



Catherine Thorn is one of the many youngsters who participated in the vacation bible school being held at Ringwood Congregational Christian Church throughout this week. Catherine seems to be enjoying the outdoor play period. The program winds up Friday evening with a parent's night. See story page 7. — John Montgomery

Whitchurch Community Centre

Construction plans stalled

BALLANTRAE — Construction of the planned addition to the Whitchurch Centennial Community Centre has run up against a snag.

When tenders were opened recently it was found that the four bids ranged from just under \$130,000 to just over \$140,000.

The anticipated price had been around \$86,000.

According to councillor Becky Wedley, the bids came as "a real shock." In an effort to keep the project alive, she said, some cutbacks in the original specifications are being considered.

"We were thinking in very economic terms right from the start," Mrs. Wedley told The Tribune. "We called for the cheapest form of construction, painted rather than pannelled on the inside, and so on."

Observing that "the cost of everything is going up", the

councillor said that a meeting with the architect would be held this week.

"The main thing is to get the extra room on," she said. "Paving is one thing we think can wait."

The time factor has become an important consideration, Mrs. Wedley said.

"We've got to get something up pretty soon," she said. "This is the season to build, when the centre isn't too heavily used."

Even if the price is successfully reduced to the \$86,000 figure, there is no guarantee that the addition will actually be built. During several stormy debates over the matter, a number of councillors indicated they would not be happy even with the lower cost; it was agreed to call tenders without any commitment to accept one and proceed.

Summitview School

renovations approved

YORK REGION — Recommendations that Summitview P. S. renovations receive top priority were unanimously approved at a meeting of the Board of

Education's Planning Committee last week.

As well as committee members, nearly all trustees were present to vote on the priority list.

At the last meeting of the full board, the planning committee's recommendations had been rejected and sent back to the committee for revisions.

This board move had so incensed Summitview parents, who were fed up with all the delays, that they instituted a strike and kept their children out of school in an effort to force the board to improve the school. The parent's major concern had been the lack of action in bringing the school up to fire regulations.

The Planning and Building Committee report will now go to the full board for final approval. Since fifteen of the twenty trustees were present at the planning meeting and all voted to accept the priority list, the report is virtually certain to be accepted at the next meeting on July 12. From there it will be forwarded to the ministry for approval.

Summitview P.T.A. president Janet Arends was happy with the planning board decision but is reserving judgement on the final outcome. "It sounds very good," she said, "Now we'll see what really happens."

"I don't see how they're going to turn us down," she continued, "but I'm willing to fight this thing through to the very end."

Mrs. Arends says her family is not leaving on vacation until the board has voted on the Summitview renovations.

Local scholar scores 92% awarded prizes

STOUFFVILLE — The top scholar this year is Jim West, who walked off with four awards in recent results from Stouffville District Secondary School.

West, a resident of 19th Avenue, led a field of fifteen Ontario Scholars with a 92.7 per cent average. Other winners of the \$100 provincial award, in alphabetical order, were: Robert Bowdway, Colleen Clark, Barry Doner, Joanne Gould, Rebecca Herbert, Kevin Jennings, Michael Kamps, Lynn Kelly, Terry Lager, Julie Masci, Marcia McAdam, Ronald Schell, Fiona Waite and James Woeller.

West also won the York County Board of Education Book Award for standing first in Year 5; a \$50 award given by the Town of Markham; the Chesebrough-Pond's Academic Proficiency Award; and a special \$100 Board award.

Other winners of the Board book awards were: Year 1, Nancy Ku, Lois James; Year 2, Elizabeth Wilson, Nancy Armstrong; Year 3, Megan Stanford, Laurie Houston; Year 4, Joanne Morgason, Linda Farrier.

Fifty dollar awards from the Town of Whitchurch - Stouffville went to Nancy Ku and Lois James, while Sandra Robin won a \$25 Stouffville Women's Institute Award.

The other Chesebrough-Pond's Awards were distributed as follows: Year 1, Nancy Ku, Lois James; Year 2, Elizabeth Wilson, Nancy Armstrong; Year 3, Megan Stanford, Laurie Houston; Year 4, Joanne Morgason, Linda Farrier; Year 5, Robert Bowdway.

Maryanne Hulshof was the recipient of two awards, from the Stouffville Lions Club Oratory; and a Special Staff award. Eugene Reesor won the Ian Carnegie Memorial award; and Paul Gauthier received the Bryce M. Sherren Memorial Award. A \$100 Lions Club prize in art went to Svend Hillerup, and the Music Mania Award for Performing Arts was taken by Edward Powers.

Valedictorian at SDSS this year was Richard Yeomans.

Several other awards have not yet been announced.

Lake bus service is possibility

MUSS LAKE — Negotiations are still in progress over additional GO bus service to the lake area — and at least one of those involved is optimistic.

Councillor Becky Wedley told The Tribune that a meeting was held recently with the company and a number of residents. The mayor was present, and Mrs. Wedley was pleased at the tone of the meeting.

"There's some very positive thinking about our request for regular service around the lake," she said. "Perhaps our petition did some good after all."

Fire chief is still waiting for answer

STOUFFVILLE — Stouffville fire chief Walt Smith is still waiting for an answer to the letter he sent to the Board of Education on June 22.

The fire chief was enquiring about progress made on bringing Summitview P. S. up to fire regulation standards.

The school was judged hazardous as far back as 1974 when an inspection was made in the presence of a school board member, according to the fire chief, and in 1975 recommendations for bringing the school up to standard were again submitted.

In his letter Mr. Smith said that these recommendations had to be complied with before school begins in September.

In order to speed up action on this project the fire chief gave the board ten days to state their intention to comply.

The chief said that otherwise he will have no alternative but to issue a fire marshal's order under section 19 of the Fire Marshall's Act to the York County Board, which would keep the school closed.

Solution found at Musselman's Lake?

Residents ban motor boats

MUSS LAKE — A major breakthrough has been achieved in the years-long battle to restrict high-powered motorboats on Musselman's Lake.

The first fruits of the partial victory were observed Sunday by Councillor Becky Wedley.

"There were only two or three small motorboats on the lake," she reported. "It was almost all sailboats and rowboats... it was lovely."

The break has come as a result of the recent sale of the Shalimar property. The land was purchased by Vern Davies, owner of Cedar Beach, who, according to Mrs. Wedley, plans to resell most of it.

The beach area, however, has been turned over to the Churchill Drive Ratepayers' Association, a group which has consistently sought controls on lake boating. As the Shalimar beach was one of the most popular spots for launching boats, control of it gives the association some leverage.

It was reported that the group managed to block the launching of 15 boats on the weekend. This apparently caused the unusual quietness noted on Sunday.

This week, the Ratepayers' Association has begun construction of a fence at the Shalimar beach, as a long-term solution to the problem.

Ron Robb, president of the

association, told The Tribune his group intends to upgrade the beach. Sand is being brought in, and playground equipment, picnic tables, and garbage cans will be placed on the property. All costs and maintenance will be borne by association members.

Restrictions will be imposed on the launching of boats, as follows: Association members resident at the lake, no restrictions; residents in the lake area without lakefront land, limited to a maximum of ten horsepower engines; and residents of other parts of Whitchurch-Stouffville who are members of the association, non-powered boats only.

Robb said his group intends

to make an effort to see that everyone using the lake does so "in a responsible manner". He

feels the rules and restrictions will result in more enjoyment for everyone.

Island Lake shooting incident drowning occur within minutes

ISLAND LAKE — Police summoned to Island Lake Sunday were investigating a shooting incident when a drowning was reported.

James Clarke, 20, of Toronto, was the victim in the first occurrence. He was in a field with three friends when he was struck in the right knee by a

bullet. Police arrived and investigated, but no arrest has been made. Clarke was taken to York County Hospital, where he is reported in satisfactory condition.

The investigating officers were drawn to the lake by an outburst of screaming and shouting. A young man, Robert

Dwyer, 26, had gone in swimming and failed to surface.

Attempts at rescue were unsuccessful, and the body was only recovered by dragging after having been in the lake for more than an hour.

The body was taken to York County Hospital, and an autopsy will be performed.



Jean Smith of Lazy Lake is feeding a bit of hay to part of a baseball team. The donkeys will be starring in a game of Donkey Baseball to be played at Goodwood Community Park at 8 p.m. on July 16. The game, which will be played on the backs of eleven of the stubborn unmanageable beasts, has been arranged to raise money for various sports in Goodwood. Among the luminaries who will ride, or attempt to ride, the cantankerous donkeys are Uxbridge Mayor Carl Puterbough, Regional Councillor Bill Ballinger, local real estate

man Ken May and his wife, and members of the Goodwood Park Board. Donkey Baseball has some peculiar rules which should prove amusing to the spectators. All participants are mounted on the stubborn beasts, (including the fielders, who may dismount and drag their animal to the ball if necessary) and base runners must ride their steeds around the diamond in order to score.

— Annegret Lamure

Well-known resident Norman Fretz passes away suddenly

STOUFFVILLE — Many residents of Stouffville mourned the sudden passing of Norman Fretz this week.

Mr. Fretz, a well-known member of the community, died suddenly July 2 while working at the Spring Lakes Golf Course, Ringwood. It was reported that a heart attack — his third — was the cause of death. He was 53 years old.

The late Mr. Fretz was owner for many years of the well-known butcher shop on the Claremont Road. The property was expropriated for the airport, and the business closed down last October. Since then, Mr. Fretz had devoted himself to his hobby of antique furniture restoration, as well as completing the family house he built a year and a half ago on William St. here in town.

He is survived by his wife, Ann (nee Morrison), to whom he was married for 21 years. Known as a devoted family man, Mr. Fretz is also survived by two children: Gayle (Mrs. R. Otter) and Graham.

Other surviving relatives include a number of brothers and sisters: Alma (Mrs. L. Reesor); Lois (Mrs. M. Hoover); Mary Ann (Mrs. B. Schlabaca); Orval; and Levi. His mother May, widow of the late Samuel Fretz, also survives.

For many years an active member of the Stouffville United Church, where he was several times an elder, Mr. Fretz left behind him many friends. Rev. Donald Pugh, a life-long friend of the deceased, assisted at the services held July 5. Conducting the service was Mr. Green, while Rev. Paul Martin of the Wideman church also assisted.

School board causes largest tax increase

STOUFFVILLE — At a special meeting June 30, town council adopted its budget and struck a mill rate for the year.

As in past years, the York County Board of Education is responsible for more than half of the municipal tax bill. The board this year takes more than 58 cents out of every dollar raised by local taxes; last year, it took over 56 cents.

The town's budget is basically unchanged from that adopted in May, although regional levies were somewhat higher than anticipated. The increase for a public school

supporter living in the former Whitchurch Township will be \$62.70 on a \$20,000 assessment. The equivalent increases are: \$69.90 in the former Markham Township; and \$65.66 in the former Village.

The town's increase this year over last is only about 3.4 per cent. Regional rate increased 11.7 per cent, while the school board upped the ante by 34.4 per cent.

The actual mill rate this year for public school residents with homes in the old Whitchurch area is 29.3. Last year's rate was 26.2, and the 1974 figure was 21.6.