

# C'ville's DalBo Still Seeking A Forum

By MARIE MCGEE

Leo DalBo, Clarenceville High School's controversial math teacher, was denied permission to use the high school auditorium for a "town hall-type" public hearing.

Refusal of the Board of Education came with the explanation that all discussions concerning students must be confidential. To permit the type of open hearing DalBo asked for "would be highly improper," said Robert Erickson, a trustee.

Commenting further on the petition, trustee Martin Wechsler said there were many proper ways to handle the situation and outside the district for an aggrieved teacher to seek justice. He listed mediation, grievance committee and the courts as means open to teachers.

DalBo's request was "the wrong way to seek the right answer," Wechsler commented. Group pressures and a response should not be sought, he said.

THE RESOLUTION denying the petition passed unanimously, but a tense crowd that jammed the small area at the rear of the board room failed to hear it or the board's comments.

Some accused the board of "whispering." It was difficult to hear. "An upright board," then repeated, as closely as they could remember, the statements they made minutes before.

High school students in the group nudged adults "to demand DalBo be heard."

"As citizens, you have the right to do this," said one youth. One stepped forward.

Not was DalBo successful in having his letter to the board read to the audience. He accused the board of misconducting his intent.

"It's finished. It's done," gavelled board president Tom Wilson, moving to the next item on the agenda.

MOST OF the audience then moved out into the corridor.

## 233 Sing In C'ville Programs

A record number of 233 students is participating in the choral program at Clarenceville this year, according to Miss Carol L. Hornung, director of vocal music in the junior and senior high schools.

The Hooper Chorus has grown in number from 35 in 1969 to 83 voices this year, 21 of which are men. The Girls Glee Club, better known as the Choral Bouquet, has 56 girls participating and is the largest of any chorus this year in either school.

The Seventh Grade Chorus has increased in size to 50 members. The 44-member Eighth Grade Chorus has more boys this year than ever before.

A new group of Candy Canes, now in its third year, include eighth graders: Judy Aaron, Jeanine Dittell, Sandy Flack, Cheryl Gwilt, Robin Honaker, Sandy Jacobowitz, Jill Jodway, Mikke Kozma, Deb McDonnell, Cindy Nulman, Sue Ramm, Sandy Roth, Audrey Rogers, Gina Russo, Cindy Shepherd, Terri Smith, Nancy Vignone and Jeanne Wynn.

Chosen to replace graduating Peppermints are Nancy Donahue, Anita Hendley, Deb Mark and Jackie Zukin.

I went with them. There, the questioning of DalBo began. It got so loud at times that the group was asked to move outside because it was disrupting the official meeting going on inside the board office.

At one point, DalBo was warned by another teacher that he could be in violation of his teaching contract for openly discussing an incident involving one of his students in front of other students.

DalBo stood in the center of the group. Wearing a grey-neck sweater, blue button-down shirt that was open at the neck and blue dress pants, he looked collegiate.

Two large buttons calling for the end of U.S. participation in Asia were pinned to the sweater.

His hair appeared to be longer and grayer since his last public confrontation with the board last spring over the establishment of a political action club in the high school.

He told a story of harassment — by the school board, his fellow teachers and residents of the community.

"They (the administration) admitted to me that they're watching me like a hawk — waiting for me to make a false move."

He mentioned threatening phone calls. That's one of the reasons he said he asked for the public hearing.

He referred often to an attack-type case that holds photostatic copies of communications he claims caused his case.

"All I want to do is tell my side," he says. "If I've done anything wrong, I'll be the first to admit I should be fired. I want a chance to confront my accusers."

He admits during questioning that maybe emotional involvement in the problems of his students is a mistake.

IN A FLYER he wrote that was distributed by students to persons entering the parking lot and building, DalBo said, in part:

"Much of the disagreement seems to be based on rumors rather than reality, on fantasy rather than fact. I believe a free and open discussion of school issues at a public meeting patterned on the tried and true tradition of a town meeting can serve to air concerns, get answers, identify problems and unify the community."

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It claims "that in the past the board of education has denied me the opportunity to speak publicly on school issues."

An earlier flyer, also written by DalBo and distributed to homes in the area by students, urged attendance at the Oct. 8 board meeting to "demand a public airing of school problems."

BY THIS TIME the crowd had moved outdoors. DalBo moved freely from group to group, talking and answering questions. Someone relieved him of his briefcase.

Fingering his car keys, the balding teacher argued his "is not a legal problem. It's a community problem."

One woman standing on the fringe of the group comments to a friend: "He's done what he set out to do. He's polarized the community."

A fired DalBo answered: "The next move may come from those who do not necessarily support DalBo, but feel he should have a chance to speak. There was talk of renting a hall."

A fired DalBo answered: "I'm available."

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## Mortgage Firm's Loan Total Grows

Curby Mortgage Corp. is now servicing home mortgage loans in excess of \$80 million, according to its president, Gerald J. Paduk, executive vice president, has announced.

The firm is located at 640 N. Wayne Rd., Westland.

Curby Mortgage Corp. is a privately owned corporation financed by state and federal agencies. Paduk explained, and arranged its financing through the Veterans Administration and Federal Housing Administration.

CORBY HANDLES loans nationally for the Federal National Mortgage Assn., savings and loan associations, and a pension trust fund.

Paduk attributed the firm's rapid growth to its location in an expanding area, a tremendous need for financing and good old-fashioned hard work by Curby's 12-member staff.

Paduk also cited two of his aides as instrumental in Curby's success. They are Larry W. Kautala, secretary, and A. Donald Housinger, treasurer.

Paduk, 31, of Allen Park, joined Curby in April, 1967, after a year at First Lincoln's Holy Redeemer High School in 1964. He was employed in executive positions with financial firms 12 years.

Kautala, 28, of Lincoln Park, joined Curby in 1967. He was employed for six years in a management position with a

Lincoln Park bank. He graduated from Taylor Center High School in 1959.

Striking 28 of Wayne joined Curby in September, 1969. He was employed as an assistant and deputy finance officer for the City of Wayne. He earned a BS in business administration from Michigan Technological University, in 1964.

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