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## School bursting at seams

By JIM THOMAS  
Editor

STOUFFVILLE — Over 50 percent of the 414 students attending St. Mark's School, Stouffville, are accommodated in portables.

Back in 1965, when the school was built, enrollment stood at under 200. Projected attendance by 1992 is 556.

With these and other facts, a 'Build or Bust' Expansion Committee made its presentation before the management executive of the York Region Separate School Board, Tuesday night.

The parents group, headed by Roman and Martha Haluszka, Aspen Crescent, was supported by a petition representing 140 families. Others on the committee include — Mary Lou Choo-Hum, Mary Hollands, Pat Johnston, Ilona Meyer, Walter O'Rourke, Diane Sejeant and Chris Smith.

The last addition to St. Mark's was constructed in 1969. Attendance has continued to increase with nine portables now required to accommodate the overflow. Three more will be needed by 1990, Mr. Haluszka claims.

St. Mark's is currently No. 4 on the board's priority list.

"It's critical we maintain or improve our position," he said.

The committee is requesting rather than demanding action, the co-chairman explained. At the same time, he suggests "St. Mark's has been neglected."

Requirements include — an enlarged gymnasium, an expanded library, a special education room, two kindergarten rooms, a computer-science room, an art room, a music room and four regular classrooms.

In this regard, the brief to the board reads in part:

"The above noted expanded facilities will provide our children the quality environment so necessary if they are to have the best learning opportunity, one that every child deserves. While our teachers and staff are doing their best to provide this quality environment in the present facility, there are many obstacles. There are the basic hardships of inadequate washroom facilities, an overcrowded faculty room, lack of privacy for the sick and injured and the placing of younger children, (this year Grade 2), in portables. Expanded facilities are essential if our precious resources, human and physical, are to be utilized to their maximum and not needlessly wasted."

## Area farms in demand

WHITCHURCH — Reports of farms sales and sales offers are rampant in the area.

Few are confirmed, however, since closing dates remain several months away.

Falling into this category is the

Thos. Clark property, Ninth Line, Whitchurch-Stouffville.

"Anything could happen," Mr. Clark told The Tribune. The family moved to the farm in 1960. The Clark Holsteins are considered among the finest in York Region. Mr. Clark's been involved in the dairy industry 45 years.

If the sale does go through, Mr. and Mrs. Clark will remain on the property at least three more years.

### Ambulance service

STOUFFVILLE — The Ministry of Health has awarded a five-year contract to Peter and Jan Carrell of Barrie to operate the Uxbridge-Stouffville Ambulance Service.

The announcement comes from Ontario Health Minister, Elinor Caplan and Durham-York-MPP Bill Ballinger.

Previous to Sept. 1, the service was handled out of Whitby. Nineteen hundred calls were answered.

Twelve full-time and six part-time officers are employed. The Whitchurch-Stouffville emergency call number is 294-1436.

Neighbor Herb Peach expects to close the deal on his 50 acres this fall. He's been there 31 years. "Just about" is the way he describes progress on the transaction. Mr. and Mrs. Peach plan to remain in the house after the deal goes through. Mr. Peach is chairman of the Stouffville Hydro Commission.

The sale is also reported of the Murray Drysdale farm, to the north.

Sales and rumors of sales are making the rounds in the Mount Albert area as well. Offers "in the millions" are being discussed.

## Two-acre lots OMB approved

STOUFFVILLE — A minimum two-acre estate lot is now standard policy in Whitchurch-Stouffville.

The decision followed a one-day hearing of the Ontario Municipal Board in Latham Hall, Stouffville, Sept. 12.

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The Town was represented by Planning Director Michael Saunders. The hearing, expected to continue two weeks, concluded after only five hours.

The 25-acre Baggio property, Lot 30, Conc 19, was not included in the edict. A separate hearing related to this site, is scheduled for Dec. 5.

Also not included were the subdivisions of Bethesda Estates, Trail Of The Woods and Panorama Estates.

### Will run

WHITCHURCH — Ron Robb, Churchill Drive, Musselman's Lake, is seeking re-election in Ward 2, Whitchurch-Stouffville.

He announced his candidacy Monday.

Mr. Robb is the last of the current council to make his intentions known. Election date is Nov. 14.



Nineteen-year-old Laina Oad, (centre), Sir Bodwin Place, Markham, is the new Queen of Markham Fair. Laina was the judges' choice at a gala pageant and dance Saturday night. Her attendants are Kim Little, 20, (right) of R.R. 1, Markham and Debra Surman, 17, of Stouffville. — Jim Thomas

## Markham girl Fair princess

MARKHAM — A 19-year-old Grade 13 student is the new Queen of Markham Fair.

Laina Oad, daughter of Lemo and Dianne Oad, Sir Bodwin Place, Markham, was the judges' choice from ten entries at a gala pageant and dance Saturday.

Laina's escorts during Fair days, Sept. 24-30, Oct. 1-7, will be Kim Little, 20, of Cedar Grove and Debra Surman, 17, of Stouffville.

The selection panel included — Karen Hughes Murphy, a former Fair queen still living in Markham; Diane Ward, the Fair's first vice president, R.R. 3, Stouffville; and Lloyd Britton of Lloyd Britton Auto Sales, Main Street, West Stouffville.

The evening's MC was Bunty Webb of Markham.

The pageant attracted one of the largest crowds on record.

Laina, sponsored by the Multiple Sclerosis Society (York East Chapter) moved from Scarborough to Markham 17 years ago. Interests include downhill and cross-country skiing and dancing. She was a finalist in the Miss Teen Toronto pageant three years ago.

Following graduation from Markham District High School, Laina plans to train as an emergency medical care assistant and eventually become a nurse.

No boyfriend Rodney Beckett was there. He's a Markham firefighter and had to work. But her parents and two of three brothers attended.

"Nice going," called out Steven when the results were revealed.

Laina says she hopes to become permanently associated with the Fair after her reign has ended. She'll be Markham's representative at the Miss C.N.E. Contest in 1989.

## No action on addition

STOUFFVILLE — Phase II of the Town Recreation Complex (an indoor pool and fitness centre) has been placed on hold by Council, much to the irritation of member Jim Sanders.

Councillor Sanders argued Tuesday preliminary background work should be completed. This, he said, would make the decision easier for the Council of '89.

Others disagreed, saying the new Council shouldn't be bound by this kind of commitment.

Sanders claimed a preliminary report could be finalized by the Recreation Manager, dealing with available grants, budgeting and possible programs for the expanded facility.

Councillor Wilf Morley said without majority approval, this would constitute an unnecessary work load on staff.

## Plaudits for pigeons

STOUFFVILLE — An 80-name petition opposing aviaries (pigeon enclosures) in two Stouffville residential areas, was placed before Newmarket Court Friday.

However, Adolfo Bianchi, claims he can gather 1,000 supporting signatures, and will, if found guilty of breaching a bylaw.

Mr. Bianchi, Stouffer Street South, is one of two racing pigeon fanciers charged by the municipality. He pleaded not guilty. Wayne Morrison, Main Street East, entered a guilty plea.

Bianchi, unlike Morrison, has continued to operate his aviary despite warnings from the Town that such hobbies are forbidden in residential zones.

Solicitor Gordon Ness, called the bylaw discriminatory saying people can keep dogs, budgies and even snakes but not pigeons. He said he didn't believe this was the original intent of the ruling.

Karl Winterstein of Claremont, an information officer for the Canadian Racing Pigeon Union, described the racing breed as unique and not to be confused with wild pigeons that often cause problems.

Winterstein called racing pigeon opponents "ill-informed."

Bruce Arrowsmith, head of the Town's Bylaw Enforcement Department said the bylaw is clear in that it forbids aviaries in residential neighborhoods and Mr. Bianchi's building constitutes this kind of structure.

"A residential property is not acceptable for such a purpose," he stated.

Judgment was reserved to Sept. 23.

## Flashing green makes motorists see red

STOUFFVILLE — The flashing green light at Main Street West and Ninth Line North is flashing red for motorists backed up by the delay.

Former Town office coordinator Ed Lundman of Russell Street described a "develating" hold up in traffic travelling west.

At one point, Aug. 28, cars were lined up bumper-to-bumper back to the IGA. Mr. Lundman observed.

At the same time, he said, only one or two motorists were utilizing the left-hand turn convenience.

Mr. Lundman's observations were contained in a letter to Council, Sept. 6.

He said similar situations as reported on the Sunday, occur most mornings when commuter traffic is heaviest.

Due to back-ups, it's virtually impossible for persons living north and south of Main to merge into the traffic flow. Mr. Lundman stated.

Both Councillors Wilf Morley and Wayne Emmerson agreed the left-turn light should be removed until a proper unit is installed by York Region.

## Fed up by delays

STOUFFVILLE — Nevil Hodgson, O'Brien Avenue, Stouffville, is appalled by what he describes as "the gross, unsightliness" of the Eldercare extension project two doors north.

In a letter to Council, dated Aug. 26, Mr. Hodgson expressed dismay at returning from vacation and seeing so little progress.

"Literally for months now, we have been faced with an eyesore at the corner of O'Brien Avenue, not to mention the inconvenience of no sidewalk, a broken road, construction traffic and litter left by workers," Mr. Hodgson said.

"I call upon the Town to take whatever steps are possible under municipal law to hasten the completion of this project. Failing this, I urge the Town to initiate a clean-up of the site, using Town employees and charging the expense to the owners so as to eliminate this blight upon the neighborhood."

## Plowmen praised

Barry Timbers and Darryl Hostrawser matched their skills with the best plowmen in the world.

When the last furrows were turned and the judging completed, Darryl was seventh and Barry, twenty-first. There were 52 entries, two from each of the 26 participating countries.

Site of the match was Amana, Iowa.

Great Britain was first and Denmark second.

"They both plowed well," Cheryl Timbers said of her husband and Darryl, "they also had good support which really helps."



Festival queen is model bride

## Top spuds

Lack of rain may prove a handicap regardless.

The Tribune is again sponsoring its Big Potato Contest at Markham Fair.

Entries, with names and addresses attached, must be delivered to the newspaper office no later than Tues., Sept. 27, at 5 p.m.

First prize is \$10, second prize \$5 and third prize \$3.

The class chairman is Frank Hedy of Claremont.