

A decade of accomplishment



George Schlukbier, Chief Executive Officer of the Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Library, congratulates his successor Marilyn Ferguson at the conclusion of an evening in his honor, Thursday, at The Maples of Balantrae. Mr. Schlukbier, wife Maureen and family, leave next month for Sacramento, California.



"I've enjoyed working with you and arguing with you," jokes Regional Chairman Eldred King, one of the guest speakers at Mr. Schlukbier's farewell. The Library's CEO was presented with numerous gifts throughout the evening. He and wife Maureen laugh at Mr. King's good-natured jibes as does Mayor Fran Sainsbury, the event's MC.

—Jim Thomas

Library chief praised at farewell gathering

By KATE GILDERDALE
Losing George isn't good for our community. We're going to miss him terribly.

Thus Mayor Fran Sainsbury summed up the mood Thursday evening of a farewell gathering honoring Whitchurch-Stouffville's Chief Librarian George Schlukbier.

Mr. Schlukbier is leaving his position here March 31 for a newspaper library post in Sacramento, California.

More than 125 friends, local politicians, members of staff and library patrons attended the event held at The Maples of Balantrae. All wished him well in his new venture.

Friendly insults abounded with MC Eddie Luther enquiring "Are so many people here because they're sorry to see you go or to celebrate your going?"

Councillor Jim Sanders presented Mr. Schlukbier with a selection of party hats, indicating the many roles he's played over the past ten years. Some of these involvements include — the Museum, the Latham Gallery, the Chamber of Commerce, the Recreation Centre, the Strawberry Festival, the Business Improvement Area and the Magic Festival.

"I've enjoyed working with you and arguing with you," joked York Regional Chairman Eldred King.

Durham-York MPP presented Mr. Schlukbier with a personal letter from Ontario Premier David Peterson, in recognition of his contributions.

Other presentations were made on behalf of the Museum, the BIA, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Town, with tributes from Recreation Centre co-ordinator Marlene McKee-Wetheral and Jim West of the Library Board.

Monica Van Maris, Chairperson of the Library Board, described the facility here as "one of the most beautiful and well-run in the county."

"What can I say about this man?" she asked. She spoke of his incredible energy and enthusiasm.

"He's leaving us with an air of confidence in our Library and the

culture of our Town. He's touched the lives of many people in Whitchurch-Stouffville."

Mrs. Van Maris announced the appointment of Marilyn Ferguson as the Library's new Chief Executive Officer.

"There are many people to thank," responded the guest of honor, "but after ten years here, it's interesting why so many politicians came to my farewell."

"I've given my best years to this community," he continued. "I've lived longer in Stouffville than anywhere else in my life."

Mr. Schlukbier stressed the importance of a good Library in the community. He also emphasized the need to work towards expansion of the present facility. This project, he urged, should occur no later than 1990.

Mr. Schlukbier concluded: "If anyone asks me where my home town is, the answer will always be Stouffville, Ontario, Canada."

Oldtimers hang 'em up

STOUFFVILLE — The Whitchurch-Stouffville Adult Skating Club will conclude its season Tues., April 5.

The 'Old Smoothies' will take to the ice at 7:30 p.m. At the conclu-

sion, (9:30 p.m.), refreshments will be served.

Location is the Town Rec. Centre, Ninth Line North.

Admission is \$2 members, \$3 non-members.

Neighborly Notes

A miracle

It's a miracle that show Ron Fenson, former Markham Town councillor, describes his recovery from a tragic truck-car crash on Hwy. 7, west of Locust Hill almost 18 months ago. Ron was confined to hospital several weeks in addition to months of convalescence. He met him March 19 at the County Decorating and Collectibles Show and Sale, Markham Fairgrounds. Despite all he's been through, he looks great.

Not mine

Would the lady who left two pairs of party shoes on the hood of my car, Thursday, kindly come and pick them up (as quickly as possible). I put them on the front seat where my wife found them while driving to choir practice Thursday night. I had some tall explaining to do in fact. I'm not out of the woods yet. One pair is Cover Girl and the other is Vanderbilt. They were purchased at Steadman's in Stouffville. The evidence is condemning. What I need is a witness.

No inflation

The cost of everything keeps climbing; well, almost everything. About the only thing that doesn't is membership in the Stouffville Horticultural Society. It remains at \$1.00 and has, for the last 50 years. Members even come around and collect.

Move over!

Yes, guys, they're crowding us for room, and maybe it's about time. Not only do we have three female mayors in the immediate area (Carole Bell, Fran Sainsbury and Gerri Lynn O'Connor), but York Region now has a female treasurer and a very clever one too, I understand. She's Kelly Cerswell, successor to John Hylinski. And that's not the end. The officer soon to replace Regional MOH/Dr. Owen Slingerland is also a lady, Dr. Helena Jaczek. Presently an associate MOH, she'll move up to her new position in August. Congratulations.

What a cook!

Loretta Lavell, Cam Fella Blvd., Stouffville, has to be one of the best cooks in town. How do I know? Last week she brought me in a plate of chocolate chip cookies, fresh out of the oven. Excluding Marion Murphy's pumpkin pie, I've never tasted anything quite like them. The Office staff join me in saying thanks.

Help needed

Like to volunteer? If so, the staff at Green Gables Manor, Bloomington would appreciate your help in a variety of ways including Bible study, quilting, crafting, playing games, or just plain visiting. If you have a few spare hours in the week, give Shirley Young a call at 640-9310.

No birds!

It's been a birdless winter around the Bob Nesbitt home at R.R. 1, Goodwood. Despite the fact Bob's been more than generous with hand-outs, his feathered friends haven't responded. He's wondering if Art Briggs' Jude, The Tribune's nature columnist has the answer? Bob thinks maybe it's an over-abundance of hawks in the area that's frightening the song birds away. Maybe he's right. On a similar note, there weren't many birds at 381 Rupert Avenue this winter either, but hawks weren't the reason.

A landmark

It's not Churchill, it's Church Hill. The community located at the intersection of Ninth Line North and the Aurora Sideroad. The Town plans to recognize this rural hamlet with a roadside sign. Garfield Kellington, formerly of Whitchurch Township, corrected my spelling of Church Hill in the March 23 issue of The Tribune. He's anxious the sign be correct also. The hamlet's origin says Mr. Kellington goes back to the original Hill family that owned a farm near the Church Hill corner. A Methodist church was once located there, built in the mid 1800s. It was later moved and used as an implement shed on the Hill property. A number of family descendants still reside in the Whitchurch-Stouffville area. Appreciate Mr. Kellington's response to an obvious error.



Ruth Armstrong, North Street, Stouffville, has been promoted to the position of Revenue Supervisor and Tax Collector in the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville. Ruth joined the Tax Department staff here eight years ago. Previously, she was employed by the County of Kent and the Region of York.

—Jim Thomas

Ruth takes step up

By JIM THOMAS
STOUFFVILLE — Ruth Armstrong, North Street, Stouffville, has taken another step up the ladder of success.

The soft-spoken, personable mother of two, holds the dual position of Revenue Supervisor and Tax Collector for the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville.

"I enjoy it," Ruth says of her work within the Tax Department. "I accept the change in responsibilities. I want to do a good job."

Ed Blackburn, the Department Head has no doubts: "She's work-

ed extremely hard; she's earned it," he says of her promotion.

Born and educated in Chatham, Ruth first worked for the County of Kent. Later, she was employed with the Region of York before coming to Whitchurch-Stouffville.

Recently, she received a diploma in Tax Administration, completing the course by correspondence.

Before that, she completed a course offered by the Association of Municipal Clerks and Treasurers.

While feeling a little like the Matthew of Biblical days, Ruth says there's a lot more to the position than merely collecting taxes. She enjoys the challenge.

Bob and Ruth Armstrong have been married ten years. They have two children, Tyler, 7 and Ashley, 4. Ruth has five sisters. Her parents still reside in Chatham.

"I spend as much free time as possible with the kids," she says. Camping is their favorite family recreation.



CHRISTINA HAAS

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