

Birkett speaks at graduation ceremony

Maple
Correspondent
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maple news

MAPLE — Maureen Allen led the procession of graduates at George Bailey School's Grade 8 commencement Thursday.

Suddenly, a sea of blue jeans had been transformed into a sea of frothy pastel dresses and crisply tailored suits.

Betty Canivet, member of York board of education, presented the board's award for the Grade 8 student with the highest marks to Valerie Murchison.

Scholarships were awarded to Gail Birkett, Caryl Bothwell, Kevin Connolly, Kellie Hudson, Valerie Murchison and Keg Plume.

Mr. Jacobs, in presenting the citizenship award to Karen Thomas, said that during the past three years Karen had demonstrated all the qualities of a good citizen — a sense of responsibility, pride, fair play, co-operation and leadership.

Wayne Boudreau, who has been captain of volleyball, basketball and soccer teams, won the top athletic award.

Christy Pokarney introduced guest speaker Dr. Charles Birkett.

First, Dr. Birkett volunteered to sit down immediately if everyone would toss a quarter up front; then, he lowered his price to a dime for a five-minute speech.

Finally he said his daughter Gail would throw the first quarter when it was time for him to stop.

Dr. Birkett told the audience the world is changing at an incredibly fast pace and that opportunities for individuals are virtually limitless.

It is essential, he said, for young people to plan their changes; know themselves and what their limits are.

Think positively, he advised, work can be fun — it's possible to do almost anything you want to do.

He talked about the importance of empathy and urged students to laugh a lot.

Keg Plume, who thanked the speaker, responded to Dr. Birkett's remarks in regard to man's ability to produce a copy of a person.

"If it really happened, and a million Dr. Birketts were reproduced, we'd all die laughing.

Friendship

Valedictorian Valerie Murchison observed that many of the graduating class would be separated for the first time since kindergarten as they went their ways to different schools.

She reminisced about the events at Bailey during the past three years.

the friendship among students and teachers, fund-raising activities leading to the Ottawa trip, how Mr. Murphy will be first in line to apply for the job of "cookie monster" if the position is ever open.

(That must be an "in-joke"; I think it refers to his ability to scrounge desserts at lunch time).

Valerie, as well as Mrs. Canivet, thanked principal Russell Urquhart for his nine years of dedication to the school.

Mr. Urquhart is moving to

Pleasantvale School in September.

Mrs. Meyers presented him with a gift on behalf of the school.

A gift also was presented to retiring teacher Lillian Reid "as a token of appreciation from the parents."

Tim Smith thanked parents for their support, and congratulated the committee of Grade 7 mothers who

provided refreshments.

The ceremonies were closed, and a dance followed for guests and students.

Summer services

During the weeks from July 4 to Aug. 1, Sunday services for Maple United Church and St. Andrew's Presbyterian

Church will be held at 10 a.m. at Maple United Church.

Aug. 8 to Sept. 5, services will be at 10 a.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church.

Members of Carrville United Church and St. Paul's Presbyterian, Vaughan, are invited to attend these summer services.

Vacationing

During July, I will be on vacation.

If you have anything of interest to the community you would like published in The Liberal, please call 884-8177 and ask for Ivy Reeve.

News for the Maple column must be submitted by 11 a.m. Fridays for publication Wednesday.

Children enjoy play day

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bayview fairways

THORNHILL — On the last Monday of school, a play day was held at Bayview Fairways Public School for all the children, including kindergarten.

There were 26 teams consisting of 13 to 15 children.

They participated in many events including an accuracy ball toss, a tricycle race, standing broad jump, sit-ups, and a frisbee tossing competition.

The weather was pleasant. Parents operated the refreshment stand.

Ribbons were presented the following day at school to members of the teams that came first, second or third in the individual events.

Thursday was the last day of school for this term, an awards assembly was held.

Bars, suitable for sewing on jackets were presented to pupils for academic achievement, science fair work, soccer participation and for general achievement in school.

Art display

A display of tapestries depicting Eskimo legends and stories, made by the Eskimo women of Pangnirtung, Baffin Island, will be at Thornhill Community Centre branch Library during July.

This exhibit is part of the private collection of Janet Senior of Richmond Hill.

Mrs. Senior was instrumental in establishing a weaving industry in the north while working in her capacity as Weaving Project Manager for the Northwest Territories Department of Economic Development from 1971 to 1975.

Library happenings

Story time for pre-school children at Thornhill Village Library, 10 Colbourne

St. is Wednesdays beginning 1:30 p.m. during July and August.

At the Community Centre branch, pre-school story time is Wednesdays at 2:30 for the summer.

Thursday night films at the Community Centre branch Library have been stopped for the summer but will resume in October.

St. Michael's news

On the last day of school an outdoor mass was conducted at St. Michael's School for pupils and parents.

During the last week of school, Victor Dehensdorsa, Lisa Lopristi and Michael Pepin received awards for their public speaking ability.

Scott Sheridan received a trophy for winning the recent chess tournament.

Bridge continues

Markham Bridge will hold its weekly meetings every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at Thornhill Community Centre during the summer.

The Community Centre is air-conditioned so it will be possible to enjoy playing bridge no matter how hot the weather.

There is a novice section as well as open play.

Camp Chimo

A few openings are available for the fourth session of Camp Chimo (Aug. 16 to Aug. 27).

Children must be between 6 and 13 years old to attend this day camp, which is run by Markham parks and recreation department.

Bus transportation is included in the fee and there will be pick-ups at various schools throughout Thornhill.

For further information call 297-1900.



Canning methods differ

TORONTO — It's unnecessary to sterilize mason jars when home canning if you use proper canning methods, according to food specialists at the Ontario Food Council, ministry of agriculture and food.

But it is necessary the jars be washed in hot, clean, soapy water, rinsed in hot water, then kept hot until being filled with the food being canned.

When food is processed in a hot water bath or a pressure canner, the jars are sterilized along with the food.

However, in the case of open-kettle preserving, which is recommended only for jams, jellies, relishes and some pickles, the jars must be sterilized before filling since there is no further heat application and thus no way to ensure jars are bacteria-free.

The easiest way to keep mason jars hot after washing is to place them, half-filled with hot water, into a very large pot, also half-full of hot water.

A rack or a piece of board in the bottom of the pot will keep the jars away from direct heat and prevent them from breaking.

When canning fruit jars may be kept hot in the water bath processor instead of a separate pot.

Remove the jars one by one from the processor and, after filling them with the fruit, replace them.

Pressure canner must be used for vegetables, and a separate pot is required for keeping the jars hot.

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