

Parents play large role in childhood education

By Chris Shanahan
CLAREMONT Learning is a family affair at the Claremont Co-operative Nursery School.

The school's instructor, Kitty McArthur, says a main advantage of the co-op approach is that parents actually have the chance to watch the child's progress throughout the year.

"The first thing is for the children to have fun," she says. "But at the same time they're learning."

And weekday

mornings at the Claremont Community Centre, adults share in that learning experience.

"In any co-operative setting there's a sharing of ideas between the parents, and I think that's because they get to know each other," explains Mrs. McArthur.

Active role

There are 13 parents involved on a rotating basis, with each helping out at the school about two days a month. Participants can even include other adults

such as a relative or friend of the family. While staff is responsible for curriculum, parents control every other facet including fundraising.

"And they take their role very seriously. They're very good," Mrs. McArthur notes. "Without the input of the parents the school wouldn't be the same."

The Claremont class is about equivalent to a junior kindergarten program, which is presently not available in Durham Region.

The age range is from three to five. We're very structured because we're trying to prepare them for kindergarten," Mrs. McArthur says, noting that the young students enjoy their busy morning routine.

Outings

Frequent spring and summer field trips see the preschoolers visiting local points of interest such as the fire hall, conservation area and museum.

The nursery operates from September to June on the

same schedule used by public schools. Students can attend full-time (five mornings a week) or part-time (Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays) or (Thursdays and Fridays).

There's an "open door policy," the instructor notes, and potential co-op members are always welcome to come and visit at the Claremont Community Centre.

For more information contact Kitty McArthur at 649-5223.



Claremont Co-operative Nursery School

Kitty McArthur, (centre), assists four-year-old Eric Smith, (left), and Greg Barnes, three, at Claremont's Co-operative Nursery School. The Early Childhood Education instructor says parents play an important part in the co-operative concept. The school was formed at Altona about 15 years ago.

—Chris Shanahan

Uxbridge Secondary School

Four computer students reach national finals

UXBRIDGE — Four students from Uxbridge Secondary School have qualified for the national computer programming finals in Toronto, April 26.

The students Tom Hall and Caleb Howard, both of Grade 13; Paul Salvini, Grade 11, and Paul Marsh, of Grade 9 — will team up to represent

Ontario in the event. It will be held at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, Bloor Street West.

They qualified while representing Durham Region in the recent provincial Touche Ross semi-finals at Burlington. A total of 24 teams from across southern Ontario took part.

Programming problems they faced included building a perpetual calendar, calculating a bowling or bridge score and counting the number of times a word is used in a paragraph.

Uxbridge had downed teams from 10 region high schools to qualify for the semi-finals. That competition

was held at Oshawa in early March.

In these competitions, students have to solve four computer problems in three hours.

If U.S.S. is victorious at the national finals, the team will advance to the North American competition at Detroit, Mich., in late May.

U.S.S. students

also enjoyed considerable success in a recent regional computer science fair at Ajax.

Dave Gribble, Tom Hall, Caleb Howard and Ed Watson all placed first in their respective categories, while Paul Salvini had a second in the business division and Bill Harvey placed second in the intermediate computer science applications category.

Donations for Handi-Transit

UXBRIDGE TWP. — Fundraising continues for a planned Handi-Transit service that would provide transportation for physically handicapped persons in Uxbridge and Scugog Townships.

Cathy Anderson, administrative coordinator for Uxbridge Community Care, said a joint campaign between

Uxbridge and Scugog has surpassed the \$6,000 mark en route to a goal of \$15,000. The province will contribute the other half of the \$30,000 required to purchase a Handi-Transit vehicle.

Mrs. Anderson said she's anxious to see the service in operation, admitting "next" week wouldn't be soon enough for me."

She added that Community Care, a community involvement and volunteer program of Scugog and Uxbridge, is involved in Handi-Transit because it's probably most aware of the need for such a service

here. The agency is participating in this matter on a volunteer basis," she added.

Donations have included \$800 raised in a walkathon held by students at Uxbridge Secondary School.

Uxbridge Twp. has agreed to assume Handi-Transit's operating deficit as proposed, but Council "will not assume any capital costs, now or in the future, of the replacement of vehicles."

Ward 4 Councillor Sandy Ewen has been vocal in opposition to the project.

Ward 1 Councillor Don Jackson suggested a "small

donation" would be consistent with past policies of assisting such relief efforts.

But Councillor Sandy Ewen wasn't so enthusiastic when the request came before Council, April 11.

"I don't think we have money to send to every type of disaster fund," he said.

The Chatham-Kent area was seriously affected by major flooding of the Thames and Sydenham rivers and their tributaries in late February and early March. The provincial government has declared the involved municipalities a "Disaster Area."

for the service in this municipality," Ewen said before the motion was carried, March 28. He wants Community Care to outline in writing exactly what the service will provide for Uxbridge.

Handi-Transit Inc., a non-profit organization, has proposed operation of a van-type service approximately eight to nine hours a day, Monday to Friday.

Flood aid

Uxbridge Twp. will donate \$100 to the Chatham-Kent Flood Disaster Committee.

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Fourth Line Uxbridge

Former residents renew friendships

By Marjorie Woodland

FOURTH LINE — Ronald and Margaret Lodge, Daniel and Glen, of Sioux Lookout, have been visiting relatives and friends in this area. It is several years since they left their home on Sideroad 20 and purchased "Timber Edge," a hunting and fishing camp. On their way home, they visited Mrs. Annabelle Gorman at Thessalon, Ont. The Lodges report she is keeping well and busy at Algoma Manor, helping the less fortunate there.

Mrs. Gorman and her late husband Rev. George Gorman, were highly respected during their two pastorates at Goodwood Baptist Church.

Another former pastor Goodwood Baptist

Meryle Dolan, has been engaged in full-time angelic work since he left here. He will be speaking at Claremont Baptist Church Sunday, April 21, at 7 p.m.

Friends will be glad to hear that Bertha Symes has been moved from Whitby to Parkview Home, Stouffville, where her husband Morley is living. This couple would be glad of a visit, no doubt, to reminisce about former days.

Glad to report that Jean May is home from hospital. She's still in traction, as treatment for a ruptured disc in her back.

Barry Stather has been off work recovering from a shoulder injury suffered on the job.

This is Education Week at Goodwood Public School. An interesting variety of student projects are on display.

Goodwood Baptist Church pastor Gary Manzo, of Emmanuel International, leaves Saturday for two weeks in Jamaica. He'll work there with other volunteers building a road in the mountains, and another project repairing a school to be used as a training centre for local young people. They'll study there to become Christian leaders and teachers among their own people.

Rev. Manzo's absence, Mark Clayton will be in the pulpit at the Baptist

church, April 21. This will be the annual Service Brigade Sunday when a special invitation is extended to families of the Brigade Boys.

I have received notes of appreciation, some from a distance, about the Fourth Line column. One message mentioned that the reader liked hearing of former neighbors. It brought to mind this poem from my scrapbook:

There are no friends like old friends,
 And none so good and true
 We greet them when we meet them
 As roses greet the dew
 No other friends are dearer
 Though born of kindred mold
 And while we praise the new ones
 We treasure still the old

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A look into 1898 Tribune

Recently, Bill Wallace of Stouffville, uncovered a back issue of The Tribune dated Feb. 3, 1898. It's well preserved, despite its "ripe old age." At auction sales, similar copies have been known to bring up to sixty dollars.

The following are ads and items of interest:

"Are you in need of a new straw cutter, pulper, Brantford windmill, single or gang plow or a first class buggy or wagon? If so, the right place to get them is from me—dirt cheap. Levi Hoover, agent for Massey Harris Co."

"We are bound to lead in all branches. We manufacture nothing but first-class work. My prices are to suit the times. A first-class buggy for \$75. A first-class farm wagon complete for \$85. Come in and have your buggy painted by one of the best painters in the province. Only English varnish used. Horseshoeing a specialty; new shoes for 25 cents. Remember the stand—east of Queen's Hotel, W.H. Todd."

"Jos. A. Todd, opposite the station in Stouffville, is prepared to purchase all kinds of grain, seeds, potatoes, hides, wool and pork. He keeps on hand for sale flour, feed, coal, wood, corn and salt, in barrels and bulk. J. A. Todd."

"For more butter, better butter with less labor, try the Butterfly Milk Separator. Silvester & Dougherty, Agents."

"Furniture/Away, Down! S. Burkholder, Main Street, Stouffville, has on hand good hardwood bedsteads, four-and-a-half feet high, \$195; woven wire beds at \$125; parlour suits upholstered in plush, \$160.

Good assortment of fancy rockers, wood cobbler and upholstered seats for 90 cents and up."

"Beautiful Plantino Photos taken at Merten's Studio! The finest work made and guaranteed satisfactory unlike the cheap class of enlargements that are being peddled around the country by fakirs!"

"Stop That Cough by getting a bottle of our Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil. Cures old and young. Large bottles only 25 cents. H.C. Thomas, The Old Reliable Drug Store, Corner of Church and Main Streets, Stouffville."

"The Markham hockey team went through the storm to Uxbridge and played the home team Monday night. The score was 7-0 in favor of Uxbridge. The roads were so badly drifted, that the Markham team, on their return, could get only as far as Goodwood. We haven't heard how many digits or how many auricular appendages were frozen on the way."

"Announcement—at 7 p.m.—the water works will be tested by a real live fire!"

"Call and see our fall stock of walking hats; also sailors, toques and bonnets. Dress-making as usual. Adair and Darach, Stouffville."

"J. Monkhouse and Co., The Leading Tailor. Only 20 suits left. Were \$15 and \$18, now clearing!"

"School Supplies, notebook and envelopes. Large assortment of pocket Bibles in Morocco binding. The Market Drug Store—G. Collard, Chemist and Druggist, Stouffville."

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