

**Ralph Corner**

**A proud record**

By JIM THOMAS  
STOUFFVILLE — Twenty-three years ago, Stouffville was still a village; the only paved road was Main Street; a chief and one constable comprised the police department; the municipal office was in the back of the firehall and the staff included a clerk and one assistant. That clerk, back in 1957, was Ralph Corner, now the administrator for the expanded Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville and soon to retire. The end of the year will mark the end of an era, not only for Ralph himself, but for those who hold him in high regard; certainly all members of his staff. Ralph Corner has been a leader here, not often in public, more often behind the scenes, but a leader just the same. In more than two decades, mayors, Reeves and councillors have come and gone, but the clerk-administrator has remained to carry on. Until now, Dec. 31 is his last day on the job. "I've enjoyed it. There's a lot of satisfaction in seeing things happen," he says. And a lot has happened as he only knows. He can list the accomplishments, even to dates. Politically, Ralph's direct involvement was related to the Twp. of Georgina where he served as councillor, then reeve, then Warden of York County. It was

the late Elmer Daniels, then reeve of Stouffville, who, during a conversation, mentioned the fact Council could soon be seeking someone to fill the Clerk's position here. Ralph applied and was accepted. In addition to Reeve Daniels, other members were - Mill Burk, deputy-reeve; Gar Lehman, Ken Laushway and Elgin Wagg. Until they moved into their present quarters, Ralph and deputy-clerk Charles Jackson did it all. "A good man," is the way he remembers his assistant, now on the executive staff of Stouffville Machine and Tool. The big change came with the introduction of regional government. The workload increased immensely, involving all levels of authority.



Ralph Corner, Town Clerk and Administrator for the past 23 years, will retire Dec. 31.

While never one too involved in politics, Ralph retains great respect for those who take on such chores. "Ninety per cent are sincere and want to do a good job," he feels. "Stouffville's been extremely fortunate." Ralph has always believed in operating by the book. "If you don't bend the law, you'll never get in trouble," he claims. He's a strong supporter of all members on staff and points to few changes in personnel in recent years. This tends to make for a cohesive office unit, he says. Just over two years ago, he and his wife moved 'back home' to Beaverton, not many miles from where he lived while on council in Georgina. He's proud of his family that includes four sons, Glenn at Brampton; John in London; Bill in Stouffville; Allan at Whitby and one daughter, Carol (Mrs. Michael Burd) in Markham. He has nine grandchildren. Ralph admits he's really looking forward to retirement, a chance to do what he wants to do, when he wants to do it. He hopes to spend at least part of the winter in Florida and get in a few rounds of golf. If Whitchurch-Stouffville's been good to him, he's reciprocated ten folds — a dedication that can be measured in hours, not dollars and cents. Ralph Corner leaves big shoes to fill.

**Pretty bride**

By ELSIE BOLAND  
GOODWOOD — A very pretty wedding took place in the Goodwood Hall Friday evening when Holly Faith Feden was married to Charles Richardson. The auditorium was beautifully decorated in keeping with the Christmas season and guests sat down to a bountiful beef dinner. Later, dancing was enjoyed. The happy couple will reside in Stouffville.

Members of the local C.B. Club enjoyed a dinner and dance in the Goodwood Hall, Saturday night. The Couples Club is holding a Christmas dinner and dance, Dec. 15 in the Goodwood Hall. Tickets are now available. Kathleen May spent a couple of days with Mr.

and Mrs. Frank Barnes and baby Jennifer. Mothers and daughters are invited to the Girls Club banquet, Dec. 17 at 6 p.m., in the Baptist Church. The Baptist Church Christmas Concert is Sunday, Dec. 16 at 7 p.m. A Goose Shoot will be held at the Boland farm this Saturday beginning at 12 noon.

**Lisa McTaggart**

**County honors**

By MILDRED McTAGGART  
GREENWOOD — On Nov. 29, members of the Greenwood 4-H Homemaking Club attended the South Ontario County Achievement Day at Ajax. Eight girls completed the unit entitled "Needlepoint For All Ages. They are - Patricia Conduit, Becca Finlay, Jennie McCullough, Lisa McTaggart, Dale Pascoe, Susan Pegg, Kirstin Snowden and Debbie Waltham. Lisa McTaggart was presented

with her County Honors Diploma. Mr. and Mrs. John Kinsley of Chicago; Mr. and Mrs. H. McPhail of Toronto; Mr. and Mrs. Brian Beckett and Mr. and Mrs. Hal Pegg and family were guests, Saturday, of Mr. and Mrs. Edgie Pegg. Mr. and Mrs. Tom Forsyth and Mr. and Mrs. Wm. McCowan, called on the Brown family, Salem Road, Friday evening. Guests Saturday with Mr. and Mrs. Don Beach were - Mr. and Mrs. Lyman McInnis and

children of Toronto. Mr. and Mrs. Don Goodwin entertained 20 family members to pre-Christmas dinner, Sunday. Christmas cantata The choir of Springvale Baptist Church will present a Christmas cantata, this Sunday at 7 p.m.

**Tom Hays**  
**Tribute to cattleman**

Thomas E. Hays of Oakville, was recognized at a testimonial dinner, Nov. 13, at the Bristol Place Hotel. The event was in tribute to his lifetime of successful promotion and development of export markets for Canadian Holsteins and other livestock. Prominent people from all over the world attended. Those who paid

personal tributes to Mr Hays were - Senator Harry Hays, Calgary, Alberta; Stephen Roman of Romandale Farms Ltd., R. R. 1, Unionville; Harris Wilcox of Bergen, New York and Ernie Kahn, a member of the Canadian Livestock Exporters Association. George Clemons, former secretary-manager of the Holstein-Friesian Association of Canada, was the

chairman. Tom Hays was instrumental in opening and expanding markets that include Britain, Italy, Spain, Japan and South America. He was the driving force behind the show herds that maintained a command position at all major U.S. Championship competitions. The successful "Sale of Stars," that began in November 1953,

offered the best of the breed for auction. Hays Farms International Limited has, through the years, managed a number of top quality sales that have established world record prices. The most recent was last August at Romandale Farms, when a new world record figure for one animal was set at \$400,000.

**Keith Acton**  
**Hockey 'big time'**

STOUFFVILLE — Stouffville's Keith Acton will long remember Tues., Dec. 11. That was the night he made his debut in the National Hockey League as a full-fledged member of the Montreal Canadiens. While attending the Montreal training camp or participating in the pre-game warm-up would be thrill enough for most, Keith was slated for action in the game against New York Islanders in New York. Unfortunately, the Canadians lost 4-1. Betty Acton, Keith's mother, said she first learned of her son's promotion to "the big team" when he called her long distance. Sunday night. He had recently been sidelined with a painful ankle injury and

she feared he was telephoning to say it was worse. The news was quite the opposite. Betty said he was putting his whole heart into hockey and had trained vigorously during the summer to keep in shape. This enthusiasm obviously paid off for in 29 games this season with the Nova Scotia Voyageurs he had scored 16 goals and picked up 22 assists. Gerry and Betty travelled to Rochester twice to see him play. And they undoubtedly would have gone to New York on Tuesday if a "quick trip" could have been arranged. "It's bad enough not being able to watch the game," said Betty, "but we couldn't hear it either."

**Aid for farmers**

The pace of change is accelerating and with it the need to plan for the future. That's exactly what farmers at the Ontario Federation of Agriculture's Annual Convention were doing November 27 to 29, at the Downtown Holiday Inn, Toronto. Over 400 delegates, representing 23,000 of Ontario's farmers, debated their way to policy decisions on key

agricultural concerns of the coming decade. A new OFA President was acclaimed during the Convention - Ralph Barrie, dairy and beef farmer from Perth, Ontario. Mr. Barrie replaced three-year President Peter Hannam. The new President was given a mandate to press both Federal and Provincial governments for action on issues which

affect the agricultural community. Four areas of concern were emphasized: (1) agriculture should be given top priority in energy allocation; and in the development of alternate energy forms; (2) the effect of current high interest rates on farmers should be cushioned; (3) agricultural zoning should be set up to protect farmers and prevent restrictions of normal farming practices; and (4) farmers should become more aware of political decision-making and work to influence those decisions to their benefit.

New OFA Executive elected at the Convention are: Ron White, First Vice-President; Frank Wall, Second Vice-President; Harry Pattinson and Mary Wicks.

**TOWN OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE**  
**NOTICE**  
Meetings Cancelled... The next regular meeting of Council scheduled for Tuesday, December 25th, 1979 has been cancelled - and - the regular meeting of Planning Board Scheduled for Tuesday, January 1st, 1980 has been cancelled.  
**Municipal Offices Closed**  
The Municipal Offices will be closed during the holiday season December 24th to 26th and December 31st and January 1st.  
**January 1980 - Regular Meetings**  
For the month of January 1980 the regular meetings of Council will be held as follows:  
Planning Board - January 8th and 22nd.  
Council - January 15th and 29th.

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**Overindulgence.**  
  
Christmas light displays don't have to be extravagant to be effective. Homes, offices and factories with too many lights can turn a display of goodwill into something else... So keep it simple and, of course, wait until after 7 o'clock to switch the lights on.  
A conservation message from Markham Hydro.  
**Town of Markham**  
**Hydro Electric Commission**  
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TELEPHONE 294 3810

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