

Editor's Mail

Writers rapped for lack of facts

Dear Editor:

Now that the second consignment of "boat people" have hit the beaches, and a lot of the publicity has died down, I would like to point out, subject to correction, that the media in their wisdom should do their homework with a little more research from a geographical point of view.

In my school days I learned that the Punjab was in northwest India and at least 2,500 miles from the East Indies. So why do the media have to call them East Indians? The vast majority of those that landed recently are Sikhs and certainly do not claim Sumatra as their homeland.

Concerning the same boat people, they are termed by many of the major newspapers and on T.V. as refugees. My understanding of the word is a person who is fleeing a country in fear of his life, or religious persecution. It will be many months before their claims of refugee status will be substantiated, if ever.

So why not call them what they are — illegal immigrants? And send them back to where they came from and wait their turn through the normal channels. Both Federal Liberal Leader John Turner and Nova Scotia Premier John Buchanan, whose political beliefs are in opposition, also think they should be "returned to sender."

Recently, during the commentary of the Queen's Plate, a well-known sportscaster termed Prince Andrew and his wife as the Duke and Duchess of Windsor. A slip of the tongue, no doubt, but no

apology or correction later.

In a recent T.V. program in which the subject was Women in the World or words to that effect, the commentator used the expression "far from the maddening crowd" when it should be "madding crowd."

The papers are full of misspelt words and grammatical errors, two of the main ones being double negatives and split infinitives. One might say, "what does it matter so long as we know the mean-

ing and aren't I nit-picking? Maybe so, but if the English language is to be used, why not try to be accurate in its terminology and meaning?

I wonder where the next shipful of self-styled refugees will come from: Whoever they are they will be well-fixed and well-clothed, and in far better shape than thousands of our own people.

Sincerely,
Adam Johnstone,
R.R. 1, Stouffville

Gormley News

Death of child felt by everyone

By EVELYN MILSTED
GORMLEY — Sympathy of the community is extended to Mr. and Mrs. Michael Giovanetti in the sudden death of their baby daughter Katie. Rev. Ed Sparks travelled from Tillsonburg, Friday, to conduct the funeral service in the Gormley Missionary Church.

Mr. Michael Wright spent the weekend in Montreal.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Evans of Cambridge were weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Wideman.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Heise of California visited recently with his sisters, Marjorie Heise and Luelia Lofthouse of Parkview Village, Stouffville.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Heise Jr. of California; Mr. and Mrs. Roy Wenger of Pennsylvania and Mr. and Mrs. Merlin Marr of Springville, visited with relatives in the area last weekend.

Sympathy of the community is extended to Mr. and Mrs. Earl Milne in the death of Mrs. Milne's only brother, Mr. William Knights of Scarborough. The service was conducted Monday afternoon from the Jerrett Funeral Home, Kennedy Road.

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Winger; Mrs. Martha Wideman and Mary Cober enjoyed dinner Saturday evening with Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Winger and Krista of Richmond Hill.



After 35 years in the office of Birkett-Hassard Insurance, Main Street West, Stouffville, Les Clarke feels it's time to retire. This week, Les will say goodbye to staff members Bob Hassard,

Ken Schell, Ted Cadioux and Bill Hassard. "It's been a wonderful association," says Les. "I couldn't have worked with a better bunch of guys." — Jim Thomas

For businessman Les Clarke Time to retire

By JIM THOMAS
STOUFFVILLE — When Les Clarke came to town in the fall of 1948, he struck it rich, not monetarily perhaps. "I never wanted to be a millionaire," he says, "but personally

he played on the teams of his dreams, married the girl of his dreams and accepted a position in the job of his dreams.

The ball gloves, the hockey skates, the soccer cleats and the curling broom are all in cold storage, but the marriage of 35 years remains strong.

So also is his position on the staff of Birkett-Hassard Insurance — until Friday. That's retirement time, says Les. To his colleagues, Bob Hassard, Ken Schell, Ted Cadioux and Bill Hassard, the decision comes as no surprise. Les gave notice of his intentions 1 1/2 years ago.

"It's been a wonderful association," says Les. "I couldn't have worked with a better bunch of guys."

The feeling is mutual. "It was the Clipper hockey club that brought Les to Stouffville. He was a stalwart on defence through several seasons. While in residence at the home of team president Bert Bell, he met and later married Audrey.

On return from their honeymoon, he teamed up with Gordon Birkell in an association that continued through 17 1/2 years. When Bob Hassard

purchased the business, Les continued on in the same capacity another 17 1/2 years.

He recently marked his 60th birthday.

An extremely personable gentleman, Les is proud of the fact the Birkett-Hassard firm represents the kind of stability policy holders appreciate. In his time, service to patrons has extended through many three-generation families. The majority of farmers, described by Les as "the backbone of the business," have continued their association long after their farm properties have been sold.

"We're there to help people with their problems," says Les, "that's the name of the game."

Les plans to retain his insurance broker's license, and will fill in on staff from time to time as the need arises.

He anticipates no problems keeping busy. In addition to volunteer work, he hopes to spend more time at the cottage, do a bit of travelling and share the joys of an extremely close family — wife Audrey; daughters Susan and Colleen; son Mike; and grandchildren Taylor, Shawna, Daryl and Daniel.

Les is the first to admit wife Audrey's been extremely patient during his 35 years of dedication to duty. He feels the time has come to share more things together, as he puts it, "stop and smell the roses."

Praises Welcome Wagon

Dear Editor:
As a new resident of Stouffville, I wish to express my appreciation to an organization in our community known as Welcome Wagon.

Hostess Dianne Darling called at my home shortly after our arrival here. She pre-

sented us with gifts and messages of welcome from civic-spirited businessmen and merchants. We were indeed cordially welcomed to Stouffville.

Mrs. Darling was helpful to us in many ways. She even assisted our daughter, a re-

cent Grade 12 graduate, in obtaining a summer job at the Public Library.

On behalf of our family, my thanks to Stouffville's many friendly folk.

Sincerely,
Mrs. A. Martin,
Stouffville

Supervisor expresses thanks



Almost hot enough to fry an egg

Whew, wasn't it hot? On Friday, when the temperature soared to 95 degrees (F), one could almost fry an egg on the asphalt. Here, Chris Payne and daughter Kristen, 6, experiment in the parking lot of the A&P Plaza, Stouffville.

Dear Editor:
Due to the increased demands on my time during day school I have decided to retire as Supervisor of the Continuing Education program at Stouffville District Secondary School.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you very sincerely for the support and co-operation you have given me over the years. In running a program of this size it was sometimes necessary to call on you at the last minute and I know you did your best to accommodate us in every instance. You have been a supporter of the program from the beginning and as always have provided a valuable service to the community in helping us reach the citizens of Stouffville!

Thank you so much for everything.

Sincerely,
Wayne Nugent,
Supervisor of
Continuing Education



More than horses attracted attention

Sunday was Pioneer Horse Day at the Pickering Museum, Greenwood. Horses were pressed into service, providing a type of power unfamiliar to most folk today including both work and

transportation. Enjoying a ride is skilled equestrienne Debbie Smith of Green River aboard 'Salem', owned by Doug and Peggy Turner of Claremont.

—Jim Thomas



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