

BEYOND BOOKS

By Crystal Budgell

When you think about our public library, what is the first thought that comes to your mind?

Like many others, it's likely that you thought about books. The next most common response is story time. However, your public library is so much more than that! The physical space may be filled to the rafters with all those books you'd expect to see, but if you spend some time in the library, you will find much more.

With rapid advances in technology, the library ensures that everyone has the ability to keep pace, offering access to computers completely free of charge with a library card. New to technology and not sure where to start? The library can help you with group events, free drop-in tech help on Wednesdays from 2 to 5 p.m., and even one-on-one tech training tailored to your exact needs.

Changing times also mean that developing the library collection includes expanding our digital collection of eBooks, eAudio books, digital magazines and streaming video services. You can visit www.wsplibrary.ca to learn more about Overdrive, 3M Cloud Library, Zinio, and Indieflix. If you're not sure how these resources work or how to access them, come by and staff will guide you through the process. With your public library card, you have access to these amazing digital resources from wherever you are.

Beyond books and technology, the library has

more to offer. We strive to make it a vibrant and welcoming place to everyone in our community. The

Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Library is your library: a place to engage with others in the community, to explore your own interests, and to meet others with similar interests – an active and engaging community hub. Where else can people of all ages come together to share ideas and grow together without cost?

For example, did you know that the library offers an impressive array of unique and engaging programs? These include ESL book clubs and conversation circles, iPad training, author talks, writing practice groups, sessions on financial planning, tax preparation clinics, a drumming circle, business seminars on a wide array of topics, genealogy research help, horŕe organization, sessions on a variety of health topics and more. And then there are all the wonderful children's programs that are offered on a daily basis.

If you haven't checked out what's available at your local library, it's time to do so now. Stop by any time or view our calendar of events online at www.wsplibrary.ca. If you have an idea for a program or an event that you would like to see at the library, we would love to hear about it. Send ideas for programs or events directly to crystal.budgell@wsplibrary.ca. Don't be shy. Your ideas help to shape the future of your library.

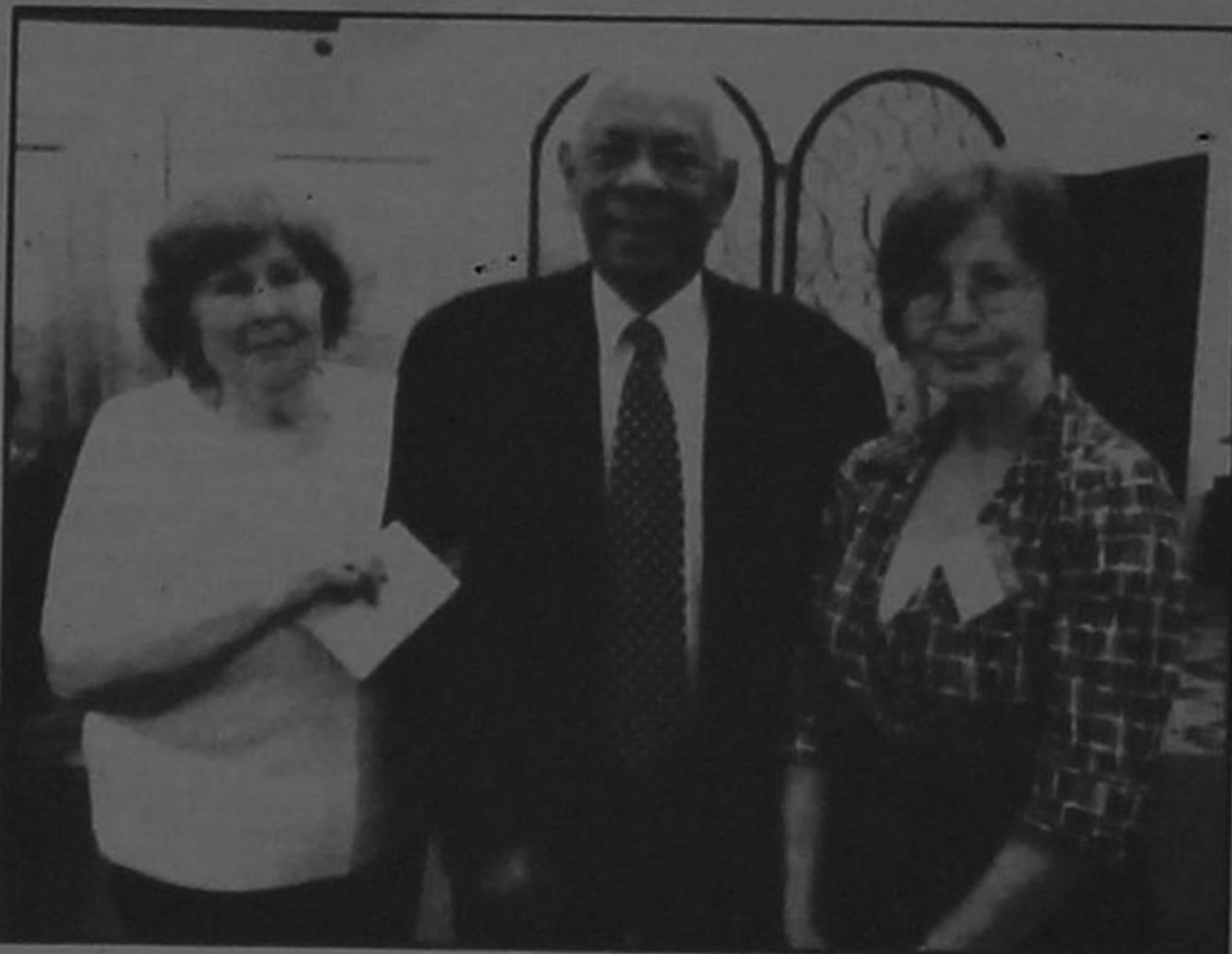
Crystal Budgell is manager of Library Services at Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Library

In The Driver's Seat



Whitchurch-Stouffville mayor Justin Altmann won a 2015 Toyota Camry in a raffle at the Markham Stouffville Foundation 25th anniversary gala April 17 at Hilton Toronto/Markham Suites Hotel. He is seen here with United Soils owner Alec Cloke. The car was donated by Don Valley North Toyota.

Library Volunteers Honoured



Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Library Giant Book Sale committee volunteers Barbara Smith (left) and Mary Copp were presented with 10-year service awards at the provincial awards ceremony in Richmond Hill on March 27. Seen with them is library board chair Lloyd Pinnock.

Sacred Music Night May 3

The 45th annual Sacred Music Night, hosted by St. James Presbyterian Church, will be held Sunday, May 3 at 7 p.m.

Participants will include The Bernard Pears Chorale; The Believers children's choir; Rev. Joan and Katherine Masterton; Eugenië and Kiana Landry; accordionist Frank Frano; soloists Susan Ryman, Rosa Alaimo and Rob Frank (Diamond Elvis).

The congregational hymn-leader will be Bruce vanderBent of Heise Hill Brethren in Christ Church.

Net proceeds from the evening's free-will offering will go to Whitchurch-Stouffville's 'Student Music Scholarship Fund'. Refreshments will follow.

St. James Presbyterian Church is located at 6432 Main Street, Stouffville.



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6335 MAIN STREET, STOUFFVILLE
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