

Potter creates perfection

By JIM THOMAS
GREENWOOD — The sign reads simply "Barn Swallow Potters". However, it takes a closer look to fully appreciate the work and the worker behind the scenes.

Deanna Jones, mother of one, operates out of a small but neat little shop in the hamlet of Greenwood. Products of her handiwork are everywhere, several hundred pieces in all. Their beauty defies descrip-

tion. Deanna owes a lot to her skill. For it's not only a source of income but the means by which she met her husband. Allan dropped by her place one day to look over the selection. But it

was the potter and not the pottery that caught his eye. A lasting friendship developed. It was 14 years ago that Deanna watched intently as another potter applied her trade. She later talked to her, then took lessons from her. The rest is history.

Allan and Deanna moved to Greenwood in March, 1983. They have a son, Greg, three. Deanna works with two types of clays—stoneware and porcelain. She has her own wheel and kiln.

"I enjoy it," she says. "I wouldn't want to do anything else."

Deanna's cozy workshop, renovated and insulated by her husband, with the help of Kenn McTaggart, suits her purpose just fine.

Although she holds an 'Open House' every spring, (and perhaps another this fall), Deanna's main source of advertising is word-of-mouth. She'll attend the big 'One Of A Kind' show in the Automotive Building, Exhibition Park, Nov. 28 to Dec. 7.

Although the pottery-making process must go through several stages, Deanna manages to keep her prices down. Two dinner place settings are on order. She hopes to have them completed some time in October.

Deanna works both days and evenings. "Sometimes I have to give myself a push," she says.

Of course, son Greg comes first. But Allan takes over the babysitting chores at night.

What's the origin of the name? Deanna was asked. "I've always liked barn swallows," she says, "and there are quite a few around."

They, like Deanna's customers, obviously like what they see.



Deanna Jones, a professional potter, turns out beautiful work in her small shop at Greenwood.

"I wouldn't want to do anything else," says the 33-year-old mother of one. —Jim Thomas

Hearing a joke

The Bloomington public meeting, Aug. 5, was an affront to those interested enough to attend.

There were no remarks or assurances given or implied by the developers.

We heard only from a planning consultant employed by the developers who smothered us with platitudes.

We heard from a hydrology consultant who gave me the impression he had attended the meeting only because someone told him to turn at Ringwood. He said we were not to worry because most Bloomington wells are deep wells. One of the oldest wells in Bloomington, my well, is a shallow well. He suggested that the water in the gravel pit behind my house would evaporate or would seep into the ground. I know one of the developers would have appreciated this as he tried to pump it dry for continued extraction of aggregate.

The chairman said he had achieved the purpose of the meeting. If his purpose was to establish confrontation, this was achieved by first asking who was "for" and who was "against" the development before anyone knew what the proponents had to say! This is like hanging someone, than having a trial.

I was forced to voice objection to the development only because our chairman had a closed mind as to the format the meeting should take. My objection was only to the lack of assurance given or implied by either Council or the Developer that any agreement had been obtained from the Region that the road between Stouffville and Bloomington would be upgraded to accommodate a doubling of population in Bloomington.

The planner said the increase in population would be good for the Stouffville economy. I suggest then, we should lay a substantially better path to the door of our local commerce. We could, at the same time, include a bicycle path for the safety of not only the many people who now use the Ninth Line, but for the potential increase in the number of children who may choose to ride their bicycles to and from Stouffville.

The final laugh of the meeting was when the planner said the Ninth was a well maintained paved road. Except for the top and bottom of the Ninth Line, between Bloomington and Stouffville, the road has not seen any substantial upgrading in the past twenty years.

The planner should stick to planning and leave the road assessment to people who use the road. Now is the time to work with the Region and obtain a commitment for road improvement, all the way to Stouffville.

Bob Lewis

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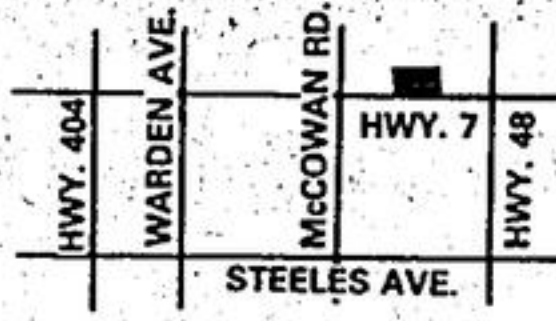
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