

Committee supports quail killing site

UXBRIDGE.— Planning Committee passed a recommendation to support a rezoning on lands two and a half miles south of Zephyr to permit the slaughter of quail.

At a special public meeting last Thursday, Dr. Ted Watts, Durham regional health inspector; Mr. Ralph Gregg, Ministry of the Environment; and Mr. Joe Ferren, Veterinary services, met with the com-

mittee to share their expertise on the on-going question of whether or not the property complies with regulations governing the operation of a slaughterhouse.

Paul Harris, representing owner Tom Ouwroulis, submitted a petition including 117 names favoring the rezoning. Mayor Gary Herrema, concerned with protecting neighbors in the area from

improper business practices, said he was prepared to make a resolution permitting the rezoning, providing Ouwroulis be made to comply with all acts pertaining to the operation.

Ferren said the director of veterinary services issues licences for the slaughtering of birds, and an inspector is on-site while it is taking place. He added that the business would

be classified as part of Metro Toronto.

Ward two councillor Mac Meyers queried Dr. Watts about the handling of waste products.

The health official explained the present sewage system hadn't been properly inspected, and no permit was given for its use. He said before any killing took place, Ouwroulis would have to satisfy the health unit that an approved

septic tank, capable of handling the minimal amount of blood, would be installed.

"The one there now is not satisfactory to handle quail waste," he said.

Gregg pointed out that the ministry of the environment grants a Certificate of Compliance when all guidelines in the Agricultural Code of Practice are met. A storage unit to contain liquid waste is advised, but not mandatory, and a suitable buffer zone would have to be constructed, he said.

Mayor Herrema told members Ouwroulis had already made plans to spread solid matter on a nearby far-

mer's field, "who will be pleased to receive the fertilizer".

Councillor Ron Hunter questioned Dr. Watts on the Public Health Act, which reads that a slaughterhouse must not be located "within 200 yards of a residence".

Dr. Watts replied that the zoning bylaw is in force everywhere, "unless or until amended by Council".

"This is becoming obsolete, however, because the Ministry isn't that strict about the distance," he explained.

All three officials said they could see no problems with the business being brought up to the

standards necessary to satisfy their departments.

Mayor Herrema moved that the rezoning be approved, subject to a certificate of compliance, adherence of the agricultural code of practices, and acceptance of waste disposal systems.

Chairman of the committee Maustyn McKnight and Councillor Ron Hunter voted in favor of the recommendation. Councillor Meyers opposed it, saying it should be taken to the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) for a decision.

"It would be solved much faster through that route. Now it will go to Council, and have to be dragged out even longer."

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Second Section



"A baby sister would be just fine, Santa"

What could a nine month old baby boy possibly want for Christmas? A cute, year old baby girl, maybe? Whatever it could be, Shawn Carruthers, Stouffville, passes his list along to Santa after the annual Lion's Christmas Concert, when goodies were

passed out to all the children. Shawn's parents are Rae and Linda Carruthers, members of the Claremont Lions and Lionettes for the past six years.

Uxbridge skater

Divisional championships

UXBRIDGE — If Larry Hopkins was the least bit nervous about competing in the Eastern Divisional Championships this weekend, he didn't show it.

During the past two months, the Port Perry youth has gone through his three-minute freestyle routine about 120 times. His philosophy is to practice his performance until it becomes effortless — or at least so it looks that way to the audience.

He enjoyed skating as a child, but it wasn't until he turned 11, and with a little encouragement from his older sister, Diane, that he began to take it seriously and enter

competitions. That means four to five hours of practice everyday — more if he isn't too tired.

And then there's weight training three times a week at Port Perry High. In summer, there's baseball and football to keep him in shape.

He's lived in Port Perry since he was two years old, but has found it more convenient to skate at neighboring arenas. He now juggles his practice time between Unionville, Markham, and Uxbridge. This year, Larry is the only member of the Uxbridge Figure Skating Club eligible for the competitions in Markham.

He's presently working on

his seventh figure, and when he receives his eighth, plus a gold in freestyle, he will be able to instruct.

"You have to know your body if you want to skate well. You have to understand what an outstretched arm, or the twist of a hand will add to your performance."

'Give back trash'

GOODWOOD — When confronted with what to do about a garbage bin at Goodwood Community Park, which was filled to capacity with refuse by Claremont residents, Uxbridge Mayor Gary Herrema said,

If Larry should ever lose interest in competitive skating, he says he will take up a career in computers. But for now, all his concentration will be on the Divisionals. After that, it's a week's well-deserved vacation — then maybe the Canadians, and in a few years, who knows, perhaps the Olympics.

"Dump it back on their lawns."

Uxbridge town clerk Walter Taylor told members at a Finance and Property meeting, Dec. 10, that Brian Plewes, Goodwood Community Park and Centre Board, had called the police in connection with the incident.

Larry Hopkins

Bending bylaws

Council 'unfair'

UXBRIDGE — Angry residents who are in opposition to a quail farm in Uxbridge say that council is "bending the bylaws to suit the owner of the property."

Neighbors to the Tom Ouwroulis farm, Jack Thompson and John Bennett said that the value of their homes has dropped as a direct result of the operation of the farm.

Thompson said he isn't "anti-farmer", but wants to see that the laws are upheld, and that "they're the same for everyone".

"We didn't know what was coming," added Bennett. "How far will this operation go? There

is already 20,000 birds in one barn, and what will be going into the other one? You can't keep him from expanding because he'll go broke, but how can the town control it?"

He pointed out that on May 10 Ouwroulis said he wouldn't be expanding when questioned by Ward 5 councillor Alan Wells. But on the following Monday, he made an application for a slaughterhouse.

David Sims, lawyer for the residents, said the operation is illegal because the zoning bylaw doesn't permit a specialized use. He added that Ouwroulis' property falls into this category because he doesn't grow any

crops or raise livestock. He said that although it is a rural-agricultural area, the way it is developed presently "isn't in keeping with that kind of setting".

"Only a small portion of the area could be labelled as such. The rest is covered with estate-residential homes."

He added that the people in the area want only to protect what they have, and that permission for the rezoning allowing a slaughterhouse "shouldn't be given under any circumstances".

The issue will be voted on at regular council meeting this evening at 6:30 p.m.

Sick of interference

UXBRIDGE — Referring to objections by residents to a proposed slaughterhouse on a quail farm, Regional councillor Maustyn McKnight said he's

"sick and tired of people trying to halt farming activity in a predominantly rural community".

"I know I'm not going to make any friends here today by

saying this, but that's the way I feel," he said.

"Tom Ouwroulis (owner of the farm) is only trying to be successful and get ahead like the rest of us."

He stressed that the municipality needed more small businesses because they provide "employment and revenue".

McKnight made the comment during a public meeting, Dec. 6, to discuss the granting of a rezoning to permit the slaughters.

Daytime pilot

Night crash

CLAREMONT — Funeral services for two young men who died when their light plane crashed Friday night, southwest of Claremont, were held Tuesday in Agincourt and Stouffville.

Daniel Mulholland, 18, of Agincourt, and Robert Marshall, R.R. 3, Mt. Albert, left the Toronto-Markham Airport at Dickson's Hill 8:30 p.m. Friday, and failed to return on schedule.

York Regional Police were summoned when the owner of the Cessna 150 reported it had left without authorization. When the \$13,000 craft did not return by 10 p.m., a search and rescue team from Trenton was called in. The wreckage was finally spotted about 3:45 p.m., Saturday, two and a half miles south of Claremont.

Police were unable to identify the victims and withheld releasing of names until later in the week.

Marshall was working at the Airport, although both men had been employed there at one time. Inspector David Fellows said Mulholland was licenced to fly during daylight hours only. Service was held Thursday for Robert John Marshall from

the Stouffville Pentecostal Church at 2 p.m., with interment, Sandford Cemetery. Surviving are his parents, John and Cathy Marshall, a sister, Virginia, and a brother, Paul. Services for Danny Mulholland were held at Ogden's Funeral Home, Agincourt at 1 p.m. Surviving are his parents, William and Beatrice Mulholland, and a sister, Nancy. Interment was made at Uxbridge Cemetery.

Important meeting

UXBRIDGE — Because of a community meeting in Goodwood tonight, Uxbridge Council will meet at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Gary Herrema said that business should be finished by 8 p.m., when the meeting to discuss the proposed Pleasure Valley Recreation Centre begins at the Goodwood Community Hall.

Council will vote on the application for rezoning to permit a slaughterhouse on the Ouwroulis quail farm.

No decision on liquor permit

UXBRIDGE — No decision has yet been made on whether or not Dagmar Ski Resort will be granted a licence to operate a year-round bar facility.

At a Liquor Control Board of Ontario (LCBO) hearing in Peterborough, Dec. 6, Uxbridge clerk Walter Taylor presented Council's objections to the application; the main ones being the town's inability to control expansion of the drinking lounge, and the possibility of rock concerts going on there.

Taylor told The Tribune he wasn't sure when the decision would be handed down, but said Council should receive notice through correspondence.

This is the second liquor permit Gabor Marton, owner of Dagmar, has asked for. Another application made Oct. 15 sought a licence for a dining area.



When the audience wasn't sure when to clap to the music at the Lion's concert in the Community Hall, these clowns made sure they found out. Bob Leger, left, and Tony Illingworth, right, members of the Lion's Club for about six years now, aren't

always the funny-faced fellows they were at this year's show — but Bob admits the two of them are constantly 'clowning around anyway'.

JoAnn Thompson

Enjoy concert

CLAREMONT — As in years past, everyone had a good time at the Lion's Club Christmas Concert, held in the community hall, Dec. 9.

Organized by Jim Kennedy and Ron Gauslin, and hosted by Earle Pilkey, the standing-room only crowd laughed, clapped, and stomped their feet to the music performed exclusively by local talent.

The music accompaniment was provided by the Rocking Chair Band, headed by Claremont's Brian Towner; the Claremont Rhythm Band; and the Woolhead Boys — Lee, Terry, Steve, and Ray. Rick Cormier, North American Junior Fiddle Champion, joined Rick Johnson and his group for several country numbers. Courtney Graham danced to

"No More Tears", and Karen Carson performed a tap dance to "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang".

The Lioness Club gave their rendition of "Walking in my Winter Underwear". Dressed in long-johns were Carole Redshaw, Betty Ann Meredith, Wendy Carruthers, Kathy Young, Sandy Hill, Shirley Pilkey, Debbie Uzzell, and Sue Johnson.

Drama club for town

CLAREMONT — There's a stage at the Community Hall, and an abundance of talent in town just going to waste. So, Ward McCance is going to do something about it.

He's starting a drama club, and although he doesn't act — the idea never appealed to him — he has plenty of expertise in the field.

A resident of Claremont a year now, he was previously a technical director of Summer Stock in St. Catharines. There, Ward worked with lighting and

set design, and may have even subconsciously picked up some tips on acting.

The age group for the club is 14 and older, and Ward says he doesn't need that many people to get the ball rolling.

"An entire production could be done with six people. It would be more work, but it's possible," he says.

Ward says the plays would be situation comedies or light dramas, something that would attract an audience, and be fun for the performers to do. The

simpler, the better, so he says there would probably be three acts using one set.

"At the onset we would have to keep things easy, and of course, inexpensive. The lighting would be rented, and depending on how much the Town of Pickering is willing to give us, we wouldn't even charge admission."

But a drama club is only a pipe dream if there isn't enough interest. There's a poster you can sign in the post office, and if you have any questions, call Ward McCance at 649-2066.



KAREN CARSON