

Kindergarten for three-year-olds

CEDAR VALLEY — Admission to kindergarten at age four; perhaps even three.

Ron Shuker, candidate for trustee, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville, feels lowering the age limit to this level deserves serious consideration. The 46-year-old journalist and father of three says, "if elected,

he'll push for discussion on the issue.

Shuker, a graduate journalist, is one of three persons bidding for the single Board of Education seat. Others are incumbent Harry Bowes and Daphne Goldman, both of Stouffville. Election date is Tues., Nov. 12.

Ron and Jill Shuker re-

side at R.R. 1, Cedar Valley. They have a son, Ronnie, 10, and two daughters, Sandra, 8 and Rhonda, 18.

Shuker admits he's long been interested in education. He feels there's a breakdown in communication between the elected and the electors. "If successful, he plans to bridge this gap

through the appointment of an Advisory Committee of Citizens. He also wants to write a regular column for The Tribune, dealing with issues, programs and activities within the school system.

Other goals follow:

- (1) Support the guidance counsellors' career planning services

for students and teachers.

- (2) Encourage student participation in Co-op and Career Development courses.
- (3) Improve the image and opportunities in technical courses.
- (4) Encourage students, teachers and parents to strive for excellence and not be satisfied

with mediocrity.

- (5) Make reading skills and comprehension a high priority from kindergarten through graduation.
- (6) Ensure that the streaming process facing students after Grade 8 is not abused by teachers and principals.

In addition to lowering the age of kindergarten

admissions, Shuker feels the board should establish a maximum of 35 students per class and strive for thirty. He advocates that, where practical, new schools and facilities should be co-operative projects with local municipalities.

"But let's stress learning first and luxuries last," he concludes.

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Rec. Centre "official" Thursday

STOUFFVILLE — It's a reality. Whitchurch-Stouffville's new \$2.3 million Recreation Centre will officially open Thursday (to-morrow) night.

Ontario Premier David Peterson will do the honors,



DAVID PETERSON

cutting the red ribbon at 6:30 p.m. The public is invited.

The ceremony will coincide with the start of Trade Show '85, an event sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. Floor space is completely sold out with 73 exhibitors.

Due to the fact Premier Peterson is due to attend a fund-raising dinner in Richmond Hill at seven, the ceremony here has been moved ahead.

George Schlukbier, Director of Parks and Recreation and chief organizer of the event, is hopeful people will make an extra effort to attend.

The premier will share the V.I.P. platform with The Hon. Sinclair Stevens, M.P., York-Peel; The Hon. Greg Sorbara, M.P.P., York-North; The Hon. John Eakins, Minister of Tourism and Recreation; Eldred

King, Chairman of the Region of York; Mayor Tom Wood and members of Council; Board of Education trustee Harry Bowes; the Fund-Raising Coordinating Committee and representatives of the contracting company.

Music for the occasion will be provided by the Whitchurch-Stouffville Concert Band.

A public reception will follow.

The new arena will seat 1,200 with standing room for more. The floor area (ice surface) measures 200' by 85' comparable to Maple Leaf Gardens.

Although some sections of the structure remain unfinished due to cut-backs in costs, Mr. Schlukbier is hopeful Council will release sufficient funds to complete the second-storey lounge.

He's pleased the first major function in the building is not sports oriented. He wants the public to know events other than hockey, public skating and figure skating will be included. Roller-skating, however, is planned for next summer, something the young people have been requesting for years.

Mr. Schlukbier looks on the facility as a multi-purpose building. He'd like the Town to proceed with Phase 2, a fitness centre and squash courts, as soon as possible.

The Parks and Recreation Department is already relocated at the Centre. The ice will go in next week.

In honor of the official opening, guided tours will be conducted through the building all day to-morrow

at 6:30 p.m. to which all Residents are invited. Trade Show '85 also opens Thursday and continues through Saturday. Entrance to the Centre is from Ninth Line North.

— Jim Thomas



George Schlukbier, Whitchurch-Stouffville's director of Parks and Recreation, points with pride to the Town's new \$2.3 million Rec. Centre to be opened officially by Premier David Peterson, Thursday. The ribbon-cutting ceremony is

Trade Show sold out

STOUFFVILLE — Trade Show '85, sponsored by the Whitchurch-Stouffville Chamber of Commerce, is all set to go.

The main auditorium of the new Rec. Centre is completely sold out. There are 73 exhibitors.

The Show opens Thursday (to-morrow) at 5 p.m. At 6:30, Ontario Premier David Peterson will preside at a ribbon-cutting ceremony to open the new arena. The Trade Show continues Friday (6 to 10 p.m.) and

Saturday (10 a.m. to 10 p.m.).

Admission Thursday is free, \$1.00 for adults and 50 cents for senior citizens and children. Friday and Saturday.

The Trade Show will include a fashion promenade hosted by The Wedding Room of Stouffville, Thursday at 8:30; Friday at 7:30 and Saturday at 3:30 and 7:30 p.m. Many booths are featuring lucky draws.

Chairman of Trade Show '85 is Jack Chambers

At Ballantrae Heavy loss in blaze

BALLANTRAE — A two-storey cement block barn was destroyed by fire Monday on the property of Harry Simpson, Hwy. 48 at Ballantrae.

The blaze was first observed around 9:45 p.m. Firefighters from Station 1 (Stouffville) and Station 2 (Ballantrae) responded, rushing four units to the scene.

In addition to the building, the loss included two tractors, a sprayer, a seed drill, two motorbikes plus a quantity of tools and welding equipment valued at several thousand dollars.

Hundreds of jute bags, stored on a second floor, hampered firemen's efforts. Volunteers remained on location almost four hours.

It's the second serious fire on the Simpson property in the past twelve years. A main barn was burned to the ground back in 1973, a blaze later attributed to arson.

Marlene Simpson said they weren't aware of any problem until the lights in the house suddenly dimmed. By then she said the fire had made considerable headway. She praised volunteers for their quick response and their success in protecting other buildings.

Television star coming to fair

MARKHAM — Tommy Hunter's coming to Markham Fair.

The popular singer and T.V. showman will be featured at the Fair's opening night, Wed. Oct. 2.

Arrangements have been finalized by President Harold Snowball. The cost, said to be in excess of \$7,000, will be underwritten by several prominent Markham area businesses, Mr. Snowball said.

The Fair president met personally with Hunter at the singer's family home in Mississauga.

Included on stage will be fiddle player Al Churney, considered one of the best in the country.

The Tommy Hunter Show is one of the longest running television programs of its kind in Canada. Its weekly audience is estimated at

several million.

Mr. Snowball said he was pleased with the reception. He and Hunter, he said, had met on only one previous occasion but that was several years ago.

A second top-flight entertainment evening is planned for Friday (Oct. 4) featuring The Leamy Family and the Diamond Rio Band.

Firemen win award

STOUFFVILLE — Four Stouffville firefighters travelled all the way to Rochester, New York, on the weekend, but not to fight a fire.

Jim Rennie, Charles Jackson, George Wilson and Brian Davis entered the Association's 1947 Fargo in a 90-vehicle Muster and came away with a top award.

They received a first prize engraved plaque for The Canadian Vehicle Driven the Farthest Distance. The round trip covered 430 miles.

H.S. smokers relocated

STOUFFVILLE — The smokers' ring has been broken at Stouffville Dist. Secondary School.

With a portion of Edward

Street, now owned by York Region Board of Education, the administration at S.D.S.S. has jurisdiction over activities there.

Principal John Nikifork has since banned smoking in the area.

"It's now private property and we have control," he told The Tribune, "we didn't before."

Signs will be erected shortly, indicating the area "off limits" to the motoring public. Speed bumps have already been installed.

Mr. Nikifork believes total prohibition of smoking isn't the answer; however, "Some students will smoke regardless," he said. To allow, for this, he's authorized (on a trial basis) the creation of a smoking area outside the school, north of the cafeteria. While only in place a short time, Mr. Nikifork claims the new arrangement's working well. Only about thirty of the school's total enrolment are utilizing the service, and the majority of these are senior students, he said.

Discuss site

Public hearings are being held on the future site of a new Stouffville Hospital. The site is located on the east side of the town, near the intersection of Hwy. 48 and Hwy. 10. The hospital will be a 100-bed facility. Hearings are being held on September 11, 12, and 13, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Stouffville Community Centre, 100 Main St. For more information, call 640-6466.



Ernie rolls with a full head of steam

Goodwood's Ernie Carruthers is a pro at the controls of a 50-year-old Sawyer-Massey on the grounds of the Markham Museum. Being a steam engine owner, he's had plenty of practice. On Saturday, he took over the operation of the

age-old Sawyer-Massey on the grounds of the Markham Museum. It was the Markham Historical Society's annual Heritage Day.

— Jim Thomas

Marathon of Hope

STOUFFVILLE — Sunday is Terry Fox Day in Whitchurch-Stouffville.

The annual Marathon of Hope, covering 10 kilometers (six miles), will begin and end at Latham Hall. The course clearly marked is the same as last year.

Runners and walkers (no cyclists) can begin any time between 1 and 5 p.m.

Persons not willing to collect pledges, can still participate by paying a fee of five dollars.

Last year over \$6,000 was raised.

Marathon organizers are Duff Sellers, Beulah King and Barb Schell. For additional information call 640-9113.