

The Tribune

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Could be fight about rezoning of Cedar Valley fertilizer plant

STOUFFVILLE — Another battle could be brewing over a proposed industrial rezoning in the Cedar Valley area.

United Co-operatives of Ontario representatives, as well as the present owner, appeared before planning board last week asking that a permanent M-1 industrial zoning be permitted on land located on concession 6, north side of St. John side road.

The board deferred action on the proposal until the next meeting.

At present, the UCO rents the land which is zoned agricultural, from John Bosworth. Under a non-conforming use of the property, fertilizer is unloaded from a railway siding, then blended and shipped to area farmers.

The UCO wants the industrial zoning in order to build a 500 by 500 foot building on the site. The volume of business would be likely increased "somewhat" after the change, the board was told.

Ward 2 Councillor Becky Wedley expressed her opposition to the rezoning on the grounds that "I can tell there will be another battle if we try to put this one through. I can't support it when I know there are other places more suitable" in the municipality.

The Ontario Municipal Board in 1975 ruled in favor of residents of Cedar Valley who opposed another proposed industrial zoning in their area.

Mayor Gordon Ratcliff said he believed a site plan agreement could keep the operation if zoned industrially, under control, but that he would go along with a request by Ward 1 Councillor Jim Doble that a decision be put off for two weeks.

Mr. Doble asked for the extra time so he could "talk to some of the people in my ward before I make any decision."

Cedar Valley resident Tom Marshall, who had been active in the last battle on industrial

zoning, bantered with board members after the UCO delegation had left.

A group of Cedar Valley residents are to attend the next planning meeting when the issue comes up again.

Mr. Marshall remarked that members of planning board with shares in United Co-operatives of Ontario perhaps should declare a conflict of interest in the case.

Members said they had varying degrees of involvement with UCO. Planning board chairman Eldred King said he

had shares in UCO, and Ward 4 Councillor Bill Kamps said his five children owned shares.

Mayor Gordon Ratcliff, a member of the Stouffville, Co-op, said "the Stouffville Co-op has no financial connection with the UCO."

A legal opinion on the involvements apparently will be sought before the issue is resolved.

The UCO delegation informed the board that no dust problems would be created by the operation and that no anhydrous ammonia would be

stored there. Tanks for other liquid substances would be kept there however.

Councillor Wedley said that since the UCO took over at the site, residents have complained that the volume of truck traffic has increased.

Mr. Bosworth, however, said that the same kind of operation went on before UCO began renting and that even more trucks had been used.

Ward 5 Councillor June Button expressed hesitancy at approving an M-1 zoning because "there is a bit more leeway than with a non-conforming use."

The board was told the operation serves farms in about a 10-mile radius of the plant, both directly and through Co-op stores.

Mrs. Wedley commented that she believes other areas in the town already zoned industrial that have rail sidings would be more suitable locations for the plant. She added that the road system elsewhere is superior to that around Cedar Valley.

The operation now generates around 20 to 25 trucks a day in the peak period between March 15 and June 15, with a lesser number in the fall, the board was told. Mr. Bosworth said that in earlier days about 60 trucks a day had travelled in and out.

School salaries are set in draft budget

AURORA — Salary increases in York Region public school board's initial draft budget will be held to six per cent, trustees decided here last week.

The six per cent will cover the unrenegotiated portions of

salary budgets for all employee groups, the board agreed in accepting a staff recommendation.

In the case of teachers' pay — the board's largest single salary budget acceptance of the recommendation means the September to December portion of the 1977-78 contract will be budgeted at six per cent, including annual increment.

Scheduled to be presented during a special budget session here Feb. 9, the draft budget will also identify savings in administrative costs by combining some small schools into satellite operations of larger facilities.

Trustees also agreed to a staff study on varying school starting times from 8:40 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. in an effort to reduce busing costs.

Education director Sam Chapman warned trustees it will take "political courage" to approve changes since the earlier starting hours will draw plenty of opposition from parents.

Under the guidelines to be used in preparing the draft budget, schools will receive a larger share for equipment purchases through a \$150,000 contingency fund.

Last year, the equipment purchase budget was cut back 75 per cent to the total subsidized by the province.

School rep will be busy this year

STOUFFVILLE — Harry Bowes will have little trouble keeping himself occupied this year as Whitchurch-Stouffville's trustee to the York County Board of Education.

On Monday, Mr. Bowes was appointed to five board committees, including the teachers' negotiating committee, which he said could take "days and days."

He already had been named to the chairman's committee, as second vice-chairman to the board, and also will serve on the Planning and Building Committee, the Early School Leaving Committee for Area 2, a special committee for liaison with York Region and the Grievance Panel.

The early school leaving committee, he explained, looks after children aged 14 and 15 who leave school and get jobs but are still under the supervision of the school. The trustee and administrative staff meet with attendance officers and parents in deciding on each case.

As for the liaison committee with the region, Mr. Bowes said they will settle differences with the region concerning the building of schools and subdivisions. Due to Ministry of Housing rules, schools are not always available when they are needed in new housing areas, he said.

As for the Grievance Panel, they will meet only if teachers have any grievances resulting from their contracts.

Plans to renovate proceed

STOUFFVILLE — Plans for an addition at Summitview School are rolling forward again, only a few weeks behind the target schedule according to Whitchurch-Stouffville's school board trustee Harry Bowes.

Sketch plans have been approved and it is now at the architect's working drawing stage, he said. The working drawings will come before the York County Board of Education for approval in February and then go on to the Ministry of Education, he said.

Last year, the ministry had approved \$357,000 in funds to be used for both an addition and renovations at Summitview.

Beat-up man acquitted on impairment charge

NEWMARKET — A Markham man who was charged with having the care and control of a vehicle while impaired, told an unusual story to the court before the case against him was dismissed last week.

David B. Disseau was charged last May 21 after York Regional Police discovered him lying across the front seat of his vehicle which was resting in a ditch on Lee Ave. in Milliken.

Disseau told the court he had been to the Golden Lamb Tavern in Markham where he drank about six pints of beer. On leaving the tavern he realized he should not drive and asked a friend to drive his vehicle for him. Before he reached his car, however, he was beset by a motorcycle gang, who beat him and kicked him until he became unconscious, he said.

Disseau said he remembered being helped into his car where he passed out. He told the

court that he did not remember anything else until he heard a pounding on the car in which he was sleeping. He recovered consciousness to find that he was missing several teeth, plus cuts and bruises. The car was stained from the blood he had lost while lying there.

The Markham man said his friendly driver had abandoned the vehicle when it went into the ditch, because he had a bad driving record.

"That was some friend," commented Judge James Crossland as he listened to Disseau's story.

Disseau produced hospital bills which he had incurred as a result of the beating he sustained.

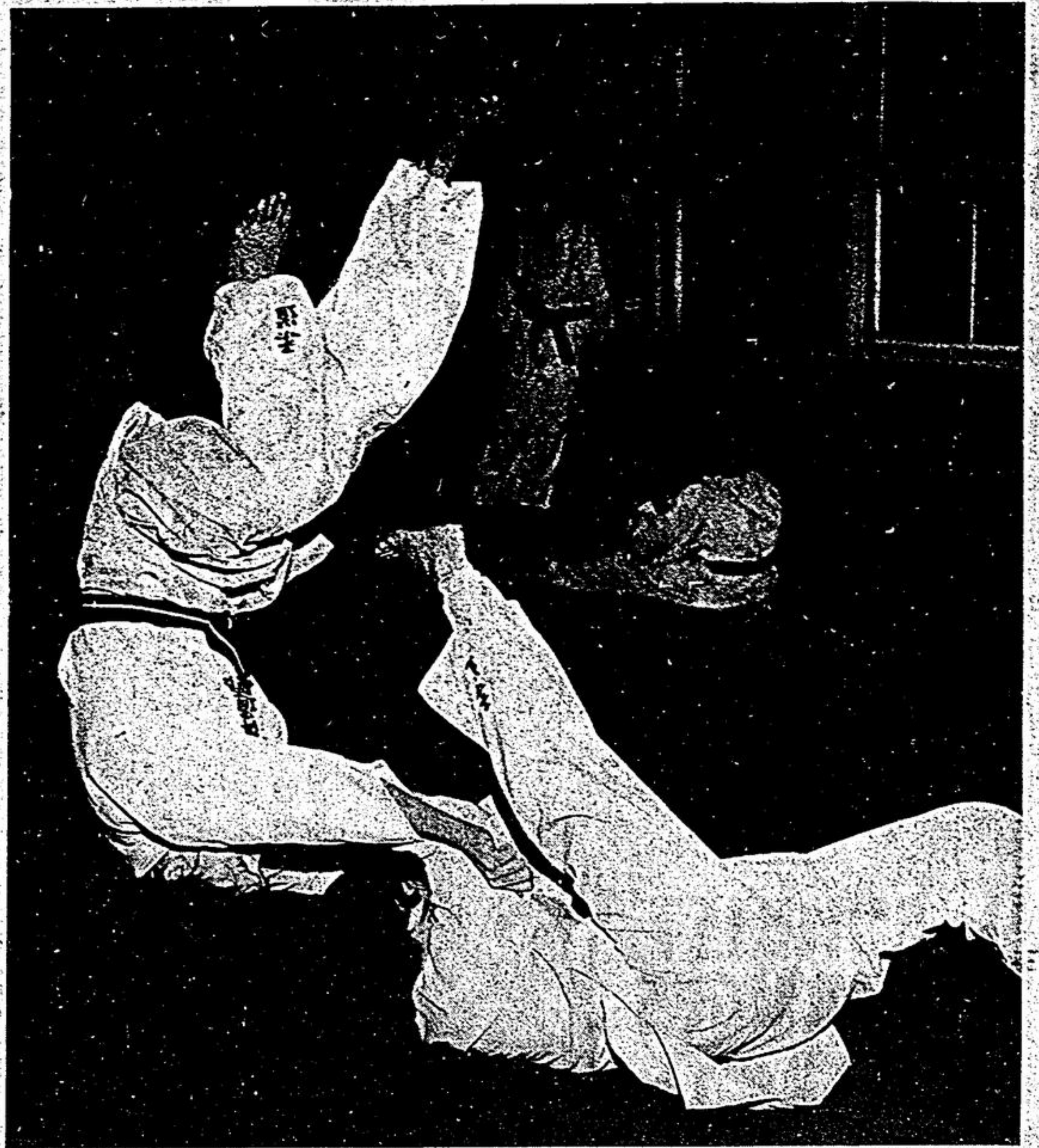
"I could not ask the court for a conviction on such evidence," a sympathetic Crown Attorney said on hearing the accused man's evidence.

Judge Crossland dismissed the charge.



This is only one of many death-defying toboggan runs taken last Sunday on the flood control dam embankment. Ian Harris takes a spill while Steve Appleton looks on. Tobogganing was one of many activities, including snowmobile

rides, cross country skiing, toboggan races and skating that occurred as part of Whitchurch Conservation Club's "Fun Day" at the dam. Perfect weather brought a large turnout. More pictures page 3. —John Montgomery



Cathy Sheffield throws her younger sister Karen through the air. These manoeuvres look and sound painful but the girls insist otherwise. Cathy, who is 17, is one of the few female judo

black belts in Ontario. She is also the first Ho-Tai Judo Club student to earn a black belt. The club is located north of Ballantrae. See story and more pictures page 8. —John Montgomery

In Dulverton subdivision

Plug pulled on park pond

STOUFFVILLE — The five-acre woodland park in the proposed Dulverton subdivision

will not retain a 300-yard-long pond located there, council reaffirmed last week while meeting as Committee of the Whole.

According to Mayor Gordon Ratcliff, it was decided some time ago the pond should be eliminated because of a possible safety hazard.

The park would be situated directly west of a proposed new public school site. Several Manitoba Ave. lots, just east of Tindale Road, back onto the future parkland.

The pond was created 25 years ago for irrigation purposes according to former owner of the land, Garland Lehman.

Depth of the pond averages about six feet, with a 10-foot drop on the south end, said Mr. Lehman. Mr. Ratcliff estimated the depth to be around 20 feet.

The mayor admitted that when he campaigned in the Manitoba Street area last fall, the majority of homeowners "were in favor of leaving" the pond where it is.

At present, the body of water is used for hockey and in the past has been used for swimming, according to Mr. Lehman.

As for wildlife, "it gets a few ducks in the fall," he said.

In the Dulverton plans,

besides the existing Manitoba Street residences, a block reserved for multiple housing is shown as abutting the parkland as well.

Ward 1 Councillor Jim Doble told The Tribune he agreed that if left open, the pond "could become a hazardous thing" with the increased population projected for the area. "Especially in the winter, if someone went through the ice," he said.

What may go in there instead, he said, might be a ball diamond or athletic field of some kind.

If people want a pond to walk around, "they're not that far from the conservation area, and they can move over there," Mr. Doble said.

Markham man wins big from Wintario

MARKHAM — After winning \$100,000 on last week's Wintario draw, John Balmer, 47, of Church St. in Markham plans to pay off his mortgage and take his family on a European holiday.

Mr. Balmer, a Consumers Gas manager, submitted his ticket (Number 35092 in Series 69) Monday, in exchange for a \$100,000 cheque.

Orders for Texas fruit to aid SDSS phys. ed.

STOUFFVILLE — The Stouffville DSS physical education department is about to embark on a very unique money-raising campaign in this area.

Beginning February 3, athletes from the high school will be canvassing the neighborhoods to take orders for citrus fruit. The students will be selling small and large boxes of Texas Ruby Red Grapefruit and tree-ripened fresh oranges. Both of these citrus fruits are grown in the Rio Grande Valley at the southern tip of Texas, and will be shipped directly from the grower by refrigerated truck.

Orders will be taken from February 3 to 14. After that, the orders will be compiled and the citrus fruit will be on its way from Texas.

Anyone wanting further information should call Dave Connell (640-1433) at the high school.

Centennial Calendar

Costume ball tomorrow night

Michelle Morley, Miss Stouffville, will attend her first official centennial year function this Friday evening.

The Centennial Costume Ball takes place Friday evening, beginning at 9 p.m. at Cedar Beach Park, Musseiman's Lake.

Pioneer costumes are optional but prizes will be awarded for best couple, best man's costume, and best woman's outfit.

Tickets are available at Toronto Dominion Bank, Card's Hardware and Crest Hardware, at \$10 per couple.

Tickets will only be sold at the door if there are any left from the store sales.

There will be favours for the ladies and a light lunch will be served.

Claremont bowling club to get lights

CLAREMONT — Funds for lights at the lawn bowling green in Claremont were approved in a preliminary budget last week by the Town of Pickering.

According to Ward 3 Regional Councillor Jack Anderson, the town will be contributing \$5,600 towards the lights. The club itself has raised \$1,600 and expects to be given a matching \$1,600 from Wintario. The total cost is \$8,800.