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**MAURICE J. McCONNELL**

one of our representatives will be at

The Markwood Motel,  
197 Wellington St. East  
MARKHAM (telephone 294-1431)  
on Monday, February 9th

If you require financing to start, modernize or expand your business and are unable to obtain it elsewhere on reasonable terms and conditions or if you are interested in the FBDB management services of counselling and training or wish information on government programs available for your business, talk to our representative.



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Opening new doors to small business.

## Overcrowding problem

# No end in sight as enrollment climbs

By TED WILCOX  
MARKHAM —  
Stouffville and Markham abound with the signs of population growth: plazas, subdivisions and houses, sprouting along the concession roads.

Yet another indication of growth can be found at the schools, where portable classrooms have become an increasingly common sight.

Stouffville's Summitview School now has two portables, with more likely on the way next fall. Orchard Park School in Stouffville also has two portables.

Even more dramatically, St. Joseph's School on Parkway Drive, Markham, has a total of six mobile classrooms, with a seventh coming this spring. According to principal Leon Kehoe, they "would expect" additional portables next fall.

In a recent interview, Mr. Kehoe said that while the school's capacity is 210, it currently has 347 pupils. "And tomorrow it's 351," he added.

The school averages 35 pupils to a room rather than the Separate School Board's aim of about 30.

"There doesn't appear to be any end to it," said Mr. Kehoe. "We just

have to carry on and do the best we can."

A request for a 10-room expansion at the school is held in abeyance at present due to provincial education guidelines.

Furthermore the needs at St. Joseph's will likely take a back seat to separate schools in Thornhill and Newmarket which are comprised of only portable classrooms.

So far, St. Joseph's teachers in the portables are "quite comfortable" although "most would prefer to be in the main building," Mr. Kehoe said.

As for the students, "a lot of them are happy to be out in the portables — I don't know just why."

And while the parents would like to see the proposed addition come about, he added, "most feel as long as they're

getting a quality education, they're willing to live with it."

St. Joseph's School difficulties are somewhat different from those of Summitview in one respect, in that St. Joseph's has an adequate general purpose area in the form of a gymnasium. With additional students, it is "just a little tighter scheduling," Mr. Kehoe said.

However, the gym would be crowded for an assembly involving all the school's students, he added.

Also needed at present is a library large enough for students to sit down and work, he said.

Three of the school's portables came in 1974 and three more in 1975. Cost of the mobile classrooms is about \$12,000 to \$13,000 including installation.



Students at St. Joseph's Separate School in Markham are facing some of the same problems facing Summitview Public School in

Stouffville. The school has six portable classrooms, with a seventh due in the spring. —Ted Wilcox

## Claremont News

# Surprise party stuns couple wed 25 years

By ANNE LONEY  
CLAREMONT —  
Officers elected by the Claremont United Church Women for 1976 are as follows: Overall Joint Unit — Past President, Edith Stickwood; President, Rosemary Timms; Vice President,

Mary Borland; Secretary, Dorothy Middleton; Treasurer, Dorothy Cook; Pianist, Mearan Ward; Cards and flowers, Lillian Gausin and Ella Hammond; Supplies and Publicity, Thelma Hockley and Helen Anderson; Nominating, Helen Anderson and Laura Reynolds; Social Committee, Bernice Ward, Mary Borland and Mearan Ward.

Afternoon Unit — Past President, Laura Reynolds; President, Edith Stickwood; Vice President, Clara Carson and Laura Reynolds; Treasurer, Mrs. Mait Anderson (for 1 year); Secretary, Mrs. Harry Porter; Pianists, Mrs. Will Evans and Mrs. Frank Carson.

Morning Unit — Past President, Helen Anderson; President,

Dorothy Britton; Vice President, Thelma Hockley; (for 1 year); Secretary Treasurer, Dorothy Cook; Asst. Treasurer, Rhoda Almack; Pianist, Mearan Ward.

The Claremont United Church Women are having a Valentine Coffee Party on Tuesday, Feb. 10 from 10 — 11:30 a.m. There will also be a bake table.

The Coffee Morning will be held Wednesday, Feb. 11 at 10 a.m. in the Sunday School Room of the Baptist Church.

At the last Senior Citizens Euchre in the Club House the winners were; Will Evans, Ella Hammond and Vi Boniface.

There are many local people who remember Mabel Wagg and her sister Mary when they lived in Claremont with

their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Wagg, and attended public school here. After Mabel and Alex Morgan were married they lived in several places including Timmins, Lakefield and Bobcaygeon before settling in Sarnia.

Thursday, January 22 Mabel passed away. She is survived by her husband, two daughters Evelyn (Mrs. Charles Dye) of Saginaw, Michigan, Martha (Mrs. C. Archer) of Sarnia and one son, James Morgan who is with the Canadian Forces in Ottawa and three grandchildren. Her parents and only sister (Mrs. Gerstad) died some years ago. Funeral services were held in the Stewart Funeral Home in Sarnia. Final services will be held in Claremont in the Spring with in-

terment in Union Cemetery. Usually surprise parties turn out to be no surprise at all. But here is one that stunned the recipients. About 30 relatives and friends descended upon Mr. and Mrs. Peter White Saturday evening, Jan. 24 to celebrate their Silver Wedding Anniversary. Actually the date was January 20th. It was no different from any other day except for the big bunch of red roses that Mr. White had given to his wife.

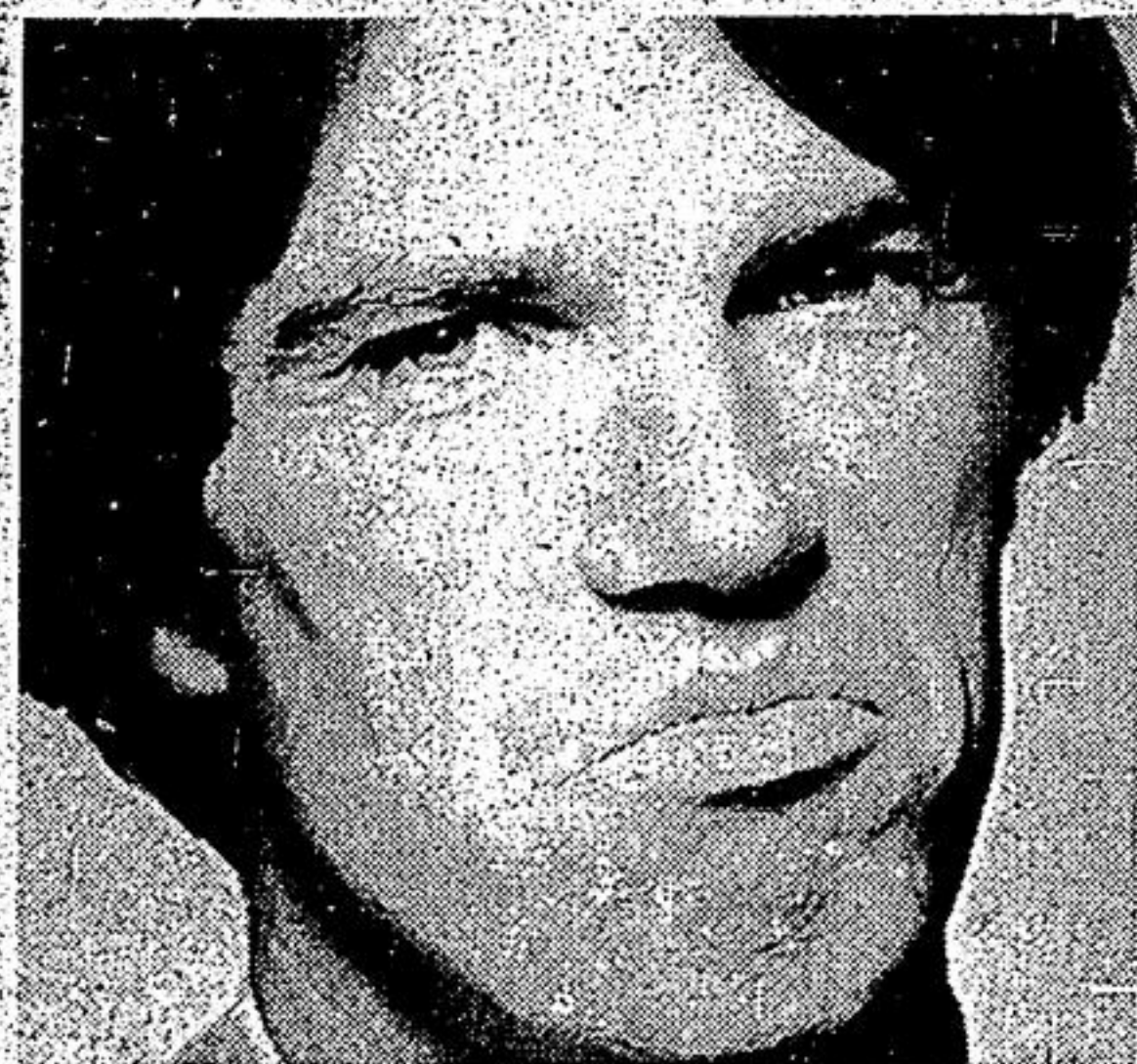
The family rectified that. Daughter Bonnie and husband Clarence Brown of Stouffville, sons, Norman and wife, Dianne of Prince Albert; Gordon and wife Linda of Shelburne; Ken at home, Mrs. White's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Cec. Redmond of Markham with friends

from Toronto, Pickering, Green River and Claremont made the evening a time to remember. They brought everything with them centring the dining table with a big Anniversary Cake, all sorts of good eats for a midnight supper and many, many lovely gifts. Truly it was a surprise for the happy couple.

The Morning Unit of the UCW will meet at the home of Mearan Ward at 8 p.m. Feb. 9 with Mrs. Ward in charge of the program. The roll call "Name a Hymn Writer" Mrs. Jane Carson of Mt. Zion will show pictures of Mexico which she took last summer.

The first meeting of the 4H girls Winter Unit (Let's Bake Bread) will begin Tuesday, Feb. 10 at 7 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Dean Evans.

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## WE ARE CELEBRATING OUR 10th ANNIVERSARY

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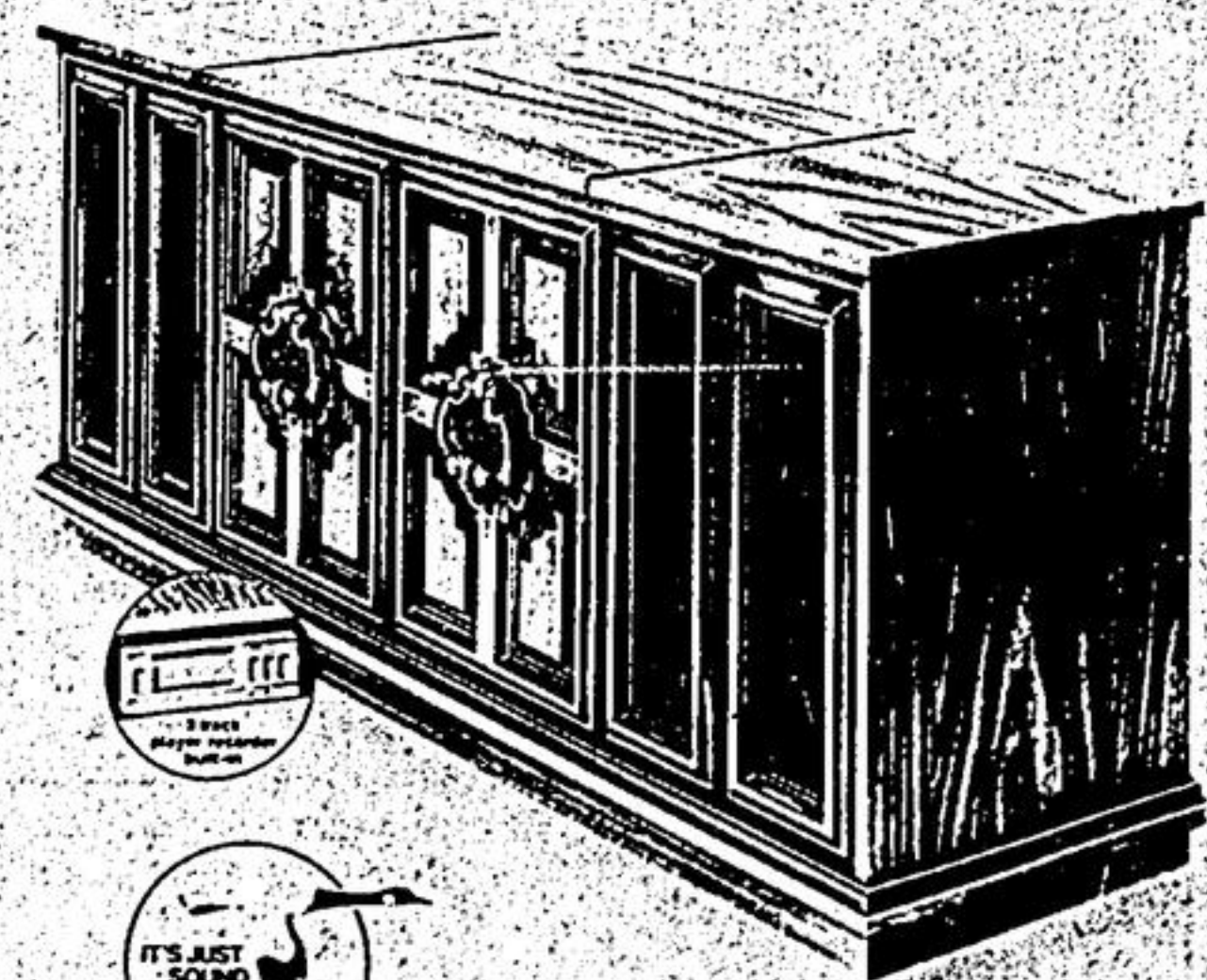
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Closed Mondays

TUES. WED. 9:30 - 6



THURS. FRI. 9:30 - 9  
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Sherwood Plaza Markham 294-3393