

Kids blossom in jug band workshop



What good's a jug band without a jug? Vincent Donatelli tries his skill on a milk jug under the watchful eye of Chick Roberts

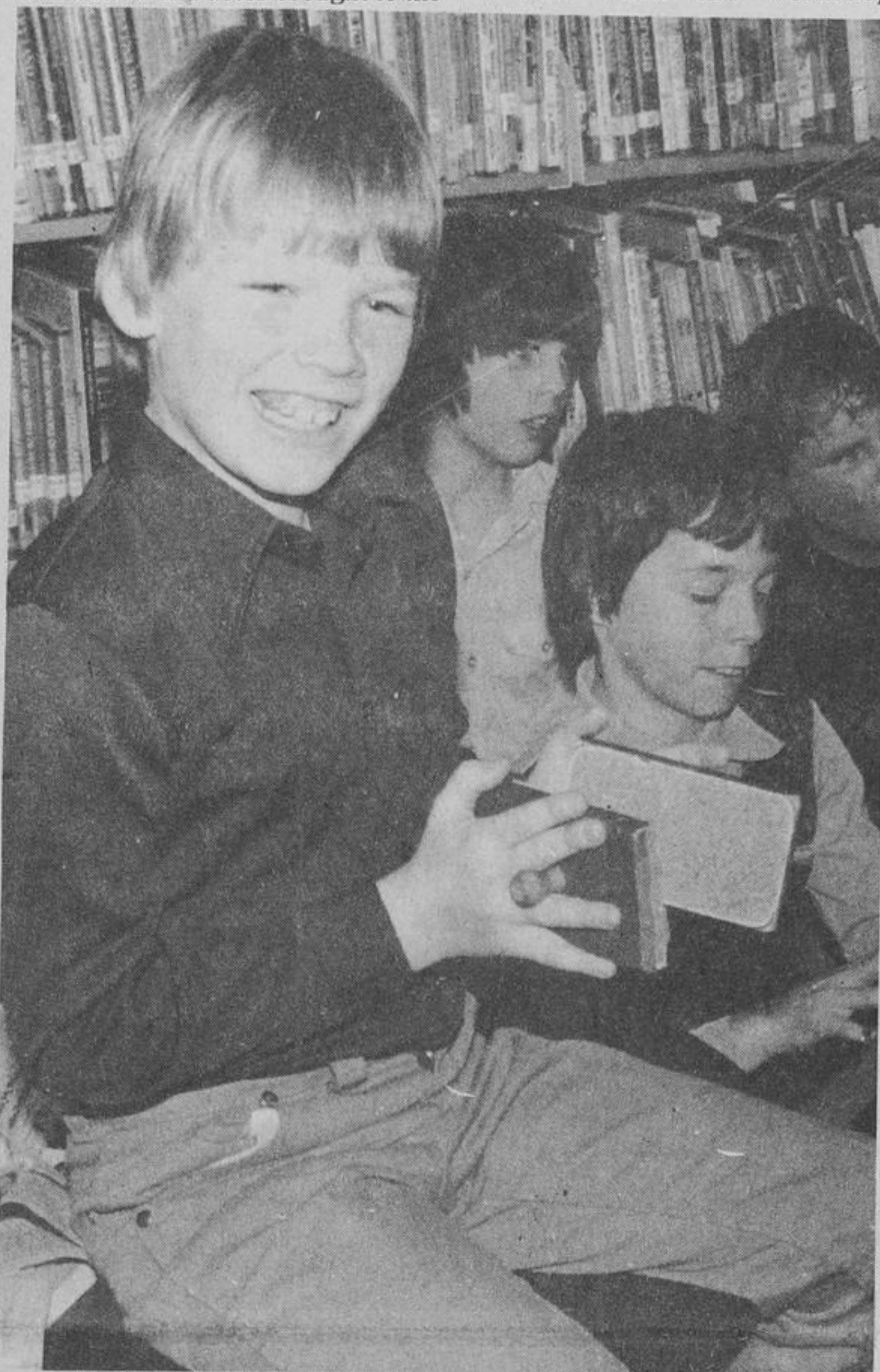
At the start of a one-hour workshop, the students were uptight and more than a little shy. But before the session was anywhere near over, the St. Mary Immaculate School pupils were clamoring for a chance to thump on a washboard, blow in a jug or ham it up on a kazoo.

The magic was Chick Roberts, a musician and actor brought to the

Richmond Hill school through the Mariposa in the Schools program, a project aimed at bringing music and kids together.

The students not occupied with the handmade or inexpensive instruments learned how to make "body music" with their hands, faces and legs.

And when the workshop



Marcel Bernard gives the sandpaper blocks a workout while Sean McKenna tries his hand at the washboard

sessions were over for the Grades 5 to 8 pupils, the most promising players joined Chick in an all-star jug band performance for the younger students in the school.

Chick is one of a series of five artists or groups who will visit the school this year. Principal Bob Zosky said he was selected to start off the season as jug band music is typical of the 1920s and '30s, the time frame selected for the school's Christmas festival.

In the new year, folk performer Rick Avery will drop in, also through the Mariposa

program.

Rick and Chick's fees are paid 50 per cent by an Arts Council of Ontario grant and the rest by the school with money pulled in through fund raising efforts.

Three other groups, the NDWT Connection which specializes in Canadian Folk legends, TV Puppetree and an opera group will visit, with fees paid by the school.

Mr. Zosky said the school had groups drop in last year but had expanded the line-up this year as part of an increased multi-cultural program.



Ann Preston brought fame to Thornhill

By MERILYN McKELVEY
13th in a series

Ann Preston is one of the people who has brought attention and fame to the village of Thornhill.

Ann came to Thornhill from Ireland as a servant for Dr. Reid and his family in the 1830's.

She earned the name "Holy Ann" because of the special powers she seem to possess which she attributed to God.

And there are many tales and legends about Ann, including a dry well to which she returned water during a summer drought and a hen which appeared every morning one winter to lay an egg for her breakfast when she was sick.

The most remarkable event occurred when a young man visiting the Reid house read Psalm 34. Ann was strangely moved by the text and she

took the Bible to her room to pray.

The next morning, for the first time in her life, Ann could read. But the only book she could ever understand was the Bible!

The cottage at 32 John was Ann's prayer shed. It was originally located on Yonge Street, near the Reid house on Elgin Street and it was given to Ann when the first generation of Reids died. The shed was converted to a cottage and it was moved to John Street in the 1900's.

Believed built in 1848, the cottage is set well back from the street. It has been stuccoed and set-high on a new foundation.

A book called "An Irish Saint" has been written about Ann Preston by Helen Bingham and it is available in the Thornhill Village Library, a block from Ann's prayer shed.



Junior members of the school act as critics for the all-star jug band's performance

HELPMATE INFORMATION COMMUNITY CALENDAR

883-2234

December

883-2234

Sunday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		14 St. Paul's Lutheran Church Women Christmas program. 8 p.m. Adult Education seminar "Forgiveness, the healing of fractured Man". St. Gabriel's 8 p.m. Parent Concern Group. 8-10 p.m. Call Joyce. 884-3503. "Young Life" youth group. 377 Sugar Maple Lane. All welcome.	15 St. Paul's United, Oak Ridges, euchre. 1.30-4 p.m. Rotary Club Travel & adventure series. "Motoring Through Germany". Bayview Secondary School. 8 p.m. Elmwood Manor bazaar. 1-4 p.m. Blood donor clinic. Hillcrest Mall. 2-8 p.m. Thornhill Community Centre branch library films. 7 p.m.	16 Boys, aged 9-12, youth group. St. Paul's United, Oak Ridges. Craft classes, boys and girls, age seven and up. Pre-registration. Charles Connor Library, Oak Ridges.	17 Christmas Cracker Dance. Bond Lake Arena. 8 p.m. Christmas program. Hillcrest Mall. 6.30 p.m. Breakfast with Santa. Hillcrest Mall. 8-10 a.m. Crafts for 6-12 year olds. Thornhill Comm. Ctre. Library.
18 Candlelight Service. Headford United. All welcome.	19 Wall Hangings by Diana and paintings by Craig. Thornhill Comm. Library. All month. Richmond Hill Library exhibits in oil paintings and china paintings. All month.	20 Figure skating club bazaar. Bond Lake Arena, Oak Ridges. 4.30 p.m. Mothers Break. St. Paul's United, Oak Ridges. 9.30-11 a.m.	21 Bayview Secondary School Concert Band "Sounds of Christmas". St. Mary Immaculate Church. 8 p.m. Thornhill Amateur Radio Club. Thornlea Secondary School. Room 248. 881-2891. Young Life youth group. Consumers' Gas, Elgin Mills Road. All welcome.	22 York Central Association for the Mentally Retarded. Christmas Dance. St. Mary Immaculate Church.	23 24 Breakfast with Santa. Hillcrest Mall. 8-10 a.m.
25 MERRY CHRISTMAS from Helpmate Information and The Liberal staff.	26	27 Legal Aid Clinic 7-10 p.m. By appointment. 884-9148.	28 Film program for all ages. Charles Connor Library, Oak Ridges. 2 p.m.	29 Children's Program "Songs and Silliness". Thornhill Community Centre Library. 2-3 p.m. Children's holiday film program. Richvale Library. Pre-registration. 10.30 a.m.	30 Turtle Races for children. Call Thornhill Comm. Library for details. 226-2862. New Year's Eve dance. St. Mary Immaculate Church. 8.30 p.m. 884-9849 or 883-1863. Richvale Lions New Years Eve party. Richvale Community Centre. 884-5097 or 889-3790. Richmond Hill Lions New Years Eve dance. Lions Hall. 8 p.m.-1 a.m.

Free tickets for film morning

Kids can pick up their tickets now for a free film morning at the Richvale Library on Friday, December 30. The treat kicks off at 10:30 a.m. and runs until noon. The films include the "Amazing Cosmic Awareness of Duffy Moon", "Sea Children", "Captain Mom" and "Ski Whiz". Tickets are available now at the library, 54 Pearson Avenue, Richvale.