



Getting acquainted with mom doesn't seem to be too much of a problem for Robin Edward Ward. He made his first public appearance March 8 at 8:53 p.m. and mom is excited about taking him home to meet brother David and dad, Sandy. (Liberal photo by Bruce Hogg.)

Look who's arrived

The delivery rooms at York Central Hospital were busy last week, and baby boys outnumbered baby girls two to one.

Ten boys made their appearance and five girls arrived to compete for their attentions.

Monday, March 5

Linda and Bruno Rufa, Richmond Hill, a son at 8:33 a.m.

Wednesday, March 7

Linda and George Annett, Richmond Hill, a son at 7:34 a.m.

Angelina and Doug Jackson, Richmond Hill, a daughter at 10:40 p.m.

Joy and David Forbes, Aurora, a son at 9:34 p.m.

Thursday, March 8

Mary and Robin Ward, Thornhill, a son at 8:53 p.m.

Friday, March 9

Patricia and Robert McElroy, Richmond Hill, a daughter at 3:32 a.m.

Eileen and Gordon Sutherland, Thornhill, a daughter at 4:27 p.m.

Darlene and Bill Lunney, Newmarket, a daughter at 3:32 p.m.

Saturday, March 10

Judith and James Maw, Thornhill, a son at 7 a.m.

Lynn and Rick Martindale, Scarborough, a son at 12:19 p.m.

Jeanne and Eric Fabricius, Richmond Hill, a son at 10:50 a.m.

Mary and Astoro Persico, Thornhill, a son at 3:55 p.m.

Vivian and Enzo Risi, Richmond Hill, a son at 6:23 p.m.

Sunday, March 11

Joan and Ron Lund, Richmond Hill, a daughter at 3:09 a.m.

Wendy and Tudor Randell, Richmond Hill, a son at 7:10 p.m.

Senior Citizens get home in Oak Ridges

Senior Citizens in Oak Ridges will have a new home April 1.

At present the town of Richmond Hill rents premises for the Wheelhouse Senior Citizens Clubroom at 12925 Yonge Street in Oak Ridges.

The rent for this location has been increased by the new owner from \$325 monthly to

approximately \$727, a figure which includes taxes, heating, hydro, insurance and outside maintenance.

The new clubroom will be a storefront section at 12 King Side Road at a monthly rental charge of \$325 plus hydro costs.

This location would provide the senior citizen members with more than a adequate parking facilities.

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CARRIER OF THE WEEK
THEY DELIVER!



ROBERT STRANG

Meet Robert Strang who is a member of a family who have been involved as carriers for the Liberal for as long as ten years which includes brothers Dale and Jeff. 13 year old Robert continues the Strang family involvement by delivering the Liberal to Browndale Cres.

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OCU tries to sell services to board

Operation Catch-Up has asked the Separate School Board to petition the government to allow regional boards to buy special education services from such groups.

Operation Catch-Up (OCU), begun by Richmond Hill resident David Porter, is an education service for young students who have dif-

ficulty learning in a normal classroom environment and are generally several years behind their potential learning ability.

Current Ministry of Education policy allows the province's school boards to purchase these types of services only from other boards.

Last Wednesday, Chris

McMonagle, David Burns and Mr. Porter requested the education committee's support and said they would also take a delegation to the York County Board.

In an interview after Superintendent of Education for student services Jack Cronin felt there were too many unanswered questions about OCU's request for

the board to give its support at this time.

At present, there are about 100 students enrolled in the program, 15 to 20 of whom are York Separate students (Mr. Cronin said his figure is closer to 10).

"According to an evaluation we did last year," said Mr. Burns, "it costs about \$1,000 to increase a student's grade level in reading and math over a period of four months."

On the average, he said, kids in the program have been in schools for seven years, have a Grade 4 level English and Grade 5 in math.

In the past, OCU has received Federal Government support from three sources: Opportunity for Youth grants, Local Initiative Project (LIP) grants and more recently, the Canada Works Program. Once their current Canada Works grant runs out this year, it will not be renewed.

While the program has had help from the Catholic Children's Aid Society, it is now getting \$11,000 from the Ministry of Community and Social

Services and another \$25,000 from United Way.

"Thomas Wells (when he was Minister of Education) said there would be money available somewhere from the ministry," said Mrs. McMonagle. "When the ministry changed hands, Bette Stephenson told us she wouldn't honor Mr. Wells' commitments — she claimed she agreed with the concept but couldn't support it from an economic point of view."

She warned the committee there is a possibility local school boards could get stuck with teacher contracts for those already involved in the program if the province cuts off funding altogether.

By being able to buy such services as OCU, the board could allow its PTR (pupil-teacher ratio) to remain constant and still provide the necessary services, she contended. "What we're really looking for is more

support from school boards because there seems to be the feeling at the ministry the local boards don't want the responsibility for the special needs of these kids," she said.

Mr. Cronin's initial hesitancy was over responsibility for materials, program reviews, who would set teaching guidelines and who might determine teacher qualifications. "The whole idea needs more research," he said.

Di Rocco defeats motion to petition legislature

A motion to petition the Ontario Legislature to allow each area municipality in York at least one school trustee was defeated by the Separate School Board recently because it didn't get 100 per cent concurrence.

Director of Education John Zupancic suggested a private member's bill might be a means of amending the Education Act, 1974, so each town could have a minimum of one trustee.

As it stands now, John McDermott represents the towns of Whitchurch-

Stouffville and East Gwillimbury.

Chairman Larry Pelliccione told trustees the recommendation would be sent to Queen's Park if it were supported by all of them. Markham's Dan Di Rocco was the lone dissenter.

Before the vote, the board was told either Markham, Vaughan or Richmond Hill would likely lose a trustee to accommodate the redistribution.

"There are five trustees in my municipality," said Mr. Di Rocco, "it is likely the

change would occur there. As a new trustee, I don't think I'd be willing to sacrifice the hard work of campaigning and winning an election if there is a chance we could face losing a trustee. I also feel a ward system could not adequately represent the whole town."

The intent was to change the Region's representation by the next election in December, 1980.

The Director's recommendation was tabled at least for this year.



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