

## A look at Cambridge Farmers' Market happenings

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Jena Galvao and her sons Kaden (left) and Nolan shop at Cambridge Farmers' Market. - Walter Gowing, Special to the Times

*This is the first of a series on Cambridge Farmers' Market, 40 Dickson St. in Galt.*

Cloudy skies and some rain last Saturday didn't sidetrack all the fun and activities going on around Cambridge's city hall and that crowd drawing institution, the Cambridge Farmers' Market.

Councillors stayed clear of their latest absurd topic of one-hour parking in our downtown areas. Parking lots around the activities were overflowing with vehicles. Parking was at a premium all over downtown Galt for the activities at city hall.

Normally, Saturday morning is pretty busy around Market Square with shoppers looking for their rhubarb, cucumbers or cauliflower.

This past weekend was much different with an extra few thousand people crowding the open spaces at the market and city hall. Dickson Street looked more like crowded Yonge Street in Toronto.

The celebration included the 22nd annual Cambridge Arts Festival at city hall and the surrounding neighbourhood.

If you have children or grandchildren and missed the events on Saturday you had better mark your calendar for next year. There was everything for the kids and don't think that mom or dad wasn't having a great time either.

I talked to Hugo, a lovable chunky British bulldog with a friendly disposition. No wonder the great statesman, Winston Churchill always had one at his side.

Oh, Hugo didn't say much but he loved a pat on the back. Hugo's companion Jeff Lavers said, "The grandchildren love him because he is so gentle."

We were standing in front of a sign saying Pets Welcome, the showcase of Katie Favell's collection of animal portraits. Katie is from Hamilton and specializes in painting dogs' portraits.

"Look at these," said helper Maureen McGraw, "they look so real they could bark."

Katie paints from a photograph of the animal. I know that my wife's dog, Harold, wouldn't poise long enough for a portrait to be painted. If anything he would fall asleep.

This booth was on the market side of old city hall, along with other artists who did human portraits. There were booths with knick-knacks and skill-crafted jewelry.

Jena Galvao was at the market with her two children Kaden, 6, and Nolan, 3. Kaden will be attending Highland Public School this September as a French immersion student.

Kaden's mother will have to drive him to school each day unlike the English students who will be bussed. You hear it all at Cambridge Farmer's Market.