Sun-Tribune

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THE ARTS

Tour has come long way in 10 years

BY SANDRA BOLAN sbolan@yrmg.com

The Whitchurch-Stouffville Studio Tour and Sale didn't start out as a tour, but a pottery sale at the clock tower with a couple of local artists in the mix.

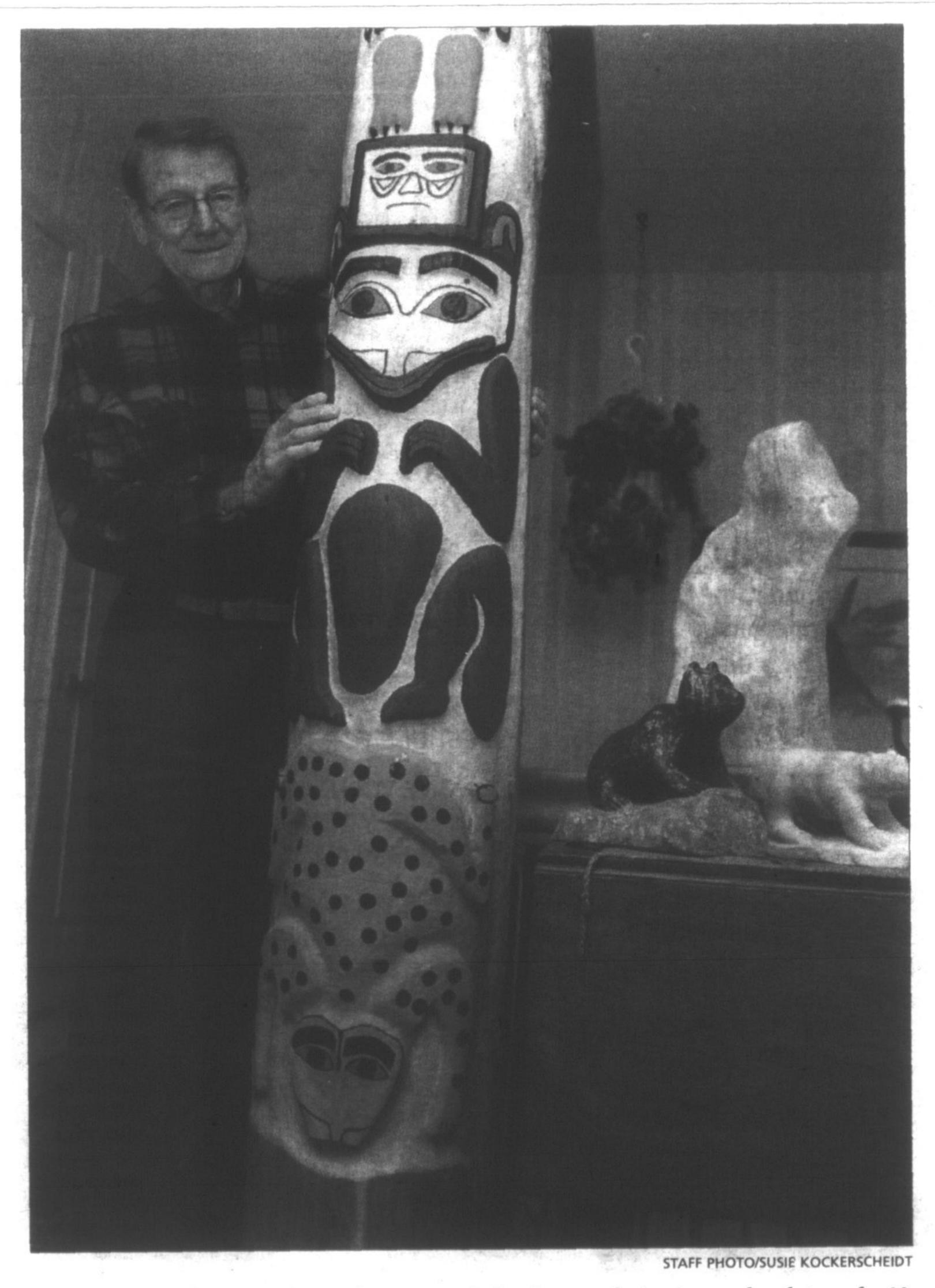
Ten years later and the tour really is a tour, with 36 local artists exhibiting their work in 24 locations throughout town.

Next weekend, artists will be showcasing and selling work in everything from oil to water colour, jewelry making and yes, there is even a potter, Marie Messina, who was part of the original show in 2000.

The studio tour, which takes place Oct. 16 and 17 throughout Whitchurch-Stouffville, has gained a reputation for being a 'must-see tour' not only because of the quality of the work being offered for sale, but because it takes people into the artists' studios.

"We still feel it's the most important thing we do," said Ray McNeice, a watercolour artist who has been a part of the tour since its second year. "We

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Dean Axelson, with a seven-foot cedar totem pole, has been sculpting in wood and stone for 20 years. The Ballantrae artist will take part in next weekend's Whitchurch-Stouffville Studio Tour.

BUYERS CONFRONT BUILDER

Recession helped delay Stouffville condo project

BY SANDRA BOLAN sbolan@yrmg.com

What was supposed to be a quick photo-op of developers, investors and local politicians putting shovels into the ground at Terrace on Rouge Creek in west-end Stouffville, turned into a confrontation between disgruntled condo buyers and the landowner.

The purchasers were angry because they say for upwards of two years, the property owner, Rocco Rossi, has not provided enough information regarding the project's delays. Mr. Rossi is not the Rocco Rossi running for mayor of Toronto.

Nancy Anderton and her husband, Rolie, are among roughly 80 buyers who put a down payment on a condo at Terrace on Rouge Creek that was originally scheduled for occupancy this past June.

Many of the purchasers showed up at the ground-breaking ceremony Tuesday afternoon to confront Mr. Rossi.

The group had one simple question for him: why all the delays?

The answer is a complicated one.

Terrace on Rouge Creek, which is on Baker Hill Drive, just north of Main Street, is branded as a luxury condominium building for empty-nesters and comes complete with 24-hour concierge service, a fitness centre, guest suite, party room and underground spray-off bay for vehicles.

Units went on the market in early 2008

See 'NAIVE', page 3.

ELECTION OPINIONS? E-MAIL LETTERS TO THE EDITOR TO JMASON@YRMG.COM



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