

New arena-too costly more build-up required

STOUFFVILLE — Mention capital expenditures, debentures and spiralling mill rates and Mayor Eldred King sees red.

Mention the inclusion of such funds for a new arena and his vision goes even redder.

At a weekly press meeting, Friday, Tribune editor Jim Thomas conjured up enough nerve to ask him for a personal opinion on the need for a second artificial ice surface somewhere in town.

His reply was direct: "NO". Not for an arena or any other facility "while the current economic climate exists".

While admitting that

Whitchurch-Stouffville's debenture debt is comparatively low, he sees no reason to contract an expenditure that, in his words, "will represent a financial strain on the taxpayers".

Besides, he says, "there's nothing we really need".

The arena, he claims, is accommodating everyone just as well do-day as it did ten years ago, in fact, he points out, there are less kids playing hockey in minor leagues this season than there were in 1963.

To build a new rink in Whitchurch-Stouffville would place an extra \$100 on everyone's tax bill, the mayor

said. Such an increase, he described as "unreasonable".

With the coming of the 500-home Dulverton Development, the need becomes greater and the assessment base to meet that need becomes more practical, he explained. In addition, more lot fees could be directed towards such a project.

"Let's hang on awhile," he suggested.

As to how the Twp. of Uxbridge had been able to meet its financial commitment, Mayor King said he didn't have the answers. "I intend to check into it".

The mayor pointed to a recent debate at the regional

level where some advocated the construction of a new building in Newmarket for some of the same reasons. They saw a need. But he was opposed and argued against it, as did others, until eventually the proposal was scratched from the budget.

Hydro men injured

MARKHAM — Two Markham hydro employees were injured, one seriously, Monday, when a switch gear at the York Regional pumping station exploded.

Philip Hoover, 19th Avenue, RR-2, Markham, suffered a broken arm and concussion. Jim McFeeters, RR-6, Woodville, required treatment for lacerations and shock.

Philip was admitted to Sunnybrook Medical Centre.

Garbage department may be next step

STOUFFVILLE — Town Council will examine the possibility of operating its own garbage disposal system. However, for the next two years, the Spademan firm will do the job.

A Spademan bid of \$396,000 for two years, has been accepted by Whitchurch-Stouffville. Refuse will be dumped outside the municipality.

Councillor Jim Doble ex-

pressed dissatisfaction with the decision. He urged the Town to embark on a municipal garbage study immediately, feeling that considerable savings could be realized if municipal collections were started this month.

But councillor Bill Kamps was opposed. "We'd be asking for trouble if we jumped into this in six weeks," he said. His stand was supported by Mayor Eldred King and councillor Jim Sanders.

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TRAGIC ACCIDENT TOLL

Four persons killed two badly injured

STOUFFVILLE — The Stouffville area remains in shock this week, reeling from the effects of a 27-hour nightmare that saw four persons killed and two others seriously injured in two separated car accidents.

The first occurred Feb. 27 on the Stouffville Gormley Road, west of the 6th Concession. There, a westbound Oldsmobile, driven by Edward

Wideman of Richmond Hill, skidded out of control and rolled over several times.

The driver died almost instantly while his passenger, 29 year old Erle Reesor of R.R. 2, Markham, remains unconscious in Sunnybrook Hospital, Toronto.

Erle and Helen Reesor reside at his parents' home on 18th Avenue, east of Hwy. 48. They are expecting their first child in a couple of weeks.

While still in serious condition, signs of recovery are encouraging, a family member said. He's now breathing on his own and showing movement in his arms and legs. Prayers for a complete recovery were said in the Wideman Church, Sunday, and in many homes throughout the community.

The second crash, Feb. 28 on Hwy. 48 at Brown Hill, took three lives. Dead are the two drivers, 52 year old Merlyn Preston of R.R. 4, Stouffville and Allen Wallace, 61 of Baldwin. George Vaughan of Bloomington, a passenger in the Preston vehicle, also died. Mait Burrows of R.R. 3, Newmarket was seriously injured and remains a patient in Sunnybrook Hospital, Toronto. The three local men, all close friends, were returning home after calling at the home of Mr. Burrows' brother, Don Burrows near Cobocok. The Preston car, a 1975 Buick Skyhawk, was demolished.

Cause of the collision remains a mystery.



Two Whitchurch-Stouffville men died and a third was badly injured when this car, a 1965 Buick Skyhawk, collided with another on Hwy. 48 at Brown Hill, south of Sutton, Feb. 28. The lone occupant

of the other vehicle was also killed. The cause of the crash has not yet been determined.

— Jim Thomas

Late Merlyn Preston

Lifelong resident of Stouffville area

LEMONVILLE — There were chairs in the aisle of Lemonville United Church, Saturday, to accommodate the many friends, neighbors and relatives who, out of respect, attended the funeral service for the late Merlyn Preston, a lifelong Whitchurch-Stouffville resident.

Mr. Preston, 52, of R.R. 4, Stouffville, died in a tragic two-car accident, Feb. 28 near Brown Hill, south of Sutton.

Born in the area, the son of Charles and Laura Preston, Merlyn was employed as a sanitation and gravel contractor, later operating his own gravel truck.

He was an avid gun collector. His other hobby was gardening, enjoying this outdoor activity to the full.

He and his wife, the former Thelma Simpson, would have celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary, Sept. 24 of this year. Others in the family include one son, Anthony at home; two daughters, June (Mrs. Paul Rose) of Queensville, Laura (Mrs. Wayne Thibeault) of Keswick; two brothers, Harold, Toronto and Floyd of R.R. 1, Gormley; three sisters, Jean Morton, Toronto; Blanche Whittington, formerly of Beaverton and now in Alabama; Rita Wilson of Keswick and three grandchildren, Michael and Jeremy Rose; and Heidi Thibeault.

Rev. Marya Buckingham of Cobourg Anglican Church, a

sister of Paul Rose, conducted the service, Saturday, with interment, Pine Orchard Cemetery. Pall bearers were Charles Ireland, Wally McKennley, Bob Oliver, Stan Ellis, John McKinnon and Allan Scott.

Late George Vaughan

Bloomington man's family came first

BLOOMINGTON — The aftermath of a tragic two-car collision, Feb. 28 on Hwy. 48 at Brown Hill, saw hundreds of people call at the O'Neill Funeral home to pay tribute to the memory of George Vaughan, a lifelong resident of Bloomington and one of three persons killed in the crash.

Mr. Vaughan, 53, was well-known in the area, having served as a mechanic for the firm of Markham Sand and Gravel Company nearly 19 years.

He was a great outdoorsman who loved to get away on weekend camping trips during the summer. He also enjoyed antique shows, everything from automobiles to

threshing machines. He was a fine husband and father.

Besides his wife, the former Audrey Sweet, he is survived by two sons, Bill of Stouffville and Allan of Musselman's Lake; two daughters, Debbie and Dianne, both at home; four grandchildren, Cheryl, Linda, Gwenn and Lisa; two sisters, Marion Bartlett of Unionville and Helen Gray of Mt. Albert; and one half-brother, Eddie Bishop of Scarborough. He was proud of his two foster children, Dennis Jordan of Peterborough and David Godbehere in Scarborough.

Rev. C.W. Sorley of the Bloomington Christian Gospel Church, conducted the service, Sunday, with interment, Stouffville Cemetery.

Something to baa about

Joe Morra, a sheep farmer at R.R. 1, Unionville, isn't mixing fertility pills with his alfalfa, but a recent "population explosion" makes one wonder.

Within a few days, one ewe gave birth to four lambs; two others had triplets and eight had twins.

Jim Rae, R.R. 4, Stouffville, an authority on such things, likened quadruplet lambs to a cow giving birth to triplet calves. "Very rare," he said.

Wayside gravel pit

Town — no control

BLOOMINGTON — Roaring gravel trucks six days a week could cause Bloomington residents' sleepless nights if a new gravel pit on the north-west corner of Hwy. 48 and Bloomington Road is opened in May.

A senior vice-president and engineer with Dagmar Construction Limited, L.J. Stone, told Council his company has applied to the Ministry of

Natural Resources for permission to use a 25 acre parcel of land as a wayside pit.

The firm wants to use the aggregate in the reconstruction of Hwy. No. 7 east to the ninth concession, for which it has a government contract with the Ministry of Transportation and Communications.

Dagmar proposes to remove 6,000 twenty-ton truckloads between May and September,

after which the pit will be rehabilitated. Less than half the area will be utilized.

Town Council has no jurisdiction over wayside pits. Its only recourse is to object, which it is doing.

Councillor Jim Doble feared Dagmar might try to make the operation permanent. Adding her objections, councillor Becky Wedley voiced concern over dangers the trucks could pose at the busy intersection.

Mayor Eldred King noted Council has an obligation to protect residents of the area.

Supermarket premature

STOUFFVILLE — There's not sufficient business in town to support three supermarkets, claims Mayor Eldred King, but this could change when the 500-home Dulverton Development is completed.

Mayor King denies that he's being "protective" of the two stores already here, just practical.

"All would suffer," he said. A zoning change is required to accommodate development of a proposed plaza on Main Street West near Glengall Lane that, according to Mayor King, will undoubtedly result in an Ontario Municipal Board Hearing.

The mayor points out that less than four months ago, council rejected a supermarket application in Stouffville's east end. "Our population hasn't grown by more than ten people since then, so it makes no sense to take an opposite stand now he says.

School aid unlikely

STOUFFVILLE — While sympathetic to the aims of Christian day school advocates in Stouffville, Town trustee Harry Bowes sees little likelihood of support from the York County Board.

"I'm sure most members would be opposed," he said in discussing the matter with The Tribune. At present, no private schools come under the County Board's jurisdiction.

Mr. Bowes said David

Ianuzzo, an executive spokesman had met with the programs committee some time ago. "I was very impressed — there's obviously a need".

He suggested that whatever changes the Board might agree upon, he doubted they would satisfy those persons favoring a different system.

Alternative schools are not new, Harry Bowes pointed out. Few ever last more than two years, he said. The pay scale for teachers is considerably less than in the public program.

There's been a suggestion, the trustee said, that the Christian School might share facilities at the High School. Such an arrangement would be difficult, he explained, due to conflicting time-tables.

To be a success, he feels the Christian School should concentrate its efforts at the elementary level rather than the secondary.

But why? he was asked. "They think they can do a better job, and maybe they can. But academically, I wonder

Late Edward Wideman

great musical talent

Accompanied top stars

STOUFFVILLE — In a Tribune dated Dec. 15, 1966, there's a picture of four young men, Paul Benson, Peter Gibbins, Jonathon Lemon and Ed Wideman as they appeared in a High School Christmas Variety Concert. They sang "O Holy Night".

One member of that group, Ed Wideman of Dickinson's Hill, was destined to go on to international stardom in a career that was cut all too short by a

tragic accident on the Stouffville-Gormley Road, Feb. 27.

Edward Wideman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Wideman, grew up and went to school at Dickinson's Hill. Later, he attended Stouffville High.

Music, both vocal and instrumental was his "first love". He took lessons for a time with Peggie Clark of Markham, then branched off on his own to perform with several well-known quartettes including "The Churchmen" and later

"The Stamps", a back-up group for the late Elvis Presley.

His face became familiar to T.V. viewers in the show Grand Old Country, starring Ronnie Prophet. He also appeared with Ian Tyson, Tommy Ambrose and was a close friend of Anne Murray.

Following his tour with Elvis Presley, he returned to Canada and started up his own studio called Sound Unlimited. David Yake was a co-partner in the firm. Later, he opened a

studio called Spectrum Audio on Esna Park Drive, Markham.

Ed's prominence in the music world was mirrored in the faces of many famous people who attended the service, Friday, in the Richvale Bible Chapel. They came from all across Canada — Ronnie Prophet, Tommy Ambrose, Dave Roland, The Goode Bros., the list goes on and on.

Rev. Bruce Wideman of Strathroy, an uncle of the deceased, conducted the service, assisted by Rev. Mc-

Spadden of Richmond Hill. The pall bearers were Ronald Weir, Stephen Clarke, Douglas Bolton, Douglas Browne, Dwight Henderson and Tom Brillinger. Interment is in Dickinson's Hill Cemetery.

Besides his wife, the former Carol Weir and his parents, he is survived by two children, Stephanie, 4 and Jared, 2; three brothers, David and Kenneth of Listowel, Daniel at home and three sisters, Ann and Marie of Penatanguishine and Esther, also at home.