

# Untroubled by home loss

MUSSELMAN'S LAKE — Talking with Arthur Gray, you'd never know that he had been the victim of a disaster.

homesite, and plans to help him equip and furnish it are already underway.

"The response has been overwhelming," said councillor Wedley.



Art Gray carts away all that is left of his house — a few wheelbarrows of ashes. However, with a little help from his neighbours, the Musselman's Lake man is quite undaunted by his misfortune, and plans to rebuild on the same site. —Annegret Lamure

When The Tribune went to see him recently, the 66 year old Musselman's Lake resident was cheerfully carting piles of ashes about in a wheelbarrow and making plans to rebuild his fire-gutted home.

Mr. Gray's small frame bungalow was struck by lightning two weeks ago and totally burned to the ground, leaving him with only the pants and slippers he was wearing when he escaped the blaze.

However, the community rallied around to help Mr. Gray. "People have been just wonderful," he said.

Councillor Becky Wedley launched an appeal last week and a stream of shirts, suits, coats, and even brand new sheets and pillowslips have been coming in for Mr. Gray ever since. As well, the United Church women in Markham have undertaken to outfit him anew from head to toe.

Neighbours have also dropped around to help Mr. Gray clear away the charred remains of his home, and several have offered to give him a hand when he is ready to build again. "I have the best neighbours there ever was," said Mr. Gray.

He is planning to put up a small prefab building on his

# The Tribune

VOL. 89 NO. 12

WHITCHURCH—STOUFFVILLE, JULY 29, 1976

20 CENTS

16 PAGES

## Truck strike continues, windshields, rads broken

By TED WILCOX  
STOUFFVILLE — The gravel truckers' strike in the area has turned ugly as 18 truck radiators were punctured Monday night at Don Anderson Haulage on Hwy. 47.

Other rumors have it that two trucks were forced off the road on Hwy. 48 and their windshields and headlights smashed, and other trucks had the air let out of their tires. York Regional Police confirmed that

they received a complaint of a smashed truck windshield last Friday.

Don Anderson general manager Dennis Forsythe estimated that the cost of repairing the trucks could be as high as \$8,500. The company is offering a \$1,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the culprit or culprits.

Many area gravel pits have ground to a standstill, with as

many as 450 trucks affected, as a result of the strike. Toronto, York and Durham Region truckers president Gerald Wilkes says the haulers want the minimum rate formula suggested by the Ministry of Transportation and Communications for each load.

Regarding the incident at Don Anderson Haulage, Mr. Wilkes said, "I certainly hope it wasn't any of our people...I always told the fellows we don't want any violence...I suggest people talk to drivers and mention we are having a work stoppage...but no threats."

However, at least one operator said that he had not been approached by any representative from the truckers' association. Said a spokesman from Gormley Sand and Gravel: "It's a really tough nut to crack when we don't know that they want."

The spokesman said drivers at the Gormley pits "have been intimidated to the extent that they're afraid to work."

One trucker told The Tribune that when he attempted

to drive into a gravel pit, a man with a rock in one hand jumped onto the running board and told him "if you go in there you'll get this through the windshield of your truck."

Damage done to the Don Anderson trucks had been repaired on eight of the vehicles by Tuesday morning. Said Mr. Forsythe: "We just can't shut down."

He said another company truck had two pieces of steel thrown at it from a passing truck, causing damage to the truck body. Other drivers have received "verbal threats," he said.

Truckers president Wilkes said that haulers get 90 cents per ton for 10 mile trips at present, while the MOT suggests \$1.08, plus seven cents per mile for each mile thereafter.

Mr. Wilkes said the figures are the suggested minimums necessary to allow the truckers to make a profit.

Mr. Wilkes added that the truckers' association was in the process of contacting operators on Tuesday and Wednesday in order to negotiate.

## Council lukewarm, 161 lots proposed

STOUFFVILLE — The largest single development scheme ever to come before planning board was presented last week for the Femson property located south of the Canadian Tire store.

Planning board refused to set a date for consideration of the plan, which included a population increase of about 2,700.

"With that much population," Mayor Gordon Ratcliff told the delegation, "there's no way we could see it entertained."

The plan, drawn up by Marshall, Macklin, Monaghan Ltd. of Whitby, proposed that the 118 acre site be divided into residential, industrial and commercial land.

Mr. Ratcliff said the site was a prime one for future industry, but that the population proposed for it would push the village of Stouffville "way over" the projected limit of 10,000 people.

A total of 161 residential lots were provided in the plan, with single family, semi-detached, apartment and townhousing included.

The board turned down a request by the developer that they begin "negotiating" with the town planner about the proposal. Said Councillor Merlyn Baker: "Dialogue won't gain what's impossible. (The residential proposal) is impossible, unless we look forward 25 years."

Mr. Baker also said that he believed only "prestige" M-1 industrial development should be permitted, not the M-2 variety in the plan.

Planning board chairman Eldred King said council is in the midst of deciding what population density should be allowed in Stouffville, and that the developer should return after the official plan has been completed.

In the view of Mr. Ratcliff, before residential lots on the Femson site would be developed, "several small subdivisions" in the village should be allowed to go forward.

Councillor June Button noted that the population density in the plan was 40 persons per acre — more than twice the figure suggested by planning board.

Planner Leon Kentridge replied that if they halved the population the proposed school would then house only 250 rather than 470 children, and "would not be a viable school site" by board of education standards.

Mr. Kentridge also said that to make the industrial development financially feasible, "we'd have to develop the whole park as a comprehensive scheme."

Necessary for the development, the planner explained, was that the sewage treatment plant in Stouffville be expanded. Engineer Thor Eklund, speaking for the developer, said a pumping station would be necessary, which would pump waste over to the existing sewer on Sunset Blvd.

The consultants said they (see Mammoth p.2)

## Expansion of Hwy. 48 dump still proposed

STOUFFVILLE — Ministry of Environment officials presented a plan for developing the York Sanitation Hwy. 48 dump for the next five to 10 years at a meeting with town council on Tuesday, but the town maintained a position of "close and cap the dump," according to Mayor Gordon Ratcliff.

Part of the ministry plan was a compensation system for people whose water supplies might become polluted as a result of the dump. That system would be entirely administered by the ministry.

"We've taken the view we're not going to enter the picture at all," the mayor said. "We don't wish to enter into that kind of arrangement."

The amount of garbage being suggested for the site, Mr. Ratcliff said, "is not small, really."

At council meeting Tuesday, council voted to wait two weeks before deciding on whether to contact Ontario Ombudsman Arthur Maloney about the dump issue.

## First estate subdivision passed

STOUFFVILLE — York Regional council has approved the first estate residential subdivision for Whitchurch-Stouffville.

The proposed subdivision, by developer J. E. Daniel, on the south side of Bethesda side road, east of Woodbine Ave., still must gain approval by the province.

The plan was approved as part of Amendment No. 5 to the Whitchurch official plan, which specifically designates the Daniel land as estate residential as well as setting down policies for future estate residential development.

According to town planning secretary Ken Aida, future estate residential development on land categorized "rural"



When new playground equipment was being installed at Ballantrae P.S. Dean Hope was right there to try it out. He was one of a score of enthusiastic children watching high school students create an adventure playground out of cedar logs and old tires. See student job story p. 9.

## Chicamauga Investments

### Estate density limited

STOUFFVILLE — A proposed subdivision near Vivian by Chicamauga Investments Ltd. will be limited by an official plan amendment to 17 lots — despite objections from the developer.

Appearing for the developer at planning board last week Conroy Dowson urged council not to include the limitation in the official plan, but to pass a resolution to that effect instead.

He said the "actual issue of lot density" should be debated "at the zoning bylaw subdivision

level... The official plan document is a general guideline and to spell out the details of a subdivision isn't proper."

Ward 2 Councillor Becky Wedley pointed out that ratepayers in the area had first become concerned when the developer had asked the figure of 27 lots be written into the official plan.

The number of lots in the subdivision, said Ward 3 Councillor Merlyn Baker, "underwent a great deal of consideration, both talking with the developer and local residents."

Mr. Dowson said the developer is "prepared to discuss the number of lots and to negotiate with council and ratepayers." He said the discussion should be done "with the benefit of technical reports" that would be forthcoming.

Mayor Gordon Ratcliff said that if the developer is not satisfied with the official plan, "they can ask the Ontario Municipal Board for a hearing."

Summed up Mr. Dowson as he sat down: "I think I've gotten the sentiment of planning board."

The board voted to reaffirm their position that 17 lots be a condition of the official plan amendment.

## Power boat limits possible

STOUFFVILLE — Motor boats on Musselman's Lake will be restricted to 10 horsepower and under if council's proposal

for changes to the Whitchurch-Stouffville official plan is approved.

In a letter to Marilyn Bergman of the Ministry of Housing, council suggested one section, Amendment 11, read: "It is the intention of this plan that lakes, not being part of the connected chain of water areas, shall be restricted to boats without motors, or with motors of 10 horsepower or less."

Ward 2 Councillor Becky Wedley objected to the section on the grounds that the problem of Musselman's Lake motor boats has been effectively dealt with through the ratepayers' groups.

She told council that the section would cause public hearings on the amendment to be held, slowing down the approval process. Mrs. Wedley said she knows of people who are waiting for the amendment to pass so they can build on their land.

In the view of Mayor Gordon Ratcliff, the present method of limiting high powered boats will not work in the long run. "In a year or two the town or conservation authority may buy land and there could be public ownership. I hope there is. This would then give access to the lake."

At present ratepayers are limiting access to the lake by

renting and restricting a launching site, formerly owned by Shalimar — the only public launching place.

At the suggestion of Councillor Merlyn Baker, the section in question was amended to allow "10 horsepower and under" boats rather than those under five horsepower.

## Conservationists can't issue rodent shooting licences

STOUFFVILLE — A July 22 Tribune article that said the Whitchurch-Stouffville Conservation Club opposes property owners being allowed to shoot firearms on their own land doesn't tell the whole story, according to club president Jim Doble.

His reason for appearing before council, he explained, was to say that the club could not legally enforce a proposed section of the town's discharge of firearms bylaw.

That section would have had the club issue licences to property owners who wish to use firearms for rodent control.

Mr. Doble said he told council that the club has no authority to issue such licences, (see President, p.2)



Passing an egg on a spoon while mounted on a moving horse is quite a tricky business as can be seen from the contortions of Debbie Smith (right) of Stouffville who is handing over the egg to Sally Moreland. The two were practicing for the Prince Phillip Games to

be held August 21 and 22, at Windsor Castle in England. The two riders are among five chosen for this part of the country, to represent the Canadian Pony Club at the games. More pictures and story page 9. —John Montgomery