

## Museum wants to move CN station to Bogarttown

STOUFFVILLE — The Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum Board wants to move the old Canadian National Railway station from its present location in Stouffville to the town's museum site in Bogarttown.

Museum board chairman Wes Brillinger told The Tribune the museum has been considering expanding their facilities, "but if you put up a new building it won't mean anything."

The board is to appear before council Tuesday to request assistance in making the move.

There is a note of urgency about the request because council recently asked CN to either have the building improved or removed by the town's centennial year, starting Jan. 1, 1976.

Councillor Cathy Joice moved at council last week that CN be asked to delay demolition of the building, so that the town would have time to see if it could still be saved. Council voted to have Mrs. Joice and Mayor

Gordon Ratcliff contact CN about the matter.

Mr. Brillinger told The Tribune he had gotten an estimated price of \$8,000 to move the building. He said the museum had raised over \$3,000 this year and handed it over to the municipality and if that were used as matching funds they would already be more than halfway to their objective.

One problem with the move is that the proposed Highway 404 may necessitate the removal of the Bogarttown museum, since the region has requested a cloverleaf right at the spot.

Mr. Brillinger said the board can't wait until that has been decided, and the highway construction is 10 years away.

He added that if the museum is expropriated, the government would provide funds to remove the buildings so there would be no extra cost to the town.

Councillor Eldred King questioned the desirability of asking CN to delay demolition of

the building, since the town would not be giving them much time to comply with their earlier request to have the building removed by the new year.

He said that if the old station were to be moved anywhere, it should go somewhere in the village of Stouffville.

In the view of Mayor Ratcliff, the most likely spot for the structure would be the flood control site north of Stouffville Dist. Secondary School, which is owned by the Metro Toronto and Region Conservation Authority.

Mr. Brillinger feels the people of Stouffville should take a greater interest in the museum. "It's their museum. If they don't want to do anything about it, then it'll go down the drain."

He pointed to the kind of support given by Markham, where the old Hoover house was moved for the museum and in Pickering, where numerous buildings are being moved.

The board is applying for a Wintario grant for the move, he said. Besides the cost of the move, a cement pad would have to be provided for the building at the new site, he said.

If the museum is not expropriated, Mr. Brillinger said they would be able to acquire five acres of federal land on which to relocate.

The imminence of having the station removed had become apparent after council had written to CN asking to have the building spruced up in time for the centennial year.

CN wrote back saying they planned to remove the building and erect another structure for passenger use. The train company suggested the town could see to having the building moved, perhaps as a project for the centennial year.

Council then replied with their "clean it up or move it" letter, deciding they did not want to become involved in another capital expenditure this year.

Councillor Joice called the station "a local landmark and it ought to be preserved." She said council may have dealt with the CN's suggestion to move the building too quickly.

Mrs. Joice said that the town is "continually erecting new structures" and perhaps should attempt to preserve some of the older ones as well.

She said she had received a number of comments from people who were upset that the station was going to be demolished.

Councillor Art Starr remarked that "I get more

comments about whether council is getting into the real estate business."

Mrs. Joice said that consideration should be given to Mr. Brillinger's request since the museum board is "one board in this municipality which is self-sufficient."

## Education trustees vote for no raises for next two years

AURORA — With the exception of the chairman, York Region public school board trustees won't be getting an increase in their salaries for two years.

Monday night the board unanimously approved a motion by East Gwillimbury trustee Joy Horton clamping a lid on

## Assessment escalation substantial

STOUFFVILLE — Preliminary figures indicate that the assessment value of both residences and farmland in Whitchurch-Stouffville would see a substantial rise under the proposed new assessment based on market value.

The value of farmland for public school supporters would go up almost 20 times, from the current total worth of \$4,120,000 to \$89,036,000.

At the meeting of council last week, however, it was pointed out that a provincial proposal would subsidize nearly all of the farm assessment.

Public school supporter residences would go up three times, from their present value of \$59,896,000 to \$179,688,000, preliminary figures show. However, the reassessed figure for residences would be reduced by 50 per cent, according to York Regional treasurer John Hlynski, who drew up the preliminary report.

"The reassessment figures are preliminary market values and are not necessarily those which will be returned for taxation in 1978," the report stated.

The value of all commercial land "approximately tripled under the reassessment as well.

## Ministry may guarantee Clean water for town

STOUFFVILLE — Minister of the Environment George Kerr will guarantee in writing part or all of Whitchurch-Stouffville's water supply should it become polluted, according to members of council who met with the Minister on Tuesday.

There have been widespread fears that the York Sanitation dump on Highway 48, which accepts industrial waste, would pollute the town water supply.

The minister said a letter would be sent to the town within 10 days.

Also, there is a possibility the ministry will pay all or part of the salary of an inspector employed by the town who would monitor the Highway 48 landfill site, councillors said.

Ward 2 Councillor Becky Wedley said Mr. Kerr "did show concern that we have the same problems now as the last time we saw him." She said he would

insist that his staff "sharpen up."

The 10-day limit on the letter was attributed by Ward 4 Councillor Cathy Joice to the insistence of MPP Bill Hodgson, who set up the meeting with the minister.

Ward 6 Councillor Eldred King was wary of the wisdom of announcing the results of the meeting with the minister "until we have the letter in our hands"

and Ward 3 Councillor Merlyn Baker said he wanted to get the letter before any negotiations regarding the proposed inspector commence.

Mrs. Joice said the minister is leaving up to council the task of finding the approximate cost of hiring an inspector for the site, and then they will go back to the ministry with a proposed amount.



To Gunner, the beautiful black lab in the picture, happiness is chasing a frisbee. Gunner can jump over eight feet into the air to retrieve the disk in flight. The dog and owner John Rae have appeared all over North America. — Annegret Lamure

## 'Gunner' best grabber of frisbees from mid-air

By Annegret Lamure

UNIONVILLE — The dog knew just how to land without getting hurt — he was doubled up like a paratrooper when he hit the ground and then immediately bounded up his legs acting like springs.

Then tense with joy, he

again deposited the Frisbee in his master's hand.

This was Gunner, the North American Canine Frisbee Champion, doing what he loved best, chasing frisbees.

Gunner is a Black Labrador Retriever owned by John Rae of Unionville, and he is so good at plucking a frisbee out of the air in full flight that he gets paid to do it.

Gunner has appeared at the C.N.E. grandstand show, the Royal Winter Fair, the Sportsman Show, the World Cup snowmobile races, NFL football games, and of course, the Markham Fair, where he is a perennial favorite.

At the moment, the canine catcher is being filmed as part of a C.B.C. documentary feature called "Valdy" scheduled for Jan. 16.

Owner John Rae estimates that over half a million people have been delighted by Gunner's antics, since his talents were discovered in 1974.

"He's a natural born retriever," commented Mr. Rae, as the Lab danced around him in impatience, waiting for the next throw.

Mr. Rae paused and sent the frisbee spinning towards the fields. We watched as Gunner went tearing after it. "Dogs are supposed to have bad eyesight," he explained, just as Gunner, with a perfectly timed lunge, sailed through the air and snatched the disk, "but the way he nails that thing..."

## Highway 47 reconstruction can't go ahead

STOUFFVILLE — Reconstruction of Highway 47 from Main St. north to the former village boundary has run into an unexpected hitch.

In the beginning of September, Mayor Gordon Ratcliff announced that the previously postponed \$300,000 project to widen the road and add turning lanes would be resurrected this year as the Ministry of Transportation and Communications now has funds available.

The problem is the town now has funds available. (see ALLOWANCE Pg. 19)

## Town postmaster Wants to be on council

STOUFFVILLE — Postmaster Gary Fisher has announced he will run for council in Ward 6.

The ward is currently represented by Councillor Eldred King but Mr. King has not yet decided whether he will run in Ward 6 or Ward 3.

Mr. King now resides in Ward 3 and Councillor Merlyn Baker, the incumbent in that ward, has announced his retirement at the end of the term.

Mr. Fisher, who has worked in Stouffville for three years and lived here for the past two, told The Tribune he has no previous municipal experience.

He has been a post office employee for 18 years and worked his way up from being a letter carrier in Scarborough.

There are no particularly pressing issues as far as he is concerned. He said his interest is in getting involved and being of service to the town.

The one priority he sees is "getting the gravel trucks off Main St." He feels he can represent the people in the new subdivisions who "are likely to have more problems."

The fact that he lives and works in the former village he says will make him more accessible to the ratepayers.

"For the first time (running for council) it's hard to have issues," he said. "I expect I'll be learning for the first year."

He says he has a vested interest in the community as he intends to raise a family here.

## Stop-lights to go at 9th

STOUFFVILLE — Tenders have been awarded for stop-lights at the intersection of Main St. and the 9th line by York Regional Council.

## Separate board loses court appeal on redistribution

TORONTO — For the second time in less than a month, the York Region separate school board has lost an appeal against redistribution of trustee seats.

King Township earlier withdrew an appeal of the loss of one of its two trustee and board officials indicated two weeks ago any appeals on the issue appeared futile.

But Thursday, board chairman John McDermott appeared in county court to question the portion of the redistribution affecting him — amalgamation of the Stouffville portion of his East Gwillimbury — Stouffville seat with Aurora trustee John O'Hanony's seat.

Following a hearing by Judge N. Douglas Coe, the court ruled the five per cent assessment inequity that could form the only basis for an appeal was not present.

Mr. McDermott said he hoped the redistribution — which takes two trustees from low growth northern municipalities and gives them to two high-growth areas in southern York, could be fought as inequitable.

Whitchurch-Stouffville officials devised an allotment of trustees that provided the same assessment per trustee but still ensured no changes in the northern area.

"There was sufficient assessment up here to leave trustees the way they were," Mr. McDermott said following the decision.

If there was any possibility of retaining at least the same number of trustees in a municipality it should have been attempted, the board chairman noted.

In announcing his decision, Judge Coe said the redistribution issue is largely a political matter.

## Santa Claus is coming

STOUFFVILLE — The Santa Claus Parade will be coming to town once again, with the event this year scheduled for Nov. 27.

The Kinsmen Club of Stouffville requested and was granted \$2,100 by council last week for the parade.

In a letter to council, parade chairman Herbert Probst said the event will commence at 2 p.m. and that the parade route will be the same as last year.

He said that on investigating the cost of bands and advertising, "it appears the total cost of the parade will exceed last year's budget." Besides the grant from the town, the Kinsmen will be canvassing local businesses to make up the remaining monies required.

## Tentative agreement

YORK CTY. — York County Board of Education is reported to have reached a tentative contract settlement with its 1,270 elementary school teachers.



Now that fall is here rummage sales are again in full swing. Here Nelson Windsor has found himself a quiet spot away from the hubbub while his mother looks through the offerings on the tables. A lot of good bargains were to be had at the rummage held at the Legion Hall, but Nelson does not seem to be impressed. — Annegret Lamure.