

# She's 90 and still goin' strong

By STEVE HOUSTON  
Staff Reporter

Unionville's Mildred Temple has an appointment book that would rival the likes of Mayor Carole Bell.

Though she doesn't make political decisions, her accomplishments in the area over the years make her a respected and sought-after member of the community.

And she celebrates her 90th birthday tomorrow.

Her involvement in Union Villa, the Unionville Home Society, Heritage Village and other projects has cast her in the role of fundraiser, committee worker, auxiliary worker, friend, teacher, student and participant.

"The greatest way to avoid boredom is to get out and do something for somebody," said Mrs. Temple from her Meadowbrook Lane home last Wednesday.

Referred to by some as the first lady of Unionville, Mrs. Temple said the concept of serving one's community was instilled by her father.

To illustrate the point she explained how her father would only buy goods from the local general store when her parents moved to Unionville from Toronto in 1937. She said that was a small gesture of his to help benefit the community.

"I guess you could say that it is something I inherited from my parents," she noted.

As she grew older, the concept of community service became more a part of her personality. While a student at Toronto's Havergal College, she was a volunteer at St. Christopher House. She worked in the poor areas of the city bringing hampers of food and clothing to the less fortunate. When her husband died in 1954, Mrs. Temple became more instrumental in making local community dreams come true.

Pet projects she undertook and saw through was the establishment of the Bruce's Mill Conservation Area, assisting emotionally and mentally handicapped adults for the Canadian Mental Health Association and helping form the Unionville Home Society.

She was a member of the Society's Board of Directors for six years, retired for one year and began another term of office two years ago. During her service there she participated in the planning of Union Villa and Heritage Village, a 92-unit complex of bungalows for seniors, as well as Heritage Centre, a community centre for seniors.

"It all has given me a lot of satisfaction inasmuch as I have discovered how wonderful people can be," she noted. "There are so many people I have come to love and respect in my 40 years in the community."

Her latest pet project, (though she admits it is still a dream), is to try and get some smaller homes built for local seniors. She said the "monster" homes currently being put up everywhere in Unionville are impractical for people in their retirement years.

"These homes are built for people in their prime," she said. "It deprives seniors of the ability to buy and keep a smaller home that is easier to maintain."

With Mrs. Temple's track record, it isn't unconceivable that her dream could well become a reality.



Mildred Temple may be 90, but it hasn't stopped her — takes a break to examine a chickadee who landed on her window sill. Here she — her window sill.

## Blue Hills holds meeting

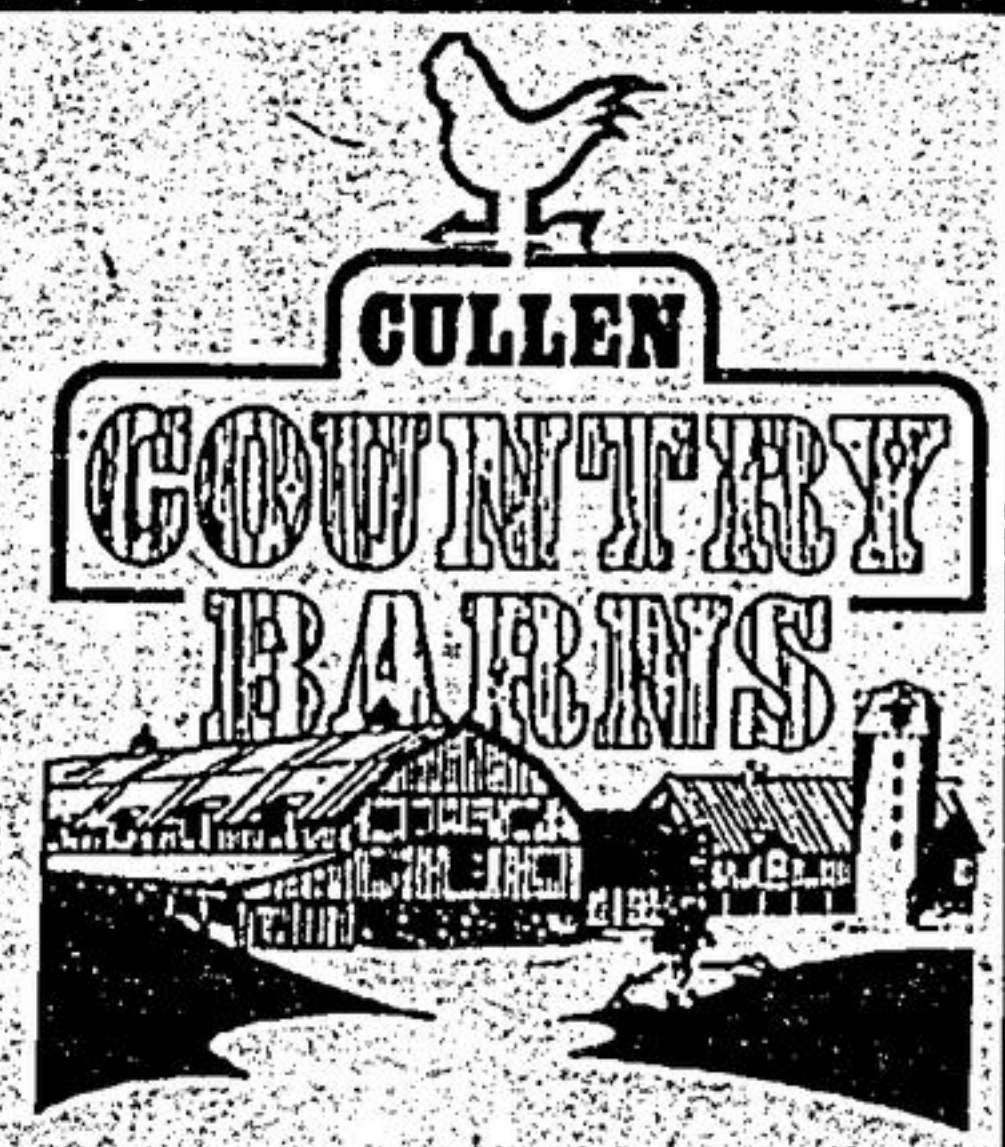
Parents of emotionally disturbed children don't have to feel alone.

Blue Hills Academy is a centre of information and counselling for these children and their parents. A public information night to explain residential treatment and home care programs will be held Tuesday, Jan. 21 at 7:30 p.m.

Those interested in attending are asked to call 773-4323 in advance. The academy is located on the north side of Bloomington Sideroad between Yonge and Bathurst streets.



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D.J. Ritchie of Toronto will do an Identification & appraisal clinic in the Milliken Room together with an Afternoon Tea, from 2-5 p.m. Cost for Appraisal - \$5.00 (for 1st item); Each additional item - \$2.00; Cost for Afternoon Tea - \$3.50, and is optional.

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