

Man killed instantly as truck flips over

STOUFFVILLE — Thomas Leroy Benson was killed instantly early Sunday morning when the half ton truck he was driving left the road, struck a culvert, and flipped over.

He was driving home to Stouffville, along the 9th Concession, near the Markham-Pickering Town Line, when the tragedy occurred.

Durham Regional Police report there were no skid marks and the vehicle was found upside down, with the cab roof crushed flat, at the bottom of an embankment, south of the road.

The unexpected and tragic death of the well known young man has cast a shadow of gloom and sadness in Claremont where he was born on Nov. 9, 1947, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Benson. He lived in the village until he and Linda Walley were married in the United Church in Stouffville on July 12, 1969.

They made their first home in Pickering and later moved to Stouffville. He was an employee of Pickering Township.

Tom received his education in Claremont Public School and Pickering High School. He was active in sports, mainly hockey and baseball. He played minor hockey for Claremont and minor and junior hockey for Stouffville, as well as baseball for Claremont, Bay Ridges and Stouffville.

Besides his wife, Linda, and his parents, Tom leaves one brother, Robert Benson of Beaverton, and two sisters, Grace, (Mrs. James Hopkins of Stouffville), and Blanche, (Mrs. William Postill of Newmarket.)

Funeral services were held in O'Neill's Funeral Home in Stouffville, Tuesday, Sept. 23, at 2 p.m., with Rev. Douglas Davis officiating. Interment was in Claremont Union Cemetery.

Pallbearers were his brother-in-law John Walley, his life long friends, Ted Redshaw, Gordon McDowell, George Redshaw, Jack Redshaw and Ron Evans.

Local delegates caught in suspense at Royal York Hotel

STOUFFVILLE — Seven local delegates to the Order of the Eastern Star's Diamond Jubilee convention were caught up in events surrounding the tragic triple shooting at the Royal York Hotel Thursday.

They were among 2,000 attending the convention, when

the murder of the credit manager and the wounding of two police officers took place.

They included — Mr. and Mrs. William Wallace, Mill St.; Mrs. Lucy Sanderson, Main St.; Mrs. and Mrs. Sid Jenkins, Musselman's Lake; and Mr. and Mrs. Wilmot Hill of Claremont.

"The scene from our window overlooking Union Station was frightening," Mrs. Jenkins told The Tribune Monday. "Almost immediately the hotel was surrounded by police cars, armored trucks and ambulances."

Armed police and a task force with dogs closed all the meeting rooms and evacuated the lower half of the hotel, Mrs. Jenkins said. Guests in the rest of the building locked themselves into their rooms for five hours while police searched the hotel for the murderer.

"One guest, who did not speak English, did not respond to the police request to search his room," Mrs. Jenkins said. "They (the police) knocked the door in."

"Our rooms were searched systematically and after five hours, the hotel was declared safe," she added.

Mr. Huntsman said, "and we have some hopes we'll be able to advance it as well."

Mr. Huntsman declined to speculate as to how much shorter the waiting time might be. The date previously announced by Bell is March 15.

12 Durham officers charged after stag

DURHAM REGION — One Durham Regional Police officer has been charged with gross indecency and 11 others have been charged with offences under the police Act following a Sept. 3 stag party at a hotel.

Const. Dennis Simcock, a second class constable, was charged with gross indecency and has been suspended by Chief Jon Jenkins.

Mr. Simcock tendered his resignation, which has been accepted, the day the charges were laid.

Chief Jenkins ordered an internal investigation after a private citizen who had attended

the stag informed him of various illegal activities which had taken place at the party.

Ten police officers have been charged with neglect of duty and discreditable conduct under the Police Act, and an 11th has been charged with damage to equipment.

Permanent building likely for depot

STOUFFVILLE — The only thing now holding up construction of a recycling depot, in a permanent location on the public works property, is final approval from council.

That approval would almost certainly have come this week but the council meeting was postponed until next Tuesday.

The project has been approved by Public Works Committee and Finance Committee.

The present temporary location, in a garage on Market St., is inadequate as it is too small, has no electricity and the roof leaks.

"The main thing is to get the shell up," Mayor Gordon Ratcliff told The Tribune. Mr. Ratcliff said that judging from council's reaction to a delegation from the Recycling Committee, there would be no obstacle to final approval.

He estimated the building could be constructed this fall as it is a very simple structure, costing around \$6,000.

Finance Committee has recommended tenders be called for the work.

The town will supply the basic structure, with electricity, and the Recycling Committee will later install a heated office. It is expected that local people will contribute the necessary muscle for this work.

Liberal calls for recount

DURHAM NORTH — Liberal candidate Clare Morrison said Monday that he will ask for a recount in Durham North following his defeat by 111 votes in last week's election.

Final totals show William Newman the winner by that margin. Mr. Morrison said that quite a number of spoiled ballots showed up. For other election results in York North, Durham North and York Centre, see page 9.



Grant Wells (left) provides some words of advice to his son Ken, 13 during the North York Plowing Match Saturday. Special participants in the event included British Columbia representative Charles Thompson and United States champions — James Nolan of

No decision on airport start but 1,300 ready

CLAREMONT — "No decision" has been reached as to when construction on the first runway at the Pickering airport will begin, according to MOT spokesman Paul Roach.

He told The Tribune Monday that word of the tendering for constructing the first runway had been leaked by the company with the lowest bid, but that bid had not been approved yet.

However, some observers are expecting a confrontation to shape up shortly between 1,300 women and construction workers atop earth-moving equipment at the airport site. The women have vowed to sit in front of the first bulldozers to begin work.

About 350 demonstrators rallied at the farmhouse owned by Ernie Carruthers before expropriation, on Saturday, in preparation for the impending show-down.

POP member Clark Muirhead said that government planned to install fences and

gates to ward off the confrontation, but that the demonstrators would climb the fences and walk across fields to get there.

Following a rally at the farmhouse, demonstrators drove to the Brougham Airport Information Office to "request information."

After cries of "We want Gallagher" failed to produce airport manager Ed Gallagher from the office, protesters created a bonfire outside out of glossy government pamphlets on the proposed airport.

At the farmhouse rally, newly elected members Alf Stong (L) of York Centre and NDP David Warner for Scarborough — Ellesmere called for a halt to the airport, as did Mayor Gordon Ratcliff.

Trees were planted by demonstrators near the pile of rubble where airport houses had been dumped near the farmhouse, "so that our children and grandchildren might enjoy"

the landscape in the future, according to Mr. Muirhead. The trees and shrubs were the idea of Save Stouffville member Kathy Tyrer.

The three women occupying the farmhouse — Brenda Davies, Anne Howes and Frances Moore — also made an appearance at the rally and were roundly cheered by the crowds.

Part of the information

wanted by POP, according to Mr. Muirhead, was "when the airport will be stopped," and barring that, "when the bulldozers will start work on the airport."

Winner of the bidding for construction of the first runway was MBL Alberta Ltd., a subsidiary of Marentette Bros. Ltd., of Windsor, Ontario. They weighed in with a \$3,268,726 contract.



A bonfire outside the Airport Information Office in Brougham was used to destroy government pamphlets about the Pickering airport. The scene was part of a rally Saturday held to confirm opposition to the airport. —Ted Wilcox

Some legal fees not being paid: Anderson

CLAREMONT — The federal government has been refusing to pay the legal fees as promised for some expropriated landowners, according to Pickering Councillor Jack Anderson.

He told The Tribune Monday that he has been contacted by some 30 or 40 people and that "as each day goes by I get more complaints."

Mr. Anderson said that originally, former Public Works Department Minister Jean Eudes Dube had said all legal costs for expropriated owners would be covered by the government. Now, however, some "senior staff" members are "setting limits" and

refusing to pay the fees of some lawyers, he said.

The Public Works Department was contacted but failed to reply to The Tribune's query about the matter.

Vandals damage 38 tombstones

CEDAR GROVE — Vandals caused \$7,500 to the Reesor Cemetery, attached to the Old Mennonite church, on Steeles Ave., last Friday night.

Police say a total of 50 tombstones were knocked over and 38 of these were damaged.

Mobile home proposal

No decision on plan

STOUFFVILLE — Planning board deferred action on a mobile home subdivision proposal when it was presented last week. It would include 150 mobile homes on a 97-acre site, north of Gormley.

Conroy Dowson appeared for developer Bill Corcoran and explained the proposal. The first phase would include 150, two-type units on individual lots. He said it would be an "adult only" subdivision.

The proposal would put the homes on septic tanks with a central water system. He said the plan has been approved by the regional health authorities.

He said the density would be about 3 1/2 units to the acre. "We are endeavoring to

keep the costs low to provide alternative housing," he said.

The planner suggested the minimum income to the town would be \$36,000, but new provincial guidelines allow local municipalities to tax them the same as permanent homes.

He estimated the cost of mobile homes at \$18-24,000 and land rental of about \$65 per month.

Mayor Gordon Ratcliff disputed Mr. Dowson's contention that population allocations are no longer enforceable.

"Mobile home development will take part of our population allocation," the mayor said.

He added that the regional official plan will place population limits on Whitchurch-Stouffville.

"I have people asking me all the time when council will allow this kind of development," Councillor Cathy Joice said. "It

is the only way for some people to afford a home."

The matter will be discussed at the next planning board meeting.

Elderly man hit crossing Highway 48

MARKHAM — An 80-year-old Markham man was killed Saturday attempting to cross Highway 48 near 17th Ave.

Ontario Provincial Police said that Emmanuel Vertolli was struck about 8:15 p.m. by a southbound car driven by Earl Prince, 18, of Uxbridge. Mr. Vertolli, who was wearing dark clothing, was dead on arrival at Scarboro Centenary Hospital.

Man's car plunges into lake

STOUFFVILLE — A local man was charged after a car ended up in the drink last week following a Liverpool Road, Pickering, accident. Durham Regional Police reported that the car went off the end of the road and plunged into 20 to 30 feet of water in Lake Ontario.

Charged was Matin Valleau, 20, of 9th Line South, with impaired driving, refusing to take a breathalyzer test and having liquor in a place other than in his residence.

Valleau is to make an appearance in court in Ajax on November 18.

At about 12:45 a.m. September 10, apparently, the car passed through the dead end at Liverpool Road and into the lake.

Way clear for arena takeover

STOUFFVILLE — The way is open for the town to complete the deal to purchase the arena, The Tribune has learned.

At the shareholders meeting of Stouffville Arena Ltd. Monday evening, approval was given the purchase and negotiations are to be conducted by the board of directors.

One concern was that if the town buys the outstanding shares, what taxes will have to be paid and whether it is better to purchase the assets.

The agreed price is \$125,000.

\$1,800 approved for Santa parade

STOUFFVILLE — The 1975 Stouffville Santa Claus parade will take place Saturday, Nov. 29 it was revealed at a recent council meeting.

Murray Ferguson of the Stouffville Kinsmen Club, organizers of the event, asked council for \$1,800 grant for the parade.

Mr. Ferguson said the price of bands has increased by 25 per cent over last year. Total cost for the 1974 parade was \$3,100. The town paid \$1,200 and the businessmen were canvassed for the remainder.

Mr. Ferguson said that it was only fair for the town to pay a larger portion of the costs because the parade is "very worthwhile to the town."

He added that the merchants are contributing toward Christmas lights and were unable to fully support the parade. The Kinsmen, he said, are considering a 50-50 draw to raise funds for the parade.

Council approved the full \$1,800 request.

—Don Bernard