

Reduce busing subsidies

CLAREMONT — Linda Carder, trustee for the Durham Board of Education is angry with the provincial government.

She says it reduced busing subsidies without giving fair warning.

"The Durham Board's budget has already been set for this year. We can't change it now."

A letter of protest has been sent to the Ministry, asking for a reprieve at least until the new school year begins in September.

The cutbacks, taking effect this month, decrease grants for special programs busing from 74 per cent to 54 per cent of the cost. Under new rules, a program must

require busing on 15 separate occasions to qualify.

Regular transportation of students to classes remains unaltered.

But Mrs. Carder explains some of the programs of benefit at Claremont Public School that could suffer include the Grade five swim program, track meets, outdoor programs, music

festivals, performing arts programs, and the special Audley School incentive program.

She feels the provincial government should take responsibility in this area because of their larger base of taxation and ready access to alternate sources of capital, such as lottery revenue.

The Tribune

JANUARY 31, 1979

Second Section

Bob Hughes

Father dies after heroic fight for life

BLOOMINGTON — This community was shocked and saddened when word was received of the sudden passing of Robert Gordon Hughes, Jan. 24, at Wellesley Hospital. He was 48.

It was tragic that his death should occur at this time. Bob had only recently regained his strength and confidence after a grim seven month battle against acute leukemia.

A bone marrow transplant from his twin brother George had apparently saved his life. He had only returned to work a few days when he developed a sudden respiratory problem. The condition resulted from a thickening of the lung tissue.

His wife, Barbara, said his struggle was not in vain. The medical specialists who worked with Bob through the ordeal have learned a great deal with which to continue their fight.

She said she was amazed at "the extent of his tolerance and

courage." He lived his life to the full, and retained his cheerfulness even at the height of his illness.

Born in Montreal May 1, 1930, the son of William and Ida



BOB HUGHES

Hughes, Bob grew up there. He met his wife, Barbara and they were married May 1, 1954.

Before moving to Stouffville, almost seven years ago, Bob and Barbara lived in Roxboro, a suburb of Montreal. Six months ago, they took up residence on Thornby Avenue in Bloomington.

Prior to accepting the position of sales representative with Samsonite Luggage, Bob spent 12 years as a golf equipment salesman.

Very sports-minded, he was an enthusiastic golfer, and a welcome player at Sleepy

Hollow Golf and Country Club. He spent much of his time at the Stouffville Arena where his sons played hockey.

Bob was a member of the Masonic Lodge, Stouffville, and proud of the fact he was a third generation Canadian.

Surviving are his wife, Barbara; his mother, Ida (Mrs. William Norton) sons Brian, Bobby, Peter, and Billy; a twin brother, George; and one sister, Dorothy (Mrs. Thomas Newell).

Rev. Jim Carder conducted the service, Jan. 27 from the chapel at O'Neill's Funeral Home, Stouffville.

Damage historic train station

UNIONVILLE — An attempt to burn down the C.N.R. station at Unionville has resulted in a conviction being registered against two local men, charged with arson.

Brian Young, 21 and Barry Blundell, 17, were remanded in custody by Judge S.M. Harris after entering pleas of guilty.

The blaze, last July, caused close to \$15,000 damage to the building.

According to evidence, the two accused had consumed a quantity of beer before making molotov cocktails and throwing them against the side of the structure. The station has been declared a historic site.

An eye-witness to the incident said he heard one of the youths comment, "Hurry up and throw it and let's get out of here."

It took firemen more than three hours to extinguish the flames, the court was told.

Young and Blundell were arrested after police discovered fingerprints on one of the bottles used as a fire bomb.

Judge Harris was told that the Town of Markham planned to use the station for a museum.

"Such parts of our cultural heritage should be preserved," he responded. Sentence will be passed Feb. 2.

Employee charged

MARKHAM — A brother and sister act that pilfered merchandise from a Collegiate Sports store, resulted in convictions when the pair appeared before Judge F.D. White in Newmarket Court.

Jodi Hoffman, 16 and her brother, Sheldon, 19, entered pleas of guilty. Miss Hoffman was an employee of the firm.

According to evidence, the two arranged to have certain articles placed in a gym bag which was later picked up by the boy. The 'game' ended when the girl's employer became suspicious.

Goods, estimated at \$438

were removed. Some were stolen and some were given away, the court was told.

Solicitor for the pair described them as "honest, decent citizens". But Judge White disagreed, calling them thieves.

"This was not an impulsive act, it was planned. If a businessman cannot trust an employee, who can he trust?" he asked.

Judge White placed Miss Hoffman on a suspended sentence and a one year term of probation. Sheldon Hoffman was fined \$200 and also placed on probation for one year.

Sales campaign begins for '79

MARKHAM — An awards banquet held at the Deer Park Inn began the 1979 sales campaign of Century 21-Armour Real Estate.

Doug Meharg, founder and president of the company, jokingly told his staff, "This is not really a kick-off extravaganza, but the 'kick off of sales' extravaganza."

Taking a Century 21 fran-

chise has "opened up new horizons" he said. Since the companies merged last year, his staff has increased from 10 to 21. Residential sales are up 33 per cent.

The organization has grown considerably from its modest beginning in 1973. Then the staff comprised one salesman and Mr. Meharg, the president.

"This year the magic

number is 21. Our goal in 1979 is twenty-one million dollars in residential sales," he declared.

Well on target already, sales at the end of January amounted to about two million.

Mr. Meharg proclaimed his ultimate ambition is to make Century 21-Armour the major real estate broker within an eight mile radius of Markham. He said since becoming

involved in Century 21, "I know I've seen something different in this firm that's never happened before."

He explained people are enthusiastic, and are becoming more involved in the company rather than just selling real estate.

Mr. Meharg outlined plans for the construction of a giant doll house, similar to those on

the Century 21 television commercials, to be used as a float in parades.

"We'll build it together," he said, "because that's what we're doing with this firm, building together."

Mr. Meharg also mentioned plans for a gigantic garage sale to be held April 21. He hopes to raise \$5,000 for the Crippled Children of York Region. Whipper Billy Watson will be involved in the event.

Vice-president of Century 21, Barry Coughlan, pointed out his corporation had grown from 29 offices in Vancouver and Victoria to 7,000 across North America since its inception three years ago.

He explained that Century 21 was giving smaller companies a competitive edge they had never known before. He said he expects this year one sale in every ten would be by Century 21.

Award winners in the Markham-based organization for 1978 are — Bob Gordon and Reg Hermitage, for sales of over one half million dollars; Vic Drury and Michael Fenson, over three quarters of a million dollars; and Hersh Rosner, Susan Moon, Bob Newman, and John Hulme for sales over one million dollars each.

The top producer of the year, with sales approaching two million dollars was Hersh Rosner.

Marion Snowball, an office secretary, received an annual production bonus.

CLAREMONT — After her first frustrating encounter with the bargaining process, Durham Board of Education trustee Linda Carder has concluded teachers across the province should be represented by a single bargaining unit and their salaries standardized.

"Just think of the man-hours wasted every year on negotiations by hundreds of boards," she said. Mrs. Carder added the duplication of service was a financial waste.

The Board negotiated with elementary school teachers from the time their contract expired out, Aug. 31, until Jan. 18, when talks broke off.

The elementary school teachers are the only board employees still without a contract. Custodians, office staff, and secondary school teachers have already settled.

According to Mrs. Carder, negotiations are hampered by

the fact the trustee position is only a part-time responsibility. The loss of negotiating team personnel during elections also interferes with the process. The trustee recommends a professional bargaining team.

She feels standardized salaries will not only be more equitable for teachers, but for the smaller school boards as well. Able to offer attractive salaries, small boards could attract the staff needed.

Mrs. Carder further suggests wage benefits for instructors working in isolated northern areas.

The elementary school teachers have asked for an 8.1 per cent increase over a two-year contract. The Board has offered an average of 5.5 per cent over one year.

The teachers say the main issues are pupil-teacher ratio; education improvement leave; surplus and redundant teachers.

Steps, similar to those contemplated by the Town, are being taken in such places as Scarborough and Oshawa, Mr. McNalley stated.

Mayor Eldred King warned that the cost of preparing local legislation could be prohibitive plus the fact the municipality lacked the staff to handle it.

It was agreed that model copies be obtained from other areas to serve as guides here.

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Student learns from a 'pro'

Parkview apartment resident Joe Sider (left) instructs ten year old Karen Nugent in the sport of shuffleboard. Karen's a grade five student at Orchard Park Public School participating in a program with Parkview residents called "Communications Young and Old."

Propose end to busing

UNIONVILLE — Devils' Elbow Ratepayers' Association member Anne Rickwood has devised an alternative to busing Unionville high school students to Stouffville or Richmond Hill.

The proposal calls for the conversion of William Berczy Public School into a Unionville High School.

Unionville parent groups and ratepayers' associations have been working around-the-clock developing alternatives since they learned their students might be bused elsewhere.

Unionville students are presently bused to Markham Dist. High School. Both Markham and Thornlea Secondary are overcrowded.

Board of Education staff will present trustees with a recommendation in answer to the problem on Feb. 12 or Feb. 26. The Unionville residents hope to present their ideas at the same time.

According to the proposition, high school classes will be phased in over a five year period, while public school grades will be dropped. By 1983, the school would cater only to Grades nine to thirteen.

Presently serving Grades six to eight, it was originally built as a junior high school. Teachers there are qualified to instruct up to the Grade ten level.

The school does possess some shop and home economics facilities, though Mrs. Rickwood admits they probably would need upgrading.

Mrs. Rickwood told The Tribune, Parkview and Unionville Public Schools can accommodate the displaced elementary pupils. They are operating at 89.6 per cent and 82 per cent capacity respectively.

Salary negotiations

Revise process - trustee

Withdraws request for nudity by-law

STOUFFVILLE — When it comes to nudity, pornography and other related forms of "entertainment", councillor Bill McNalley claims "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure". However, he's agreed that preparation of a bylaw to control such establishments should be delayed until its content can be discussed at length.

The provincial government recently passed legislation, making it possible for individual municipalities to control certain businesses under a section of the Municipal Act.

They must fall into the category of "adult en-

Group prepares for second battle

STOUFFVILLE — The P.O.W.R. (Protect Our Water Resources) group has recruited 15 new members in preparation for another struggle against York Sanitation Company.

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Doug Meharg (right), President of Century 21 - Armour Real Estate congratulates his four top salesmen of 1978 at the company's awards banquet. Each sold over one million dollars worth of real estate. They are (left to right) Hersh Rosner, John Hulme, Susan Moon, and Bob Newman.

-Ed Schroeter