville's Main Street Dec. 3.

Instead, join hundreds of your friends and neighbours at the side of the road when the Kinsmen Santa Claus Parade comes to town.

The reindeer come with the world's most recognizable elf — Santa Claus himself — who will 'ho ho ho' his greetings to children young and old lining the parade route.

CLUBS, SCHOOLS, BUINESSES

Along with local businesses, schools, cubs, beavers, guides, scouts and numerous service clubs, "it takes the whole club to make it happen", said Bruce Smith, this year's parade chairperson.

"It takes the whole town to make it happen," he added.

The parade begins at 2 p.m. from Cam Fella Boulevard in the east end of town and makes its way along Main Street to the Novopharm parking lot.

Expect some traffic tie ups before and during the parade, Mr. Smith said.

"It is organized chaos," Mr. Smith said, "but almost everybody who is affected by the traffic is understanding."

This year's theme is Christmas Around the World and everyone is welcome to enter a float. Over the past few years, there have been 50 or more entries in the parade.

Small children lining the parade route will be holding their ears when the Upper Canada volunteer regiment marches by, firing off their vintage muskets.

The Rameses Drum Corps and the Shriners are back with their Viking ships, bearded rowers in horned helmets and hillbillies driving motorized outhouses.

Don't forget to bring a donation for the Whitchurch-Stouffville Food Bank. Canned and non-perishable foods are being collected by students from Whitchurch Highlands Public School at the parade.

DINNER AT CHURCH

Santa will make another official stop in Stouffville Dec. 25 at the annual Christmas dinner, which is held at EastRidge church. The dinner begins at noon and all Stouffville residents are welcome.

The dinner is supported by dozens of volunteers and service clubs throughout town, including the Kinsmen and Lions Club.

If you want to have a float or entry in the parade, call 905-640-6769.

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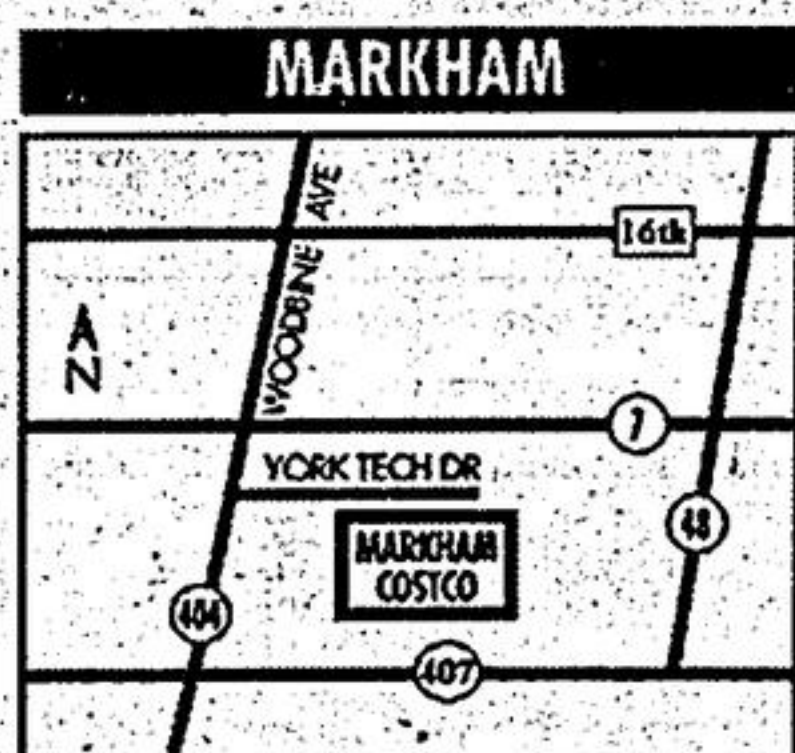
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ONTARIO GOVERNMENT NOTICE PROPOSED GROWTH PLAN FOR THE GREATER GOLDEN HORSESHOE

On November 24, 2005, Ontario's Ministry of Public Infrastructure Renewal released a Proposed Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe. It has been developed under the authority of the Places To Grow Act, 2005 and is available for public review and comment.

The Greater Golden Horseshoe is the shaded area on the adjacent map.

The Ontario government is planning strategically for population and economic growth. The Proposed Growth Plan includes policies to promote a competitive economy, protect our environment and build strong and vibrant communities.

For a copy of the Proposed Growth Plan and background materials:

- Telephone, toll-free at 1-866-479-9781, or local to Toronto at 416-325-1210
- Visit the ministry website at www.placestogrow.pir.gov.on.ca
- Fax your request to 416-325-7403
- Or write to: Proposed Growth Plan, Ministry of Public Infrastructure Renewal, Ontario Growth Secretariat, 777 Bay Street, 4th Floor, Toronto, Ontario, M5G 2E5.

Copies of the plan are also available at Government Information Centres.

A notice, regarding the plan and how you can provide comments, has also been posted on the Environmental Bill of Rights Registry.

You are invited to submit written comments no later than **January 27, 2006** to the address or fax number above.

