



Santa Stayed Over In Stouffville

Santa is now long gone back to the North Pole but a near life-size image of the Christmas Eve visitor is still very much in evidence on Rupert Avenue in Stouffville. The illuminated image of St. Nick is located on the lawn at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Kamps and family and has been admired by many during the past weeks.

—Staff Photo.

Poinsettias Prosper If Given Proper Care

The Christmas season is here and so is the seasonal gift plant, the poinsettia. Although its flowers are rather inconspicuous, a colourful show is provided by the large scarlet or cream, leaf-like bracts. Horticulturists with the Ontario Department of Agriculture tell us that the "flowering" period of these plants can be extended through the entire festive season when given proper care.

The plants should be kept at a constant temperature of 65° F and at no time subjected to draughts, since this in addition to continual changes in temperature, may cause the lower leaves to turn yellow and drop off. Place them in bright sunlight when possible, but avoid window ledges or locations near a hot air register.

Watering is a critical factor. Yellowing and loss of

lower leaves can be caused by either over- or under-watering. In December when days are dark and cloudy, over-watering is a common occurrence. Refrain from adding water to these plants until the soil on the top of the pot is just dry to the touch. If you have placed the plant pot in a decorative container that has no drainage, remove it to the kitchen to water it, and allow it to drain well before it is re-

turned. Poinsettias will respond to feeding with a complete fertilizer about every two weeks. Nitrogen deficiency causes stunting along with the development of a light green colour in the plant.

It's your tough break when a friend bores you with his.

Always put off until tomorrow those things you should never do at all.

Wine & White

John Meydam Is "Drummer Boy" In High School Orchestra

STOUFFVILLE — Most youngsters who are considering a musical career, usually begin practice at a young and tender age, gradually progressing so that by the time they reach their teens, the music sounds exceptionally good. Most youngsters usually start on the piano or the violin. Most youngsters are usually urged on by their parents.

Not John Meydam. The 14 year old Manitoba Street youth was not urged by his parents, nor did he begin practising before he could walk, and finally, his selection of instruments differed slightly from the ordinary group.

Two years ago, John heard the 'Beatie Beat' and wanted to play it. In the last two years, he has accomplished as much, if not more, than most youngsters could do in ten. His selection of instruments, the drums, came after he had listened to this new 'beat' for several weeks. It was a case of 'anything Ringo can do, I can do'.

John started on a practise pad for two reasons. First, the pad requires more wrist motion than the actual drum, and secondly, if he discovered he didn't like his choice, the cost would be nil. The latter, he found out, was a precaution against something that never happened. John loved the drums, he loved learning, and now, he loves playing. He is a member of a band, known as Dr. Jekyll and the Hydes, and plays regularly at assorted dances and parties.

Snare Drum First Since first taking an interest in the percussion instrument, John has built his set from scratch: His first drum was a snare, and from that, he has added a 10 inch symbol, a base drum, and has a tom-tom on order.

John, who was born in England, came to Canada in 1957 and after two months in Toronto, moved to Stouffville. He is presently in grade 10 at Stouffville District High School, and plays in the high school orchestra. He is also the only member of the five piece band from Stouffville. The remaining boys reside in Uxbridge. Most of their jobs are in Uxbridge. John's group is only one of an almost unbelievable 5,000 that are organized today in Southern Ontario.

Reads Music John can read drum music, an art in itself. He takes lessons from Wally Lee in Ringwood. Prior to taking up the drums, John had little interest in music. His tastes are wide and varied, but of all types of sounds, he likes jazz the best, although, he admits, it's the hardest to play. His favourite drummer is Cosy Cole, and he said that he saw the Gene Krupa Story five times.

The biggest problem, according to John, is the cost. A drummer can pay up to \$200 for a snare alone, not to mention the rest of the equipment. John's 10 inch symbol bore a price tag of \$53. Besides the drums he has five sets of sticks and a set of brushes. John prefers a thicker stick, around an 8A brand. Much to the dismay of parents, John predicts that today's music will be around for some time to come. He says that the groups are going strong and getting better.

The long hair-dos and the wild clothes, although they don't affect the music, are all part of the act. John himself, however, does not go in for the added attractions. He is a blond, clean-cut, well-mannered youth who wants to play the drums, without the 'side-show' benefits.

School First It's too soon to know what the future has in store for John Meydam, but it's certain that he'll have an education before he ventures into it. "I want to get my grade 13 before I think about anything else," John stated. He's not sure what he will go through for following high school graduation, but he is considering the musical field. For youngsters interested in beginning a musical career, John has a few words of advice. "Try it and see. You could be talented and never know it."

To that, John warned, "it's not the drums that make the drummer, it's the drummer that makes the drums." If you're young, old or in between, and you like today's music played by today's youth, you can hear John and his group tonight, (December 30) at the Roxy Theatre in Uxbridge. You may be watching a star of tomorrow.



John Meydam, Manitoba St., is an accomplished drummer in Stouffville High School orchestra. —Staff Photo.

JANE TERWOERDS PRESIDENT OF H.S. SKI CLUB

Undaunted by the lack of snow, the members of the ski club held their first meeting of the year on Tuesday, Dec. 14. The budget was read and elections for the positions of President and Secretary held. Jane Terwoerds was re-elected as President and Jan Smith was elected Secretary.

The guest speaker, Mr. Palmer, instructor at Hidden Valley Ski Club, spoke and showed films for the balance of the meeting. His talk and films on Ski Skills was greatly appreciated by all members.

The Club members unanimously agreed to a ski trip proposed by the Newmarket Ski Club for Dec. 29. Other trips are specifically a week-end trip are planned for later in the season.

Staff Teacher Mrs. E. Bevan Born In Denmark

Mrs. Bevan was born in Nalus, Denmark, and has lived here most of her life. She graduated from High School in 1949 and spent the following three years at Business College in Copenhagen, Denmark. While in Europe, she travelled exclusively as a Stewardess for British European Airways.

Mrs. Bevan has been in Canada for eight years, and during this period has been engaged in Merchandising, Display Work, Restaurant Services and Cosmetics. Also she has attended the Ontario College of Education in Toronto.

This year Mrs. Bevan serves on the Art Committee at the High School helping to organize the art exhibits shown for the students. She enjoys all creative arts, and has taken a particular interest in the local Drama Group.

As Instructress in the Girls' Occupations Room, this year Mrs. Bevan gave a brief summary of the purpose of this course. She said "There is a need for any kind of effort in this world. The important fact is to discover where our natural abilities and inclinations may be used to everybody's advantage. Thus, whether we become lawyers or doctors, shop assistants or waitresses is not really the most important point. What is important for every person's fulfillment and happiness is to feel a sense of achievement in life."

This state of mind can only be reached when we apply ourselves conscientiously to whatever we may be doing and thus earn the dignity and respect any job well done deserves.

When asked if she had any comment to make about Stouffville, she replied, "after seeing so many places, I find Stouffville a delightful spot. I feel a real sense of belonging in this community."

We wish to thank Mrs. Bevan for contributing so much to the school's spirit and hope she will be with us for many years to come.

Struggling artists are really up against it these days. Before they've had a chance to find a garret to starve in, some foundation or government agency may be at hand with a handout.

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A Witness To A Rescue

(Lyn Gross—SE)

The blue sky and warm sun made us feel as though we were floating on a cloud rather than riding in a shiny new convertible. The highway wound around the sandy shores of Lake Superior. We were on our holidays. What a glorious feeling.

We had started out from home only five days before and already we had seen one train-wreck. We wondered what would come next.

As we rounded a long sloping curve, we spotted a former Reeve

the road. It had jack-knifed after a large beam had dropped down on the cab from a passing lumber truck. The entire road area was covered with ice-cream and assorted vegetables.

Quickly, my Dad ran over to the wrecked vehicle. Just as the driver was pulled free through a rear window, the whole transport burst into flames. He suffered only minor burns and bruises. An ambulance soon arrived, we left. What we had seen in a single day, we would not forget for many

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Karen Geer Pres. Uxbridge Jr. Farmers

UXBRIDGE — The Uxbridge Junior Farmers held their annual meeting and election of 1965 officers in Uxbridge on Tuesday evening, December 14th.

The incoming executive is as follows:—

President, Karen Geer, Pt. Perry, RR 1; Vice-Pres., Alan Bailey, Uxbridge, RR 4; Secretary, Paul Shier, Sunderland, RR 1; Treasurer, Betty Munro, Port Perry, RR 1; County Directors — Karen Geer, Port Perry, RR 1; Donna Morrison, Uxbridge; Press Reporter, Barbara Bapshaw, Sinder

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