

Pat Muir

a promotion

# New Clerk in new year



By JIM THOMAS  
STOUFFVILLE — One of the many pleasures experienced by the editor of Stouffville's weekly newspaper, is visiting the Municipal Office on Civic Street. The staff there are most cordial and extremely cooperative. Symbolic of this attitude is Pat Muir who, on Jan. 1, takes over the important position of Town Clerk.

This lovely lady with the soft voice and pleasant smile is one of the benefits derived through the formation of regional government. Pat was a receptionist-typist on the 'old' Whitchurch Township staff at Vandorf. When the two municipalities became one, she and several others, were incorporated into the new system with 'capital' headquarters at Stouffville.

Although born in Toronto and now living at Aurora, Pat and Norm Muir resided for a time in Goodwood and later on Faulkner Avenue in Whitchurch. Son Stuart is a very 'special' person to them both, she admits. In His picture, at various

age levels, is prominently displayed on her desk. He's a student at Aurora Sr. Public School and a member of the Town's Sea Cadets. A step-daughter, and her husband live in Toronto and they recently added a bouncing baby boy to the family circle.

"I sort of fell into it," is the way Pat describes her introduction to municipal life. Never one to "sit at home", she answered an advertisement for a clerical job in Whitchurch and was hired.

"I never thought I'd ever be the Clerk," she admits, "but I've never enjoyed anything more". Any success she's enjoyed, she credits to Ralph Corner, the Town's Administrator, soon to retire. "He's represented a sort of father image around here, a wonderful teacher," she said.

Pat vividly recalls the rather hectic time in which a village and a township were welded together into a Town. It was Mr. Corner, she remembers, who carried much of the load. In addition to reassuring the

Whitchurch staff that all would be well, he had to arrange accommodation for everyone in Stouffville, "otherwise, we would have been sitting on each other's laps".

But that's all history now. New challenges lie ahead and Pat's anxious to get on with the job.

"I've never enjoyed anything like this," she says, reaching for the phone to handle an incoming call, "it never gets boring, every day is different".

Although experience is important, the learning process was advanced

considerably when she enrolled in a clerk-treasurer's course at Seneca College.

It wasn't easy, on her or on her family, she says now. Her husband and son showed great patience and understanding.

Pat doesn't claim to know all the answers when it comes to municipal law, nor does she pretend to. "I'd never mislead the Council," she said. On occasions she must do research on issues to which she's not familiar. She says she can always count on members of staff for assistance,

calling them "tremendous". "We get along great," she said.

When time permits, Pat says she tries to get in a few hours of knitting or crocheting. A family trip to Florida every winter is also a well-deserved break.

To Pat Muir, new Town clerk, our congratulations. Council has made an excellent choice.

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### Editor's Mail

## Per meeting pay sounds sensible

Dear Editor: Trustee Harry Bowes' suggestion re 'docking' Board of Education members for meetings missed, may have been made in jest. I'm not sure, but I feel it has merit.

should be done in another way. Instead of decreasing stipends due to absenteeism, the trustees should be paid on a basis of meetings attended. In this way, they'd be more inclined to be present.

\$7,200 a year should make his or her attendance at meetings a priority. Most, I believe do, but some, I understand, do not. The latter should indeed be penalized.

LESLIE GREEN,  
RR 2,  
Stouffville.

## Joy at Christmas

Dear Mr. Thomas: I've just been admiring the Page 1 color picture in the Dec. 13 Tribune and had to scribble off a note of congratulations. It's beautiful, catching the joy of the Christmas

season as no other photo I've seen. While in the act of writing (I may never get around to it again), I want to say how much our family enjoys your newspaper. It's so personal, we feel like

we're part of it. Here's wishing you and your staff a wonderful Christmas and a joyous New Year.

THELMA NEALE,  
Manitoba Street,  
Stouffville.

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