

## Board seeks advice on Ringwood site

**STOFFVILLE** — Following a lengthy discussion with the owner of property on the south-east corner at Ringwood, Planning Board voted to send comments to the town planner for his consideration.

Melvin Schwartz, lawyer for the owner, Auguste Mantia, told Board members that the 4.7 acres would be designated in a holding category when the new Official Plan is adopted.

Conroy Dowson, a planning consultant, said the zoning is presently highway commercial under the former township of Markham O.P., but if the proposal is approved, "it would cause a large loss of land for a long time to come."

He termed the holding

category as "inappropriate, unfair, detrimental, and against the best interests of the Town."

The parcel includes 750' frontage on Hwy. 48, and 164' on Hwy. 47, with two houses in disrepair and another occupied.

Schwartz added that the land is "self-sufficient," and wouldn't have to depend on Town water or sewers. He said under the Stoffville Westerly Approach Study, the area is designated "prime industrial and commercial lands."

Dowson pointed out that the traffic count north and south on Hwy. 48 is 12,000 vehicles per day, with about 9,000 going into the village.

"What we would be aiming for is that 3,000 which wouldn't be doing business in town. That

way, we wouldn't be interfering with the downtown core."

Some of the potential developments for the site could be a service station, bank, motel/hotel, sports centre, antique store, or a restaurant, Dowson said.

Schwartz added that since the area was "the gateway to the Town, it is a natural place for development, and would be a catalyst for future economic growth in the municipality."

He urged the Board not to "freeze the lands in the present state under a holding specification."

Councillor Bill McNalley agreed that to receive an O.P. amendment would take two to eight years, and suggested the developers draw up a plan and

present it to Planning.

Jim Sanders, Ward 6 councillor said "something should definitely be done with that section at Ringwood."

"We want to improve it, but also control whatever goes in there," he said.

Mayor Eldred King concurred with Sanders, saying the "municipality needs the protection of control, and that the O.P. can always be amended easily if a suitable plan is submitted."

Schwartz ended by saying the Town and the owner could save time and money if it was dealt with before the O.P. were approved, with the municipality maintaining jurisdiction through site plan controls and development agreements.

## Seaton plan ridiculed

**PICKERING** — Strong opposition to the planned community of Seaton was apparent as members of the public attacked the Ontario Land Corporation (OLC) during a recent meeting at Pickering High School.

Bob McDonald, Chief Executive Officer of OLC, presented the plan for the community of 90,000 people, referring to the booklets published by the developers.

Reg Rose, Chairman of the Durham Planning Committee, asked municipal leaders to "hold their fire," and allow members of the general public to present their concerns to the group.

Robert McCauley, counsel for Whitevale Resident's Association, said the people he represents aren't trying to be "obstructionist," but the plan should be studied according to the impact it would have on people living in the area at present.

"It may be a viable and needed project, but then maybe only part of it is necessary now," he said.

Other concerns were the class of land the city would be developed on, which is contained in class one and two prime-agricultural zones.

Many speakers noted that

the Pickering area isn't attracting industry, and were worried that the calibre of industry wouldn't be the best.

Some voiced the concern that industry like the liquid

## Spur growth

**PICKERING** — Trustee Linda Carder told The Tribune that the proposed Seaton development will do "wonders for the area around Claremont, spurring industry, commerce, and employment."

"Claremont is only four miles from the site, and many people will likely commute from here to Seaton," she said.

During a public meeting at Pickering High School, Jan. 29, Mrs. Carder spoke on behalf of the Durham Board of Education.

"The Seaton developers have made three information presentations to the Board, and through the results of an impact study have found that the planned city would not substantially increase the mill rate.

She concluded that the Board will continue "to work with the Seaton planners," if and when the project goes ahead.

Many at the meeting noted that before schools are built in the new community, children will have to be bussed to Claremont and Valleyview, causing overcrowding.

Mrs. Carder responded by saying the schools could accommodate the extra enrolment, noting there are presently 100 spaces at Claremont.

"Give Seaton 20 to 30 years, and eventually the residents living there will move into rural areas such as Claremont, Brougham, and Greenwood, bringing slow growth to these communities," she added.

waste plant planned for Ajax would find the site appealing.

The problem of inadequate school facilities in the Pickering, Ajax, Oshawa area at present prompted many listeners to wonder whether building more schools was the answer.

Many citizens felt it was hard enough to get services for children now, and creating more schools would only complicate the problem. Until schools are built, if the plan goes ahead, children living in the new community would have to be bused to neighboring schools. Timing of construction of the facilities is up to the individual boards.

Isobel Thompson, a resident of Whitevale, called the plan "garbage," and "in the wrong place at the wrong time."

"The plan was forced on the public and most of us didn't agree with the original concept at all," she said.

An area developer summed up the views of the people in attendance by saying, "Century City didn't work, why should this?"

## Village is her home

By Jim Thomas

**CLAREMONT** — Annie Porter is as much a part of Claremont as the house in which she lives. The village is her birth place and so is her home.

Through the years, Mrs. Porter has contributed much to the welfare of the community. It was fitting then, that she should be honored, Sunday afternoon, at a gathering of close friends in the lower auditorium of the Claremont United Church. The occasion was her 80th birthday.

Looking lovely, her white hair glistening in the noon-day sun, Annie (Spofford) Porter sat back in the comfort of her favorite black leather chair and reminisced about the days that used to be; about the Claremont she used to know.

It was her great grandfather, the late Robert Law, who purchased four acres from one of the Wixon brothers back in the mid-1800's. He later sold the property to Mrs. Porter's mother, Lavinia Spofford "for one dollar and his love and affection". The house, still Mrs. Porter's home, was built by Nathan Forsyth and William Leaper around 1890.

Annie received her elementary education in Claremont and later continued on through the Continuation School. Two of her principals were the late M.E. Ward and the late Milton J. Wilker. "I just missed Dr. Tomlinson," she said with a look of regret.

Following graduation from Toronto Normal School, she accepted a teaching position at Claremont and remained there from 1925 to 1933. She also taught for a short time at Cherrywood.

Then cupid intervened. Annie Spofford and Harry Porter were married in 1933, prompting her to vacate the classroom (at least temporarily) in favor of becoming a full-time housewife.

During the war years, members of her chosen profession were scarce so, on the advice of an inspector, she returned to the same room from 1942 to 1957.

It was quite a challenge, she

says, thinking back. For it was during her retirement that the course of study was changed. She had to acquaint herself with it, then teach it, all in a very short time.

Some of her pupils were children of students she had assisted the first time around.

For 3½ years, she taught at Stouffville. The high school principal was Archie Stouffer and the public school principal, Paul Boadway. Pupils she

remembers were - John Button, Janet Button, Harold Lewis, Reg Stouffer, Jack, Bill and Ethel Sanders, Edith Swift and Charles Nolan.

Skating was always a favorite recreation, in fact, she says now, "the church and the rink were my life". An indoor arena was located just north of the Claremont Park in Stouffville, one of similar size was located on Mill Street.

Following a second retirement from teaching, Mrs. Porter accepted a position at the Claremont Library and remained there from 1958 through to 1971.

Prior to her husband's death in 1973, they travelled extensively including trips to Alaska, coast-to-coast across Canada and to Florida.

"I always enjoyed driving," she said. She's looking forward to regaining her licence following eye surgery in York-Finch Hospital and a period of convalescence in Parkview Home at Stouffville.

Until recent years, Annie never considered herself "a joiner". However, in her own words, "it was either do things or become a hermit". She attends services regularly at the Claremont United Church and is secretary of the U.C.W.

While she honestly admits, "I don't know a quarter of the people who live here now", it was Annie Porter who helped shape the lives of hundreds of students through two generations.

Happy Birthday!



Annie Porter, former public school teacher and Claremont village librarian, was honored, Sunday, on the occasion of her 80th birthday. — Jim Thomas.

## Train wrecked



A collision between a gravel truck and an 18-car C.P.R. freight train, last week, at a Brock Road level crossing in Pickering, killed

one man and resulted in thousands of dollars' property damage. Box cars were torn apart by the derailment that followed the initial impact.



A pile of scrap is all that remains of a tractor-trailer that slammed into the second locomotive. Thirty-five year old Frank Hanlon

of West Hill, driver of the truck, died instantly. A conductor on the train suffered back injuries. Jim Holt

## Parkview Public

## School damaged

**UNIONVILLE** — Two fire extinguishers, stolen from Crosby Arena, Unionville, Jan. 28, were used to cause an estimated \$700 damage to the interior of Parkview Public School.

Police said the units were taken about 11 p.m. A half-hour later, several windows were broken at the school and the extinguishers discharged inside a classroom.

Phoney doctor  
Several Markham area women have complained to police concerning calls from a man identifying himself as Dr.

Morsley of The Women's College Hospital, Toronto. Authorities are certain he's an imposter. The incidents are likened to similar contacts made last year. At that time, the so-called physician was found to be a 'phony,' although no arrest was reported.

Worker injured  
An accident at the C.I.P. plant on Heritage Road, Markham, injured a worker. Police said Robert Adams of Agincourt was feeding cardboard boxes into a pressing machine when he slipped. His one hand was caught up in the

mechanism, crushing his fingers and forearm.

Woman threatened  
A Unionville woman, living on Kriehoff Blvd., told police she had received eleven threatening phone calls, Jan. 29, all within one hour. At one point, the caller stated he was holding the lady's daughter. This was later proved false.

Trees damaged  
A total of thirty trees have been damaged in recent weeks at Unionville's Crosby Park. The loss has been estimated at \$1,800.

## Fifteen agencies benefit

## Funds increased

**PICKERING** — Fifteen organizations served by the Ajax-Pickering United Way, will each receive \$140,000, the result of the 1979 campaign.

This compares to \$118,550 allocated, an increase of eighteen per cent.

Benefiting agencies include — The Ajax-Pickering-Whitby Association for Retarded Children, Big Brothers Association, The C.N.I.B., The Red Cross, Community Care, Distress Centre, Handicapped Children's Swim Program,

Hostel Services, Multiple Sclerosis Society, Oshawa and Dist. Credit Counselling Service, Pickering-Ajax Family 'Y', St. John Ambulance, Social Planning Council, Victorian Order of Nurses, and Simcoe Hall Crippled Children's Centre.