

Library News

Ontario Library Week celebrated in grand style here

Next week is Ontario Library Week! Mind you, we like to think that every week in our library is library week: the Provincial proclamation just gives us an official excuse to celebrate and publicize our services and activities. A library has been a constant in this community for about 118 years, starting with the small collection of books circulated from Allen's Jewellery Store in 1877, through to the 49,000 books and 3,000 audio-visual tapes (approximately) in our present public facility. Now, that's something to celebrate!

Here's what we have planned for this year's celebration:

All-week contests - Oct. 17 to 21 Test your powers of

deduction by trying to solve our counter-top contests.

CD know-how - Oct. 17 to 20 What magazine articles are available on CD at the library? Staff members will demonstrate the CD system at 4 p.m. each day.

PJ Storytime for Tots and Teddies - Tues. Oct. 17, 7-7:30 p.m. Children are invited to come in PJs, and bring a favorite soft toy, for bedtime stories.

Separation Trauma: a free seminar for women - Wed. Oct. 18, 7-8:30 p.m. Barbara Browne of Individual and Family Counselling will discuss the emotional and legal issues of separation trauma.

"Country Roads" author - Thurs. Oct. 19, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Markham resident and TV broadcaster, Terry

Gulbart, talks about and presents stories from his new book "Country Roads". The stories were gathered over years of reporting and filming vignettes of life, places and people for Global Television. The author's enthusiasm for and fascination with his subjects is reflected in the writing, photographs and cartoons of his book.

The official theme of this year's Library Week is "Log on, Ontario: Count on Your Library for Access to Information." At the moment we don't have the necessary computer hardware to fulfil the "log on" part of the theme, but we sincerely hope to come through with flying colors on the "Count on Us" part. If we don't, please let us know!

People

Billboard heralds Stouffville Ph.D.'s arrival



This billboard was erected by the family of former Stouffville resident Anastasia (Stacy) Lintner on the occasion of receiving her doctorate in economics last week.

Photo/STEVE SOMERVILLE

By KATE GILDERDALE
Correspondent

When Anastasia Lintner returned to Stouffville last weekend, she was greeted by a large and colorful billboard congratulating her on obtaining her Ph.D. from Guelph University.

"It was wonderful. I was quite surprised," said Anastasia, who was raised in town and attended Orchard Park Public School and the local high school. "It was my dad who organized (the billboard) and my parents searched through to find the appropriate picture."

The one they selected, of a bonny 2-year-old, apparently clutching a collection of school supplies, created an eye-catching poster in its prime position outside Canadian Tire.

Don Lintner had originally tried to obtain the site by the railway tracks, said his daughter, but it was unavailable "and I think Ian MacKenzie at Canadian Tire was instrumental in getting the location; he was very helpful."

Barb and Don Lintner held an open house for their daughter Saturday at the family's home on Market Street and many friends visited during the afternoon.

Anastasia attended the University of Guelph for her B.A. in Specialized Economics and her M.A. in Economics. In 1990 she began her Ph.D. in the joint Agricultural Economics and Economics program in Natural Resources and Environmental Economics.

At present she is a member of the faculty in the Department of Economics at Wilfrid Laurier University and her research experience focuses primarily on the area of environmental economics.

Hurricane Opal cuts short Stouffville couple's trip

By JOAN RANSBERRY
Staff Reporter

Hurricane Opal turned a dream vacation into a nightmare for a Stouffville couple last week.

Two days after Raymond and Dora Rioux booked into the fifth floor of a Panama City hotel to begin a 30-day vacation, the police banged on their apartment door and told the senior citizens to evacuate immediately. Hurricane Opal, the meanest storm to hit the Gulf Coast in 25 years, was on its way.

To avoid getting further caught up in the hurricane, the couple followed police orders. Leaving most of their belongings behind, the Rioux's piled into their car and headed 80 miles north to wait out the storm. As Opal pounded the city, the Rioux's weren't the only ones to opt to leave. The mass exodus out of Panama City meant "no vacancy" signs lit up along the way.

"We ended up sleeping in the car," said Rioux. "There was just no place

to stay."

Before the storm died down, at least 100,000 people were forced to leave a 240-kilometre stretch of Florida's Gulf Coast.

Opal left 10 people dead. She gave birth to seven tornadoes and caused flooding from storm surges up to 15 feet, Rioux pointed out.

"It was a terrible, terrible thing," he said.

When the news reports indicated that the worse was over, the couple decided to make their way back to Panama City.

"What a sight," said Rioux. "The damage was devastating. The winds were up to 178 miles-an-hour. We tried three different road before we found one that was clear."

While the Stouffville couple managed to make it back to the hotel, they didn't get the typical southern welcome - the building had sustained serious structural damage, the water had reached the second floor and the ceilings were caving in.

Nobody was allowed entry. "We just turned around and headed home to

Stouffville," said Rioux.

Rioux, a native of Quebec, has lived in Ontario for 50 years.

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We tried three different road before we found one that was clear.

While Hurricane Hazel, the worst storm in Canada's history, hit southern

Ontario 40 years ago, Rioux was liv-

ing in Port Hope at the time.

Hurricane Hazel struck Toronto and the lakeshore area with a vengeance, but for the most part, the eastern Ontario community was spared.

"I missed Hazel. It took all these years to see this one," said Rioux.

As for vacation plans, the couple will continue to take trips.

"But, I don't think we'll be back to Panama City for a while," said Rioux, relieved to be home.



RIOUX

Obituary

Well-known pharmacist served Stouffville for years

Douglas Clare Widdifield, a well-known former Stouffville pharmacist, died on Sunday.

The 59-year old owned Widdifield's Drugs for many years. The business was sold to Shoppers' Drug Mart a few years ago.

Widdifield of North York died of cancer at Centenary Health Centre in Scarborough.

Widdifield is survived by his wife Maria Czirjak, three adult children, two step children, a grandson and a sister. He is predeceased by his first wife Marina Joy McCully.

Funeral service was held at the Stouffville United Church on Thursday at 1 p.m. Interment was at Stouffville Cemetery.