



Fifteen-year-old Karen Ann Smith, Elm Road, is one of Stouffville's promising young ladies A-2 division of the Canadian Figure Skating Club's central Ontario competition. For more details, see page 3. Ed Schroeter

Nice place to visit but where to live?

By Ed Schroeter
STOUFFVILLE — Colleen Beer is fond of this community, and she'd like to remain very much. But there doesn't seem to be any place for her to stay.

Colleen's a bright, single working girl in her 20's, who finds herself in the same position as many of the town's young people — unable to find rental accommodation.

Colleen works in Markham. At present, she's staying in her parents' Rupert St. home. But they're moving and the house has been sold. Colleen has to leave the house by Sept.

Councillor Becky Wedley said in an interview there is definitely a serious shortage of rental units in Stouffville. When one of her daughters married recently, she came to recognize the magnitude of the problem.

Her daughter Joanne, and her spouse, lived in Richmond Hill for a year while they searched for an apartment in this area. Finally the couple acquired one "by luck" and much hard work, Wedley said.

"The situation in Stouffville is critical. I know a tremendous number of young people from the area who have had to move out because they can't find a place to stay.

"I get calls all the time, mostly from young people, wanting to know if I can help them find a place to live."

She's able to help one out of ten, perhaps, she said. After four months of searching with no success, Colleen Beer is disillusioned and desperate.

"It's really discouraging," Beer said. "It's quite a challenge to find a place." Beer's face is a familiar one at The Tribune office, appearing weekly to pick up a copy of the newspaper, hoping she'll spot something in the classified ads.

In fact, she said she's gone as far as visiting the office late Wednesday evening, when the Thursday edition is delivered from the printer, in order to pick up a copy and get a head start on other apartment hunters.

By six a.m. Thursday, however, advertised apartments are often already rented, she said.

Mignonne Bender, rental agent for the Testa Villa apartment building, said in an interview that at any given time she has a waiting list of 30 people.

She said there's such a demand that when people back out of a commitment to rent an apartment the day before they're to take possession, she

has no trouble renting it for the vacancy date.

Rich Viau, an employee of George Ross Photo, said the situation was bad two years ago when he came to Stouffville. It took him six months to find reasonable living quarters for him and his wife.

Beer said when she finally finds an unrented apartment, landlords discriminate against her by refusing to rent to a single female. They apparently fear she'll carouse late into the evening, a fear which is unjustified, she said.

It's almost impossible to find a vacant high-rise apartment, and basement apartment prices are steep, and the quality often poor. Rooms are in short supply too.

She said, "Quite a few places I've looked at aren't well kept up."

A one bedroom can cost as much as \$350 a month. In one case, \$200 a month bought two rooms in a house, and kitchen and bathroom privileges.

It's difficult for a young, single working person to afford these rents, Beer said, let alone find a place.

Councillor Wedley said

there's a by-law prohibiting the construction of apartments in single family homes, but the municipal council hasn't enforced the regulation because there's such a shortage.

"We've closed our eyes for years because we recognize the need."

Planning Board secretary Ken Aida said the restriction is necessary in case the situation gets out of hand. The construction of too many basement apartments will substantially increase the town's population, resulting in a strain on road, water, and sewage services, and the loss of tax revenue.

Recent applications to construct apartment buildings have been refused by Planning Board, Aida said, because the sewage treatment plant in Stouffville lacks the capacity to handle any additional load.

Mayor Eldred King said the town has negotiated an agreement with the builders of the proposed Dulverton subdivision, who will finance the expansion of water and sewage facilities, in exchange for approval of their plans.

There will be no expansion of these services until the

Dulverton extension, he said. The Dulverton expansion, however, will principally accommodate the homes of the Dulverton project, the mayor added.

Aida said there might be some reserve sewage capacity available to permit some construction, after Dulverton is completed, which politicians may or may not allocate for the construction of apartments.

Wedley said providing for the construction of apartments should be a "number one priority" of the next Planning Board.

But Mayor King said the shortage wasn't very serious, and that Stouffville has provided its "fair share" of rental units, enough to satisfy the needs of local residents.

There is provision in the Dulverton plan for multiple dwelling units, he said, although that could mean townhouses.

But Colleen Beer, and a host of others like her, don't need townhouses. They can't afford the cost. If they are to remain in the community, it's imperative that the municipality encourage the construction of more rental accommodation.

Three injured

STOUFFVILLE — A Whitchurch-Stouffville woman has been taken off the critical list and is now reported in "satisfactory condition" at Sunnybrook Hospital, where she was taken after being injured in an accident at Bayview Avenue and Highway 7, Friday morning, about 8:50 a.m.

with her husband, Rick, operates Jake's Jeans, 27 Main St. E., suffered a broken pelvis, broken nose, and multiple broken ribs in the three-vehicle pile-up.

According to OPP, Oak Ridges, Mrs. Ashton, 31, was proceeding west on No. 7 in the passing lane when she was in

collision with a truck, driven by Howard Newton, 27, of Bradford. Police said Newton was driving east on No. 7 in the left-hand lane, preparing to turn north onto Bayview.

After the initial impact, police said the Ashton car spun around and was in collision with a vehicle driven by Donald Clark, 56, of Bayview Ave., Richmond Hill.

Both men escaped injury, but Mrs. Ashton was taken to York Central Hospital in Richmond Hill for treatment, and then removed to Sunnybrook.

Police said she has been charged with failing to stop at a red light.

In another accident Friday afternoon at the intersection of Aurora Sideroad and Concession 7, two Whitchurch-Stouffville men were injured, and an estimated \$4,000 damage was done to their vehicles.

Police said the accident occurred when a north-bound car, driven by Terry Flewell, 16, of RR 2, was in collision with a westbound pick-up truck, driven by Garnet Rae, 50, of Church St.,

Both drivers were taken to York County Hospital and treated for minor injuries.

Police have charged Flewell with failing to stop at an intersection.

Hat trick

A Stouffville man was arrested after a search warrant was executed at his home last Wednesday and police recovered a police uniform hat.

Donald Thomas Lehman, 20, 352 Boyer St., attended the Rock Concert at the CNE grandstand which ended in chaos August 19 when star Alice Cooper failed to appear. The policeman's hat disappeared during the fracas staged by unhappy fans.

The Stouffville man was arrested and charged with theft under \$200 and possession of stolen property valued under \$200.

Wedley says will push fire report

STOUFFVILLE — Although economic factors will make it impossible to carry out certain recommendations of the Ontario Fire Marshal's report in 1980, for the Whitchurch-Stouffville area, Councillor Becky Wedley told The Tribune this week that she "knows the report will have to be followed."

The report, a survey of fire protection in the town, was commissioned by the latter at the start of the year, and one of its recommendations is that a two bay fire station be constructed in the Ballantrae area, complete with tank truck.

Mayor Eldred King has expressed reservations about the report's recommendations, arguing that the town would need a greater assessment basis to draw from in order to carry them out.

Council, however, agreed to call for tenders for a tank truck for Ballantrae, and Councillor Wedley says it is something that is desperately needed, and has been for some years.

"We're all outside the five-mile limit in Ballantrae and Musselman's Lake," she said, "so insurance rates are up 35 per cent. We have a great fire department in Stouffville, and if they can get to a fire within three minutes there's nothing to worry about. But it's hard to get to those places in three minutes."

Councillor Wedley said the

"battle" for fire protection in that area, had been going on for a long time. The ratepayers' association had worked steadily in that direction, and in 1972, a study from York Region had recommended a fire department.

She said that Stouffville council had always budgetted for a department, but continued to "put the matter" back each year. Council was collecting lot fees in the area "for some time and further development is coming."

At present, there were nine sub-divisions approved in the area, with four more in Vandorf. Most of the development was in rural areas, because of lack of sewage capacity in town, she said.

Councillor Wedley said the northern area of Ballantrae was covered by the Mount Albert Fire Department; however, "anyone with a fire on Faulkner Street (in that section) may as well kiss their house goodbye."

She said the Fire Marshal's recommendations would be proceeded with eventually. They were impossible from an economic point of view at present, but they could be phased over, she said.

But there had to be protection for that area.

Flashing lights, wailing sirens or no, "It's hard to even get through Stouffville on the weekends."

Best in baskets

STOUFFVILLE — If you happen to see a large number of green-thumbed residents strolling around town, don't be surprised.

Stouffville residents displayed their talents once again at the Stouffville Horticultural Society's annual flower show, Aug. 20 and 21.

About 300 people attended the event, held in the auditorium of the United Church.

The organization's president, Marion Housser, said the show, with 400 entries, was

one of their biggest events yet. "It's one of the largest exhibits in the area," she said.

It requires a lot of work to organize the show, and she praised the enthusiasm and co-operation of the club members and exhibitors.

Sue Burkholder, RR 4, Stouffville, won the Best Specimen, Best Basket, and Best Dahlia classes. Other special prize winners were Alice Vague, Best Decorative; Lillian Carr, Most Points Specimen; Marion Housser, Most Points Decorative; Ruth Rodanz, Most

Points New Exhibitor; and Heather Hoover, Most Points Junior.

The judges were Beth Frost, and Mr. and Mrs. Murray Hutchinson.

Door prize winners were Rita Laushway, Grace Lemon, Dorothy Doust, and Pat Montgomery.

Mrs. Housser said most of the exhibitors begin by growing a few specimens for pleasure, and then get hooked.

"It sort of 'grows' on you," she said.

Gary's hat in ring

By JIM IRVING
UXBRIDGE — Ready or not, here I come.

That isn't quite the cry of Gary Herrema, but it will might be, for the colorful mayor of Uxbridge has announced he will seek the chairmanship of York Regional Council when the work's all done this fall — election work, that is.

For, you can't have one without the other. Mayor Herrema must retain his seat as top man in Uxbridge before he can stand for chairman, the latter being chosen by fellow regional council members.

But, that seems a fait accompli; the least of Herrema's worries. As for the present chairman, Walter Beath, the mayor doesn't seem too concerned there, either.

"I'll run whether he runs or not," is the way he puts it. So far, there's been no announcement from Beath as to whether he'll seek a third term.

But, Herrema definitely intends to seek a first term. And the reason? Or the reasons?

"There's a feeling in the north that they don't belong in the region." And, while "most of

the infighting is jealousy," he thinks, perhaps, the residents would get a "better understanding" of things if he were in the chair.

"I think I can give some direction," he says.

He says, also, the forming of the region was a "shotgun wedding," with Oshawa, Whitby and Ajax being subsidized through the rural property owner paying increased taxes, without any increases in services.

"It's the unserved areas that have the most beefs," Herrema says. "We're making things more complicated all the time with all this planning. We're supposed to have one official plan, but you have to have a plan for the district, a plan for the neighborhood, a plan for the hamlets..."

"It's time we stopped planning and did some more work."

The larger community has made it difficult for the "little builder in the local communities," too, Herrema says. "They're not around anymore.... The big developer gets it all. Some of these lots used to be on

the local market for local people (builders)...."

Despite this, Mayor Herrema says the region has "worked fairly well." Uxbridge couldn't have done it alone in the matter of water and sewage services, "but people forget that most of the money — 55 per cent — went for education."

"If we had a separate bill for the schools, they mightn't be so hostile," he said, "and the board might be more accountable to the taxpayers."

Right now, Durham Region is planning a staff cut; would he carry it out if elected?

"There'd be a review," the mayor said. "There has to be some trimming. It's grown since 1973, but it's now on a down trend."

There'd also have to be some reviewing with the province in such areas as social services, the mayor said.

"Property owners can't continue to pick up all these things; there's a limit to what they can carry."

Has he enjoyed being mayor? — a redundant question to whomever's seen him in action.

"I certainly have," he replied. "I've met a lot of good people.... I've enjoyed it all."

He's learned a lot, too, he says, learned to "live and let live;" don't worry about things, "if you don't affect your neighbor too much."

The possibility seems remote, but what does he plan to do if he loses in his bid for the chairmanship?

"I'll be back to fight another day," he says, echoing the old refrain. "Everyone has to lose sometime.... When people speak, you should listen."

John Turner rites

Hundreds pay respects

STOUFFVILLE — It was standing room only at Stouffville's United Church on Friday afternoon when hundreds of friends, relatives and acquaintances came to pay their last respects and a fond farewell to the late 22-year-old John Turner of Stouffville, who was the victim of a gang attack at Hamilton Place, Ontario, the previous weekend.

The service was conducted by the Rev. A.J. Thomson of the Wesleyan United Church, Vandorf, who read the eulogies from the deceased's wife, Debbie, close friend Armon Schopf and many others.

He spoke of the young man's dedication to his family and his achievements in the field of sports.

Ironically, it was only three months before that Reverend Thomson had presided over his wedding, at the pretty little church in Lemonville.

Family members in attendance were: Mr. and Mrs. Mervin Turner, parents of the deceased, his wife Debbie, and sisters Jill, Leigh and Dana; his in-laws, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Leslie, and Mr. and Mrs. Budd Peer. Also in attendance were

his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Campkin of Phelpsston, Ontario, and Mrs. Nan Leslie.

Pall bearers were Armon Schopf, his very close friend, Brian Hamm, Matt Leslie, Jim Jensen, Jeff Burton and Tom Cartwright.

A measure of the tribute afforded this young man was reflected in the hundreds of floral tributes received and the mile long cortege stretching from the place of interment, Stouffville cemetery, back to the doors of the church.



Friends of the late John Turner carry him from Wesleyan United Church, Vandorf, after his funeral last week. Pall bearers are: Armon Schopf, Brian Hamm, Matt Leslie, Jim Jensen, Jeff Burton and Tom Cartwright. Jim Holt