

Group home not wanted

CEDAR VALLEY — About a dozen Cedar Valley residents say they want nothing to do with group homes. They made this point clear at an Oct. 2 public meeting, concerning a proposed zoning bylaw amendment on the Vivian Road.

Applicants Mr and Mrs Gerry Rooyackers wish to change zoning in the restricted area bylaw from rural to rural residential (3) on their 10-acre property, Part Lot 31, Conc. 6, Whitechurch-Stouffville.

The purpose is to sever the land into two five-acre parcels.

However, neighboring property-owners expressed concern because the rural residential designation permits detached dwelling units and group homes on a lot with a minimum area of 4.95 acres and a frontage of at least 60 metres.

Although they had no objections to a single-dwelling, about a dozen residents wanted a guarantee that the house wouldn't become a group home.

"Is this going to be another Pine Ridge in Cedar Valley?" one asked.

Town Planner Michael Saunders said he knew of no such proposals in that area, and

noted that the group home provision has been included in all residential zoning in Whitechurch-Stouffville.

The Rooyackers assured their neighbors the residence would be strictly a single-family dwelling.

It's not possible to allow for development of a one-family unit while at the same time excluding group homes, Saunders explained.

Group home refers to between three and 10 unrelated people living in association in one dwelling, he said.

Council agreed to refer the matter back to the planner for comment.

Hold your breath and read this.

If your chimney is defective, your house may be feeling just like you do right now.

Because heating systems take in oxygen and release carbon dioxide. Just like you do.

But when a furnace can't get enough oxygen, or carbon dioxide can't escape, your house can't "breathe". Carbon monoxide can be created and that is a dangerous situation for you and your family.

A clean and clear chimney is necessary to vent your furnace properly.

Here are some warning signs of chimney deterioration:

- loose mortar and bricks
- white powder or water stains on chimney above roof
- water stains at the chimney's clean-out door

YOU MAY NEED A CHIMNEY LINER TO PREVENT EROSION OF THE MASONRY.

For your safety, and for your peace of mind have your heating system and chimney inspected and cleaned annually by a qualified contractor. You and your house will both breathe a sigh of relief.

Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations



Robert Elgie M.D., Minister
William Davis, Premier



Eileen Leitch, 16, (left) of R.R. 3, Stouffville and 14-year-old Anne-Charlotte Guisnet of Poitiers, France, compare notes via an English-French dictionary. Eileen is Anne-Charlotte's host during her exchange visit here. Both are students at Sacred Heart High School, Newmarket. —Jim Thomas

Student Exchange

Popular program

By Jim Thomas

Pretty 14-year-old Anne-Charlotte Guisnet of Poitiers, France, is undoubtedly turning a few (male) heads at Sacred Heart High School, Newmarket.

Anne-Charlotte's a student there, part of an exchange program that includes Eileen Leitch, 16, of R.R. 3, Stouffville. Eileen is Anne-Charlotte's host, a role that will change when the two girls are reunited in Anne-Charlotte's home town next spring.

The school's music program is especially interesting, she says. She plays the piano and the recorder.

Although here less than eight weeks, Anne-Charlotte has visited many of the area's scenic sites including Niagara Falls, Wonderland, the CN Tower, Ontario Place and the C.N.E.

They also caught a glimpse of Pope John Paul II when he visited Victoria Square.

Although the two keep translation dictionaries handy, Anne-Charlotte speaks English amazingly well. Eileen's confident she'll also "get by" in French. She's been studying the language since Grade 8 at St. Mark's.

The majority of Anne-Charlotte's subjects are in Grades 9 and 10. Because of this, she and Eileen don't see much of each other at school. However, Eileen's sister, Tina, is in Grade 10 and this keeps the two in touch.

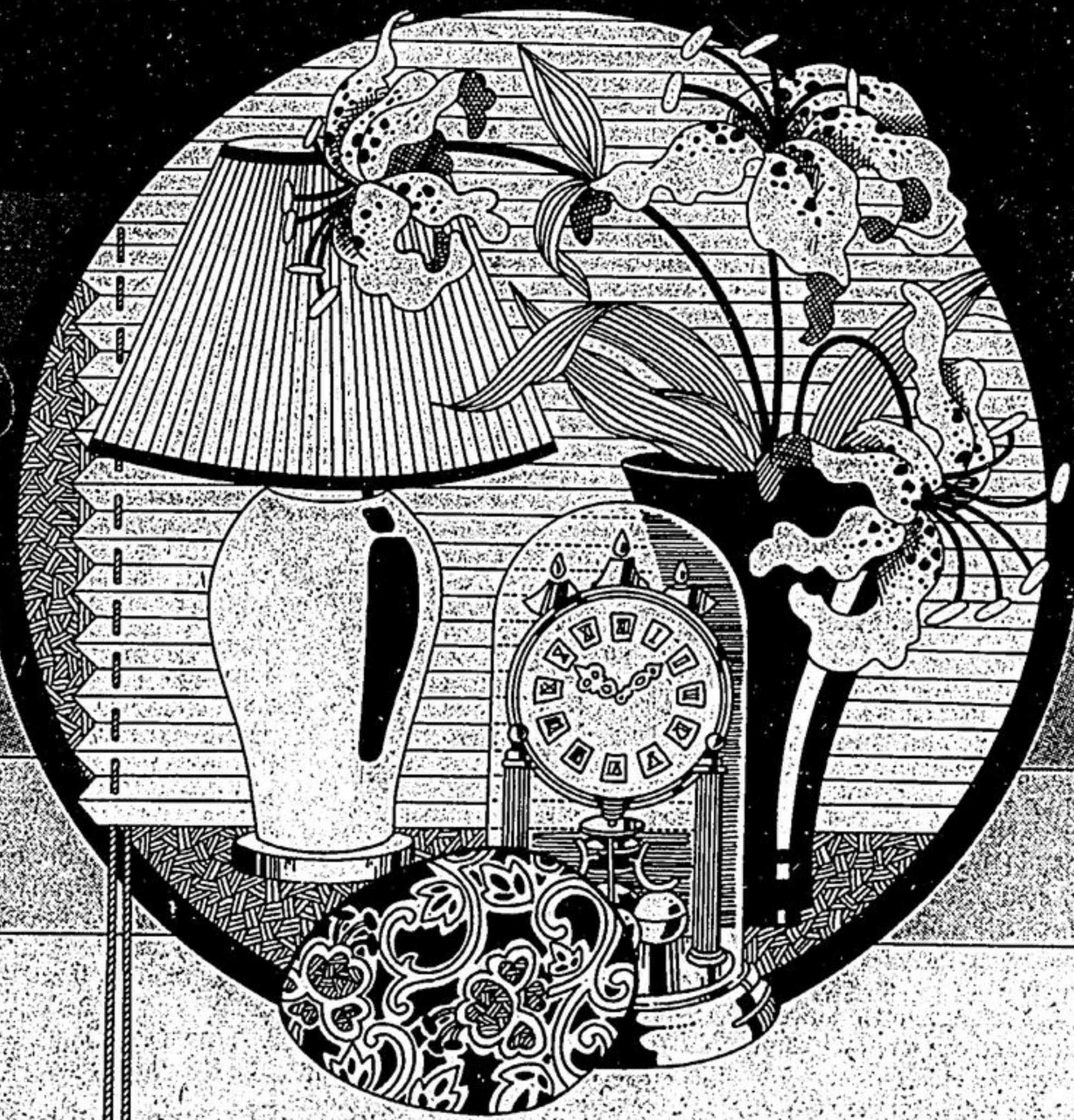
Recognizing each other posed a bit of a problem, since an exchange of photos was all they had to go by. For Eileen, the picture didn't help because Anne-Charlotte had changed her hair style. However, through the process of elimination, the two were brought together. It's Anne-Charlotte's first time in Canada and it will be Eileen's first visit to France.

Anne-Charlotte doesn't object to the "uniform" dress code at Sacred Heart, in fact, she likes it. She also enjoys MacDonald's, something her home town of Poitiers doesn't have.

The student "guest" is enjoying her stay in Stouffville and at Sacred Heart.

Anne-Charlotte's other interests include volleyball, swimming, cycling and receiving letters from home. This keeps her in touch with her parents, three brothers and one sister. They enjoy keeping in touch with her also. "I write often," she said.

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