

Sheila McLeod retires in grand style as 'heart of library'

KATE GILDERDALE
Correspondent

Sheila McLeod, who has retired after 21 years with the Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Library, was honoured by about 75 staff, family and friends at a surprise party last week.

Guests gathered at the Meadowbrook Golf and Country Club Friday evening for cocktails and dinner.

McLeod, who had been expecting a quiet dinner with library staff, was clearly overwhelmed when she arrived to the strains of the bagpipes — played by a piper in full highland regalia — and was ushered into the dining room to be greeted by prolonged applause.

During the evening, slides were shown of her years at the library, depicting her in a variety of guises which ran the gamut from a clown to Paddington Bear.

Also featured were her awesome creations of life-sized prehistoric creatures, some of which, despite their fearsome aspect, could converse intelligently — and in a beguiling Scottish accent — with young library users.

Among McLeod's many other creations were a horse ridden by a knight in shining armour, Rapunzel in her tower and the bookworm which hung over the children's section.

A dab hand at mechanics, she often brought her masterpieces to life, to the delight of the vast crowds of children who attended library programs over the years.

Calling McLeod 'The heartbeat of the library,' CEO Marilyn Ferguson gave an affectionate and often hilarious speech in praise of her colleague.

She revealed the latter's love of chocolate and her propensity for mislaying items such as scissors and tape, which were used to fashion the wondrous creatures of the Jabberwocky Jungle, Dinosaur Daze and other magical locales in the hugely successful March break programs.

Mayor Wayne Emmerson warmly acknowledged her immense contribution to the community, echoing the sentiments of everyone in attendance.

A number of guests read tributes to McLeod, who was presented with an array of gifts which included a chocolate hammer and nails, a stunningly

decorated bicycle helmet and a computer scanner.

The guest of honour, sporting her newly-acquired headgear, gave a gracious, amusing

speech in which she expressed her surprise, delight and gratitude for a wonderful evening.

McLeod's warmth, creativity and sense of

fun will be sorely missed by library patrons of all ages and *The Tribune* joins the community in wishing her a long, happy and healthy retirement.

EATON'S TRANS

UP TO
40% off
VANITY FAIR
PANTYHOSE
AND TIGHTS

Buy 6, save 30%. Buy 12, save 40%.
Excludes \$13.99 guaranteed in-stock 3-pack pantyhose. 2-packs considered a single item.

35% off
ALL BRAS

Including WonderBra,
Warners, VogueBra and Playtex.
(Excludes \$19.99 program,
Speedo and WonderBra Premiere).

30% off
MEN'S SOCKS

Selected brand names
and Eaton Basics.

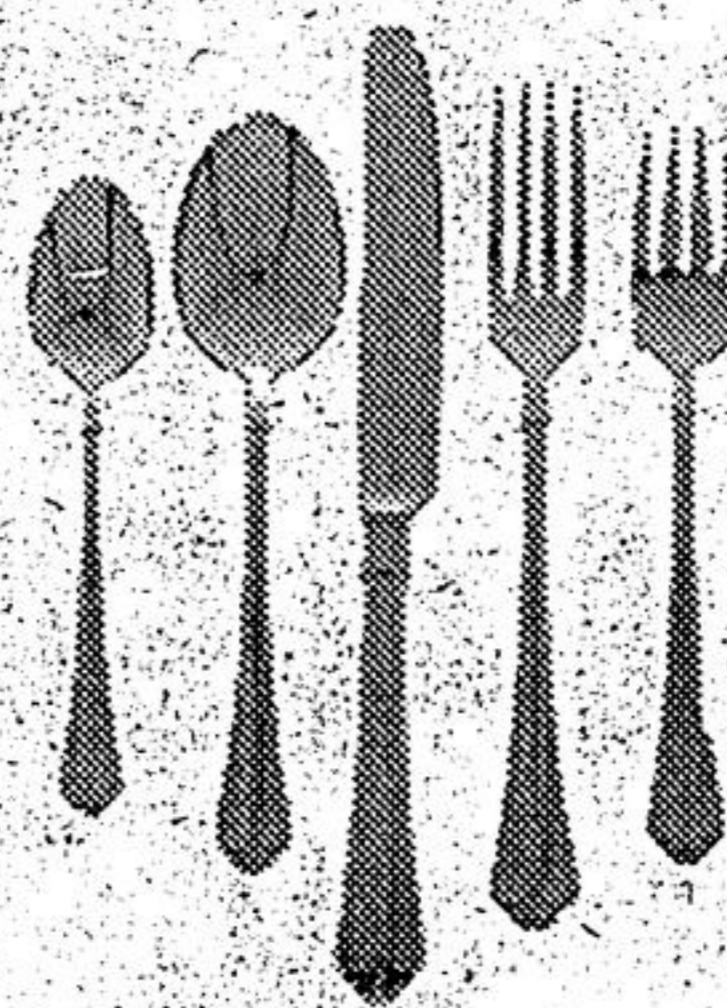
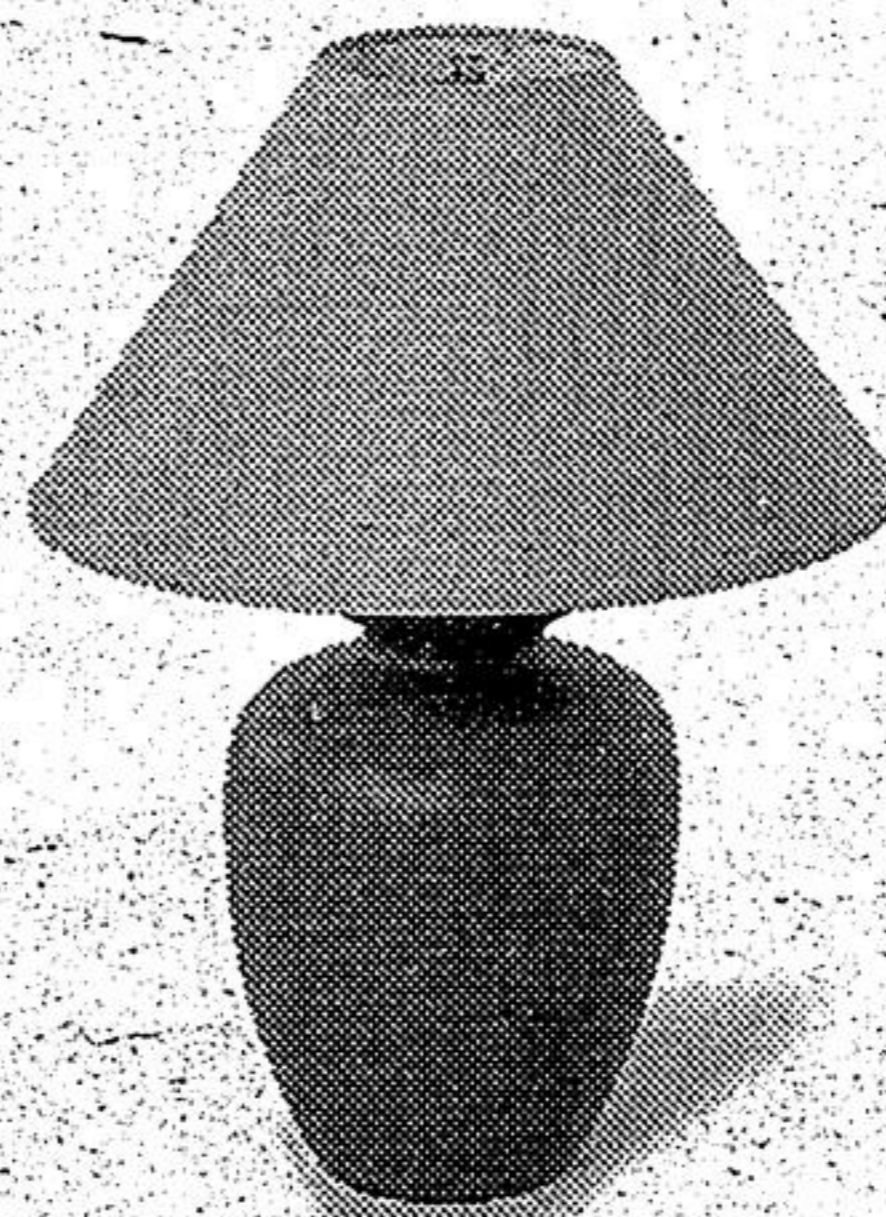
**MEN'S RETREAT
PERFECT T-SHIRT
SALE, ONLY
\$9.99**

20% off
ONEIDA
FLATWARE

5-pce. formal place settings
and 20-pce. casual sets.

20% off
ROYAL
DOULTON

Figurines and
Bunnykins Dinnerware



50% off
JEWELLERY

Selected Monet and
Jones New York boxed jewellery.
Savings off original ticketed prices.

UP TO
50% off
OPULENCE PILLOWS,
DUVETS AND
MATTRESS PADS

25% off
SEVEN SEAS
GIFTWARE

Excludes Collectibles.

30% off
LAMPS AND
LAMP SHADES

All regular-priced in-stock.

**SPECIAL
OFFER**
STERLING SILVER
JEWELLERY
\$4.99 to \$39.99

YSO presents pianist Pinto

Distinguished Italian pianist Manlio Pinto makes his debut with the York Symphony Orchestra on Oct. 18 and 19. Saturday's concert is at the Mary Lake Shrine, 13760 Keele St. at 15th Side Rd. in King Township and the Sunday performance takes place at the Markham Theatre, 171 Town Centre Blvd., Markham.

A graduate of St. Cecilia in Rome, Pinto is a winner of the Franz Liszt and Sergei Rachmaninoff competitions in Italy and the International Music Competition in Germany. A noted exponent of the romantic tradition, Pinto performs Liszt's 2nd Piano Concerto, a perfect vehicle to exhibit his keyboard mastery and interpretive skill. Schubert's Overture to Rosamunde and Brahms' Symphony No. 4 complete the program.

Subscription and Saturday single tickets may be purchased by calling (416) 420-0860. To reserve a seat for the Sunday concert, call the Markham Theatre at 305-7469. Single ticket prices for students and seniors are \$15, and adult tickets are \$19.

EATON'S TRANS CANADA
sale
the one and only!