



(Photo by Hogg)

Grapefruits or lemons?

A dwarf lemon tree, a glassed-in porch and the green thumb of Ernest Thompsen, 211 Lennox Avenue, have resulted in two grapefruit-sized lemons so far

this year with blossoms indicating there is more fruit to come. Thompsen is seen above with the tree.

Mayor Schiller advises

Decide roads on needs only

York Regional Council should decide what roads get constructed on the basis of need, not on the basis of what subsidies they will get, Richmond Hill Mayor Dave Schiller told a meeting of regional council last week. The mayor made his remarks following a report of the engineering committee. Among its recommendations was one calling for grading, graveling and paving of King Road from John Street in King City to Highway 400, plus south and north on Jane Street for 1,400 and 1,500 feet, respectively. The existing road would be reconstructed to a basic four-lane roadway, and Jane

Street to a basic two-lane roadway. Schiller asked that the recommendation be deleted from the report. Councillor Gordon Rowe of Richmond Hill, chairman of the engineering committee, said it was a much used road and a dangerous one, and should be completed. Also, it would be "false economy" on the part of the region not to, as there would be a saving of \$185,300 on the \$2,000,000 cost. Mayor Margaret Britnell of King felt council shouldn't approve it at present when it hadn't accepted any budget estimates. "If this is tantamount to

accepting the whole engineering budget, I can't approve it," Mayor Britnell said. Said Councillor Ray Twinney of Newmarket: "We're taking this from the needs study as something that needs to be done, so I would move the question." The road is "essential for the safety of the motoring public," he said. Councillor Erik Morsing of Georgina Township, agreed. He had supported it for that reason. Also, if they waited until next year to do the work, "it would probably be 12 to 15 per cent higher."

Mayor Gladys Rolling of East Gwillimbury said she didn't know whether the work needed to be done or not, but she was willing to accept the recommendation and do it. They might be "pound foolish" otherwise. Mayor Schiller said that, if there were priorities, council should try to get the maximum subsidy. But if

Aurora gets struck twice

Lightning never strikes twice in the same place, a saying which the Aurora Community Centre does not believe in. Why? Well, they were robbed of over \$900 in two separate raids in two days.

On Tuesday, last week, \$810 were stolen from a closet in the board room. And the very next day \$155 were taken from the centre.

A youth is facing charges of theft in the second raid, in which the police claim a piece of fishing line and a hook were used to lift a money bag from a chest.

Accused of the offence is Dennis Pugh, 19, of Victoria Street, Aurora.

Far-Sighted Thief looks loot over

A far-sighted crook saw a car parked in a driveway in Eavhill Crescent, Richmond Hill this week. His beady eye noticed the door was unlocked.

When the owner returned he found his prescription glasses had been stolen. But the owner can't see why they were stolen.

Estate plan premature

(Continued from Page 1) problems," he said. "I believe it would be advantageous to the municipality since I would control the quality of housing erected there through agreement."

Unsuitable He claimed he had been told that the land was not suitable for farming at the present time. "Fifty acres may not be a viable farm at the present time," said Mayor David Schiller, "but in the future it may well be and in a few decades such small acreages may be a major factor in food production."

"Our municipal policy should not be making sure that everyone who has bought farmland on speculation is going to make a profit," he cautioned. McCartney contended it was not speculation in this case since the property has been held since 1967. Asked what its intended use at that time had been, he answered that it might have been as a site for his own dwelling, but he had since built on another property he owned on 18th Avenue. "I like to live in the country."

Councillor John Birchall pointed out that the planning staff has been asked to do a study on housing as a component part of the official plan and since that study is not completed he felt the application should not be received, it being premature at this time.

Regional Councillor Lois Hancey pointed out there is no doubt the committee will be faced with other applications from the area. "We must have a policy.

We must come to grips very soon on a definition of rural residential and where the municipality is going to permit this type of development. We will merely be putting our heads into the sand if we do not have a policy."

Farmland going "One of the things we lack is this type of residence to entice our business and professional men to live in our community. Our neighbors have taken care of it up to now," said Councillor Andy Chateaufort. "I am concerned about disappearing farmland, but the only way I can see to preserve it is to go out and buy it. Financially this type of development is an advantage to the municipality."

"I want to give the town staff and the people of the official plan," added Mayor Schiller. "This application may well fall within the provisions of our new official plan."

Planning Director Hesse Rimon agreed that the proposal is premature and reported that staff has been looking into that area generally for rural residential development.

"We will be setting out areas where it will be acceptable. This form of development, once approval is given, doesn't happen quickly."

"I hope if this parcel of land proves suitable Mr. McCartney will renew his application," said Chairman Marylo Graham in conclusion.

Added the mayor: "We are not rejecting the idea but the timing."

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Provincial grants to Region increased

Unconditional grants from the provincial government to York Region total \$4,772,900. Regional Treasurer John Hlynski announced last week.

The new grants are up \$1,098,900 from last year's \$3,674,000.

Per capita grants — based on increased population figures of 191,807 compared with 184,913 last year — go from \$1,663,000 to \$1,726,000.

More for police The police grant, which goes from \$7 to \$12, will mean \$2,302,000, compared with \$1,294,000 in 1974.

Density grants, which average \$2 to \$5 per capita — the less population you have, the more you get — will increase slightly from \$717,600 to \$744,900.

The one other additional grant, which the region will receive, is a general support grant of \$425,000, Hlynski said.

Tax reducer The grant, which is up \$10,000, is based on last year's levy, without consideration of the year's expenditures, the treasurer said, and is a method of

reducing taxes on properties. In previous years, it has

been an incentive grant to slow down spending in municipalities.

This year's levy in the region, if the police commission accepts the

proposed half-million cut, will be 29.6 percent over last year's, Hlynski said.

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Tires	Standard	Rectangular with quartz halogen high beam (H.I.)	Not available	Standard sealed beam	Standard sealed beam
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