

Vigilance is needed for moms and tots swimming

Stouffville's Jack Buckler says that Moms and Tots swimming programs can be dangerous if you can't spot trouble signs.

centres in the Metro Toronto area.

Buckler, who lives on Stouffville Road, operates three aquatic

He says that many parents enroll themselves and their children in the parent-taught program "so

they can have fun with their children in the water.

"But once you have a young child on his back or under the water, it's no longer fun, but instruction," he claims.

For this reason, Buckler has ended the Moms and Tots classes at his centres.

He says that there is a danger of the child passing out under water, or of water intoxication in which the child swallows too much water causing a chemical imbalance in the blood. Although he hasn't known it to happen, he says "I don't like to play Russian Roulette."

Many of the warning signs are difficult to spot, Buckler explains, and they are most easily noticed by a highly-trained instructor.

The trouble signs, such as tightening of the muscles or kicking underwater, indicate the child is uncomfortable. If the parent doesn't notice that, or becomes overconfident, Buckler says the child may begin to experience fear.

Although some regression is to be expected, children ought to gradually improve. But when the child experiences fear, Buckler says he or she may regress below a level previously mastered.

Widemans meet to celebrate roots

More than 700 people are anticipated for the second gathering and family reunion of the Wideman clan Aug. 27.

The event takes place at the Markham Fairgrounds, 18th Avenue and McCowan Road, Markham.

The original spelling of the name is Weidman, and there are many variations. But all can trace their roots to Mathias Martin Weidman who came to Philadelphia in 1733.

The first gathering in 1983 was a celebration of the 250th anniversary of Mathias' arrival in North America. Esther Cressal, an organizer of this year's event, estimates there were between 600 and 700 people at the first one.

then, and we're hoping for even more to come out this year," she said.

Most of the participants were descendants of Mathias's great grandson Henry, who settled in Markham in 1803. While the majority were residents of the Stouffville-Markham area, Cressal says there were some from the Kitchener area and one family came up from the U.S.

There will be games and contests for all ages at the event as well as a picnic lunch. There will also be a great deal of family history to learn and share with the various family branches.

Anyone planning to attend is asked to phone Esther Cressal at 640-5257 or Lloyd Wideman at 640-5804.



Warren Mucci points to the latest central vacuum equipment available at newly-opened AJ Enterprises in Stouffville. The store specializes in central

vacuum systems including accessories and instructions for do-it-yourselfers.

Central vacuum systems sold in new Main St. store

By BRUCE STAPLEY
Anne Marie Mucci and Janice Anstey have set up shop in Stouffville, and they're hoping to clean up.

The women, from Stouffville and Uxbridge respectively, have opened AJ Enterprises, 104 Main Street West — their product is central vacuum systems.

The newly opened store offers a complete line of Astec central vacuum cleaners and accessories and they'll install, if necessary, for an extra charge.

"There was not another dealer selling strictly central vacuums in Stouffville," says Warren Mucci, son of one of the partners who is spending his summer tending the store before returning to university.

Warren points out that his father Gerry has installed central vacs for years, going back to his days as a local renovations contractor.

"They used to be called Astro Vac, but they now call them Astecs," Warren says.

Gerry will do the installation work, says Warren.

Warren reports that traffic is brisk.

"We were at the Markham Home Show way back before we were even open, and we did a good business there," he says.

Accessories available include some of the latest in central vac technology.

"We carry a central vac muffler that cuts the sound way down," says Warren. "And there are flat extension pipes for going under places like refrigerators."

Warren says that not only are central vacs becoming better designed, they are also going down in price.

"They're more reasonably priced than ever," Warren claims. "They range anywhere from \$399 to \$735."

Servicing has also been made easier by new advancements, he points out.

"Some models now have a pop-off motor, so you can take it off to take to the dealer for servicing, or take it to another central vac, like the cottage."

Some of the Astec models come equipped with the new cyclonic filter system, which makes filter bags a thing of the past.

"This is the Cadillac of the central vac lineup," Warren says. "The system works on the centrifugal force principle. There is little or no power loss as with filter bags. It's considered the best system going."

Warren says that although the store sells accessories like elbows, brackets, pipes, and water attachments, most units come complete with everything needed. Information is available for the do-it-yourselfer.

The showroom itself contains an effective demonstration concept. Pipes lead from the working unit up the wall, and then make endless turns.

Warren feeds an old necktie to the intake valve, and the customer can see the tie race through the pipes, which are transparent, and into the collection bin.

"People often ask if objects get stuck going around corners," Warren says. "This lets them actually see for themselves that they don't."

There is also a display showing customers how the wiring is hooked up.

Store hours at AJ Enterprises are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 10-2 Saturdays.

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