

Stouffville artist returns to creative roots

By KATE GILDERDALE
 Although artist David Morrison has only lived at Musselman's Lake since October, he's no stranger to the area or the house he's living in, having spent summers there with his family "for as long as I can remember."
 "I was born in Toronto in 1948 and my father built this place in 1945," he says. "It was very different then. This was a summer getaway area for a lot of people and I remember beaches on both sides of the lake used to be jammed with people."
 His decision to take up residence there was prompted in part by the difficulty in finding an affordable apartment in the city.
 "The art scene in Toronto is such that you're always working at things other than your art just to pay the rent. Artists are being driven out into the country. I know close to a dozen who can't afford to live there any more," he stresses.

He considers it a luxury to have a place to call home, and he has already spent a lot of time winterizing the family cottage.
 When he arrived, he described it as "a shell. It was half falling over." He hopes to have the interior finished by spring, when he'll start work on the outside.
 "You have to be a jack of all trades," he smiles.

His love of art goes back to his childhood, when he would visit the library and borrow books on how to draw, which gave him some good basic help.

Much of what he has learned since has been self-taught, the result of a strong inclination towards art.

"If you want to do something badly enough, you'll do it no matter what," he says. Despite his enthusiasm, he initially lacked confidence in his own ability, and after he finished high school in Richmond Hill, he studied photography.

After eight years of photographic work, he began to feel his creative horizons were limited. "I became aware of the limitations of photography, with its expressiveness always tied to the mechanical image."

As a result, he turned back to art, taking courses "all over the place, at all sorts of schools in Toronto," and has been drawing and painting for the past fourteen years, supporting himself with a variety of jobs.

He has worked in "just about all media," his favorite being oils.

Mr. Morrison describes himself as an abstractionist, although the paintings adorning the cottage at the lake are landscapes: "This is a switch for me,

coming back to my roots. I'm only beginning to do landscapes," he states. "I'm trying to express my own feelings about the area, having been here over many years."

Musselman's Lake itself is a favorite subject, with sunsets being his special love, and he's hoping to produce an exhibition around that theme.

Because a very small minority of people actually visit art shows, one of his aims is to bring art to the general population.

"I was thinking we could use a few murals here," he observes. He'd also like to show his work in local restaurants, banks and public buildings, and hopes to have an exhibition at Latham Gallery in the future.

Although he has no fixed schedules, "I'm still trying to work on the place as well as get a bit of painting done." He tries to spend at least a couple of hours a day on his art, and sometimes 10 or 12 hours if the mood is right.

"Right now I'm planning a show, but I haven't produced enough to take the proposal around anywhere."

When approaching government-funded galleries, he presents a specific proposal, pictures of his work and his resume.

"You give them background and an outline of what you want to do," he says.

An artist's work is subjected to review board, which decides whether to accept it for

exhibition.
 In the case of commercial galleries, he explains, "they're not so interested in the idea behind the art as in the actual visual appearance of the art itself. They want to know if they can sell it."
 He believes the present educational system discourages artistic tendencies. "It tends to emphasize the nuts and bolts kind of things, like reading, writing and arithmetic."

Some of Morrison's work will be displayed in the windows of The Tribune offices over the next couple of weeks, and he'll be happy to hear from people who are interested in his pictures. He can be reached at 640-5230.

"I'm going to see if I can get by selling my work, then I'd have the freedom to paint full time," he concludes.

It's later than you think!
 A meeting to determine ball diamond allocation for the 1989 season, will be held Wed., Jan. 18 at 8 p.m. in the Whitechurch-Stouffville Rec. Centre lounge.

All interested persons are urged to attend.
 The Association President this year is Carl Myers.
 The Secretary is Kathy VanKoughnet.



Musselman's Lake artist David Morrison, seen here with one of his works, is combining renovations with creativity while staying in the area. Although an abstract artist, his stay at Musselman's lake has spawned some landscape paintings. His work will be displayed at the Tribune offices.

Comprehensive Course Reviews for Grades 7 to 13

If your child's classroom performance leaves something to be desired, we can help with specially developed study strategies and comprehensive course reviews in all subjects.
 Individual or group instruction.

For more information, call us today!

THE OMSON CENTRE FOR LEARNING SKILLS
 5293 Highway #7, Suite 203
 Markham, Ontario L3P 1B8
 Telephone: 294-8757

Village Box Meats

SHAPE UP SPECIALS!

HALIBUT STEAKS
 \$12.99 3 LB. BOX

Boneless & Skinless Sole Fillets
\$13.99 3 LB.

Oven Heat
Mini Pizzas
 Deluxe or Pepperoni **\$6.99** Bag of 16 4 1/2" Each
 Microwave pizzas also on sale \$7.49

Boneless Skinless Chicken Breasts
\$15.49 3 LB. Box

Gourmet Corner
New York Striploin Steak
\$20.99 6 x 7 oz.

Gourmet Oriental vegetable blend Broccoli, mushrooms, snow pea pods, green beans & water chestnuts
2.69

Oven Bake
BLUEBERRY PIE
\$2.99

Expires Jan. 17/89 or while quantities last!

8565 McCowan Rd. Markham (at Hwy. 7)
 764-2600

6 Glen Cameron Place (Behind Red Lobster)
 764-0898

L I V I N G L I G H T I N G

HALF PRICE DAYS

See Our already low-priced in-store specials!

PLUS 10% to 50% OFF everything in the store!

1/2 PRICE ON ANTIQUE CAST BRASS LAMPS

Reg. \$109.99 **SALE \$54.99**

1/2 PRICE ON GLASS BOUDOIR LAMPS
 Available in ivory, white, dusty rose and grey.

Reg. \$29.99 **SALE \$14.99**

1/2 PRICE ON BRASS AND GLASS CLOSE-UPS

Polished brass finish with bevelled glass.
SALE \$39.99
 Reg. \$79.99

1/2 PRICE ON CHROME BATH STRIPS

Available in polished and antique brass finishes.
 7" x 4" in chrome, polished brass and antique brass.
 2" - 4 lite
SALE \$9.49
 Reg. \$18.99

Sale ends January 28, 1989. Bulbs extra. On sale while quantities last. *Off our everyday low prices.

OVER 60 STORES IN CANADA

LIVING LIGHTING

We Make Your Lighting *Exciting!*

5308 Hwy. 7 & McCowan Markham, Ontario
294-9557

Hillcrest Mall
 9350 Yonge St.
 Richmond Hill
884-0284