

Editor's Mail

'Too bad'

Dear Editor:
The hamlet of Brougham is not the close-knit community I once knew. This is apparent in the closing of St. John's Church. Undoubtedly, there are just as many people residing there as 15 years ago, but they obviously don't care a whit about the church. If they did, the sanctuary would be filled to overflowing every Sunday. Undoubtedly, many folks will now be saying "too bad", some of the same folks who never darkened the church's door. I have no patience with these people. It's because of them, the welcome mat's been replaced by a padlock.

Sincerely,
(Mrs.) Jean Maloney,
Listowel, Ont.

Support

Dear Editor:
The closing of St. John's United Church at Brougham, (my old community), is sad, but not unexpected.

The last time I attended a service there, I counted five people in the congregation.

A church can hardly be expected to carry on with so little support.

Thanks, (but no thanks), to the neighborhood becoming a part of the Airport Area, the district has changed dramatically. The 'little country church' is no more an integral part of community life.

There's no turning back the clock.

Sincerely,
(Mrs.) Freda Frazer,
R.R. 1, Woodville, Ont.



Eden, THE TRIBUNE '81

-ROAMING AROUND-

Mailbag overfloweth

BY JIM THOMAS



My mailbag overfloweth. Because of the backlog, I've elected to use this space to allow you the reader to have your say, otherwise you'll put your pens away never to write again. So here goes:

Mr. Bright with which he has had first-hand experience.

As a ratepayer, the school is provided for all student functions. To eliminate any students wishing to attend, for any reason, be it economic or moral, is most improper.

As a parent who has attended these functions in the past, the relationship between the school and the community was enhanced by this social event.

Again, 'hats off' to Mr. Bright for making a very responsible decision for the sake of the school and the community of Stouffville.

Sincerely,
(Mrs.) Eureka Skinner,
Aspen Crescent,
Stouffville

escorts will be 18 or older and legally entitled to all the 'privileges' this entails. Even at a so-called 'dry' party, booze and drugs usually appear.

Supervision is difficult, requiring vigilance and tact on the part of supervisors.

In a school, teachers have some protection for their actions by virtue of the fact it's on school property, sanctioned by the staff and the board. At a private banquet facility or a public hall, supervision is more difficult. Teachers have a right to refuse to assume a responsibility that is not a duty but at best, a courtesy.

The expense factor cannot be ignored. While a tab of \$400 to \$500 may be an exaggeration, the initial cost of location, entertainment and food, transportation to and from, special clothes and other incidentals will place a burden on some families whose young adults are pressured into attending.

Peer pressure is very real. I support Mr. Bright in his decision. While his influence may extend beyond school property, his authority does not. I'm sure there are many parents who feel as I do.

Sincerely,
(Mrs.) Donna Chilvers,
R.R. 1, Stouffville

Concerned parent

Dear Editor:
As a parent of a Prom-aged student, I wish to express my feelings concerning Principal Bright's stand on the location of the High School's May 26 dance.

I agree with him for many reasons. Unfortunately, supervision is a necessity at social functions such as this. While most senior high students are trustworthy, moral young citizens, there are always a few who will not accept the responsibility of being 'of age'. Only a few of the students and their

Principal praised

Dear Editor:
At a risk of seeming out of touch with the times, let me compliment Mr. Bright, principal of Stouffville District Secondary School on his stand as presented in the April 19 issue of The Tribune. Obviously, his position was taken with due consideration to the objections of the Student Council and their supporters.

Surely, no one would presume to interfere with the organization by students of an outing for themselves when and where they chose. As to chaperones, due to the age of the students and the time and place of the suggested event, any authority for control would be non-existent.

The school and a community-oriented Prom, as suggested by Mr. Bright, would appear to offer a more inclusive participation of the student body. A party at the school, where the students can attend with their friends and relatives, eliminates the problems suggested by

those dark days of ongoing debate and indecision.

When will it end?
We hope it never does.

Already, the Progress Club has shown an interest in providing financial assistance in the purchase of 'extras' not included in the current B.I.A. budget. Other service organizations may also lend a hand, indeed, the B.I.A. itself should never rest on its laurels.

But that's in the future. As for the present, we like what we see and offer congratulations to those persons responsible for a job well done.

Editorials

An ongoing project

The installation of ornamental lights within the downtown business area of Stouffville is almost complete.

Residents are anxiously awaiting the pulling of the switch that will transform that section of Main Street from Albert to Park into a commercial fairland.

From a rather dubious beginning, the B.I.A. (Business Improvement Area) board, in co-operation with Town Council, has created a 'silk purse out of a sow's ear'.

The transformation's amazing. In passing out bouquets, let us not forget the foresight of one, John Baird. For it was his investment in the former Sanders Block that started the ball rolling. This was indeed a gamble, a gamble that's paid off handsomely for Stouffville's downtown and hopefully for him.

Nor should we omit the incentive provided by George Schlukbier, the Town's former chief librarian. He continued to carry the ball even when the ultimate outcome was in question. That spirit, for which our American counterparts are so well known, shone through during

Child's wish comes true

A cause coupled with service adds up to satisfaction.

This is what Whitchurch-Stouffville firefighters, Association members and ambulance operators must have felt at the conclusion of a successful car-wash Saturday.

An estimated 350 vehicles went through, realizing a profit in excess of \$1,900.

The Association's target is \$5,000, the amount of money required to make a child's wish come true. That child will be a resident of Whitchurch-Stouffville.

The sponsoring organization called The Children's Wish Foundation, is the only one of its kind in Canada. The president is Laura Cole of Pickering.

According to Mrs. Cole, a (dying) child's last wish is usually a trip to Disneyland. The \$5,000 will make this wish come true.

"Everything went really well," deputy-chief Murray Emmerson told The Tribune, "we thank the people for their support. Everyone did a fantastic job."

Certainly the volunteers did; and had fun doing it.

The end result will be seen in the eyes of a child as a last wish is realized; a great cause by a great group of guys.



A memorial to enthusiastic Music Mania supporter

The late Kay Dowswell was a long-time member and enthusiastic supporter of Music Mania. As a memorial, proceeds from this year's show will go to furnish a room in her name at the Markham-Stouffville Family Life Centre,

(Stouffville Branch), Freeland Lane, Stouffville. In addition, an award of \$200 will be presented at Commencement '83 to a deserving student of Stouffville Dist. Secondary School.

Keep trying

Dear Editor:
Our Government, on the advice of bureaucrats, is attempting to discourage all severances of farm lands.

They fail to realize expenses have gone so high, it's no longer economically feasible to farm.

If your property's paid for, you can survive; if not, forget it. Most young farmers work off the farm, or their wives do, or they both do if they have a mortgage.

Now, you can't obtain a severance to sell off part of your farm and take life a little easier.

One mayor of a municipality even suggested some farmers were selling part of their farms in order to make a profit. Heaven forbid! We all know farmers aren't supposed to make a profit.

The Canadian Cattleman's Association isn't afraid of the market place but rather the controls the Government may put on them. What does this tell us?

Do you realize Canada imports between six and seven billion dollars worth of food per year? The Government says it wants the farm land saved to produce food. However, we can import it cheaper. If we did the same with cars and trucks, there'd be no auto industry.

If we want to save our farms, then prices must rise. If farmers only received the cost of living increase like Government employees, they'd need no more.

My advice to farmers is to keep on trying for severances or sell out and retire. You've earned a holiday.

Sincerely,
Jim Rae,
Manitoba Street,
Stouffville
(formerly Conc. 7,
Whitchurch-Stouffville.