

Andre van Vugt — Head librarian Praises town facility



Andre van Vugt, head librarian, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville.

By ED SCHROETER
STOUFFVILLE — If you believe all librarians are cranky old ladies who wear horn-rimmed glasses with their hair rolled up in a bun, you've probably been watching too much television.

What you need do is settle down and read a good book.

Whether you choose Plato's "The Republic" or Verne's "Journey to the Centre of the Earth," Andre van Vugt can find you the book you want.

He's the new head librarian, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville.

Mr. van Vugt and wife, Pamela, have lived at Baldwin for the past two years. Their "family," includes three cats and a dog.

They're currently looking for a small house in this area, with a little land to accommodate one of Mr. van Vugt's favorite hobbies — gardening.

Like his other passion, reading, Mr. van Vugt makes gardening a year-round activity. He hopes to install a small greenhouse on his property.

For the last two years Mr. van Vugt was head librarian in

Georgina. Prior to that, he served as a branch librarian in the Scarborough system seven years, and at other similar positions across the province.

The good-natured gentleman with a tell-tale Dutch accent, was educated in the city, earning an honors degree in Library Science from the University of Toronto.

As for why he chose to come to the Whitchurch-Stouffville, Mr. van Vugt calls it "an ideal area, combining the qualities of a small town with close proximity to the city".

He describes the town's facility as "the envy of all librarians." According to Mr. van Vugt, not only is it a beautiful building, but also very functional. "The community has just cause to be proud".

Mr. van Vugt feels his task now is to become acquainted with the people. "The library should reflect the Town's interests," he noted.

He also intends to continue promoting its services. The library performs a two-fold function. It supplies not only the means for continuing education, but acts as a cultural focal point for the municipality.

Bad driving stuns officer

STOUFFVILLE — A York Regional police officer told a senior citizens group here that, on occasions, he's "stunned" by the incidents of bad driving he sees on the roads.

Constable Fred Tufnell spoke at a meeting of the Silver Jubilee Club in Stouffville, Jan. 19. The subject of his talk was "Defensive Driving".

"Everybody's in a hurry these days," P.C. Tufnell told his audience, "and invariably headed down to Loblaws to take advantage of the Thursday specials". "They're really in a hurry to go nowhere".

The officer warned, however, that driving too slowly can be just as hazardous as travelling too fast. "Go with the flow of traffic," he suggested.

Constable Tufnell said it might do some motorists good if they could see a few of the accidents he's investigated.

The speaker admitted it's discouraging to learn that even though a driver's licence is suspended by the Province, that person will

continue to operate an automobile, knowing full well he's breaking the law.

"Maybe we'll have to start taking their cars away too," he said.

The officer noted that on occasions, a Judge will make it mandatory for a convicted motorist to enrol in a driver training course. "Sometimes it doesn't," he said.

Constable Tufnell said that, according to statistics, persons most likely to become involved in motor vehicle collisions are between the ages of 18 and 25. "Often," he pointed out, "it's the innocent party that's killed or injured".

The speaker urged his audience to "think ahead"; to spot accident possibilities before they occur. "See a potential problem before it becomes a problem," he stated.

One lady in the audience recommended that parents accompany their children before allowing them to drive off on their own.

The officer agreed but added, "the family unit isn't as cohesive as it once was".

Around Town

Thrills audience

Holiday down South
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Meharg, Main Street West, recently returned from a mid-winter holiday at Ft. Myers, Florida.

Home from England
George Flowers, Albert Street North, recently returned from a holiday trip to Birmingham, England, where he visited his sister, Mrs. Nancy Cooke. Plane travel doesn't bother him, in fact, he says he loves it. Mr. Flowers was away almost three weeks.

Skating accident

Marj Duxbury, Park Drive North, has had her left arm in a cast following a cross-country skiing accident. She suffered a fall while travelling downhill, chipping the bone in her elbow. She hopes to have the cast removed this week.

Registrations

Parents wanting to register their children for September Kindergarten classes at Summitview School are asked to meet with the secretary, Monday, Feb. 12 between 1 and 4 and 7 and 8:30 p.m. To be eligible, a boy or girl must have reached his 5th birthday by Dec. 31, 1979.

In hospital

Mrs. George Johnson, Harold Street, Stouffville, is a patient in Scarborough Centenary Hospital.

Honor bride-to-be

Several from Stouffville attended a trousseau tea, Saturday at Zephyr in honor of Christine Bone, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Bone, formerly of Church Street, Stouffville. Christine will be married Feb. 10 in Zephyr United Church.

Evening of music

A special evening of music, featuring the Central Baptist Seminary Choral, will be held on Friday, Feb. 16 at 8 p.m., in the Emmanuel International Christian Centre, Stouffville-Gormley Road, near the 6th concession.

Minister leaving

Rev. J. Allan Shantz, minister at the Markham Missionary Church, is leaving there this summer to take a new charge in the Kitchener area.

Silver Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Bell, formerly of Stouffville and now living at Ayr, Ont., celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary, Jan. 27. To mark the occasion a gathering of family friends and relatives was held at Keswick. Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Fockler of Ringwood were among the folks from this area who attended.

From New Liskeard

Roger and Judy Denomme, Main Street East, Stouffville, were pleased to have Judy's twin sister and her husband spend a week with them here. Joan and Curtis Loach reside at New Liskeard. They were accompanied by Mark and Paul Belanger also of New Liskeard.

Winter Carnival

Weather permitting, the staff and students of Orchard Park School will enjoy their annual Winter Carnival, Friday, March 2.

To Disney World
George and Joy Ross and boys are holidaying this week in Florida with Disney World an important stop-off point while in the sunny south.

Florida holiday
Ernie and Lil Abraham, Ninth Line North, are on vacation in Florida.

Director at "Royal"
Mayor Eldred King of Whitchurch-Stouffville has been appointed a director on the board of the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair. He will represent the Region of York.

Parents' meeting
The parents of Grade 8 students have been invited to attend a meeting at Stouffville Dist. Secondary School, Monday, Feb. 12 at 7:30 p.m. Purpose of the gathering is to provide information on the Grade 9 program for September of this year.

Friday night films
The public library is planning a series of family films every Friday evening beginning Feb. 16 and extending through March 9 at 7:30 p.m. Parents and children are invited. Admission is free. The first film is Feb. 16 entitled "Sons of The Desert" with Laurel and Hardy.

Altona W.I.
The Altona Women's Institute will meet on Thurs., Feb. 15 at the home of Mrs. Harvey Feasby, 59 Blake Street, Stouffville. Members are asked to please note the change of date.

Gong Show auditions

Auditions are now being held for participants in the Kinsmen-sponsored Gong Show at Stouffville Dist. Secondary School, Sat., Feb. 24. Amateur talent is invited to Latcham Hall, Monday, Feb. 12 at 7:30 p.m. For more information call 640-1076 (after 6 p.m.).

Lions Car Draw

The Stouffville Lions Car Draw (and other prizes) is fast approaching. The date is Sat., Feb. 24 at Rolling Hills Golf and Country Club. Tickets (maximum of 600) are available at Aiken's Pharmacy, Card's Hardware and Morgan Jewellers.

Late C.G. McKenzie

Service was held from the O'Neill Funeral Home, Tuesday afternoon for Clark G. McKenzie, Harold Street, Stouffville, following his passing, Feb. 3 in Scarborough Centenary Hospital. Besides his wife, the former Clara Dougherty, he is survived by one brother, Tom of Belleville, Michigan. A full obituary will follow in next week's paper.

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