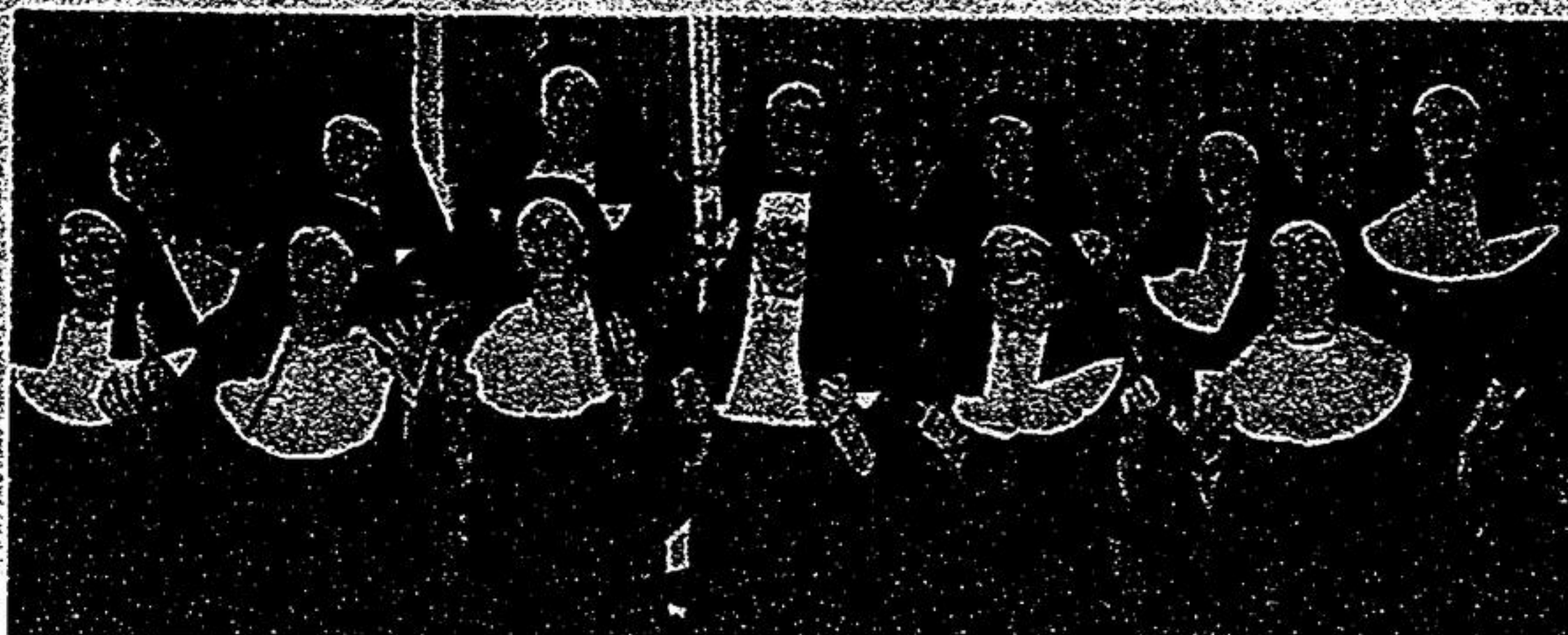


Chorus of nuns rehearses for the York-Durham Academy for the Performing Arts performances of the Sound of Music at EastRidge church next week.



Celebrity cameos part of musical

BY HANNELORE VOLPE
Staff Writer

The hills will be alive with the sound of music — inside EastRidge church in Stouffville — as the York-Durham Academy for the Performing Arts brings its third musical of the season to the stage. The cast for The Sound of Music has about 30 adults in lead roles with youngsters from Whitchurch-Stouffville and Markham making up three separate casts of the seven von Trapp children.

The children range in age from about six to high school age. The Sound of Music runs from May 4 to 6 at EastRidge, on Tenth Line north of Main Street. Shows are at 7 p.m. on the Thursday and Friday and 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. on Saturday.

Look for cameo appearances by several well-known Stouffville residents in fancy gowns and evening attire during the gala ball scene.

The Rodgers and Hammerstein musical is set in Austria where Maria, a former nun, leaves the convent to become governess for the seven children of a widowed naval captain. They flee to Switzerland just in the nick of time to escape the invading Nazis.

Shannon Hull and Ross Macnaughton portray Maria Rainer and Captain Georg von Trapp. Local resident, Peter Markle, who is well known in both pantomime and his work with YDAPA, will have fun with his role as Max Detweiler, who arranges the children's

concerts. Brenda Amelard takes on the role of Baroness Elsa.

Christie McMullan, who was the narrator in YDAPA's Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dream Coat two years ago, portrays Mother Superior. She also directs the YDAPA children's choir.

Dorothy Clark and Beth Thomson have created a number of ball gowns, nuns' and other costumes for the production.

The musical is directed by YDAPA founder Wayne Hill, who is also the musical director. Neil Bennett, a former teacher at Glad Park Public School, is the show's producer.

STUDENT SERIES A SUCCESS

The success of the Lebovic Student Series, where students get a glimpse of what happens behind the scenes and meet the cast and director, has been immense, said YDAPA spokesperson Susan Dekker.

This is the first time YDAPA has offered this program, sponsored by the Lebovic Foundation.

Attendance for the musicals is up this year, Ms Dekker said.

The productions are now staged in Stouffville, so that parents and others no longer have to travel to Vaughan where shows were held previously.

For tickets, at \$19 for adults and \$15 for children and seniors, log on to www.y-shows.ca or call 905-640-0823, ext. 3.

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A connecting bus trip will depart Mount Joy GO Station at 7:20 p.m., serve Dickson's Hill, Stouffville GO Station, Stouffville at Tenth Line & Bethesda Rd., Goodwood and will arrive in Uxbridge at 7:55 p.m.

A new weekday bus trip will depart the Union Station GO Bus Terminal at 1:10 p.m., serve Unionville GO Station, Markville Mall, Centennial, Markham and Mount Joy GO Stations, Dickson's Hill, Stouffville GO Station and arrive in Stouffville at Tenth Line & Bethesda Rd. at 2:07 p.m.

A new weekday bus trip will depart the Union Station GO Bus Terminal at 7:05 p.m., serve Markham and Mount Joy GO Stations, Dickson's Hill, Stouffville GO Station and arrive in Stouffville at Tenth Line & Bethesda Rd. at 7:57 p.m.

The 6:45 p.m. weekday northbound bus trip from the Union Station GO Bus Terminal to Stouffville and the 6:50 p.m. weekday bus trip from Union to Uxbridge will be discontinued.

There are changes to some other bus trips too so be sure to check the new schedule.

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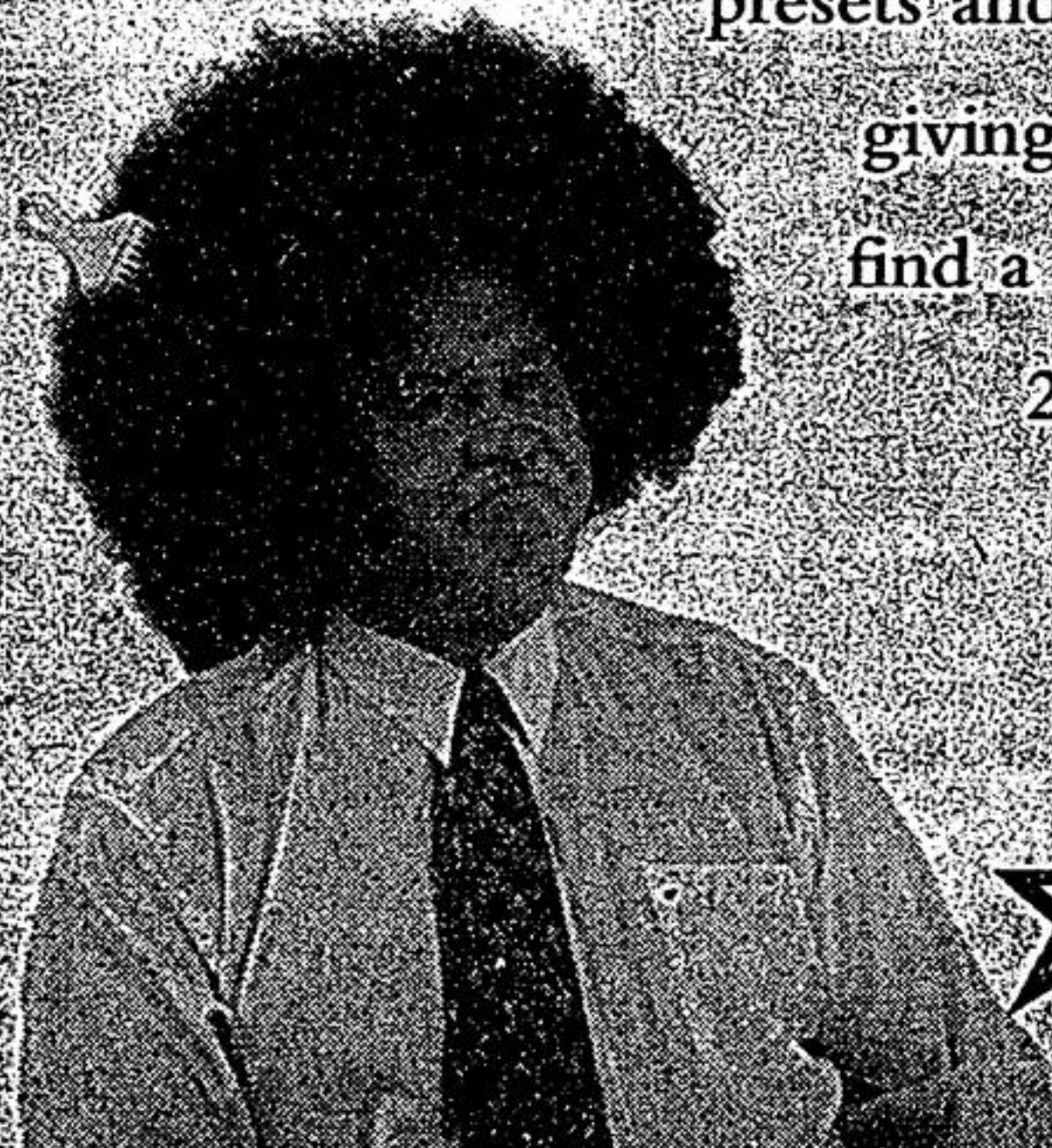


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