



Mr. and Mrs. John Keeler, formerly of Conc. 7, Pickering and now living on Park Drive in Stouffville, celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary, Sunday afternoon. In attendance to

present them with an engraved plaque was Town Mayor Eldred King. Mr. and Mrs. Keeler have three daughters and seven grandchildren. —Jim Thomas.

Hearts still in tune on 50th anniversary

By JIM THOMAS
STOUFFVILLE — When young John Keeler joined the choir at St. Timothy's Anglican Church, Agincourt, his eyes were on more than the music. For, seated nearby was pretty Ethel Beckett. Soon, it seems, their hearts were in tune, a harmonious encounter that's lasted 50 years. They were married March 16, 1932, in that

same church with Rev. G.S. Scovell conducting the ceremony.

On Sunday, they celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary.

Mr. Keeler was born at Malvern, the son of Walter and Harriett Keeler. He attended S.S. No. 6 School, Scarborough. Ethel lived at O'Sullivan's Corners, the daughter of

Thomas and Emily Beckett. She attended school at S.S. No. 5.

Following their marriage, they'd planned a trip to Hamilton but the weatherman intervened. It snowed steadily and the roads were blocked. The honeymoon was postponed.

For 26 years, they farmed on the 7th Concession of Pickering. They've lived on Park Drive North in Stouffville for the past 24 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Keeler are members in the congregation of Stouffville United Church. Ethel is a Life Member of the U.C.W.

Included in the dozens of cards and messages of congratulations was a beautiful Bible from an organization known as Community Service Systems Group, also a lovely clock, a gift from the family.

Mr. and Mrs. Keeler are justly proud of their three daughters, Alice (Mrs. Gordon Greig), Markham; Irene (Mrs. Ted Gray), R.R. 1, Manilla and Marjorie (Mrs. David Bainbridge) of Goodwood. They have seven grandchildren.

Mr. Keeler has two sisters, Elsie Miller, Stouffville and Marjorie Miller, Agincourt. Mrs. Keeler has one brother, Thomas Beckett of Uxbridge.

Top orators

DURHAM REGION — The Legion-sponsored regional public speaking competition was held recently in Port Perry with first place winners advancing to the district finals at Fenelon Falls, April 4.

Results follow: Junior Elementary - Anne McCarrow, Ajax (1st), "My Sister And I"; Andrea Debosky, Oshawa (2nd), "Metric Conversion"; Anna Winterstein, Goodwood (3rd), "Cross-Country Skiing".

Senior Elementary - Bobby Chow, Whitby (1st), "Bad

Speaking Habits"; Kristin Snyder, Newcastle (2nd), "Being Short"; Franca Osso, Oshawa (3rd), "Hands".

Junior Secondary - Sam Laskaris, Bowmanville (1st), "The Future"; Arlene Reid, Uxbridge (2nd), "Unsolved Mysteries of the World"; Kelly McPhee, Oshawa (3rd), "Television".

Senior Secondary - Kim Harris, Port Perry (1st), "The Elderly"; Vivienne Joyce, Uxbridge (2nd), "Language"; Shari Lesser, Leaskdale (3rd), "Here Comes The Bride".

Hurt in cave-in

UXBRIDGE — An Uxbridge developer is in satisfactory condition after being partially buried in a gravel cave-in on his property near Coppins Corners.

Doug Coppins was treated for injuries at Cottage Hospital in Uxbridge and later released.

According to Durham Regional Police, Mr. Coppins and an employee, Rick Manuel, 23, also of Coppins Corners, were digging test holes for aggregate, using a power shovel. Police said Mr. Coppins went down one of the holes to check it out, and it suddenly caved in.

After running for help, Manuel, and three passersby, Rick Brown, Coppins Corners; Chuck White, West Hill and Ken Taylor Lindsay, dug him

out, with Manuel using a backhoe.

Also assisting were members of Uxbridge Fire Department.

Manuel has been lauded by police for his quick response.

Chorale

UXBRIDGE — The 40-voice Ontario Bible College Chorale, currently on tour, will present an evening of sacred music at Uxbridge Baptist Church, Tues., March 30. Time of the service is 8 p.m.

The chorale will be travelling to Uxbridge from the Ottawa area where they're singing the night before.

The choir's president is Ken Wiles, R.R. 3, Stouffville.

"We always give"

Board "blood bank" - mayor

UXBRIDGE — Despite the pleas of an Uxbridge developer that implementation of his commercial project was helping to keep the downtown area alive, planning board, last week, agreed to wait another week before deciding on various concerns.

"We're the only committee that never gets anything; we always give... like a blood bank," said Mayor Bill Ballinger, after Jerry Sprackman, of Landawn Shopping Centres (Uxbridge Plaza), had appeared before the board to ask for expansion, in order to put in a restaurant at the north end of the plaza on Highway 47, on the outskirts of Uxbridge.

Both Sprackman and the board also debated the merits of a left-hand turn lane into the

plaza, with the advent of the latter, being put over until another time.

In asking for expansion, Sprackman said he just wanted to run his business "prudently, like anyone else."

Planning board chairman, Sandy Ewen, said the board was concerned about a fast-food outlet being located there.

"Tenants are worried about people hanging around all night," he said.

Councillor Maustyn McKnight termed the plaza "the best thing to happen to Uxbridge, but we have to think about parking."

"Would an extra 'store' generate that much more traffic?" he asked.

Sprackman said there would be no such problem with

his restaurant. He said also he felt he had been "put through the ropes long enough."

When it was suggested the addition of a restaurant would "use the parking spaces longer," Sprackman said he was "glad the plaza's filled most of the time. I don't think you should hold that against us," he added.

He said, also, that more people were shopping in the area since the advent of the plaza. "I don't think our impact has emptied the stores downtown."

After Mayor Bill Ballinger had concluded the discussion by saying that the main concern of the board was "safety," (in the matter of turning off Highway 47), it was agreed that a resolution be prepared for the next council meeting.

Late Pearl Margaret Heron

Family pays tribute to mother of eight

Service was held from Bayfair Baptist Church, Hwy. 2, Pickering, March 18, for Mrs. Wm. Heron, R.R. 1, Whitby, following her passing, March 15 in Ajax-Pickering Hospital. She was 91.

Mrs. Heron, the former Pearl Margaret Atkinson, was born in an old stone house (now a restaurant) near the corner of Kingston Road and Eglinton Avenue, the daughter of George and Isabel (White) Atkinson.

As a young girl, she would travel by horse and sleigh to Scarborough Junction station and then take the train to Markham High School. Following their marriage (65

years ago, Jan. 17), they attended Washington Methodist Church where Mr. Heron served as Sunday School superintendent and Mrs. Heron played the organ. In later years, they attended St. Mark's United Church, Whitby although Mrs. Heron maintained a connection with the Ajax Baptist Church.

Mr. Heron marked his 101st birthday, Jan. 15. During the depression years, both worked extremely hard raising a family of seven sons and one daughter. She was proud of them all — George, a Salvation Army major in Kitchener; Ross, R.R. 1, Claremont; Harold, West Hill; Rev. Murray Heron and Rev.

Lorne Heron, Montreal; Arnold and Earl of Pickering and Isabel (Mrs. Bruce Hisey), R.R. 4, Stouffville. There are 29 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Heron's love and affection extended far beyond her immediate family circle. She was a firm believer in missions and often used her pension cheque to purchase Christian books for small mission stations, across Canada.

Rev. Sam Martin, pastor of Bayfair Baptist Church conducted the service. Rev. Murray Heron read the scripture. Interment was at St. Margaret's in-the-Pines Cemetery, West Hill.

Thief held a knife

BALSAM — When a young lad entered Balsam General Store around 8:30 on the morning of March 11, proprietor Grant Jones greeted him like any other customer. However, the warmth of the welcome changed quickly when the youth suddenly pulled a knife and demanded money. Grant handed over a small amount of cash and the boy left.

But he failed to get far because the store's owner had the presence of mind to jot down the license number of the get-away car. Durham Regional Police soon had it stopped.

Grant said he offered no resistance. "You can replace money but not people," he stated. The police, he said,

responded quickly even though they had to come considerable distance.

"I knew by the old car he was driving, he wouldn't get far". The arrest was made about three miles down the road.

Grant admitted surprise. He said the lad was neat and clean, "a nice looking kid", not the type one would expect

to pull such a stunt. Wife Shirley wasn't in the store at the time, but watched the youth leave as she stood at the window of their adjoining residence.

Grant and Shirley Jones purchased Balsam Store from Maudie Graham 2½ years ago. It was the first robbery since acquiring the business.

File theft charge

CLAREMONT — A 53 year old Claremont area man has been charged with possession of stolen property valued at \$70,000.

The accused was observed by undercover York Regional police officers, purchasing

tires at a Markham industrial plant, Friday afternoon. The items were said to be stolen.

Further investigation revealed more tires worth many thousands of dollars. The case will be handled in a Durham Region court.

Hunger strike

UXBRIDGE — A former Uxbridge school teacher, arrested recently in Saskatchewan on an abduction matter, has gone on a hunger strike, according to Richard Llewellyn, lawyer for the arrested man.

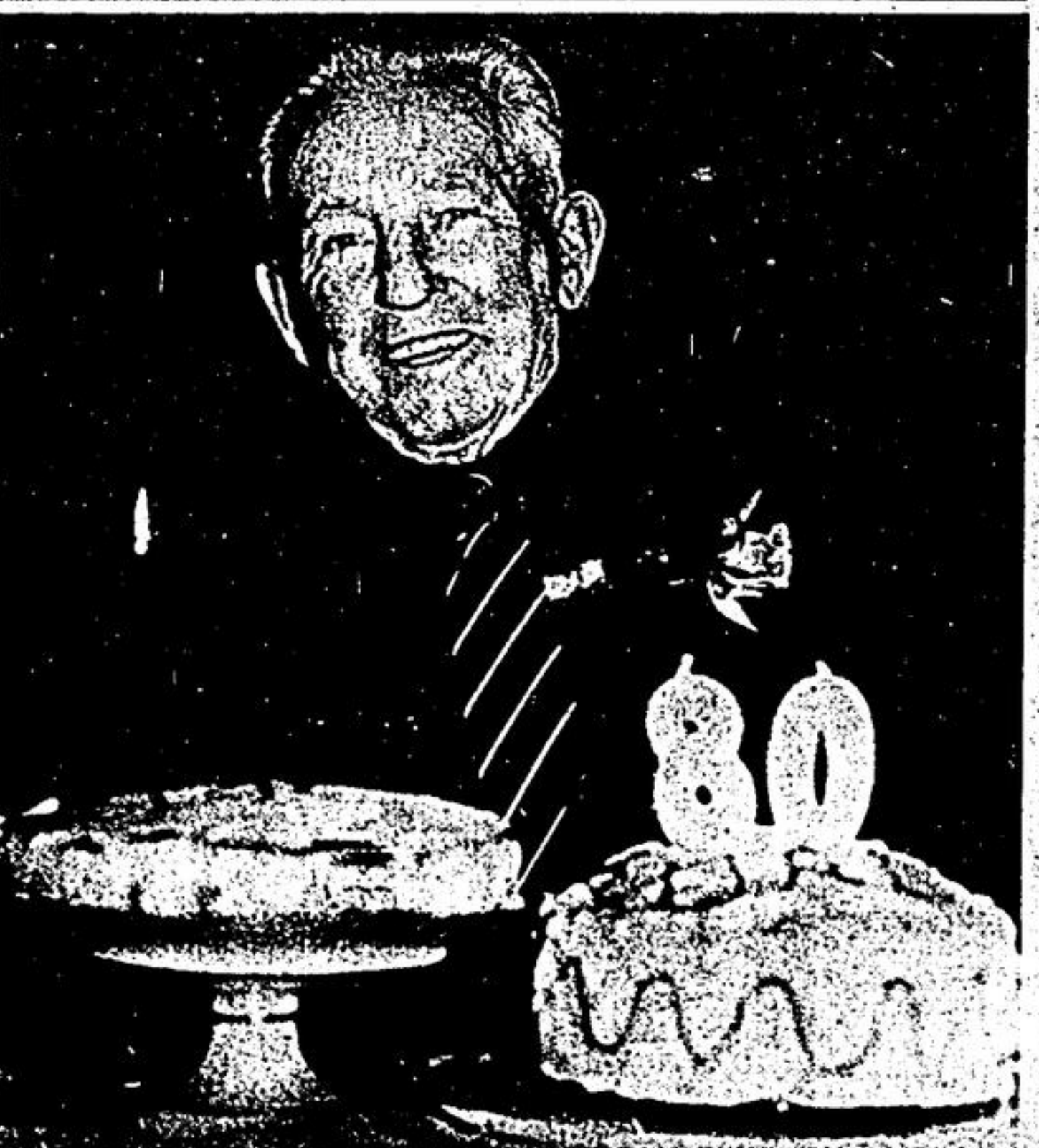
He said that Norman Shipton, who once taught at St. John's School, disappeared five years ago with his young daughter, following a divorce action.

He has since been taken

into custody at Meadow Lake, Sask., and bail was set at \$21,000, Llewellyn said. However, after the money was raised, it was turned down by the crown attorney, he claimed. The subsequent hunger strike was in protest, he said.

Llewellyn said the child was about five at the time of the abduction. She is now back with her mother.

He said that the accused will be tried in Toronto. He has elected trial by jury.



Honored on 80th birthday

Ed Pascoe of Greenwood wasn't surprised to receive a visit from members of his immediate family, Saturday for, after all, it was his 80th birthday. However, the well-wishers kept coming and soon the house was filled. Mr. Pascoe said he didn't feel a day over fifty, well, maybe sixty. He didn't look it either. —Jim Thomas.



Balsam General Store was the scene of an armed robbery, March 11, when a youth with a knife demanded money from the till. Owner

Grant Jones observed the car's license number and called police. The lad was arrested three miles away. —Jim Thomas.