

Story Time is fun time

by Adrienne Graham Gardner

Story hour at the Midland Library has been a tradition with the little people of Midland for 14 years.

Of course some of those little people are not so little any more.

Every Wednesday morning a group of close to 20 young library enthusiasts gather in the upstairs children's section to listen to stories read by librarian Mary-anne Cree.

The children are surprisingly quiet, responding occasionally with squeals of delight or horror and answering questions about the story in spontaneous unison.

Last Wednesday the group was given a special screening of a movie on safety and warning signs on dangerous products in the home.

After the show, the children were given colouring sheets illustrating the various warning signs for "poison", "Corrosive", "Flammable", and "Explosive".

Then it was circle time for the "Teddy Bear Song" and finally all sat down for the anticipated cookie before being suited up again for the cold outside.

Mothers in tow and newly borrowed books firmly clutched in hand the children are off for another week's good read at home.



Story time at Midland library

Principals get 'A' for their assistance

A report tabled this week at a regular meeting of the Simcoe County Roman Catholic Separate School Board in Barrie, noted Wednesday night, the board's "accommodation committee" has received total co-operation from school officials.

Trustees learned the committee has met on a number of occasions and has received "considerable assistance from the principals of schools where accommodation needs are surfacing."

The meeting learned, principals "exhibited a store of knowledge with regard to enrolment in their own schools and the demographic trends in their own municipalities."

Each of the schools concerned was subjected to a detailed study of available accommodation in relation to known and expected students.

Information

The committee reviewed as well previous information regarding alterations within St. Monica's and St. James with regard to sound transmission. The committee has met with representative parents of St. Monica's School regarding plans for that building.

The committee notes a probable need for an

additional portable classroom at St. Paul's School, Alliston, in 1982 if not before. A monthly check on enrolment trends in that school is in place. In fact, enrolment in all the board's schools is monitored on a monthly basis. Annual records are also available.

St. Paul's School, for example, has been as high as 350 in the last ten years, declined to 270, and is now back over 350. If the upward trend continues, neither the present school nor site will be adequate for the board's purposes.

St. Mary's School in Collingwood represents the location of greatest need at the present time. Enrolment is currently in the 300 range on a basic six-room school and one portable. The recommendation to purchase three additional portables will relieve pressure on the resource centre, staff rooms, corridors, etc. The committee confirms the projected need for more permanent solution in Collingwood.

Growth

Portables recommended for three schools in Barrie reflect the general growth in the city and the board's projected needs for more permanent solution. Specifically, St. John Vianney and

Monsignor Clair Schools are located on the growing edge of the city. The additional portable at St. Monica's will be needed to house the growing French language unit there.

It is the understanding of the committee that the Board of Education is still considering its accommodation needs and will inform us shortly of available portable classrooms. It will be appropriate to proceed via the public tender route should said source not be adequate for the board's needs.

The committee will consider accommodation at Our Lady of Lourdes, Elmvalle in its future deliberations.



Tara Poole

Tara Poole is the 15th contestant for the right to be Winterama Queen. Her picture was not available in time for Wednesday's newspaper.

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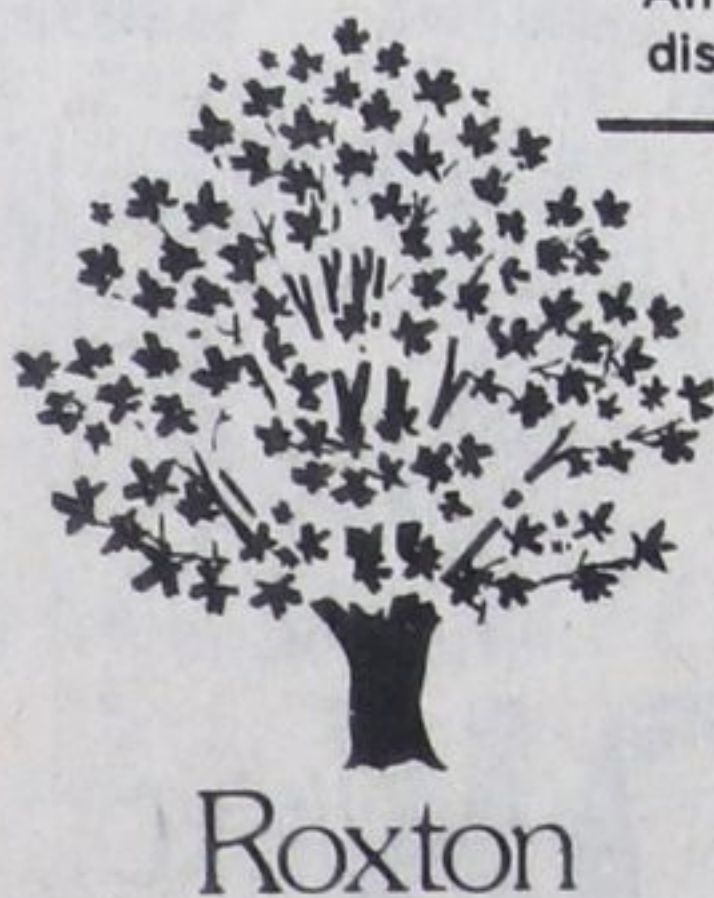
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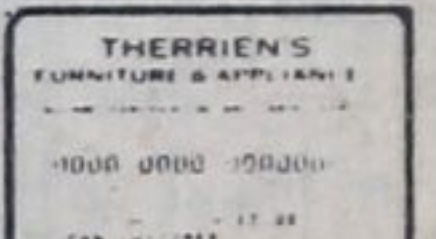
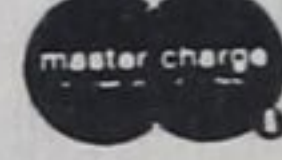
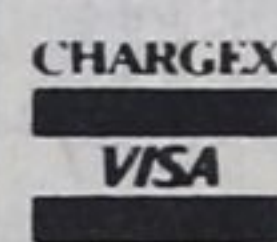
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