

Prayer Week

STOUFFVILLE — The local Ministerial Fraternal is sponsoring a "Week of Prayer" from January 19 to 26, to be held in various Stouffville churches.

The time and places for the meetings are as follows: Sunday, January 19, 3 p.m., Stouffville United Church; Monday, 7:30 p.m., St. James Presbyterian Church; Tuesday, 7:30 p.m., Bethel Assembly of God (Ringwood); Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Stouffville Pentecostal Church; Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Christ Church Anglican; Friday, 7:30 p.m., Stouffville Missionary Church; Saturday, 7:30 p.m., Memorial Christiana Church; Sunday, 3 p.m., Stouffville Baptist Church.

Regional chairman acclaimed

NEWMARKET — A new regional headquarters building on the site of Old York Manor is the top priority for the 1975-76 regional council, Garfield Wright said at the inaugural meeting last week.

Mr. Wright was acclaimed regional chairman for the next two years. It was an historic event in that it was the first time York Regional Council could pick the chairman. No one opposed Mr. Wright for the position.

He was appointed by the provincial government in 1971 for a four-year term.

In his speech, Mr. Wright stated that the building to be constructed in 1976, adding that all departments are taxed for proper staff quarters — even with the addition of five temporary structures to our existing buildings.

He suggested the building be constructed on property on Yonge St. in Newmarket. It is already owned by the region. A provincial courthouse is scheduled to be built on the same site.

Mr. Wright emphasized the need for co-operation with other levels of government, especially the school boards. He suggested the region take over assessment and urged early completion of the region's official plan.

Residents up in arms over 'pit'

BLOOMINGTON — Bloomington area residents are up in arms over the excavation of what they call a "gravel pit."

William Popovich, owner of property at Bloomington and the 9th line, which is tentatively approved for a subdivision, has a permit to excavate a pond on the property.

Carole Middleton, a neighbor, told The Tribune, "He is operating a gravel pit in the guise of digging a pond." She estimated there are 20 to 25 gravel trucks going in and out of the site.

Mayor Gordon Ratcliff agreed with the residents. "He's really been mining gravel there from what we can tell."

The mayor said the use comes under the Pits and Quarries Act and the town has asked the Ministry of Natural Resources to take action.

McDermott chosen chairman

By TED WILCOX

STOUFFVILLE — The chairman of the York Regional Separate School Board will once again be Jack McDermott, of Fairview Ave. Mr. McDermott was recently acclaimed by the board to serve a second consecutive term.

In an interview with The Tribune last week, Mr. McDermott set forward what he considers to be the achievements of the board and the problems they face.

The Separate School system in York Region, he said, has been expanding at the rate of 20 pupils a month. "I think we've been trying to look ahead and

foresee areas of development," Mr. McDermott said.

Regarding teacher-trustee relations, Mr. McDermott said that their board has been "held up as a model as the way a board should be to teachers. I hope it will continue in coming years."

The board was given a banquet by the Ontario English Catholic Teachers Association last year in honor of their helpfulness to the teachers.

The current contract with the York Separate School teachers is to run out at the end of August and arrangements for beginning negotiations are already being made, according to Mr. McDermott.

Among innovations in

regional Separate Schools in recent years have been an increase in the "open concept" in education and a "family life" course featuring sex education.

As to the latter program, in every area, parents overwhelmingly are in favor of it, Mr. McDermott said. Sex, he said, is "taught in the context of it being a gift of God."

The sex education part is only one-quarter of the course, he added.

Speaking of the "open" educational concept, Mr. McDermott explained that it allowed those children with more ability to advance at their own pace. In a more structured situation, those pupils might "sit

and die of boredom," he said.

However, Mr. McDermott said, the teacher must watch and be sure that he doesn't lose the slower students in the process.

Most Separate Schools are using "open education on a 50-50 basis with a more traditional method," he said. St. Mark's School of Stouffville is one of those using some "open" education.

Regarding the projected growth of Stouffville due to new subdivisions, Mr. McDermott said the board is watching to see if a new school might be needed. In the Duverton subdivision plans, possible areas are specified for both a separate and a public school.

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52 PAGES

Environmental Hearing Board

Five-hour horror tale

By JOHN MONTGOMERY

STOUFFVILLE — The Environmental Hearing Board and spectators listened to a five-hour horror story last week before adjournment of the York Sanitation hearings until Feb. 4.

Fred Munroe, a retired chemical engineer and business man who has been fighting to have the dump closed, presented a 49-page brief to the hearing board.

Mr. Munroe said what they had not been looking at are "the

more obvious forms of pollution." He said there are forms of pollution more insidious such as arsenic pollution.

He said sites which are suitable for biological waste are unsuitable for chemical waste. "These are problems that have only been recognized in the past four or five years," he said, adding, "We have only seen the tip of the iceberg."

Mr. Munroe told the board he would deal with "the

irreversible chemical pollution of the groundwaters underlying the site which he said has been completely overlooked" by Hydrology Consultants Ltd. and by the Ministry of the Environment.

Mr. Munroe said, "For 30 years there has been uncontrolled and unregulated growth of new chemicals. These chemicals were made and sold without regard to the environment or the health of people. Many of these chemicals, even in minute concentrations can cause irreparable damage to the organs of people exposed to them. The damage is manifested by cancers, tumors, birth of deformed children, reproducible mutations in children, mental retardation, lassitude and general malaise, abortions, and other illnesses."

Mr. Munroe told the board it often takes 10 to 20 years for the problem to surface. He said uncontrolled use of organic compounds was the major source of the problem and these compounds are "mainly used by industry since 80 per cent of

them were unavailable to the public."

He spoke of the synergistic effects that can occur. This occurs when two or more substances which by themselves may be harmless become "intolerable to the human system in the presence of each other and the human organ is affected irreversibly."

Mr. Munroe said the contamination resulting from disposal of liquid industrial waste on the site in the past is nothing compared to the toxicity of the pollutants that will result from present and future dumping.

The cadmium, chromium, lead, phenol and other substances that have migrated beyond the boundaries of the landfill site have served as tracers to prove indisputably that the same moraine underlying the site must be permeable and must contain gravel or sand fingers, because otherwise, we would not expect heavy metal pollutants to have migrated beyond the boundaries."

The waste entering the (see ENGINEER, pg. 11)

Trafficking charges laid in drug roundup

STOUFFVILLE — A series of drug raids Jan. 6 saw three men charged with possession of marijuana for the purposes of trafficking.

York Regional Police report that officers executed a search warrant at a Montreal St. home in Stouffville and found two bags containing 225 grams of marijuana in a bedroom dresser.

Charged is Lawrence Bernard Watters, 24. He will appear in court Jan. 28.

That same day police found 33 individually wrapped one-

ounce packages of marijuana at a Princess St. home in Markham. Charged was John Alfred Laidlaw, 19.

Danny Willard Crews, 19, 14 Ave. R. R. 1, Markham, was charged with possession of marijuana for the purpose of trafficking and possession of hashish.

Councillor Merlyn Baker

Indignation stirred

STOUFFVILLE — Councillor Merlyn Baker was stirred to righteous indignation, by the reply of the Ministry of Health, to a request from council that wells in the area of York Sanitation Site No. 4 be tested weekly.

The letter states "it would be presumptuous to institute a weekly sampling program until the environmental hearing is terminated and the results are made available."

The communication, which was received by council at the inaugural meeting, further says, "water samples from private wells in the vicinity of the dump site were being collected by the York Regional Health Unit for

bacteriological examination by the Ministry of the Environment, the York Sanitation Ltd., and your town — results of the latest analyses which were provided us, indicate suitability of the well waters for domestic use."

There has never been any consistent testing of the wells, insisted Mr. Baker. His voice quavered with emotion. "There is a little girl quite ill and there is fear of lead poisoning."

Mr. Baker said there has been no testing for heavy metals and he indicated he sees no reason why the hearings should have any bearing on testing the wells.

He denounced the Ministries

of Health and Environment, saying, "the two branches of government are not even treating our citizens as second but as third class citizens."

He said the people are being left to "die with their problems" and concluded, "I would much rather be a member of this community and be treated as a third or fourth class citizen than be the Minister of Health or his subordinates and have to live with their consciences."

Council then passed a resolution that they would take the responsibility of having the testing done and ensure the samples were forwarded to a laboratory.



The three performances of Harry and the Skinbonians, were standing room only. Here the multi-talented Gord Ness, author of the play, takes the part of Mrs. Fern (left), Mrs. Fern dropped in under the mistaken impression she would be lecturing the Women's Horticultural Society. Dancing in the background is Harry (Edna Luther) the little boy who helps out the Skinbonians.

— John Montgomery

Goodwood amendment

Uxbridge withdraws bid for expansion

GOODWOOD — Goodwood will not become the urban centre envisaged by former councils, following a decision by Uxbridge Council last week to withdraw an official plan amendment.

The amendment was drawn up by the former Uxbridge Council and had been forwarded to the provincial government. It was never given provincial approval.

Last week Uxbridge Council voted unanimously to withdraw the amendment. Councillor Eleanor Todd defended the amendment but agreed to it being withdrawn.

She maintained that the former council had put a lot of work into it but, "I personally felt the population goal was too large."

Under the amendment, the hamlet boundaries would have been extended and the population could grow to nearly 2,000. A study by Durham Region states that the population is unrealistic because there are no services.

Mrs. Todd said that the topography of the area mitigates against installing sewers and suggested there would be ground water pollution which would adversely affect Duffin's Creek, the Rouge River and the Pefferlaw Brook.

The region suggests a proposed growth of two per cent per year.

Mayor Carl Putebaugh said that he agreed with the regional

report calling it "good common sense."

Regional Councillor Bill Ballinger said the amendment would be withdrawn and a thorough study instituted to "come up with something else."

An annual increase of two per cent on the present population of 350 would mean an extra seven persons a year.

Trustees approve pay hike

AURORA — York County Board of Education members voted themselves a 100 per cent raise Monday night, at the first business meeting for the 1975-76 board.

Trustee remuneration will jump from \$3,000 to \$6,000 and the chairman's salary will go to \$8,000 from the present \$4,000.

The raise was passed by a recorded 9-7 vote with three abstentions. Whitchurch-Stouffville trustee Colin Barrett recommended the raise, but newly-elected board chairman Don Sim opposed the increase.

A recommendation to increase the mileage allowance for board members was defeated. The present rate is 10 cents a mile. One third of trustee salaries is tax free.

Alternatives sought by merchants

STOUFFVILLE — A group of Stouffville's merchants, who oppose a proposed bylaw to provide off-street parking in town, will make some proposals of their own when they appear before council in the near future.

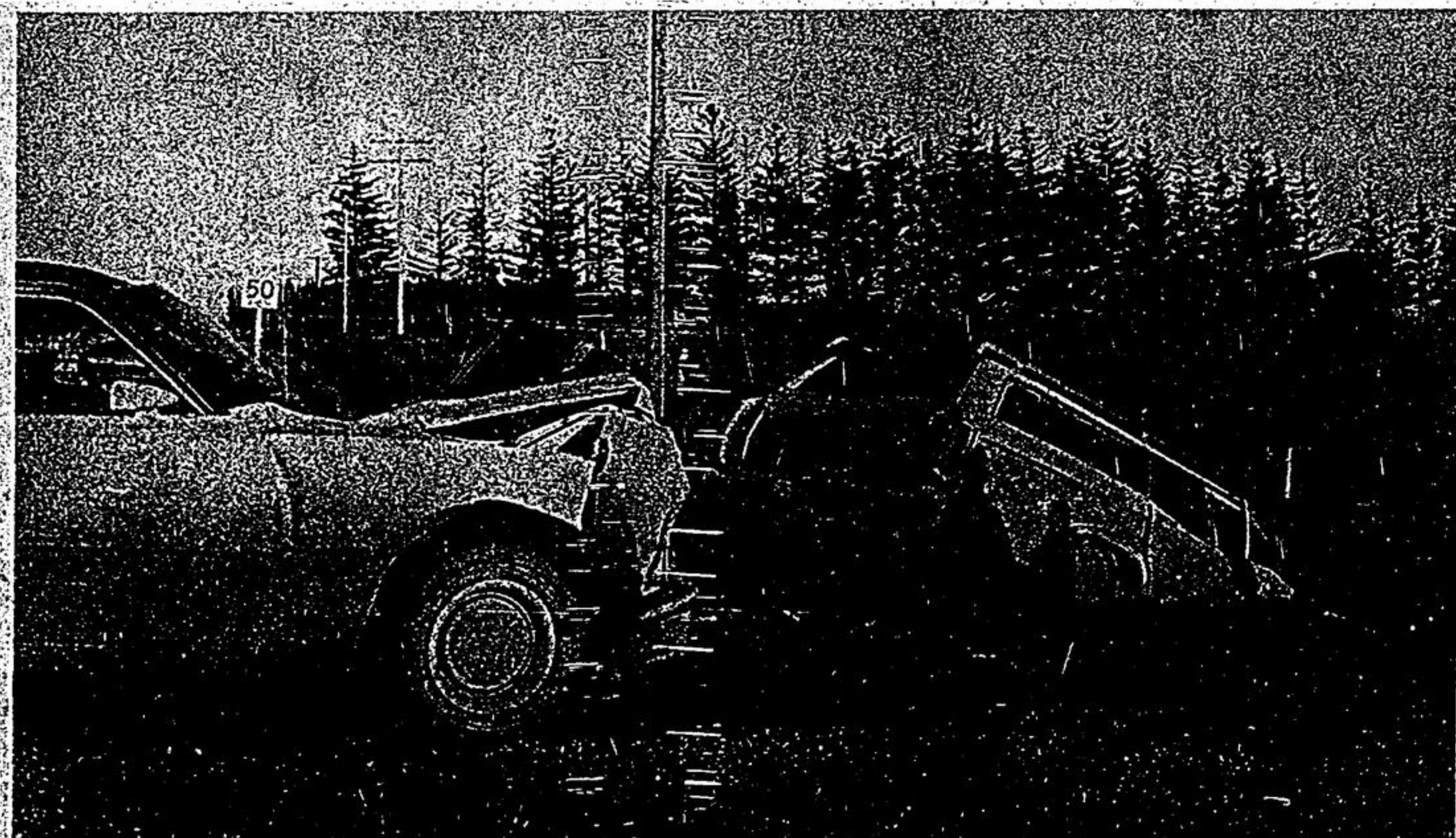
At a meeting Tuesday, nine merchants decided to provide alternative proposals. The bylaw, which has received first reading, would provide for parking by means of a levy on merchants.

The town would own the land, but the merchants would pay for it.

A group of merchants opposing the scheme have retained Donald Hindson to represent them.

Graham Hudson told the group Tuesday that the merchants did not oppose parking, as such, but it should be centralized around the block between Church St. and Market St.

The proposal put forward by the town would see a total of \$300,000 spent to provide parking at three locations.



Four people were taken to hospital Saturday after two cars collided at Bloomington Rd and the 6th Conc. A short time later an almost identical accident occurred at Highway 48 and the

Identical circumstances

Two mishaps on Bloomington Rd.

BLOOMINGTON — Two nearly identical accidents occurred on the Bloomington Rd., Saturday, within an hours time.

In both accidents a southbound vehicle collided with an eastbound car.

The first accident occurred at Bloomington and the 6th line. The southbound vehicle, driven by Margaret Armitage, R. R. 3, Newmarket, received \$1,000 damage and the other vehicle driven by Elva Harper of Keswick was damaged, according to police estimates, to a value of \$2,500.

The drivers and a single passenger in each vehicle was taken to York County Hospital for treatment. Mrs. Armitage, her 11-year-old daughter, Holly and Mrs. Harper were treated for cuts and bruises and released.

The passenger in the Harper car, Jean Reid, was admitted to hospital with broken left and right legs and a fractured wrist. Hospital officials described her condition as satisfactory. According to York Regional Police, charges are pending.

Another collision, about 4:30 Saturday afternoon, happened under similar circumstances at the intersection of Hwy. 48

A southbound car driven by Robert Patterson, 19, of Scarborough and an eastbound vehicle driven by another Scarborough, John Dove Jr., 24, smashed up, totalling both vehicles.

The Patterson vehicle, a 1965 Ford sustained \$1,000 and the other car, a 1963 Valiant was estimated at \$1,800.

Judith MacInnis, R. R. 2, Stouffville, a passenger in the Dove car sustained cuts and bruises, but no one involved required hospitalization. Ontario Provincial Police are investigating.

— Svend De Bruyn