

100-year-old has first birthday party

BY JOAN RANSBERRY
Staff Writer

It was a first for Myrtle Mulligan.

Many friends, including the staff of Markham's Bethany Lodge, helped Mrs. Mulligan celebrate her 100th birthday Sept. 3.

"This is the first birthday party I've ever had," Mrs. Mulligan said. "It's wonderful."

The middle of three children, Mrs. Mulligan was born on a farm in the Ottawa Valley Sept. 3, 1904. She graduated from McMaster University in Hamilton in 1928 and taught high school physical education, history and French in Goderich. There, she met Alfred. They were married in 1931. The couple had no children.

"I don't know why I've lived so long," Mrs. Mulligan said. "It was the goodness of the Lord, I guess."

She has had a close relationship with God her entire life.

Donald and Elsie James, who organized her party, have been friends with Mrs. Mulligan since her husband was a pastor at Markham Baptist Church in the 1950s.

"Donald said he wanted me to have a party. I told him to mastermind it. He did quite a good job," she said.

"Myrtle is a remarkable person," Mr. James said. "While she has no living relatives left, she has a tremendous circle of friends. Her friends come from across Canada. Some are from as far away as Holland."



STAFF PHOTO/STEVE SOMERVILLE

New traffic rules at school

BY JOAN RANSBERRY
Staff Writer

New traffic control measures, including reducing speed limits, have been introduced at a Markham school.

St. Augustine Catholic High School marked the first week of school by kicking off new traffic control measures at the Rodick Road school yesterday.

Students, parents and representatives from York Regional Police and Town of Markham attended.

Vehicle and pedestrian traffic has increased in front of the school, particularly at the beginning and end of the school day, vice-principal Pat Cubellis said.

Measures were introduced through the town's school-safety program.

The same thing as been done in many other schools in Markham, Arup Mukherjee, the town's manager of transportation, said.

"We look at changes that can be made to improve the situation and implement them."

The town reduced the speed in front of the school to 40 km/h, erected additional signs indicating a school zone and banned stopping on the east side of Rodick Road and parking on the west side of the street between 7:30 and 8:30 a.m.

Traffic patterns will also change on the school property so vehicles may only enter and exit from designated areas, Mr. Cubellis said, adding the changes will reduce traffic volumes and speed.

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Tony Wong, MPP
Markham

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For more information, please contact:

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