

# POWR lawyer backed by town

STOUFFVILLE — Council has decided to back the POWR (Preserve Our Water Resources) group in their bid to send a representative to the Judicial Inquiry being conducted by Mr. Justice Hughes. The hearings are being held to investigate an alleged \$35,000 donation made by Disposal Services Ltd. to the Ontario Progressive Conservative Party in 1974 while the company was seeking approval for two landfill sites in Maple.

Disposal Services is the U.S. parent company of York Sanitation, which is operating a landfill site just south of Ballantrae on Highway 48. POWR contends that the site is environmentally unsuitable since it is located on the Oak Ridges Moraine and should never have been approved, but evidence as to the merits of the site has been deemed inad-

missible at the inquiry. So far the inquiry would only hear direct evidence of political influence.

Frances Sainsbury, president of POWR, feels that there is at least a chance that John Swaigen, the lawyer retained by the group, may be granted a hearing, and she requested that the town help out financially, since the POWR group has run out of money.

"We can't keep knocking on the same doors," explained Mrs. Sainsbury. In a voice choked with emotion she read out a long statement (see letter page 5) explaining POWR's position and ended with an impassioned plea for town backing.

"We need to know that the town is behind us," she said.

Legal fees could be as little as \$50 or as much as \$2,000, depending on whether Mr. Swaigen, a member of the

Canadian Environmental Law Association, is admitted to the hearings. If he is heard and later the case is lost, it is possible, although unlikely, that POWR may be assessed court costs which could total up to \$2,000.

Councillor Becky Wedley advocated backing POWR all the way and setting no upper limit on costs, but Councillor Eldred King disagreed. "You cannot just go out on a limb and sign an open cheque," he said.

Mr. King brought a motion that council advance \$200, but this was voted down, as was the suggestion that the town's own lawyer, Paul Mingay, be sent. The latter was deemed impractical as Mr. Mingay had no time to prepare and is not an expert on environmental law.

Councillor Jim Doble subsequently brought a motion that a maximum of \$1,000 be set, and this was approved when the mayor broke a tie vote in favour of the motion. Councillors Bill Kamps, Eldred King and June Button voted against it.

## Ride-a-thon this weekend

STOUFFVILLE — It is still not too late to enter the CARD (Community Association for Riding for the Disabled) Ride-a-thon to be held at Vivian Forest this Sunday.

The 20 mile event which has already attracted over 300 riders, is being held to raise funds for the organization.

Riders have to have a minimum of \$90 in pledges in order to be supplied with a horse by CARD, but there is no limit if you bring your own horse.

Anyone interested in participating in the Ride-a-thon or sponsoring a rider is asked to call Al or Norma Humprey at Al's Tack Shop.

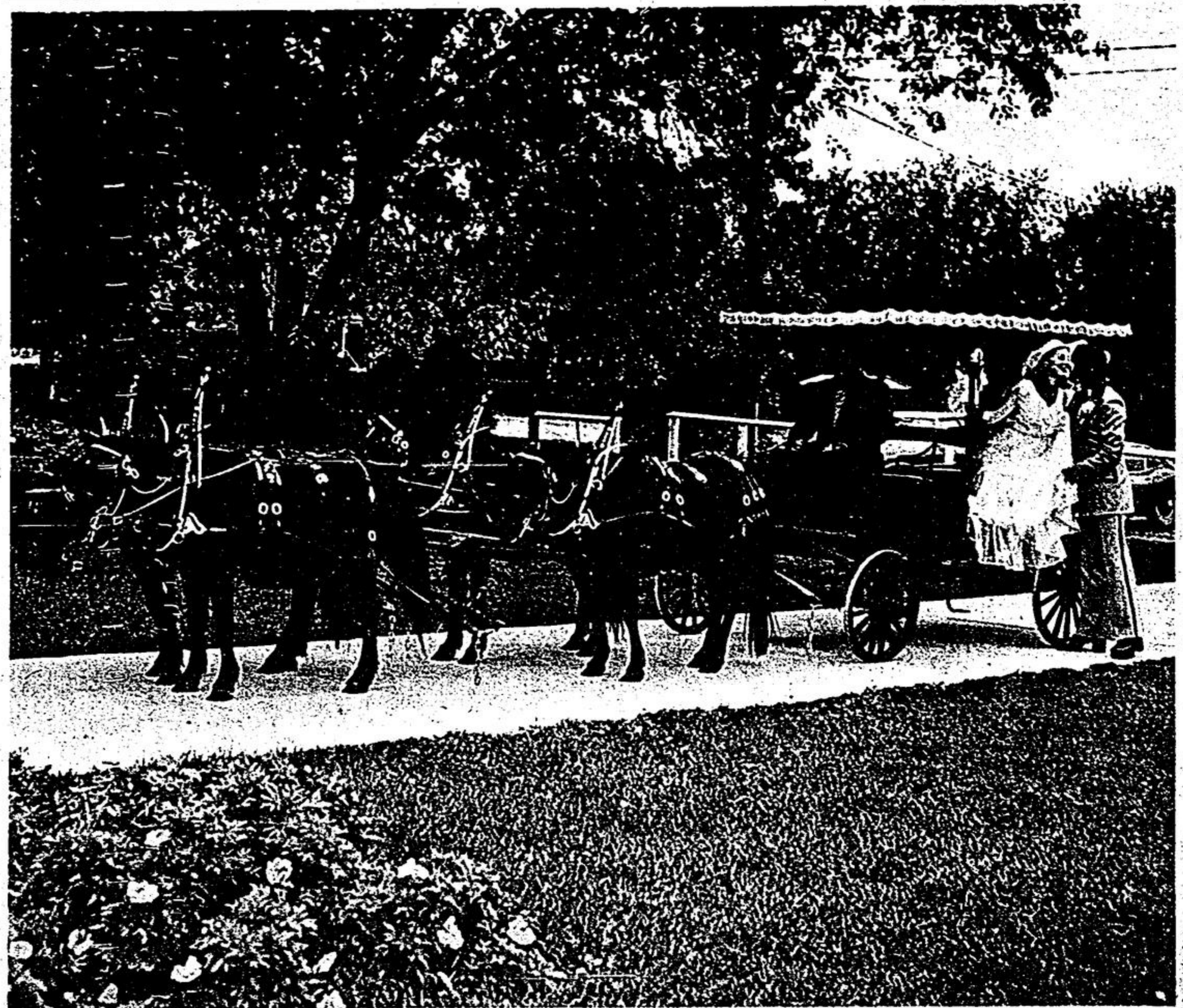
# The Tribune

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20 CENTS

20 PAGES



For as long as she can remember, Debbie Stackhouse has dreamed of having a coach-and-four at her wedding, and two weeks ago her wish came true as she and her brand new husband, Rocky Copithorn left the Stouffville United Church in a horse-drawn

carriage. Passers-by were delighted with the old-fashioned vehicle and quite a crowd gathered to watch the newly-weds set out for Latcham Hall, where the reception was held.

—John Montgomery.



Walter Hope, of Goodwood, cuts cedar shingles with an old circular saw at the Markham Heritage Festival held last Saturday (more pictures page 9). Such saws were often driven by horse operated treadmills and supplied the early settlers with their lumber needs. Between 2,500 and 3,000 attended the event.

—Uri Cogan

## Planning board rejects 3 zoning bylaw applications

In keeping with its new get-tough policy, planning board last week rejected three applications to amend the zoning bylaw and permit severances of small lots.

The request of Joe Aprea to sever three acres of land from a 10 acre parcel to build a house was rejected. Mr. Aprea wanted to build a restaurant on the remainder.

Also refused permission to divide her land was Margarete Todaro, who wanted to sell her present house on the ninth concession and build a house on the back of the lot.

Mrs. Todaro told council that the traffic going by the house caused her and her husband great distress and she requested permission to build a new residence 200 feet further back.

The board was sympathetic

to her plight, but felt that building another house in such a noisy area was a bad idea.

"Putting two wrongs together will not make a right" planning board chairman Eldred King pointed out.

Mayor Gord Ratcliff also spoke against the idea. "If we started to rezone the property of all the people who are victims of noise, we would have to rezone up and down every road," he said.

Howard Lee, who owns 50 acres south of Musselman's Lake, was refused a severance as well. He wanted to slice off one acre of land in order to build a second dwelling for hired help.

However, he was refused permission since the severance would not eliminate the possibility of a second dwelling on the remaining 49 acres.

CCNA

## Tribune wins blue ribbon

STOUFFVILLE — The Tribune has won the Blue Ribbon Award in the Canadian Community Newspaper Association's better newspapers competition.

The Blue Ribbon award was presented to The Tribune for scoring 80 per cent of the score awarded the first place newspaper in the 7,500 to 15,000 circulation category.

Winners of the award are permitted to wear the logo shown at left on the newspaper masthead for the next year.



## Planning board accused of bad faith

STOUFFVILLE — An attorney representing a major developer accused planning board of unfair dealings, bad faith and inequity in regard to his client when he appeared before them last week.

David Greenspan, acting on behalf of Alliance Developments Ltd., attempted to convince the board that his client deserved special consideration since he has been badly treated by the town.

Speaking in a soft, but accusing voice, Mr. Greenspan managed to convey the impression that planning board had much to be ashamed of.

At the heart of Mr. Greenspan's grievance was the fact that the 70 acres north of Elm Rd. owned by his client were not zoned residential in the new official plan, even though an amendment to the previous plan had classified the land as residential.

Mr. Greenspan said that the residential ruling had been approved by planning board in 1970, but that it had never been passed by the OMB because of the formation of regional government at that time. An application for a zoning change in 1975 was turned down.

"Amendment nine was good in 1970, it can't be that bad in

1975" argued Mr. Greenspan. He said his company had been informed that there would be no further residential development approved until the new official plan was ready, but this was denied by Councillor June Button. She informed him that planning board meant that there would be no further plans after Dulverton. "The lands were

already zoned previously," confirmed Planning Board Chairman Eldred King.

Mr. Greenspan called the decision made in favour of the Dulverton subdivision "a total violation of the integrity of the planning process." He said that the over 200 unit subdivision should not have been approved before the new official plan had

been made public since this precluded all meaningful public input.

He also said that Dulverton had pre-empted almost all new sewage capacity and so prevented any new developments.

Mr. Greenspan alleged that Dulverton lands, ap- (See Developer page 8)

## One found dead

## 30 dogs seized from barn

STOUFFVILLE — Following numerous complaints Ontario Humane Society officials raided a barn on the 10th line south last Friday and seized 30 dogs.

Over the past several months complaints were

received by the Humane Society, police, animal control and council about numerous dogs being kept in the barn.

Upon investigation one dead dog was discovered in the barn directly south of Stouffville cemetery. The body of the

animal has been sent to the University of Guelph for an autopsy.

Charges have been laid against Ethel Blaadow, 59, of Stouffville, under Section 402 of the Criminal Code. The charge is failure to provide suitable

food, shelter, water or care.

Humane Society staff entered the property around 11 a.m. Friday, accompanied by York Regional Police officers and quickly rounded up the approximately 20 dogs inside the barn.

The other 10 animals were running loose outside and it took considerable time to lure them back inside the building.

Inspector Dick Parry and his son Bruce stayed at the barn until 9 p.m. Friday and returned to capture two or three more dogs Saturday. According to Chief Inspector Don Hepworth a further check of the site was made Sunday but no more dogs had turned up.

"As far as we know we have got them all," Mr. Hepworth told The Tribune. "They got all the ones they saw."

"There was a great deal of litter and garbage around inside and outside the barn and there was a terrible smell."

Dogs were found on both the first and second floors of the building and many of them were tied. Many of the older dogs seemed to be accustomed to people and had obviously been trained but the younger dogs were quite wild and could not be approached by society officials.

The dogs were described by Mr. Hepworth as being in good health but undernourished and some appeared painfully thin.

The Humane society staff conducting the raid had no trouble with the majority of the animals but some panicked when they were handled and at least one dog went into shock when it was removed.

"There's no two ways about it, it's a dirty job and that's all," said Bruce Parry while rounding up the animals.

There have been frequent complaints about the dogs (See Find Page 2)



Don Loscombe leads this pitifully thin pup while Bruce Parry holds the animals tail. The two Ontario Humane Society employees, with several others, seized 30 dogs from a barn directly south of

Stouffville Cemetery. Ethel Blaadow, known locally as the dog lady, has been charged with neglect. One dead dog was discovered in the barn.

—John Montgomery.