

# Education 'suffering credibility crisis'

By Jim Irving

AURORA — "Education in general, and the York county board of education in particular, is suffering from a credibility crisis," board communications officer Margaret McLean told a meeting of the board last week.

Mrs. McLean made her remarks during a session on external communications, in which the board talked about the possibility of eliminating such services as the information office.

There was a job to be done, Mrs. McLean said, and they had to do it together. Administrators, trustees and most of all, teachers, had to "tell people what we are doing in the schools."

So much had been said and written about education that wasn't right, that people didn't know what to believe and so ended up believing the worst, she said.

People talked about the need to get back to the basics, — "insulting every teacher in the country by doing so" — but the fact was that teachers had never stopped teaching the basics.

"They are only teaching them differently . . ." Mrs. McLean said.

"If trustees malign administrators and attack the teachers' programs, then good teachers will leave the system and the only ones to come here will be those other systems won't have," Mrs. McLean said.

**Mutual support**  
By the same token, administrators must support teachers, and teachers must not attack trustees and administrators.

All of these things were going on and the educational system was suffering. "While damage to students has been, I hope, minimal as yet, this damage will increase," Mrs. McLean said.

When it did, those who could afford it would withdraw their children from the schools and place them in private ones.

The schools would complain more about paying school taxes and "will lash out with more rabble rousing tactics in order to get attention."

They must get themselves together,

Mrs. McLean said, and use the "unlimited resources" of their staff. But they must be used wisely and well in order to produce.

But none of that would be possible so long as they threw "poisonous darts at those who have served the children of this county long and well."

Any plan for better communications was futile without them all "pulling together for a common objective, the good and welfare of the children in York county," she said.

Mrs. McLean said she had wanted to let people know through the board publication, Contact, but had limited space recently because of budget reports.

However, teachers must be given recognition and parents must know about the good work they did, she said.

"But I can't do the job alone. I need your help," Mrs. McLean said, "and I need the help of teachers. Without this, my efforts are futile. And my job becomes an insupportable burden."

**Extensive reporting**  
Trustee Chris McMonagle of Markham said she had never seen so much press coverage of board work as this year, and thought it was partly due to the information officer.

Trustee Keith Hargrave of Georgina Township said he couldn't see the importance of a prolonged discussion on communication — the board had allowed until nine o'clock when the beginning of the meeting — and walked out. He returned when the discussion was over.

Board chairman Doug Allen of Richmond Hill said that there might be a lot of other services they would have to cut as well. "One of the ways of determining is by discussing it this way."

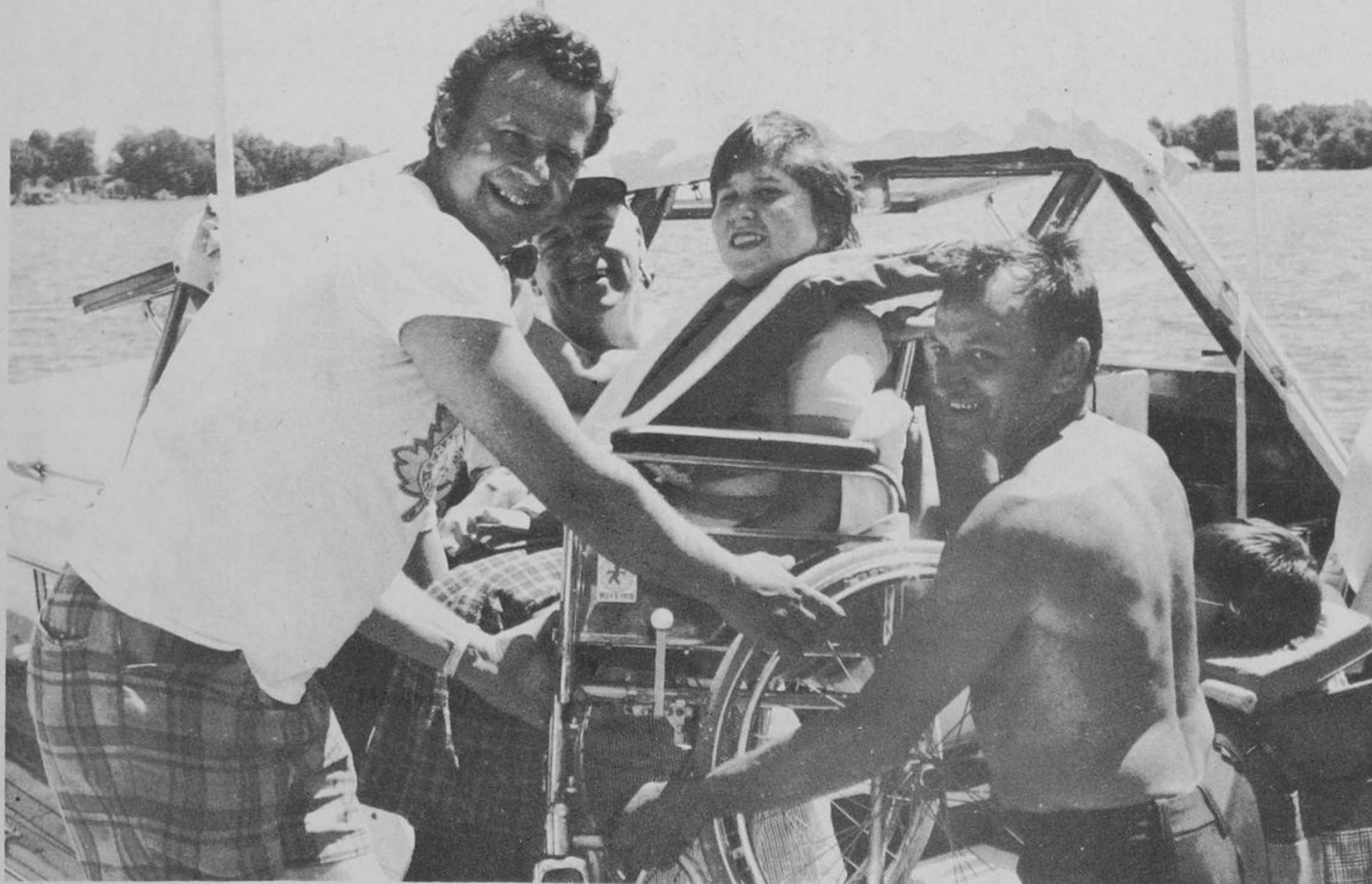
Harry Bowes of Whitchurch-Stouffville said he sometimes wondered whether their sessions shouldn't consist of a 15-minute meeting and a four-hour coffee break.

Donald Cameron of Vaughan said they should be providing time for informal discussions with members of the public. Often, the board only responded to the public when there was a delegation.

Joy Horton of East Gwillimbury said she saw communication in three ways: from the school, the board and the trustees. It wasn't the responsibility of the trustees to commend the schools; it was the role of the principal and information officer.

The trustees had to remember they weren't accountable to the school system, but to the people who elected them.

It was the best to have what they did reflected in the press.



## Lake outing

Boat rides and a picnic at Lake Couchiching were held for patients of Villa Hospital recently, courtesy of Richmond Hill Power Squadron and York Central branch of Canadian Progress Club. In photo above,

Progress Club deputy governor, club president Chuck Lawrence and Power Squadron commander Dave Earlam are seen lifting Villa patient Randy Reeves from Earlam's boat.

# King library is awarded \$2967 Wintario grant

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## king city

KING — A Wintario grant of \$2,967 has been awarded to King Township public library to improve services to the elderly and handicapped.

Conditions of the grant specified that \$2,000 be spent on 16 mm. films and tapes. These will be the first 16 mm. films owned by the library.

The library has recently become a member of the York film pool, a section of the Central Ontario regional library system, and many more films will be available than before.

Already purchased by the library are three Ednalite masterlens, large

magnifiers on stands with attached lights, which will make it possible for people with sight difficulties to read ordinary books.

The masterlens are on display in King City, Nobleton and Schomberg branch libraries. Patrons are invited to try them out. When everyone has had a chance to examine them by the middle of July, they will be lent out with books and may be reserved.

**Holiday pictures wanted**  
"We would love to see your holiday pictures."

This is the word from King Township public library, which is inviting residents to bring in pictures, post cards, folders and maps of holiday jaunts and share them in a summer exhibit. They will be displayed under the caption, "This is where I went on my holidays." You can add your own comments.

If you had your holiday in the winter, or last summer, bring your mementoes to the library. As the season progresses bring your new adventures and share them with the neighbors.

Children are especially invited to bring their contributions. Sketches and paintings would add further interest. Nobleton and Schomberg branch libraries will also feature travel books and displays.

The "Library in the Park" will be a feature of the King Township recreation program in July when the librarian, Bernice Ellis, tells stories in King City, Nobleton, Schomberg, Ansnorveldt and Pottageville.

## The Liberal Section C community news

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# Dance offers top prizes

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## oak ridges lake wilcox

OAK RIDGES — The Oak Ridges minor hockey association will hold a dance Aug. 14 at 8 p.m. at Bond Lake arena.

This will be a dance with an elimination draw. There will be 1,000 tickets sold and the draw goes like this: First ticket drawn is worth \$50, and

every 100th ticket drawn will win the same. The three next to last tickets will win \$50 and the final ticket left will win a 1976 automobile. Tickets are \$10 per couple and are

available from businesses in Oak Ridges and Richmond Hill. Look for signs in the store windows.

All proceeds will go to minor hockey in Oak Ridges.

# King student earns physics exam honors

KING CITY — Richard Seymour of King City secondary school tied for fourth place in the Waterloo University Sir Isaac Newton physics examination.

The Newton exam is one of several volunteer achievement examinations held annually by Ontario universities.

Seymour, of 30 Parkview Ave., Oak Ridges, was one of 4,000 competitors.

He plans to take an honors physics course at Waterloo and has been offered a \$650 Newton scholarship, renewable for four years.

Two other King City students, Gord Cooke and Scott Peterson, placed in the top four and top seven percent, respectively.

Peterson, who earlier won top marks in a provincial mathematics contest, has also received a prize and scholarship offer for his achievement in Waterloo's chemistry examination.

Ken Schneider and Sue Smith, also King City students, were in the top three percent in the chemistry exam.

# Lions give \$1,000 to community centre

OAK RIDGES — The Lions Club of Oak Ridges has donated \$1,000 to the Lake Wilcox activities group to be used toward completion of the recently constructed Lake Wilcox community centre.

The cheque was presented by Lions president Joe Tanzos to activities group chairmen Bill Good and Marjorie Lyon, at a recent Ladies Night meeting of the Lions Club.

The Oak Ridges Lions also donated \$500 to the Ontario Camp for the Deaf.

The camp is a Lions' project and is being built by the clubs in District A-12. The 58 clubs in the district have together raised more than \$300,000, and have put in many volunteer hours on weekends.

The camp is situated 10 miles south of Parry Sound, near the Lions Camp for the Blind at Lake St. Joseph.

# School's last day offers a well-rounded education

By Mike Tennant

THORNHILL — School is out. But school doesn't just cough, kiss its horse and fall into the dust for the summer.

In high school, there is much more to it.

On the last day, there are many obligations. These take that long, drawn-out day, and convert it into a longer, more drawn-out day.

Students roar and chuckle in delight at seeing their favorite teacher arm wrestle the class' strongest girl.

The class' strongest girl roars and chuckles in delight when she watches her favorite teacher fly across the room.

The ambulance men roar and chuckle in delight when they find out how the teacher dislocated his arm.

**Shutterbugs**  
On a less physical note, very devious

girls find folly in hiding in the boys washroom with their Kodak cameras. This, despite protests of some lad who is not keen on seeing himself in his altogether on 8" x 10" glossy.

In romance, it's John's last chance to get in good with Mary before summer, so he spends most of his last day of school beside her.

Mary is very coy, but she has to grit her teeth and clench her teeth to prevent laughing at the "kick me" sign tacked on John's derriere.

**Intercom con**

Other rabble-rousers get their jollies from calling the office on an intercom and having Carl Denham paged. The office does so, not aware that Carl Denham is the name of the character who brought King Kong to New York.

Waterfights are also in fashion. Nine times out of 10 the water wins.

Who says there's no education? Think of the Kodak lab.



## Hospital plaque

Barry Hayes of Maple, chairman of the board of York Central Hospital, Archdeacon H. R. Howden of Holy Trinity Anglican Church, and Sam Cook, past chairman of the board, unveil a plaque at York Central Hospital commemorating the opening of the Langstaff wing.

## Pastor is away

Rev. Earl Gerber and his wife Betsy of St. John's church will be away on vacation for the next six weeks. Services at St. John's will continue as usual under the guidance of the lay members.

Infant care will continue as usual during the summer months, however Sunday school classes for the older children will not resume until the fall.

The junior young people, who usually meet one Friday a month, will be meeting every Friday evening at St. Mark's chapel in Oak Ridges.

## Puppet show coming

Charles Connor Memorial Library will have a puppet show on July 14 at 11 a.m. The features will be Little Red Riding Hood and The Princess and The Frog. All children are welcome. For more information, call 773-5533.

The library is open the usual hours during the summer. There are several new books on the shelves, something to please everyone.

## Euchre big success

The evening euchre on June 28 at the Wheelhouse Club was a huge success with the largest attendance yet. The evening's winners are: Betty Neil, Mrs. L. White, Mrs. Phillips, Sarah Hinson, who also won the door prize, Doug Carter and Cap Hawman.

Monthly evening euchres will continue during the summer on the last Monday of the month. The time will be the same, 7:30, and refreshments will be served.

The Wheelhouse will be open during the summer for anyone who would like to drop in for an afternoon with friends.

## civic corner

RICHMOND HILL — The following meetings of civic interest have been scheduled during the next two weeks:

Wednesday, July 7, 7 p.m. — Committee room "B" — By-laws, procedures, fire and personnel committee.

Thursday, July 8, 8 a.m. — Office of the commissioner of works, engineering committee.

Wednesday, July 14, 7:30 p.m. — Council chambers — planning committee.

Tuesday, July 20, 4 p.m. — Deputy treasurer's office — finance committee.

(Photo by Hogg)