

Editor addresses group at library

By Annet Lamare
STOUFFVILLE — They arrive one a day, just like multiple vitamins," quipped Rick Archbold, a book editor for Doubleday Canada when he was asked how many manuscripts his company received.

He was speaking at the Stouffville Public Library on the ins and outs of Canadian publishing industry, and the role a book editor plays in it.

"I was a book salesman for two years," said Rick Archbold, "and the first thing I ask myself is, 'Could Charlie in Halifax sell it?'"

Ninety-nine books out of a hundred don't have a chance, according to Mr. Archbold.

"My theory is that a book is often sent to us because the author is afraid to show it to his friends. He's written this great big epic and gotten a lot of things off his chest and then asks himself 'Now, what am I going to do with it?' Often, he sends it to us."

Mr. Archbold raised his hands imploringly, "People should think about the psychology of the person looking at the manuscript," he urged,

"The one thing that turns me off right away is when it's obvious no care has been taken. The manuscript is messy, there's no introductory letter, no chapter outline to whet the interest."

He shook his head and dropped his hands, "and of course we won't even look at a handwritten book."

Mr. Archbold explained that if the author couldn't be bothered to have it typed, he couldn't be bothered to read it.

Usually an editor only has to glance at the first page to know if the book is readable. "If it's readable, I'll sample it,

and give it more attention later," commented Mr. Archbold, "but a lot get sent back right away. We can't afford to waste time reading something that's not going to get published."

If a book is liked, it will get two, three, or even four readings before the editors sit in a group and decide if it's worth publishing.

"Will it sell?" is always the main criteria but Mr. Archbold says that sometimes they find something that deserves to be published despite a very limited market.

"After all, publishing ultimately is all about literature," said Mr. Archbold.

He says Canadian authors are fortunate that his company is affiliated with Doubleday, N.Y. "Good books that have only a tiny market in Canada, and were published strictly because of merit, if even listed in their (Doubleday, N.Y.) catalogue, help us to break even," he stated.

Mr. Archbold is very worried about the future of hardcover books in Canada. "The whole system is geared for hardcover people to take losses and the soft cover, paper back publishers to take the winners," he said.

Apparently, only three Canadians out of a hundred ever enter a book store. "...so you can imagine how many actually buy," shrugged Mr. Archbold. "And we won't have any good books, if people don't buy hardcover," he added.



Doubleday Canada book editor Rick Archbold (at right) here chats with a man who wanted to know how to get a book of poetry published. Mr. Archbold spoke last week at



Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Library. The poet was told there is a "tiny, tiny market" for books of poetry.

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Friends pay respects

Clarke Bunker dies at 76

STOUFFVILLE — A host of friends from Stouffville, Markham and surrounding districts gathered at O'Neill Funeral Home last week to pay final respects to Clarke Bunker, who passed suddenly in York County Hospital.

Mr. Bunker, a lifelong resident of 10th Concession, Markham, (Mongolia area) died Sept. 29 following a stroke. He was in his 77th year.

Clarke Bunker was born in Pickering Township, son of the late

Frederick and Elizabeth Bunker. He attended Mount Pleasant School. He was known as a lover of home and family but was very appreciative of his friends and neighbours. He never failed to lend a helping hand.

Prior to his move to Stouffville two years ago he resided near Mongolia for 50 years.

For the last 20 years of his working life he was a crusher operator with Stouffville Sand and Gravel and he had the distinction of being the first grader operator in Markham Township, for a period of 12 years.

As well as his wife, the former Gladys Madill, he is survived by two daughters: Dorothy (Mrs. George Wilson) R. R. No. 1 Woodville, and Shirley (Mrs. Ross Anderson) of Agincourt; five grandchildren, Jerry and Valerie Wilson, Dawn, Sandra and Tammy Anderson.

Rev. Don Pugh conducted the funeral service on Friday with interment at Stouffville Cemetery. Pallbearers were Clarence Bunker, Harvey Bunker, Mervyn Bunker, Don Bunker, Harold Bunker and John Moore.

St. John's road subdivision plan not encouraged

STOUFFVILLE — Planning board was discouraging to an applicant last week who proposed a development on the north side of St. John's sideroad, Concession 6.

The subdivision plans by Yorkwich Investments, call for 15 lots and a co-operative association for caring for certain common areas.

Ward 1 Councillor Art Starr commented that after the applicant has sat in on some of the public meetings for the official plan draft and hears some of the comments on density for that area, he might not want to continue. "We shouldn't suggest anything to the applicant that he has much hope at this point," he said.

Said Mayor Gordon Ratcliff, "We've made the decision that the population in that area is to be restricted."

Parking lot is for sale

STOUFFVILLE — A letter received by council asked if the town is interested in purchasing property on the south side of Commercial Street for \$13,000 to be used for parking.

The owner, Mrs. Bobbie Vanstone, wrote council that the 66 by 43 foot lot now has a six-car parking garage on it.

The issue was referred to the public works committee for discussion.

Guide to law Seneca College, King Campus, is offering a follow-up to the Wills Workshop held in the spring. The new seminar series is entitled "The Law - A Practical Guide."

Seminars will be held in Thornhill, Richmond Hill, Aurora and Newmarket. Topics include an examination of the criminal law process including pre-arrest procedures, trial, legal sanctions and civil liberties; family court including separation and divorce proceedings; small claims court and consumer protection law; buying and selling a home; and income tax law.

Planning board rejects severance of 25 acre land parcel on Con. 5

STOUFFVILLE — An application to sever into two parts a 25-acre parcel on the north side of Hwy. 47, Concession 5, was not approved last week by planning board.

The applicant, Peter Cullen, told the board that the new lot created would be used for a single family dwelling for a member of the family. The land, he said, is not used for agriculture and that there are no water, sewage, or access problems.

commented that "it is not clear as to how it complies" with existing policy.

Planning board chairman Eldred King pointed out that the proposed official plan

draft would not permit severances on 25-acre lots. "We would rather develop in the municipality take place by plans of subdivision rather than by strip development," he said.

Request opposed
Scrap operation
STOUFFVILLE — Planning board expressed themselves adverse to allowing an industrial scrap metal salvage operation to take place on property on

Concession 6, south side of St. John's sideroad, last week.

Brian Gilder, new owner of the land, told planning board his real estate agent had told him that the salvage operation which has existed there would be allowed to continue under the new ownership.

However, Councillor Cathy Joyce said that council's reason for allowing the application to locate a pre-cast concrete plant on the property was that the junk yard would be cleaned up in the process.

It had been agreed that removal of the junk yard would be a condition of allowing the plant to operate, Mr. Gilder was told.

The real estate agent had appeared before council in June concerning the property.

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