

17 estate lots

Pro, con development question in Ballinafad

Today's the last chance for Ballinafad folk to line up for or against a proposed estate subdivision by depositing their written reasons in Shortill's general store.

By taking sides residents move along a path that will take them to an Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) meeting at Hillsburgh a week tomorrow when evidence from both sides, the town and the developer will be heard.

The decision to put a box to hold people's reasons, in the general store was taken after a sometimes fiery information meeting in the community centre last Wednesday.

According to Dave Hillier, there may be meetings by both sides before they go to the OMB.

"You might delay this, but you won't stop it," Jack Martin told a gathering of 63 people. Mr. Martin, farmer, lawyer, local resident turned developer stood up to questions about the future of his land. Mr. Martin's company is Marbro Development Ltd.

Seventeen lots are proposed to be cut out of the former Shortill farm on the west half of Lot 1, Concession 8 in Erin Township. Mr. Martin said he was hoping to build on land designated by the township as hamlet infill.

Council's decision

The OMB meeting is to hear Mr. Martin's appeal of township council's decision to turn down the proposed project.

Landowners adjacent to the Martin property received notice of the hearing, and some



DEVELOPER JACK MARTIN proposes 17 estate lots for Ballinafad.

of them asked Mr. Martin to give some background on his ideas for the property. Mr. Martin accepted, but told the meeting that he wasn't there to justify anything to them.

Some members of township council attended the meeting, and except for Jo Schneider, they are keeping their powder dry until the OMB battle.

"What I think upsets a lot of people is infilling," said one man. He added that he didn't think Martin's plan, with a road and 17 three-quarter acre lots qualified as infilling. That's development, he said.

Many people were concerned about finding themselves living beside a subdivision, a lifestyle they thought they'd escaped when they moved to Ballinafad from Brampton, Bramalea and Toronto.

Creation of 17 lots would mean approximately 60 new people in the village.

Councillor Schneider pressed Martin on what he'd do for recreation in the village, and he said he'd be willing to do something, if someone asks.

Get him

"Why not go up with the idea of getting him (Martin) to give us a park for the kids. Something we don't have," asked Rene March. "I don't like offering things, because people say you're offering bribes," Martin said.

A couple of people said they feared the granting of Mr. Martin's project by the OMB would be the thin edge of the development wedge for the village. "If you get this, won't other hundred acre people start development?"

Between a couple of the proposed lots there's a 66-foot gap from a road to a field to the east. Under questioning, Mr. Martin said the path was needed by him to pass farm machinery in and out of the field. Mr. Martin said he wasn't sure if he'd consider making the path slimmer, say down to a 15 foot width.

Martin, who said Erin Township gave him no reason for turning down his proposal, also said the subdivision would increase the value of lots in the area, and supply a fairly decent type of housing. But he added that he was prejudiced on the matter: "I'm gonna make a buck".

Tax revenue

On the subject of how much tax revenue the new houses would bring into the village, Mr. Martin said he wasn't

competent to set a figure. However, Stephen Saxe, of Georgetown said from his experience new houses are assessed at a higher value than older houses.

Some people said out loud they'd prefer some kind of farming operation on the side instead of the houses. A few

people said they favored the move. "We'll all get a kick at the cat on the 19th", said Martin.

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Ballinafad

W.I., church service in community news

By Winifred Smith

The May meeting of the W.I. was held in the evening at the home of Mrs. Jesse McEnery. There were 14 members present and eight visitors. Mrs. Jamieson president welcomed all to the meeting, after the usual opening by all repeating the W.I. ode and Mary Stewart collect, the meeting got underway. The roll call was answered by each telling of a book they would recommend.

The main topic of business discussed was the District Annual meeting coming up May 17. This year it will be held in Georgetown. Delegates were appointed to attend.

October of this year will be the 25th anniversary of Ballinafad forming a branch of the W.I. There was some planning on how the branch would celebrate. It was decided to have a banquet and a guest speaker.

Education and Cultural Convener Mrs. Shortill was unable to be present so Mrs. Jamieson remained in the chair for the program. She called on the conveners for two minute reports. Current events were given by each member telling of a happening in the neighbourhood. The motto "Reflections through the Windows of Time" was given by Mrs. Smith in the form of a poem.

Mrs. Reta Shortill had prepared a paper on "The History and Culture of glass making." It was given by Mrs. Grace McEnery. It told how glass was made in the early days and how many different types of glass available; pressed glass, cut glass, milk glass, crystal and brown glass. Grace had a piece of each which she passed around including a fragile blown glass vase which was very beautiful and had been handed down for two generations. The article also included a story of the art of making fused glass and described the memorial window in Cedar Spring United Church which is of different construction than the ordinary stained glass. It proved to be an interesting and educational topic. As is customary at the May

meeting there was a sale of plants. Jesse McEnery auctioned them off in fine style. The sum of \$20 was realized for the welfare fund. Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Marshall were in charge of the lunch with Mrs. Kirkwood and the hostess assisting.

Christian Family Sunday was observed in the church, May 8th, with members of families having different parts of the service. The first scripture lesson was read by Mr. Fred Shortill. A beautiful duet was sung by Gayle and Leigh Jessop. "We thank Thee for Our Mothers" Mrs. Gloria Johnson representing the mothers gave a reading "Family Blessings." The second scripture lesson was given by Mr. Floyd Shortill.

The Junior Choir under the direction of Mr. Bob

Pinkerton and Mr. Dave Schwartz did exceptionally well when they sang the anthem My Task. A prayer for Mother's Day was given by Jennifer Munro.

The offering was received by the Guest family. Mrs. Grace McEnery representing Grandmothers recited Somebody's Mother. Rev. Stiles thanked all those taking part in The Christian Family Service.

Recovering

We were glad to hear the good news that Mr. Lloyd Burt is recovering nicely from his recent heart attack. He is a patient in Guelph General Hospital.

Mr. Morgan Madill was able to leave hospital on Friday and is recuperating at his home. We hope he continues to improve.

Ospringle

Residents have guests on mothers' weekend

by Doris Fines

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Bruce of Kindersley, Sask. spent a few days at the home of Mr. Bruce's brother, Mr. and Mrs. Byron Bruce and family. They also visited with Mr. and Mrs. Ward Bruce and their mother Mrs. Wesley Bruce, who is visiting there from Whitewood, Sask. Mr. and Mrs. Bruce came down from Winnipeg where they were attending a convention. He was a fraternal delegate from the Rural Municipal Secretary-Treasurer Association, to the Manitoba sister association at Winnipeg.

Wilson and Danny of Fergus, Mr. and Mrs. Rose Ferguson and Sandra Johnston. Christian Family Sunday was observed in the local church with a good attendance Sunday morning. A duet "Consider and Hear Me" was sung by Blanche and Brenda Bruce. A chorus was sung by the Sunday School children, after which they presented a rose to every lady in the congregation.

with a major in English and a minor in fine art.

County honors

Margie Johnston received her County honors at the 4-H Achievement Day on "Clothes for Leisure" held at Rose R. MacKay Public School in Hillsburgh. Leaders Mrs. Glen Jackson and Judy Johnston attended. The club presented an exhibit on "Trims with Imagination." Commentators were Gwen Hacke and Flora Stewart. A fashion revue was also presented. Members participating were: Jenny Flinders, Gwen Hacke, Judy Johnston, Margie Johnston, Karen McKinnon, Susan Milne, Patricia Pantling, Cheryl Page, and Flora Stewart.

Mothers Day guests with Mrs. Thomas Fines and Doris were Mr. and Mrs. William Henderson of Belwood, Mr. and Mrs. Bryan Redman, Tara and Melanie of Mount Forest, Mr. and Mrs. Don



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Region move bugs HRCA

Last year's mosquito abatement program cost the Halton Region Conservation Authority \$2,600 and members were unhappy when they discovered last week that only \$400 of it is eligible for a grant.

Members were under the impression that the full cost would be eligible for grants, and criticized the region for withdrawing financial support.

"They asked us to do the program and we did it," exclaimed Frank Rogers from Burlington, "and it's one of the reasons we over-spent our budget last year."

"If we were crazy enough to do it we should get stuck with the bill," he said. "I was against it from the start."

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Here is your opportunity to meet the candidates in the up coming provincial election and have your questions answered by them.

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