

First for Stouffville

Enrollment growing for day care centre

By JOHN MONTGOMERY

STOUFFVILLE — Since the Chick-A-Dee Day Nursery opened March 1, the enrollment has been slowly but steadily growing.

According to nursery owner Sylvia Loftus, "the response is quite satisfactory." She said they have been averaging two inquiries daily.

A total of six new students were scheduled to start Monday. The nursery now has six students who stay for the full week, five children who are there for one day,

one is left for two days and two youngsters who are there three days a week.

With that enrollment Mrs. Loftus says she can pay her helper and expenses but she is, in fact, working for nothing.

A minimum of 25 children are needed to make the operation economically viable, she estimates.

"I want to give myself a year," she said, "or until I wear myself out. I don't know. Whoever comes first."

She is confident more people will bring their children in. "I think people are shy of day

care, they like to know what it is before they come in," she said.

She expressed confidence that once the word spreads that she is running a good operation then her enrollment problems will be over.

The nursery had a regional licence to look after 35 children. Mrs. Loftus currently has one employee, Karen Jansen, who previously worked for the Trillium Nursery in Markham, and has five years of day care experience.

Mrs. Loftus says she has an Early Childhood Education graduate waiting to join the staff

when the enrollment gets to 15.

She said they will accept a maximum of eight youngsters between the ages of two and three and those youngsters will require two full-time supervisors.

"We want to stress individual attention here," she said.

Although they are now taking children one day a week she said priority will be given to youngsters whose parents need day care for the full week. If the nursery fills up she will no longer accept one day children.

When the weather warms up Mrs. Loftus plans to fence in the rear yard of the church and install playground equipment.

Mrs. Loftus believes a nursery should be more than just a baby-sitting service and accordingly they try to educate the children.

The nursery is well stocked with educational toys and some effort is made to teach the older children numbers and letters.

"By the time they finish here they should be quite ready to go to kindergarten," she said.

She feels being with others in the nursery helps a child's social and emotional development and that playing with them will aid his or her physical development as well.

One woman who lives in a rural area, she says, brings her children in a couple of days a week just so they will have someone to play with.

The basement of the church is ideally suited for use as a nursery. There is one large room that can be divided when there are more children and large windows at ceiling level provide a bright and sunny atmosphere.

Mrs. Loftus says the long hours, from 7 a.m. until 6 p.m., doesn't bother her. "I enjoy what I do. It doesn't seem to tire me," she concluded.



Sylvia Loftus, owner of the day nursery, helps the youngsters with some artwork. From the left is: Martin Kosubek, Aaron Zampaloni, Kerry Quayle, Tina Jansen and

Jeanette Peak. Preference at the nursery will be given to children who will stay there all week. The nursery is licensed for 35 children and is far from full.



Tina Jansen believes that contentment is a bottle and a soft blanket. Tina is the daughter of assistant Karen Jansen. So far Tina is the only child at the nursery who is still in diapers.



After some vigorous painting Jeanette Peak (left) and Tina Jansen wash up. Tina seems to be having some problem with the sleeve of her smock. The stand the bucket is sitting on was made by Mrs. Loftus and will be used for the children to play with. It is on wheels and can be filled with water or turned into an inside sandbox.



Chick-a-dee day nursery boasts several budding young artists. Old shirts make serviceable painting smocks for Martin Kosubek

(left) and Aaron Zampaloni. According to Martin he is painting a portrait of Mrs. Loftus.

Town applies for home renewal grants

STOUFFVILLE — Council will apply for Ontario Home Renewal Program funds again this year.

Under the program a grant of \$3 per person is available to homeowners to be used for necessary repairs to homes.

The town received money this past year and are applying for approximately \$36,000 for 1976.

Out of the 1975 grant \$7,200 has already been given out to homeowners and the \$19,000 remaining has been allocated but not yet distributed.

The money is available to homeowners at low interest rates and with a forgivable portion, depending on income.

More detailed information can be obtained from the municipal offices.

Region refuses light at Vivian, 48 corner

VIVIAN — Extra street lighting at the corner of Highway 48 and the Vivian Rd. was rejected by York Regional Council last week.

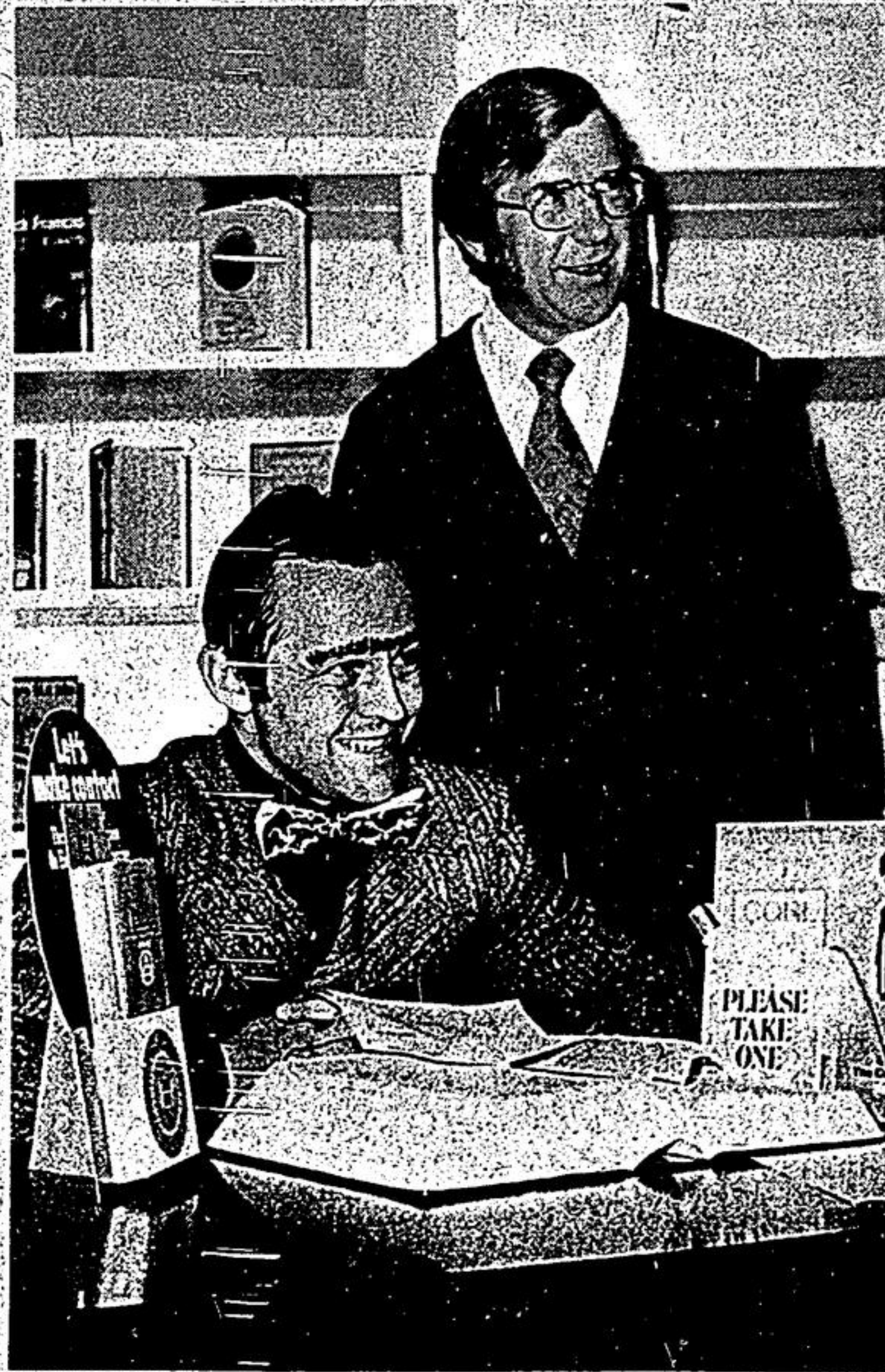
Council approved an engineering committee report which rejected improved illumination at the corner. According to the report, a minimum of 250 cars per day is needed

before such lighting is justified on a regional road (Vivian Rd.)

The report suggests that Whitechurch-Stouffville Council apply to the provincial government for cost sharing to instal the lighting.

Town council had requested illumination at the corner.

Humor, news in local program



Some local residents are producing a television show for Classcomm Cable TV. The show remains unnamed. At left Jim Sanders operates the camera while filming a segment at the public library. Above the show's host Bob Lewis smiles at the antics of local "shadow councillor" Elderberry Queen.

STOUFFVILLE — Sometimes it will seem a bit like "Take Thirty." Other times, it's more like the "Monty Python Show."

When Stouffville's first regular television show goes on the air, March 24, both serious and zany elements will be included. As a wholly locally-produced endeavor, the show is part of the Classcomm, Cable 10, programming schedule, and promises to be a cut above the usual bland fare of such ventures.

"I think they've got potential for a great show," Classcomm's Kim Wildfong told the Tribune. "I was impressed with the work they've done so far."

Already, shows about the "Magic Skin-bonians" production and the sculpture in front of the Stouffville post office have been aired. A special introductory program, however, is to be broadcast March 24.

Several Stouffville residents do all the scripting, planning, acting, interviewing and technical work for the series.

The introductory show, which will run every hour on the hour through the evening, includes an announcement of a contest for determining a name for the show. It also has some broadside humor in which Gord Ness, who doubles as director of the show, ends up in costume hitting host Bob Lewis with a purse.

The next program after that will be an interview with the town's head librarian, Lynne Robbins followed by a presentation of town council's "position" on libraries by bogus councillor "Elderberry Queen."

He may be joined in later shows by the show's own "shadow council," including Mayor Mousebluff and councillors May Zipper, Suzy Studd, Betsy Waddley, Mandrake Muffin and Art Comet.

Future shows also will have more serious discussion of topics as well, according to program manager Jim Sanders. Topics are: Music Mania, local hockey, the recycling depot, firehall, Sales Barn and Highway 48 garbage dump. Also, new people moving to town likely will be interviewed.

One of the aims of the show is to "help new people to see what's going on in town," Mr. Sanders said.

Due to the upcoming Centennial, interviews with elderly residents in town probably will be a recurring feature on the show, he added.

UXBRIDGE TOWNSHIP

Pen decision soon

UXBRIDGE — Whether or not this township will be the site for a federal penitentiary reception centre will be known within a month, Ontario Riding MP Norm Cafik announced Friday.

In a press conference at his Pickering Village office, Mr. Cafik declined to say whether or not a site had already been

chosen for the centre. Both Uxbridge and Scugog townships are vying for the 180-prisoner institution, with its \$100,000 yearly tax-in-lieu grant.

Mr. Cafik said he was satisfied the correctional services department had given equal consideration to the two townships.

Go Kart noise levels

GOODWOOD — Nearby residents complaining of noise from Goodwood Kartways go-kart track received some help from the Canadian Environmental Law Association in a letter to Uxbridge council last week.

Association counsel Heather Mitchell wrote

that "We have research on hand which shows that noise levels in residential areas in excess of 55 DBA interferes with one's quiet enjoyment of property."

She asked if mufflers, noise barriers, reduced major events and restricted hours of track usage had been considered fully by council.

Youth home proposal

UXBRIDGE — This town may have a home for emotionally disturbed adolescents if a plan proposed to council last week is approved.

Don Montgomery of Chimo Youth Services appeared before council to find out their reaction to having a home for six adolescents here in which the teenagers would attend the local schools.

Bill Morton, director of the organization, explained that the children involved would be those ready to be "introduced

back into community life."

The proposed home would also include office space and other facilities and would offer services to the community.

Chimo Youth Services is a provincially funded agency, he added, and the proposed home would be designed to serve the Durham North area.

Council referred the matter to a planning committee for further study.