

Meharg firm rolls up awards

By KATE GILDERDALE

STOUFFVILLE — In the two-and-a-half years since Gerry Meharg Ltd. became a member broker of Century 21, the Stouffville company has surpassed even its own expectations.

"In 1988, our Stouffville office achieved the number 18 position in all of Canada, out of 450 offices," explains general manager Brian Meharg. "Our goal was to be among the top 21 offices in Canada."

As a result, the office has received many awards including the President's Club Award, presented to the top 21 offices in the country, based on production.

They also received the International Centurion Office Award, which Mr. Meharg describes as "the most coveted in the international system;" the International Gold Medallion Award and the Canadian Gold Club Award. In each quarter of 1988, Gerry Meharg Ltd. also received an Outstanding Achievement Award.

"The Stouffville office completed close to \$61 million in real estate sales volume, with 350 transactions closed in 1988," Mr. Meharg points out.

Century 21 and Easter Seals also presented the company with an award for two fundraisers they held for the charity during 1988.

He attributes the company's success to a number of factors, including an excellent sales staff; "they are hard-working, dedicated and well-trained," support staff, "the backbone of our company and integral in our success," and the location of the office which he describes as highly visible, with plenty of available parking.

"We enjoy a great referral business, especially from our fellow Century 21 office in the golden horseshoe," continues Mr. Meharg. "Many families have been referred to us who enjoy living in our type of community, because of the friendly atmosphere and the close proximity to Toronto."

The company's affiliation with Century 21 has provided many advantages, he stresses, including excellent training, national and international advertising for instant recognition, and an awards program which recognizes the efforts of sales people both nationally and internationally. Century 21 is the largest real estate organization in the world, with over 7,000 offices and 110,000 sales people worldwide.

Most important of all are the clients the Stouffville office serves. "We hope we can continue to earn their respect and confidence," Mr. Meharg concludes. "We will strive to provide the service our clients deserve."



You're never too old to fiddle around

The Silver Jubilee Club was bouncing Wednesday night when Tommy Anderson and his Lime Ridge Old Time Fiddlers paid members a visit. At the program's conclusion, Club president Ed MacAtoney (right) tried his hand at striking up a tune with a little help from Tommy himself. Other members of the musical group are Boyd and Wilma Dolson of Orangeville and John Cole of Toronto. Mr. Anderson comes from Nobleton. —Jim Thomas

Ross Hetherington

Real estate sales amaze salesman

By KATE GILDERDALE

STOUFFVILLE — Despite the fact Century 21's Ross Hetherington has only been in real estate a short time, his achievements in 1988 were outstanding, according to general manager Brian Meharg. As one of the top two per cent of the 7,900 sales people working for Century 21 in Canada, (he was number 22 overall,) he's received a Centurion Award, Canadian Gold Club Award and been made an International Gold Associate.

A Stouffville resident for 30 years, he owned an electrical contracting business in town for

25 years.

"It was time for a change," he smiles. "I'd been in my own business for a long time. My arms gave out on me, so I had to find a softer job."

His experience in buying and selling real estate for himself made his new career an obvious choice.

"I have a kind of gut feel for it," he contends.

He admits he's surprised at his own success, "but I do know a lot of people and they know me." He took a real estate course, obtained his license and "didn't do anything for six months." His

first sale totalled \$72,000.

"It takes a lot of time and effort," stresses Ross. "There's a lot of night and weekend work."

In the real estate business, "you meet every kind of person there is. Your clients become your friends."

His hours vary; he usually starts at 8:30 a.m. and sometimes works as late as 1 a.m. Weekends are also busy.

"I haven't been away for two years; I think maybe this year we'll take a vacation."

He feels positive about the future, and says the market continues to be strong. To those who



ROSS HETHERINGTON

want to invest their money wisely he says, "real estate is the best investment you'll ever make." At the same time, he sympathizes with young people, struggling to find somewhere affordable to live.

When Ross manages to find some spare time, he likes to have a project on the go at home. "Right now I'm building a boat."

He and his wife Joan have two married children; Anne-Marie, who lives in Markham and Norm in town. Ross and Joan are proud grandparents of Anne-Marie's son Michael, aged 16 months.

GO-Transit

Late home service fills town need

By KATE GILDERDALE

STOUFFVILLE — Many Stouffville commuters, working in Toronto and wishing to use public transit, have been hampered by the early departure of the evening GO-train that leaves Union Station at 5:20 p.m. Monday through Friday.

To help overcome this problem, GO is now offering an evening bus service that leaves Union Station at 7:30 p.m., and stops only at Unionville, Markham and Stouffville GO-Stations.

Tickets for either the train or the bus are accepted on this new service.

"We have buses that go to Scarborough and back every day and we have two going downtown every morning and four coming back, including the new one," explains Ged Stonehouse of Stonehouse Travel. As well, GO operates one train each way every day.

Although an additional train has been considered, there are no plans to offer the service immediately, Ged says. The last time it was discussed, he noted, it was estimated that a subsidy

amounting to close to \$1,400 per passenger would be required.

"The present train is very successful," Ged continues, "but, even if a second one was full, it would still have to be heavily subsidized."

Current ticket costs for the bus are \$4.85 for a single or \$43.75 for a book of ten.

Train tickets are \$4.25 for a single or \$38.50 for ten.

Monthly passes are also available at \$134 for the train and \$153 for the bus.

To honor couple

Ken and Ina Madill, formerly of Claremont and now of Campbellford, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary, Sat., Jan. 28.

In honor of the occasion, members of their family are holding an Open House and Dance from 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 1 a.m., at the Queensville Community Centre. Friends and former neighbors are invited.

Family helps dad blow out candles

By MARJORIE WOODLAND

FOURTH LINE — In honor of Reuben May's 75th birthday, seventeen family members gathered at the farm home for a dinner party, Friday. The following evening, the majority travelled to Maple Leaf Gardens in support of Bradley May, a player with Niagara Falls in O.H.A. Jr. 'A' competition. Much to their delight, Niagara edged the Toronto Marlboros 7-6. Bradley is a Grade 12 student attending college in Niagara.

The community welcomes Murray and Janet Stewart, and daughter to their attractive new home in Goodwood's north subdivision. Murray is an excellent builder. The family's house is a product of his workmanship.

Sympathy of the community is extended to Charles and Isobel Turner in the loss of Isobel's father, Mr. H.J. Cummings. Since moving from his home in Uxbridge, Mr. Cummings has resided in Port Perry. The funeral service was conducted Monday.

Mr. Marvin May is a patient at Orchard Villa, Pickering and feeling well. He's keenly interested in the well-being of Goodwood friends and former neighbors.

Two baby girls were welcomed into the family of Goodwood Baptist Church when a congregational dinner and social evening was enjoyed Saturday. Jennifer,

daughter of Pastor Gary and Dawnna Manzo is six weeks old. Rachael, daughter of Dale and Heather Hockey is seven weeks old. With nine grandparents and great-grandparents present, the lovely wee gals weren't lacking for attention. They were also the recipients of many lovely and useful baby things. "For what could be sweeter than a wee baby girl? Guaranteed to keep mother and dad in a whirl. Such commings and goings, such worries and toil. All caused by a princess in dainty pink voile. What could be sweeter than a wee baby girl? Keeping the household in cons-

tant turmoil. Smiling and kicking and cooing with glee. What could be sweeter? Why two, certainly!"

Adoptive parent query

By Myra Hurst

Family & Children's Services Region of York
If you're an adoptive parent, here's an opportunity to become involved in an innovative study. Family and Children's Services, (Children's Aid Society), of York Region is looking for two-parent families with at least one child adopted after the age of seven months and now between nine and 16 years old.

Participants will be asked to complete a series of questionnaires in their own homes.

All information will be treated in the strictest confidence. Families will receive a small token of appreciation for their time.

Help us help you. The Family and Children's Services of York Region will continue to develop programs for adoptive families based on research findings.

To learn more about this project, call Debra Brick at 731-3150 or 722-3474, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Men-only ski trip

The Stouffville Men's Skiing and Sailing Club is embarking on a skiing expedition (men only) Feb. 24-25. Reserve tickets are now on sale. Only twenty are available. Payment, (\$50 deposit), must be made to Stan Newmarch no later than Feb. 15. For additional information call 640-4535.



Mary's three-wheeler is battery-powered

Mary Joncas, Elm Road, Stouffville, is the envy of seniors when she rolls into the A&P Plaza aboard her battery-powered three-wheeler. It's a gift from her daughters for which she's truly appreciative. Mary calls it her "Cadillac." "It gets me

where I want to go," she says, and economically too. On her arrival home, she simply plugs it in. Next day, it's ready to go again and so is Mary.

—Jim Thomas