Antique globes off to museum

By BRUCE STAPLEY

Three antique lighting globes, slated for replacement and probable destruction, have been gratefully rescued by the Markham Museum.

The hanging fixtures, about 12 inches in diameter, had been positioned in the basement of the Stouffville United Church since the 1920s.

When the church decided to install flourescent light fixtures in the basement, Malcolm Keith, president of the Markham Historical Society, made the trip to Stouffville to see if the globes could be used at the Markham Museum.

It turned out they were the exact style of globes the Museum had been searching for in an effort to restore the Museum back to its original condition.

"Malcolm had long been associated with the Church," said Robert Scythes, chairman of the church's Property Committee. "So he came up to see if these were the same type of globe the Museum people were looking for to make the Museum just like it was when it was an old school buiding." The museum is situated on Hwy. 48 in Markham.

While Keith was hopeful there would be 10 globes, the number required by the Museum, he was happy to find three. "With all the Cubs and Scouts meetings in the church basement through the years, some have probably been broken," said Mr. Scythes.

Scythes says he's happy the globes will be put to significant use.

"We just donated them to the Museum. How can you put a value on them? We'll get a lot more out of them going there than if we were to get $5 at a yard sale."

Young man on the move

Future bright for Chris

By JIM THOMAS

Eighteen-year-old Chris Topping, (and his instrumental back-up group), was accorded the loudest ovation at this year's High School Variety Show.

The reason?

While the Grade 12 student's singing was good, those who know him best openly admit it was who rather than what that prompted the response.

There's not a more highly respected senior at SDSS.

Modest concerning his accomplishments, Chris readily admits he loves to sing.

He was a member of Jim Rehill's mixed choir in Grades 9, 10 and 11.

Chris and his band first participated in an assembly marking Remembrance Day.

"I asked them to come back and play again," Chris explains. "It was fun."

Chris is one of four in the family of Ted and Julia Topping, Stouffer Street South. He has an older brother Steven, 19; a younger brother and sister, Charles and Alyson, aged nine and eight respectively.

Chris's secret to social success is treating everyone as a friend. "So far, I've never had a problem," he says. "I look on my teachers as friends as well."

Chris has many interests. He's won several awards in track and field. The javelin and discus are his favorite competitions.

He also holds an orange belt in karate.

Just recently he participated in a karate tournament in Syracuse, New York. He'd like to compete in California in May.

Chris is a member of the Fred Villari Studio of Self Defence. His instructor is Bill Bouwmeister.

"I enjoy the discipline and the exercise," he says. "In Stouffville, you don't need a whole lot of defence," he laughs.

How would he react if threatened?

"I wouldn't use it (karate) unless I had to," he responds. "I'd let the other guy make the first move."

"The best defence is running," he adds.

Chris says he's met a lot of great guys through the sport. Workouts are held three nights a week in the Masonic Hall, Ninth Line and Second Street, Stouffville.

Chris knows all about work. Last summer, he held two jobs, one at the A&P, and another at the Canadian Tire gas bar.

"Kept me busy," he says.

A real holiday for Chris is time spent at Sharbot Lake near Parnham.

Chris honestly admits he holds Aunt Tannis (Topping) in high regard. "She's the kind of person who makes you sit back and look at yourself and your problems," he says.

He was pleased, he said, to look out from the stage and see her seated in a front row. His heart did a double flip when he spotted girlfriend Tanya Bentvalson seated there too. They made his night.

What lies ahead?

Chris says he definitely intends to complete Grade 13, possibly go on to college, then go into business. An entrepreneuring class is his favorite. The teacher is Bill McKnight.

Chris Topping, a young man on the move, is sure to make his mark.

Photo/JIM THOMAS

Chris Topping of Stouffville is a young man of many interests. He has sung in the high school choir and plays in a band of high school students. He's well-respected among the students at Stouffville District Secondary School. Chris plans to go on to Grade 13 and then to college. He hopes to be in business someday.

Editor's Mail

Schools hit in funding crisis

Dear Editor:

None of the provincial parties, Conservative, Liberal or NDP, wish to make an issue out of extended funding to the separate school system.

It was this way when Bill Davis, our former premier, introduced the proposal. Nothing has changed.

This has placed the Peterson Government in a precarious position. There's only so much money to go around.

When the education dollar is stretched to include both public and separate systems, something has to give. The public schools are suffering.

I see no solution to the problem.

I'm not saying the Davis plan was wrong, but those of us in the public school sector must be prepared to pay the piper.

Sincerely,
Gordon Flynn,
R.R. 2, Stouffville

Airport stand is applauded

Dear Editor:

The Tribune's bold editorial stand with regard to the Pickering Airport project is deserving of praise, regardless of which side of the fence one sits.

The fact the Airport site would require services, (water and sewers), something Stouffville lacks, is indeed a plus for the town. I can't see Stouffville acquiring these facilities any other way.

Also, the editorial's suggestion that low-rental housing be incorporated into the Airport plan makes sense.

An Airport shouldn't render 18,000 acres sterile. There should still be room for limited residential build-up and some farming.

I for one, (I may be the only one), applaud your stand. I trust the governmental powers-that-be will give it serious consideration.

Sincerely,
Philip Massaro,
R.R. 1, Claremont

Church has vision

Dear Editor:

A few months ago, I read in The Tribune that Ballantrae Church was to be sold.

In another Tribune issue there was a story related to proposed expansion of Springvale Church near the Sixth Line.

I see something very wrong here.

Surely, like Springvale, with the proper leadership, the Ballantrae community could support a church of its own.

Sincerely,
(Mrs.) Sylvia Klein,
R.R. 4, Stouffville

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