

Letters to the editor

Society official denies town 'over a barrel'

Dear Sir: In a recent editorial you suggested that the Ontario Humane Society, in asking for increased payment for the services rendered by the Society to the Municipality for animal control work, had the Municipality "over a barrel". In making this suggestion you were not entirely correct. You have the wrong barrel. The actual fact is that the Society is over a barrel, the barrel of inflation.

Under the contract between the Society and the Municipality the Society has an "obligation" to provide certain services to the Municipality. These services can only be provided by the Society employing animal wardens and supplying the wardens with fringe benefits, protective clothing, insurance protection and equipping them with vehicles with radio control for greater efficiency and all the equipment necessary to allow them to enforce the by-law efficiently. This field force has to be backed up by an efficient, dispatch system and, in turn, the Society has to provide a fully equipped, modern animal shelter or pound in which the animals that are impounded can be kept safely and in good health until such time as the owners have had an opportunity to recover their animals. If this is not possible the animals must be disposed of either by finding new homes or by humane destruction.

choice. If we are to continue to provide the present level of services then the Municipality must pay to the Society more than they are paying at the present time.

If we are to improve the level of services then we must increase the wages to make the positions more attractive and we must increase the number of wardens in order to improve the level of enforcement of the by-law.

In a period of inflation the Society cannot expect to receive more funds from traditional sources. If anything, it can be guaranteed that the Society's revenue from these sources will actually decrease.

The Society is indeed over a barrel and I am afraid that the only solution is that the Municipality must give the Society more funds with which to operate.

The alternative, and this is not a threat or anything of the kind, it is simply a statement of economic fact, is for the Society to bow out of animal control and allow the Municipality to do it itself. Either way the Municipality will end up paying more money for services.

One thing is for sure, the regional animal control arrangement now offered by the Society, even with greatly increased fees, still provides the most economical way for any Municipality to obtain a high level of animal control service. If every Municipality were to operate its own pound and provide its own wardens the cost would be astronomical compared to the present arrangement.

It is true to say that the present arrangements is the greatest bargain that the Municipality can get.

T. I. HUGHES
Executive Vice-President

Many accidents at dangerous corner

Dear Sir: On Sunday evening last I had occasion to witness an accident at the intersection of the 19th Concession, and the Bloomington Side Rd. in which four people were injured and one would most certainly have been killed had we not been able to stop the East-bound traffic, as one of the participants was lying directly across the eastbound lane.

I travel this road daily and in the past three years have seen the results of many accidents at this intersection. Surely it must be quite evident by now to the authorities that this is a dangerous spot, if not then I wish to speak now as an expert on this particular intersection. (Former Traffic Co-Ordinator) It is a dark corner, it is a high speed corner, it is an offset intersection, it is a tree lined, and the intersection presents an optical illusion. The accident rate and death rate will bear this out.

Serious accidents rarely occur at highly congested intersections there may be many fender benders but nothing of any consequence. Yes there are stop signs at the intersection and one of them is a very large one, but there are also stop signs in misuse on the small side streets in town being used as speed control devices; there are also warning lights and traffic lights which have been installed in many municipalities simply by public pressure, with no warrants. Surely we can get a Wink-O-Matic Light installed at the intersection in question.

I wish to commend the police, fire and ambulance for their very prompt response to this accident.

NORM YOUNG
Goodwood.

Thank you!
Stouffville nursery
Dear Sir: I have a three-year-old and would like to give a public "Thank you" to Stouffville Nursery School.

Norah McElroy and her staff have filled the gap in education and child care for Stouffville. They have the vitality of youth, and even more important, a real interest in each child's growth and well-being. Good luck and keep growing.
MRS. L. ZECK

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MAPLE CREAM Manning Biscuits	16-OZ. PKG.	69¢
HOTNESS (REGULAR OR DIP) Potato Chips	7-OZ. PKG.	59¢
KITCHEN CUP Dixie Refills	8-OZ. (SIZE) PKG. OF 50	59¢
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