

Day (care) begins with love



Janice James, supervisor of the Ballantrae Child Care Centre, gives Angela Insley, 5, (left), and Carley McIlwaine, 3, a helping hand during a morning art class. At present, there are 13 children on the roll. This number is expected to increase to 24 by January. —Jim Thomas

By JIM THOMAS
BALLANTRAE—A poster on a 'classroom' door at the Whitechurch Centennial Centre reads: "Every day begins with a little love."

This is the theme of the Ballantrae Child Care Centre—love. And it's supported by all the care and attention that abounds within.

Janice James, the Centre's supervisor, opened the facility Sept. 2. It all came about following requests by the community. Ron Robb, councillor for the ward, picked up the word while making his pre-election rounds last fall. He started the wheels turning, Janice said.

There's accommodation for up to 72 children. The age range is 2 1/2 to 10 years. The hours, Monday through Friday are 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Janice has two assistants. Treava Pegg is a teacher of Early Childhood Education and Heather Moorby is her assistant. The staff will increase as enrollment grows. Attendance presently stands at thirteen with 24 anticipated by the end of the year.

With the Centre situated adjacent to Ballantrae School, kindergarten-age children are accompanied to their classroom at 9 a.m., then escorted back at 3:15 p.m.

The day-care association makes school adjustment easier,

Janice says. Also, the friendships schoolers are continued.

The program includes arts and crafts, a story-time, music appreciation, snack periods and games. A hot meal is served at noon.

Transportation to and from the Centre is provided by the parents. "We're very pleased with the way everything is going," Janice said. "The Community Centre Board's been very helpful."

A strong supporter of the program is Denise Pettitt. "I'm very impressed," she said, "the staff is

excellent." The hours, she said, are flexible, making it possible for her to pick up her 3 1/2 year old son at a later time if necessary.

"And they provide those extra hugs that are sometimes needed," she added.

The fee schedule follows: One week, (full-time), \$75; one week, (half-day), \$40; after school, \$3 an hour.

While the Centre is mainly a 'community' service, there is no attendance boundary, Janice explained. Interested parents can call 640-2152.

Editor's Mail

Caution urged on rural build-up

The following submission has been placed before the mayor, members of council and planning committee of Whitchurch-Stouffville by Jim and Louise Ogrzylo, (Conc. 6), R.R. 4, Stouffville. The subject relates to a proposed bylaw amendment concerning 48 acres of property on the west side of Kennedy Road, opposite the dead-end portion of Jesse Thompson Road, (Lot 19, Conc. 5).

We ask the Councillors, Planning Committee and Region of York Engineering to consider the following and, if possible, respond before or during the Nov. 10, 1986 public meeting.

Are you aware of a report commissioned from Faulkner Associates by a previous Planning Committee that indicates this area is "questionable regarding well capacity"?

That wells in the immediate area have run dry?

That 210 lots are already approved in the immediate area?

In view of the recent costs to the local population of Ballantrae, (and the taxpayers of Whitchurch-Stouffville and of Ontario), will guarantees be provided to the existing residents that they will continue to have the adequate water supply they now have and have already paid for?

For example, would the Town request the developer to provide sufficient funds in trust to re-drill private wells, or provide a community water supply in order that the local residents and taxpayers not again be asked to foot the bill in case of someone else's error or haste in judgement?

The present zoning is rural and is well suited for this purpose, being open pasture and fenced, and having been used in the recent past as a horse stable, (which is still on the property).

Horse farms have recently been established immediately to the north-west, (Trillium Farms), as well as to the south. A re-zoning would certainly benefit the developer, and lot levies might be an immediate benefit to the Town financially, but is there a long term "demonstrated benefit in the public interest" by allowing two-acre lots in this rural area, or would it lead to the destruction of its unique rural character?

Some, or maybe all of the above reasons made the previous planning committee limit the minimum size of lots on the far side of Kennedy Road, (on Jesse Thompson Road), to five acres. Is good planning served by allowing lots less than half the size right across the road?

What are planning committee's reasons to free up an additional 21 lots when the majority of the aforementioned 210 lots in the immediate area are still not developed?

Due to hazardous entrance conditions, York Engineering would not allow a new private residential driveway opposite to this property without the regrading

and levelling of the high knoll immediately south of the dead-end portion of Jesse Thompson Road. The estimated cost was \$65,000 for York Region to do this. In light of their acknowledgement that this is a very dangerous place for an entrance onto Kennedy Road, will this knoll be removed at the developer's expense rather than at the taxpayers' expense?

What will happen to the existing laneway on the north boundary of this property running through from Kennedy to the Conservation Area that local residents have used for many years as a walkway, a horse trail and a cross-country ski trail?

Will access for area residents be maintained from Kennedy Road so they can use the Conservation Area as they have in the past?

We look forward to your reply and your assurances that another hamlet will not be created in this once-pleasant, rural, Kennedy Road area.

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STOUFFVILLE—Stouffville's 'new look' downtown, will boast an even newer look with completion of exterior renovations to the I.G.A.

A&S Construction of Stouffville has the contract. Improvements are contemplated inside as well, with the installation of a modern refrigeration unit and an additional aisle at the front.

The cost is estimated at \$60,000. "I think it'll really look nice," owner Jack Chambers told The Tribune.

The redesigned exterior will tie in with the B.I.A.'s over-all plan, Mr. Chambers said.

To expedite interior work, it will be necessary for the I.G.A. to close down two days this month, Mr. Chambers said.

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For missions

Baker Hill Baptist Church is hosting a Missions Conference Nov. 14 to 16. Program times are Nov. 14 at 7:30 p.m., Nov. 15 at 7 p.m. and Nov. 16 at 9:50 a.m. and 11 a.m. Guest speakers are Rev. Charles Derr; Peter and Kathy Baker; Cathy Fondse and Rev. Bart with special music by Margaret Connor and Dick and Shirley Ohlman.