

# Videotapes' use surveyed

RICHMOND HILL — How useful are videotapes to patrons of public libraries? For the next three months, the Richmond Hill library will be conducting an experiment in the use of videotape as an important and informative reference tool.

The library is one of several to be selected by the Central Ontario Regional Library System (CORS) to participate in the experiment. Patrons will be asked to complete a brief questionnaire so that the library may assess the value of the installation.

The unit to be installed in the library during December will be a videotape playback unit complete with 45 tapes of varying length on a wide variety of subjects, ranging from Shakespearean drama to curling and Italian cooking.

All tapes are provided by the Ontario Education

Communications Authority.

Many questions "Should libraries venture into this service? How will it benefit the public? How expensive will it be?"

These are some of the questions that have always been a matter of controversy in library circles, and it is to answer them that CORS is placing the equipment in the library on a trial basis. It has some definite built-in advantages, it's easy to watch, it requires no projectionist to operate, and the user can select the programme.

If there's no snow and you're a frustrated cross country ski enthusiast get a videotape on show — the library can show you tapes on buying equipment, basic techniques or even cross country competition.

Want to know how to wallpaper, change a washer, be a super parent, make a macrame

hanger or produce the best lasagne on the block? The library hopes this new service will be one more way in which it can satisfy the needs of its patrons. For further information, call the local library.

## Federal grant goes to tutoring project

RICHMOND HILL — Operation Catch-Up, a tutoring program for students with special needs, is one of four projects in York-Simcoe federal riding to get Local Initiative Program grants.

The Richmond Hill-based program for York Region schools is to receive \$25,500, the department of manpower and immigration announced this week. The money will provide five jobs for 150 man-weeks.

Other LIP projects in York-Simcoe

receiving grants are: Maintenance Help for Elderly, King Township, \$15,640.

Library Community Information, Newmarket, \$12,750.

The Alcona Centre (a counselling and referral service), Stroud, \$17,850.

The Local Initiative Program is in its sixth year, and is designed to relieve seasonal unemployment.

The majority of approved projects will begin by Jan. 31 and be completed by July 2, 1977.

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A pre-course orientation will be held at the campus on Monday, December 13 at 9:00 a.m. (Portable 8). Enrolment is limited to 30 for the class commencing January 3, 1977. New students may join the program on the first Monday of every succeeding month.

If you would like to attend the orientation session, please contact - Maggie Ringling 884-9901, Ext. 213.

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## Spider plants multiply fast

By Marion Bluegrass

Dear Marion: How do you start a new spider plant from the "spiders" on the parent plant?

Mrs. K. L. Maple

A spider plant is one of the easiest to propagate because you don't have to root it first and then transplant.

Just cut off one of the trailing spiders and push it gently into the top of your soil mixture in a pot of about three to four inches in diameter.

Keep it moist for the first week or two, and you should have no trouble.

Just be prepared to wait for a few months till this plant begins to send out the stalks that will have the new spiders on them.

Dear Marion: I've been getting white spots on the leaves of my African violets. Could this be a fungus growth?

Mrs. M. B. Thornhill

Very likely this is a result of getting water on the leaves when you water the plant.

This occurs especially if the water you're using is very cold. Try letting the water stand until it's at room temperature before applying it to the plant.

the piano teacher  
**Estelle Markham**  
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### region gardener

Try this for a while, anyway, and see if it makes a difference before considering more serious problems.

When the African violet leaves get to looking a little dusty, turn the plant upside down (carefully, of course!) and swirl the leaves around in a container of room temperature tepid water.

Send your indoor gardening questions to Marion Bluegrass, c/o The Liberal, Box 390, Richmond Hill.

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