WHAT DETAIL! Carole Black shows off some of her artwork.

## Local artist returns to teaching

BY DOUG HARRISON
The Rockwood Miller

In a word, Rockwood's Carole Black is persistent.

After a more than 15-year sabbatical, the watercolour painter will return in September to one of her loves—teaching—as a Kindergarten instructor at Brookville Public School.

During her time away from the classroom – while her 19-year-old daughter Lindsay went to school – Black pursued an interest that developed from watching her grandfather's work as a portrait painterillustrator.

"I feel as if I'm still learning. As soon as I'm satisfied with my work, I won't progress further," she said recently from her garage-turned home studio.

Black, a resident of Rockwood for the past six years, has seen limited edition reproductions of her works distributed across the country since the 1980s. She also has a series of four collector plates marketed by the well-known Bradford Exchange.

And Black's love for fashion history is expressed in her creation of Victorian dolls with dresses dating back to the mid-1800s.

In addition, she's done work on backdrops for plays at Georgetown's John Elliott Theatre.

Also a gifted musician, Black has played with the pit band at Centennial Public School, where her husband, Paul Brisley, is a Grade 6 to 8 music teacher.

Many of her watercolours depict people in or around turn-ofthe-century homes during winter.

Before starting her work, she will ask permission to tour the particular house in order to get a better feel for her subject. Black will then create a scene around the house that she feels would have been appropriate for that time, often replacing shutters or aluminum

siding that wouldn't exist now.

"I try to make it so that someone is there, because they're there to me. I'm very detailed, so that's why I don't turn out a lot of work," explained Black, who recently altered one of her prints that became a 5x7 greeting card. "To see my work come out in a different medium is fun."

However, years ago, it was her profession and very much serious business. Black, who's also an avid gardener, wanted every work to be her very best, because it was going to be printed 100 times, so mastering the art was essential.

"But now I can do it for relaxation because I'm wearing two hats," smiled Black, who has taught primary music at Brookville the last three years.

Black's prints are valued up to \$200, while some intricate originals would go for about \$3,000.

Black, a member of the Rock-wood Arts Group, can be contacted by phoning 856-2182.

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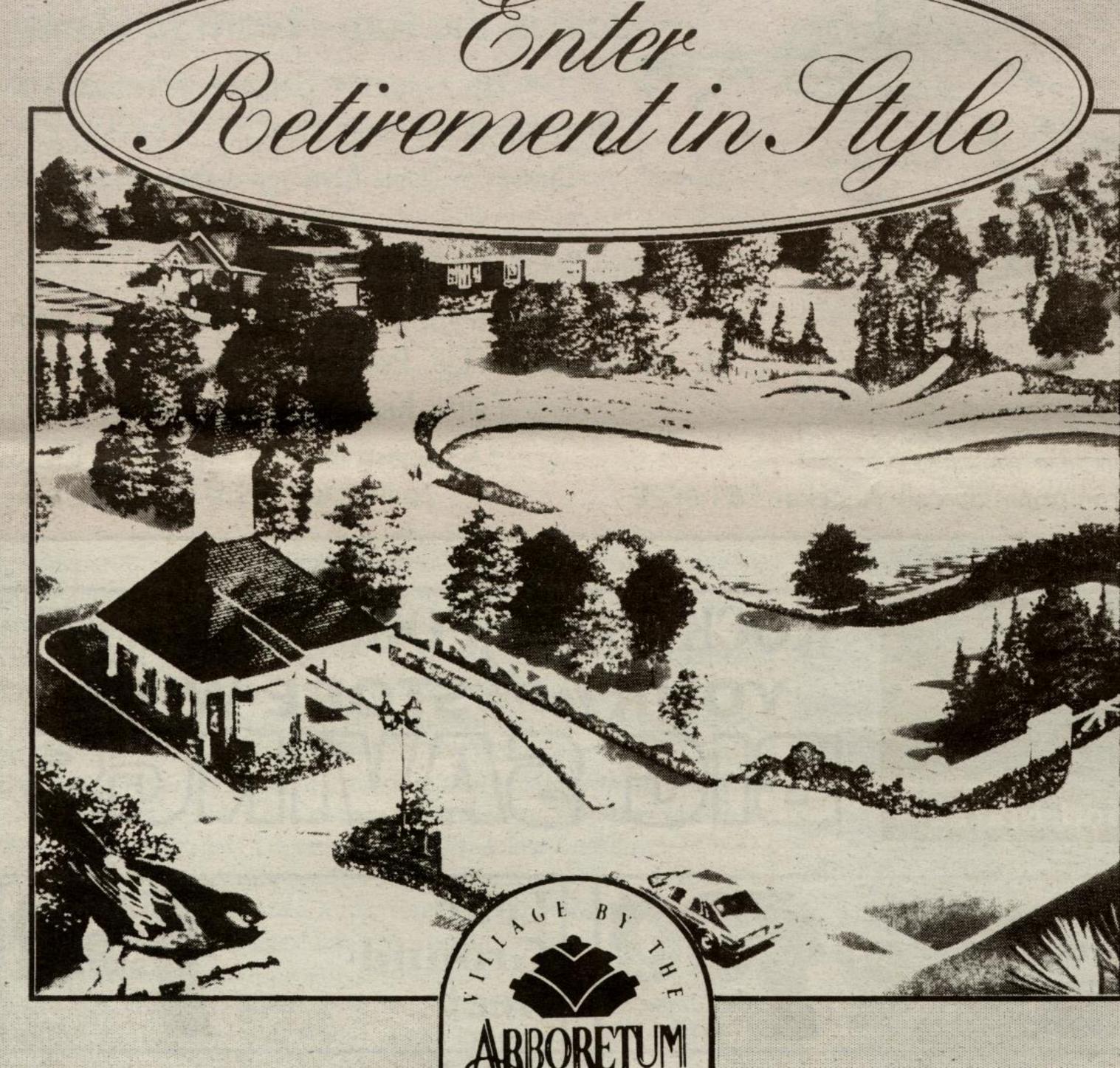
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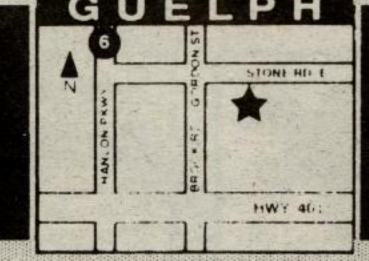
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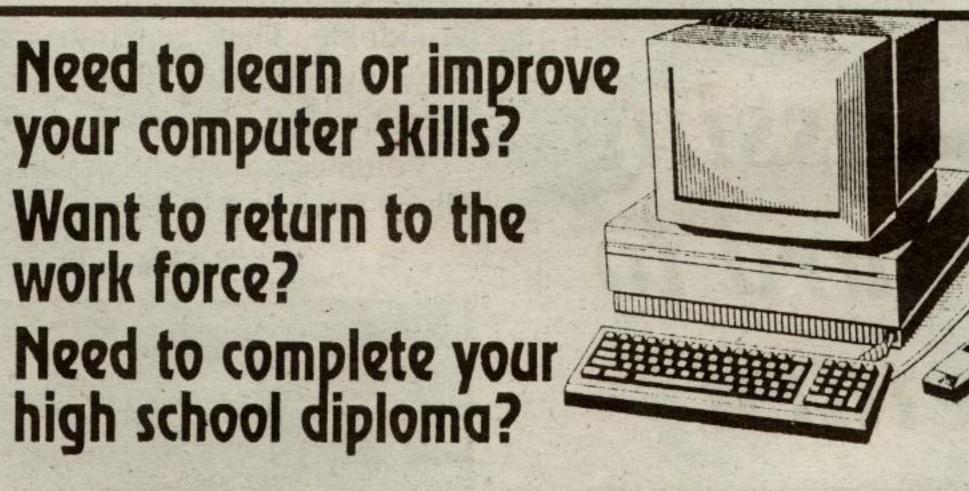


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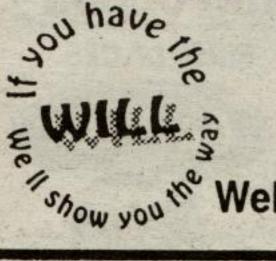
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