

Mayor to quit Ward member bids for post

STOUFFVILLE — Eldred King's moving up; Gordon Ratcliff's moving out.

That's the situation following a press statement, Friday, by Mayor Ratcliff and an announcement, Monday, by Councillor King, related to forthcoming municipal elections, Nov. 13.

"It's been six rewarding years. I gave it the best I had," Mayor Ratcliff told The Tribune.

The mayor recalled saying, back in 1976, he wished to serve only one more term in office. Just over three months remain.

"The Town's been good to me — centennial year, I'll never forget it," he stated.

It was after serving many years on public and high school boards, that Gordon Ratcliff entered municipal politics as a councillor in the Twp. of Whitchurch. When regional government was introduced and Whitchurch and Stouffville became one, he continued on as a councillor in Ward 4. He was acclaimed mayor in 1973 and has held the position ever since.

The job has had its rewards,

not the least of these, the challenge of drawing the urban and rural communities together. "To this end, I think I've been successful," he said. Other accomplishments he likes to look back on include — the building of a new public library; the coming of McNeil



GORDON RATCLIFF

Laboratories and the development of the Thicketwood, Baycrest and Felray Subdivisions.

"We've welcomed a lot of new people to Town," he said. Mayor Ratcliff declined comment on whether he would want to hold a lesser position close to the municipal scene. He admitted, however, that politics "tends to get in the blood".

In going for the top post, Eldred King said he had talked first to the mayor before reaching his decision. "I feel I've accomplished everything I can as a councillor," he stated.

The Ward 6 member admitted, "I didn't want to beat him (the mayor) and I didn't want to be beaten". To date, no other names have been mentioned.

Councillors seeking re-election include: Jim Doble, (Ward 1); Becky Wedley, (Ward 2); Bill Kamps, (Ward 4); and June Button, (Ward 5). Bill McNalley (Ward 3), was non-committal when contacted by The Tribune. There'll be a vacancy to fill in Ward 6.

Stouffville P.U.C.

Office "face-lift" said long overdue

STOUFFVILLE — The Stouffville Public Utilities Commission will soon receive a complete "face-lift".

The operation, to be called The Whitchurch-Stouffville Hydro-Electric Commission, is planning to spend an additional \$15,000 this year for new equipment and building renovations.

Chairman Ken Laushway said these extra expenditures, while not included in the 1978

budget, would have no effect on '78 hydro rates. He explained the Utility had accumulated a surplus of about \$40,000 that could be used for this work.

The money will be spent on a new 3/4 ton truck, a copying machine and repairs outside and inside the office.

Mr. Laushway said the time had come to upgrade the facility. The building, he stated, was constructed in 1962 and was badly in need of repair.

Abduction charges against two women

STOUFFVILLE — Two Stouffville women have been charged with abduction following the disappearance of a 4 month old child from Children's Aid Society headquarters at Newmarket.

The baby, police said, had been removed from a residence at 167 Main Street West, Aug. 31, after a social worker visited the people there. Later, it was made a temporary ward of the Society on orders by the family court.

On Sept. 7, visitation privileges were granted the accused. It is alleged the child was taken from the premises at that time. A warrant was issued and the women were arrested two days later.

Geraldine Mildred Mongrain, 22 and Audrea Trudel, 41, were scheduled to appear in court this week.

Nineteen detectives and several Society workers investigated the case.

Teacher Evaluation

No 'witch-hunt'

STOUFFVILLE — A teacher evaluation program, whereby a staff supervisory officer "sits in" on classes conducted by first and second year staff members, is not a "witch-hunt", trustee Harry Bowes of Whitchurch-Stouffville told The Tribune this week. Rather, he stressed, its purpose is to help individuals who could be experiencing problems in certain areas.

The local Board representative said every teacher serving his or her probationary period (two years), is evaluated at least once. He said the school is made fully aware of the day an officer will call and the teacher in question receives a full appraisal report once its prepared.

"Nothing's hidden," the trustee stressed.

In total, 711 reports were filed in 1977-78, but not on 711 different teachers, Mr. Bowes said. He admitted that some dismissals had occurred, but always following close consultation between the 'inspector', the school principal and the area superintendent.

In York County, the three supervisory officers are — Dr. Peter Ross, Tim Roebuck and Terry Gray. Mr. Gray is the

former principal at Whitchurch-Highlands.

The system isn't new, the trustee explained. The idea, he said, is to point out areas of strength as well as weaknesses.



Seeks re-election

Harry Bowes, Board of Education member for Whitchurch-Stouffville, will seek re-election for another two-year term. He'll also let his name stand for the chairman's post in 1979. He's currently the Board's vice-chairman.

On occasions, he noted, one of the three officers will visit a school at the principal's request and sometimes to do an appraisal on teachers with more than two years' experience.

At a recent meeting of the Board, the supervisory program was discussed at length. At the conclusion, Sam Chapman, Director of Education stressed the fact that "it is not the job of the supervisory team to "weed out" poor teachers, but to eliminate poor teaching by identifying where it is and helping him or her to either improve or leave the profession".

Rather than being too tough on teacher personnel, trustee Don Cameron considered the program not tough enough. "It bothers me," he said, "that within our schools, the personnel system isn't as tight as in the business world".

In outlining the supervisory process, it was explained that if a teacher's performance is deemed unacceptable, the principal may request the officer to make a return visit at a later date. The principal, the report read, is responsible for making every effort to help the teacher improve and for writing reports showing the degree of improvement.

Death saddens Town

STOUFFVILLE — This community was saddened, Saturday, when word was received on the passing of Mrs. Donald Ferguson, Frederick Street, Stouffville.

Mrs. Ferguson, the former Margaret Lewis died in Scarborough Centenary Hospital following an illness of four months.

Born on the 7th concession of Markham, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Allin Lewis, she moved only across the road following her marriage, then to Stouffville about ten years ago.

Margaret loved to curl and more recently had taken up the sport of golf. She was devoted member of the Melville United Church choir and served as treasurer of the U.C.W. for several years.

Mrs. Ferguson took great pride in her family that includes husband Don; three sons, Jim of Sunderland; David at Barrie; Kenneth at home; and an only granddaughter, Heather. Three brothers also survive, Gordon at R.R.1, Unionville; Murray and Harry at R.R.2, Markham.

Gruff goat

STOUFFVILLE — To take a Billy goat to market is one thing. To keep him there is another.

Staff employees at the Stouffville Stockyards discovered this recently, when they attempted to coax such an animal into the ring. "Billy" broke free, crashing horns — first through two glass doors.

Wiley Cliff Harper, skillful in the art of goat-roping, was able to corral the head-strong beast following a merry chase.

Stouffville Co-operative

Sales up by \$75,000

STOUFFVILLE — During a year when many businesses found it difficult to make ends meet, the Stouffville Co-operative Association has shown an over-all sales increase of almost \$75,000.

Figures revealed at a members' meeting, Sept. 14, showed retail sales of \$1,879,362 in 1978 as compared to \$1,804,680 in '77.

The largest increase, Manager George Timbers said, was in the feed department where sales were up by \$40,846. Petroleum sales also showed a gain of about \$25,000; fertilizer and seed by \$13,407.

The profit increase over-all was close to \$30,000.

Board President, Grant Dreyer credited the success of the year's operation to the local

manager for "holding costs in line".

New officers elected for 1979 include — Lorne Smith, R.R. 2, Markham; Bev Beach, R.R. 3, Stouffville and Paul Hulshof, R.R. 4, Stouffville. Others remaining in office are — Don Miller, Claude Kerr, Jim Rae, Lloyd Grose, Theo Vanderburg and Stuart Watson.

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Six vehicles, including two trucks and four cars, were involved in a grinding crash, Thursday, at the intersection of Woodbine Avenue and the Stouffville-Gormley Road. A Keswick man was

pronounced dead on arrival at hospital and four others were injured, three seriously. A tanker truck and the wreckage of two cars are shown here. Total property damage was estimated at \$21,500.

One dead

four hurt

Oppositor to 'hamlet'

VIVIAN — Residents in the Vivian area of Whitchurch-Stouffville are opposing a planned 17-home estate subdivision in their neighborhood on the grounds that the development is too large.

Finley Macdonald told The Tribune that a project that large creates a hamlet out in the country and this, he said, poses a potential problem with respect to water, wildlife and traffic.

An Ontario Municipal Board hearing is set for Oct. 10 at 10 a.m. in Latcham Hall, Stouffville.

"We're prepared to go the limit," Mr. Macdonald said, "we mean business".

To accommodate a build-up of that size, he said another room would have to be added to Ballantrae School. He said too, that the road leading to the site would have to be widened by 27 feet.

While not opposed to "new neighbors", Mr. Macdonald expressed the fear other speculators would move in if this development wins approval. "I have an investment here and I intend to protect it," he concluded.

Tractor-trailer crashes four cars

GORMLEY — A 26 year old tractor-trailer driver stands charged with criminal negligence causing death, following a spectacular multi-vehicle crash, Thursday morning, at the intersection of Woodbine Avenue and the Stouffville-Gormley Road.

Robert Petick, 31 of Newmarket and his passenger, Kenneth Madsen, 32 also of Newmarket. Petick suffered a fractured neck, a broken jaw and internal injuries. Madsen suffered a broken pelvis and a crushed chest. Kenneth Duncan was

treated for a fractured shoulder and back injuries.

The tractor-trailer carried a full load of tar oil and although it jackknifed into the west ditch, it remained upright and there was no fire. Total damage has been estimated at \$21,500.

Police said the northbound transport, driven by Randall John Corless of Agincourt, failed to stop for a red light and collided with an eastbound gravel truck, driven by Kenneth Duncan, 29, of Downsview. It then veered out of control and slammed into four cars all stopped in two southbound lanes.

Killed in the collision was Wilson Trowbridge, 36, of Keswick. Seriously injured was Faye Lowe, 52, also of Keswick, a passenger in the Trowbridge auto. Others hurt included,

Car sliced in half driver shaken up

STOUFFVILLE — An accident, last week, on Kennedy Road, north of 19th Avenue, had witnesses shaking their heads in disbelief.

Melba Francis, 29, of 245 North Street, Stouffville, emerged from her full-size Dodge Polara virtually unscathed, despite the fact the car was cut in half.

Police said the northbound car veered off the pavement, struck a telephone pole, flipped over and landed on its wheels. The impact sliced the vehicle in two, immediately behind the front seat.

The driver was taken to hospital for observation and released.



A Stouffville woman was shaken up but otherwise uninjured, last week, despite the fact her full-size car was sliced in half. Melba

Francis of North Street was admitted to hospital for observation and released. The accident occurred on Kennedy Road, north of 19th Avenue. — Jim Thomas.