



About 15 high school students turned up for the first Advocates meeting, March 17 at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. Here, Mario Bartoletti (right front) and counsellor Pat Burke (centre left) of the Markham family Life Centre conduct the session. The youngsters are part of a program to have older teenagers help younger ones with emotional and behavioral problems. —John Montgomery

Teenage counsellors

Students to help students

By JOHN MONTGOMERY

MARKHAM — The first "Advocates" meeting was held at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church Wednesday, March 17.

The advocates are 15 to 19 year old high school students who have been recruited to associate with young "Proteges", suffering from various adolescent behavioural problems.

Fifteen of the 42 students signing up for the program attended the introductory meeting. Of the 15, 13 were girls.

Markham's Family Life Centre's Mario Bartoletti chaired the meeting in an extremely informal manner, while encouraging the students to participate.

It was quickly decided the group would meet every second Wednesday at the church and they moved on to what Mr. Bartoletti termed "training in human relations skills."

Pat Burke, who is

involved in organizing the program, then encouraged the potential advocates to speak out about the reasons why they attended the meeting.

This group interaction exercise continued for some time. Each student, in turn, as they progressed around a circle, were asked to verbalize their feelings about being there.

Ms. Burke directed very personal compliments to various students, apparently in an effort to make the advocates speak openly of their feelings.

Some of the girls said they had come because they hope to eventually make a career of working with emotionally disturbed children, but most had come for purely personal reasons.

They spoke of having had problems when they were younger and because they felt they had "been there" they would be able to communicate with troubled adolescents.

A few said they looked on it as potential sharing of problems where both advocate and protege would work together to help each other.

The group conducted a social experiment in which they sat in a circle on the floor. They were told to sit as close as possible and then to put their arms around each other.

Next they were told to change positions and sit with whoever they really wanted to be with.

Mr. Bartoletti and Ms. Burke initiated a discussion dealing with the defence mechanisms people use. They came to the conclusion that most people expect rejection from others and that consequently they are able to deal with hostility more comfortably than with praise.

Instead of outlining the program Mr. Bartoletti told them there is

only a "Skeleton" and he asked them to tell him what they want it to be.

The Family Life Centre is sponsoring the program but a separate advisory board will manage it.

Cafik objects to new riding limits

DURHAM REGION — Ontario Riding MP Norm Cafik has filed objections to proposed redistribution of electoral boundaries, which lops off parts of his riding.

He also objects to the failure of the Electoral Boundaries Commission to provide reasons for its proposals in its recent report to the speaker of the House of Commons.

At the local level, the MP raised the following objections — putting Georgina Township in with Victoria Haliburton; inclusion of Scugog into Cobourg Newcastle; changing of name to Durham West and creation of large non-urban riding where not necessary depriving rural ridings of appropriate representation.

Wild ride ends with conviction

MARKHAM — An 18 year old Milliken youth pleaded guilty in Newmarket Court last week to a charge of failing to remain at the scene of an accident. Charges of damage and dangerous driving were withdrawn against the youth.

Scott Jongkind was charged last Oct. 18 in Markham after his car struck a mail box on 14th Ave. Police testimony revealed that the youth, driving at high speed from 48 highway along 14th Ave., caused his car to leave the road.

After striking a mail box Jongkind drove some distance down the road, then got out of the vehicle surveyed the damage and rode away.

The court was told that the youth then drove to an abandoned garage, where he removed the licence plates from the vehicle and threw them into the bush, then left the car.

Jongkind was remanded by Judge Munro until April 2, to allow the court to obtain particulars of his driving record.

Correction

STOUFFVILLE — A story on the front page of last week's Tribune stated incorrectly that the cost of the new library would be \$55 per square foot. The correct figure is \$35 per square foot.

OMB hears dispute

UXBRIDGE — The question of who gets certain development charge levies — the region or Uxbridge — may soon be coming before the Ontario Municipal Board.

Uxbridge council was notified last week of an

application by Durham Region before the OMB concerning the matter.

At issue are lot levy fees and other reserve funds collected by the former municipalities for services since taken over by the region.

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THE TOWN OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE

THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE PROPOSES TO PASS A BY-LAW AUTHORIZING:

The widening and reconstruction of part of the slideroad lying between Lots 25 and 26 in the 5th and 6th Concessions in the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville to a basic width of 86 feet from approximately 1500 feet west of the road allowance between Concessions 5 and 6 sometimes known as Kennedy Road to approximately 1500 feet east thereof with additional widenings at cuts, fills and the Kennedy Road intersection; the clearing, grubbing, fencing, grading and gravelling thereof; to provide a basic two lane roadway together with the construction of culverts, drainage works, and all related works and undertakings and the acquisition of the necessary lands and interests in lands.

The Council of the Corporation of the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville will at its meeting to be held at 8:00 p.m. on the 27th day of April, 1976 at the Council Chambers, 19 Civic Avenue, Stouffville hear in person or by his counsel, solicitor or agent, any person who claims that his lands will be prejudicially affected by the by-law, and who applies to be heard.

Information with regard to the above proposed work may be obtained at the office of David Hill, Director of Property, at the Regional Engineering Building (Tel. 895-2303).

DATED at Whitchurch-Stouffville this 29th day of March, 1976.

R. E. CORNER, Esq., Box 419, Stouffville, Ontario.

Clerk for the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville.

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