

Seniors' apartments needed

STOUFFVILLE — Real-estate agent Gerry Meharg reports a large demand for apartments in Stouffville. "We have at least 20 people a week asking about apartment accommodation. I see a great demand for an 'adult' apartment building in town. There are many older couples who presently own homes in town, or in the area, who would welcome moving into an apartment close to shopping, banks and the park. We have several local couples who would gladly purchase a condominium apartment if a good 'adult' building was available. One couple said they would "buy in a minute", provided small pets were allowed.

Mr. Meharg advises that there is presently available, through his firm, a six-acre site on Mill Street that, if properly zoned, would provide an ideal location for an apartment complex adjacent to the downtown core and strategically located near the GO Station.

Mr. Meharg also reports a continuing demand for bungalows in town. Resale property sales generally continue to be brisk in spite of higher interest rates.

The company reports the following recent local sales:

Barry's Welding Shop-the Carey and Foley property, has been sold to Mr. Dimarco of Richmond Hill. Future plans for the site include commercial and industrial, including storage rental units.

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Wood of Markham have purchased the one-acre property of Mr. and Mrs. John Good in Stouffville's east end, on the townline. The Bob Wilkinson century home on Church Street North has been purchased

by Mr. and Mrs. Ted Suzuki for a future day care centre; the Walter Kowal home and ten acres on the Vivian Road has been purchased by the Bowen family of West Hill; Mrs. Eunice Hindson's home on Tindale Road has been sold to Mr. and Mrs. Evans and family, formerly of Claremont; the former Neville residence on Main Street West, owned by the Melless family, has been sold to Owen Setchell and family; the Baxter home at Musselman's Lake has been

purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Hallikainen; the Rupert Avenue home of Mr. and Mrs. Kwiatkowski has been sold to the Craven family of 17th Avenue, Markham; the Ken Yallup home at Ballantrae has been sold to the Fast family of Markham; the five-apartment Glotch property on Church Street North is being purchased by Joyce Ramer of Markham and the Bethesda Road home of Mr. and Mrs. Flinn has been purchased by the McClymont family of Barrie.

A 'royal' performance

York Region is seeing five of its 4-h Beef Club members enter steers into the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair's Queen's Guineas Competition. They are Carol Knott, Cathy Knott, and Don Smith, all of Markham, John Pearson of Thornton, and Mark Toole of King City.

The Queen's Guineas Competition is an event open to 4-h Beef Club members who are at least 14 years of age by January 1st, 1984. Steers are weighed on

and off test and must have an average daily gain of at least 2.3 pounds between May 1st and October 11th, 1984.

Classes this year will be based on weight, not breed; therefore, steers will be placed in classes of similar weight. The Show Day is Friday November 16th, 1984 at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair.

Good luck to the 4-h'ers representing the Region of York!

Merit badges

Girl Guides and Boy Scouts across Ontario are beautifying streams, parks and beaches this year as part of their bicentennial environment program to earn ecology merit badges. At a recent Queen's Park ceremony, Environment Minister Andy Brandt pre-

sented representatives of the Girl Guides and Boy Scouts of Ontario with framed bicentennial ecology crests. The crests are symbolic of 215,000 badges that will be awarded to scouts and guides involved in the environmental program. Mr. Brandt also gave two bicentennial flags to Girl Guide Nell-Marie Abele and Boy Scout Duane Chung, in recognition of the organizations' participation in a bicentennial event.

"I'm very proud to present these flags to the Girl Guides and Boy Scouts and I'm especially pleased to have the ecology program a part of the bicentennial activities because it involves the youth of Ontario," said Mr. Brandt. He made the presentation on behalf of Margaret Birch, Chairperson of the Cabinet Committee on the bicentennial.

Girl Guide commissioner Mary O'Brien will award 115,000 badges to guides while Boy Scout commissioner Everett McCrimmon will present 100,000 badges to scouts participating in the program.



Fern Keith, Kennedy Road, R.R. 1, Unionville, has served as organist for two congregations forty years first at Peach's United Church and presently at Ringwood Christian Church. In all this time, she has only

missed two services due to sickness. Although sometimes "a tie," Fern admits she enjoys it. "Everyone does their bit," she says.

—Jim Thomas

For forty years

Church organist

By Jim Thomas

RINGWOOD — A church organist 40 years. Such is the record held by Fern Keith, R.R. 1, Unionville; a record few will equal and fewer still will surpass. And she's still going strong.

Fern and the two-manual Baldwin are as much a part of Ringwood Christian Church as the minister's pulpit and, yes, the minister himself. The congregation anticipates their presence every Sunday morning and seldom are they disappointed.

"I've only missed two Sundays due to sickness," Fern says. "This kind of dedication doesn't include playing for weddings and funerals."

It's all volunteer, of course. Tips on the side go to buy additional music.

The 40-year span is divided between Peach's United Church on the 7th Concession (McCowan Road) and Ringwood. The Peach's Church closed in 1964.

For someone who "hated to practice," Fern has come a long way. Edna (Mrs. Joe) Gayman was her piano teacher but Fern considered it a hopeless task. After a number of laborious lessons, she (Fern) gave up in disgust. A few years later, however, she reassessed the situation and set out to teach herself.

It was Rev. Roscoe Chapin, then the minister at Peach's, who encouraged Fern to give it a try.

Her sister, Dorothy, had been the organist up to that time.

"We'll just sing as fast as you play," Fern recalls the minister saying. She consented, but it was an unnerving experience. "I would often cry all the way to church," she said.

However, Fern persevered and so did the congregation, maintaining a harmonious relationship that lasted two decades.

The same can be said at Ringwood—two decades and more.

"We're not a large church," Fern says, "we all try to do our bit." She honestly admits she enjoys it, even more so since she now has an organ of her own and can practice at home.

Any memorable experiences? she was asked. "Once the hydro went off, but I merely switched to the piano," she said. Much worse, however, were the times two church mice came in close proximity to the keyboard, once at Peach's and once at Ringwood. She stopped dead. "I hate mice," she said.

Fern is the first to admit she'd miss the association. She sees it as a responsibility, a chance "to do her bit." And the congregation appreciates her talent. "As one member put it, 'Sunday service here wouldn't seem the same without Fern at the organ'."

Corn crop doing well

YORK REGION — The corn's as high as an elephant's eye.

Not really, at least not yet, but it's getting there, reports Ellie Cavanagh, Agricultural Representative for the Region of York.

"Very good," is how Cavanagh describes the corn crop outlook, especially in the Markham and Whitchurch-Stouffville areas. But the price, that's another story, he says. "It's lower than we'd like, but hopefully will improve." More exacting price figures

are expected soon, he stated. Much depends on the yield in the United States.

There are about 39,000 acres under corn cultivation in York this year, down from a high of 46,000 acres a few seasons ago. Soybeans are coming on strongly, Cavanagh said and replacing corn in some areas.

Generally, the crop outlook in York is good, the region's Agric. Rep. said. Wheat yields are average or better. "Farmers seem happy to date," he concluded.

Fears pet dog stolen

WHITCHURCH — "Buk-shi", a 16-month-old Staffordshire bull terrier, owned by Margaret Denemethy of R.R. 4, Stouffville, has been missing nearly three weeks. Margaret fears he's been picked up and will be trained for the 'sport' of fighting.

She's offering a reward for his safe return.

"I'd rather he be dead than in the hands of someone who might mistreat him," Margaret told The Tribune. Dogs, she said, can be made vicious, if handled by someone with that thought in mind.

Margaret obtained "Buk-shi" when he was only four

months old. "I gave him a lot of love," she said, "we were very attached."

The owner has searched as far distant as the Vivian

Road, without success. He was last seen in the area of the Bloomington Road and Conc. 6, Whitchurch-Stouffville.

Margaret describes him

as "looking like a black Lab but chunky like a bulldog."

Anyone seeing a dog meeting this description is asked to call 888-1676.

Neighborhood Watch

STOUFFVILLE — A Neighborhood Watch program is being organized in Stouffville.

The project, initiated by the Outreach Committee of Stouffville United Church, is geared to groups of people safeguarding other people's properties, especially those

homes where owners are absent.

The program has proved successful in other urban communities and has the support of York Regional Police.

A minimum of 50 per cent participation is required in

any given area for the scheme to be effective.

In the weeks ahead, the committee will be seeking the co-operation of residents in order that a network of concerned citizens can be established all over town.

Fairytale wedding was reality

VANDORF — The ballerina bride danced to the applause and cheers of her guests.

The couple strolled arm in arm to the musical strains of 'Chapel of Love' and later, signed the register placed between the branches of an age-old willow tree.

Such was the unique setting, Sunday, for the marriage of Bill Boyle, a Toronto talent agent and dancer-actress Bibi Caspari, also of Toronto.

The ceremony, conducted by Rev. Kay Cook of the Unitarian Church, took place on a small island at the Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum in Vandorf, described by the bride as "the perfect place."

At the conclusion of the ceremony, Museum curator, Mary Hopkins, presented the bride with a momento of the occasion, a good luck charm in the shape of a horseshoe.

The newlyweds will reside in Toronto.



Talent agent weds actress in storybook ceremony at Museum site

Bill Boyle and Bibi Caspari were married, Sunday, in a unique open-air ceremony held on the grounds of the Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum at Vandorf. The Toronto couple, Bill, a talent agent and Bibi, a dancer and actress, described the location as "the perfect place." Rev. Kay Cook, (left), of the Unitarian Church, conducted the

ceremony. The bride and groom spoke their vows to each other. The couple, (right), had to cross a small bridge to reach the island setting, attended by many theatrical personalities. They will reside in Toronto.

—Jim Thomas