

# Youthful New Year's wishes

**By Joan Ransberry**

■ *If the children of Whitchurch-Stouffville get their way, 1998 will be a very good year.*

*The question is: As we step onto the threshold of the new century, what's in store for us? For the answer, The Tribune went to its best source — our children.*

*Grade 1 students at Ballantrae Public School have a lot in common. They're smart, they're chatty, they attend the best school in all the world and they're all six years old.*

Christine Mowder hopes nobody in Stouffville "runs out of food" next year. "And, we need snow," she added. But, this snow request does not apply to the entire country. "We don't want snow in Montreal," said Christine.



CHRISTINE MOWDER

Ward 2 Councillor Mark Carroll is being put on notice. Put the wheels in motion to fix a certain street in Musseiman's Lake.

Alannah Tasikas lives on Hillsdale Drive and she's not impressed. "It's all bumpy. People have to go so slow. Everyone's mad," she said.

There's a special guy in Alannah's life. "I want him to be very happy." Of course, the special man is daddy. "His name is Albert and I love him," said Alannah.

We've just learned that Grade 1 teacher Barb Crowder is a very fortunate individual. "She doesn't need anything," said Adam Connor.



ADAM CONNOR

Adam, on the other hand, has



BAILEY RUTH CONNOR

both ways and listen — even the big people."

Bailey is adamant: She wants Grade 1 teacher Anne Neuman to remember that her baby brother's name is "John David Hawthorn Dale Taylor." Having a five-name brother is "quite nice," said Bailey.

Apparently, the office is a bit of a puzzle at the Ballantrae school.

Principal Katherine Kobelski spends a lot of time there. "But, we don't know what she does," said Bailey.



Richard M. Davies would simply like Ballantrae's teachers to stop being teachers.

"They can come to school but they should be themselves," he explained. And, Richard insists that everyone know this: "My birthday's Jan. 21."

According to Brendon Alexander McKenzie, the hamlet of Ballantrae could use some elbow grease and a shot of iron. "Ballantrae needs to clean up and it gets tired," said Brendon.

Ontario's Education Minister Dave Johnson should stop fighting with the teachers, roll up his sleeves and overhaul the Grade 1 curriculum. "I want to learn to be a race car driver now," said Brendon. While Johnson's at it, he could throw some money at adult education — Brendon wants his father to go back to school and learn to be a policeman.

Kindergarten students at Summitview Public School have struck an impressive wish list.

high needs. "I'd like a million dollars and a new pair of skates," he said.

The school needs more books, the town needs more hills, mothers need to learn to drive snowmobiles. Of course, the kids are quick to tell us: More love is always needed.

Tyler Barber's mommy is about to master the snowmobile. And, mommy had a great teacher. "My grandma taught my mom how to skidoo it. She's good. She's really good," said Tyler.



TYLER BARBER

There's a serious hill shortage in Stouffville, claims Tyler. "We need small hills, medium hills and real hills," he said.

Kindergarten teacher Janis Sanford needn't embark on a career change in the new year. "I think she likes teaching," said Tyler. "We don't know what she does when she goes home. I don't have anything to do with her family."

Apparently, there's a special "orange bucket" at Summitview and Victoria Lee Sykes is keeping her eye on it. "I want it filled with Little Mermaid books."

If local Business Improvement Area (BIA) chair Sandra Stronach is scouting for an ambassador for the BIA, her search is over: Victoria fits the bill. "I'd like more trees and more cars and more shopping downtown," said Victoria.

Whitchurch-Stouffville Mayor Wayne Emmerson needs to review his skills in the new year. If Victoria had her way, a mayor would have the following credentials: "He should know how to fix water pipes. He should be a janitor. That way, he could fix the toilets. And, his socks shouldn't ever be dirty," said Victoria.

Unfortunately Drew Stapley, 5, will not be sharing his wishes for '98. "I won't tell. If you tell, it won't come true," said Drew.

Drew has, however, made a New Year's prediction. No doubt, it will come as a surprise for his



VICTORIA LEE SYKES

teacher: Sometime in '98, teacher Janis Sanford will give birth to twins.

"If they're boys, we'll name them John and Michael. For girls, the names are Lee and Rachael — She can't have a boy and a girl."

Edward (Ted) Taylor wants everyone at his house to love him. "I want my sister to stop telling me to get lost," said Ted. As well, Ted hopes his mother continues to do well at work. "She sells money," said Ted.

Make no mistake: Ted is civic minded — "Stouffville's parks need fixing and the slides are no good and there's mud everywhere." Not to despair: Ted has the solution for the mud problem. "Bring in sand from Coboconk."

Drew, Victoria, Tyler and Ted all agree: School custodian Peter Boudew is a hard worker and a nice chap. "He knows what he's doing," said Victoria.

However, at some point in '98, Summitview principal Wally Robinson could consider a trip to the hair stylist. "He's got this hair. I don't understand it," said Ted.

According to the Grade 1 kids at Orchard Park Public School, Stouffville could use flash attack shoes, watch dog dads, artistic mothers, tiny presents, smoother parks and lots and lots of snow. And, this country needs to laugh its head off.

Jennifer Carter, 6, said her teacher Veronika Klemt deserves a "very little, very small, very teeny present that cost \$1.75."

Jennifer, meanwhile, expects her father to keep up his old work habits throughout the new year. "Sometimes



DREW STAPLEY

the people at daddy's work do really silly things. Daddy tells the boss all about it," said Jennifer.

Ivan Evonic is emphatic: The mayor "isn't the boss" of the town. "My family makes the town," said Ivan. Furthermore: When walking the streets of Stouffville, Ivan has noticed a real problem. "There's not enough "people wearing flash attacks," he said.



IVAN EVONIC

Laughter is, indeed, the best medicine for whatever ails our beloved country. So says Ivan. "Canada people should laugh their heads off," he said.

Homeless people made the top of Brenna Armstrong-Kennedy's list. "The homeless needs houses. And, when we give them keys to unlock the house doors, those locks better work," said Brenna.

We can expect Jake Niekraszewicz's mother to be discovered in '98. "She's at art school," said Jake. "She's a sculpturing. I think everyone will know her."

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JAKE NIEKRASZEWICZ



JENNIFER CARTER

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