



**Council
Comments**
By
Jim Sanders

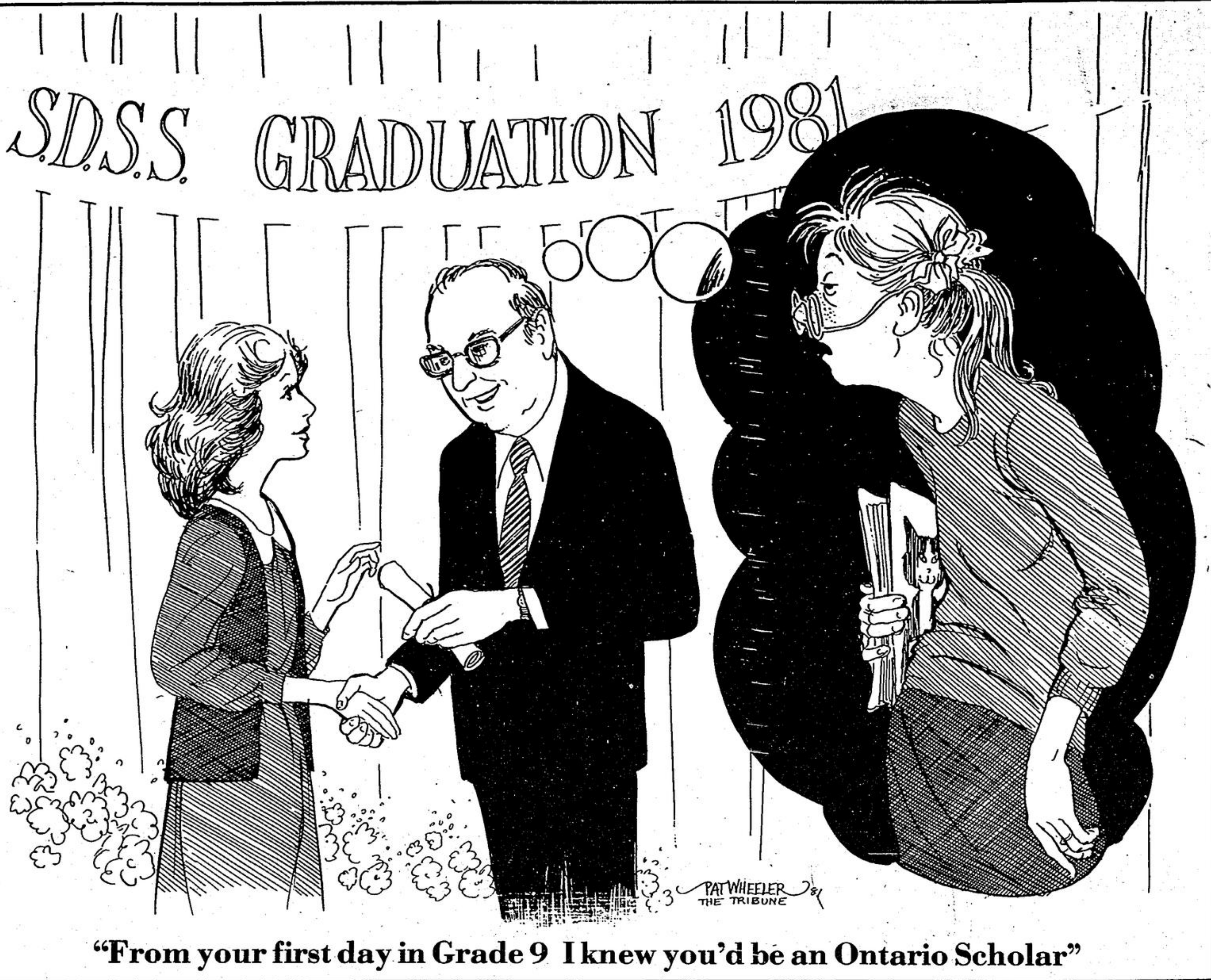
Controlled growth

China's population is already over the one billion mark and India is predicted to be over one billion by the end of the century. These figures make our population debate seem almost irrelevant. The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville is aiming at a population of approximately 20,000 by the year 2000, with approximately 8,000 for the village of Stouffville. We are presently at 13,400 for the entire Town and 5,400 for Stouffville.

With the continued development of small estate residential subdivisions, each of which add approximately 15 to 100 people, we will easily reach our quota in the rural area. This will be especially true if increased build-up in the hamlets continues such as the proposal for a subdivision of 62 homes at Bloomington. The Council has been giving favorable support to this kind of development.

Within the village of Stouffville, three types of development are prominent. Dulverton will add an additional 1800 people. Second, there are a few areas that could be considered for infilling when we obtain sewage capacity. Third, a recent and most interesting concept is the one proposed by Revenue Properties to build 60 homes in the land south of the Sales Barn. These residences will be on half-acre lots with septic tanks and town water. This kind of development is called "suburban residential" and could proceed on several parcels of land adjacent to Stouffville.

Whatever the future holds, we must be concerned that additional costs are not borne by present ratepayers. Further, new development must contribute to improve the recreational and other facilities needed by a larger population.



"From your first day in Grade 9 I knew you'd be an Ontario Scholar"



The Tribune

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Editorials

Had just cause to be proud

If teachers (and some parents) looked, then looked again, Friday night, they had good reason. For it was Stouffville Dist. Secondary School's Commencement Exercises and from out of a four and five year camouflage of jeans, sweat shirts and sneakers stepped forth the mature young adults (sons and daughters), they always felt sure existed. Indeed, the evening was as rewarding for those in the audience as for graduating students themselves — confidence restored, expectations realized.

The Commencement program here was excellent, from beautiful music provided by the senior band and choir to a stirring address delivered by the valedictorian — all presented

in a manner non of the participants will ever forget.

While partisan, of course, to S.D.S.S., we're prompted to point out that Stouffville High is not an exception to the rule. A similar standard of conformity was apparent at Uxbridge, Pickering and Markham all of which, we feel, augers well for the future.

Today's generation has its critics; so did yesterday's and so will tomorrow's. However, it's the end result that counts and what we heard and observed, Friday, speaks well for what lies ahead.

Yes, the "Class of '81" did itself proud — products of a good school and a fine community.

Praise Hydro for response

Ten months ago, Stouffville's east end hydro transformer literally blew up, causing damage estimated at close to \$53,000. On top of this, an instantaneous surge of power created appliance problems in about twenty homes.

The initial report called it "an act of God", something we didn't buy; and neither did the local Hydro Commission.

Through the energetic work of the board, headed by chairman Ken Laushway, it was proved beyond doubt that a lightning bolt 3½ months previous, had weakened the system to such an extent, a blow-out was sure to occur. On Jan. 17, 1981, it did, throwing sections of the town into temporary darkness.

Supported by expert opinion, the Commission's liability insurance covered every cent of the cost. In addition Ontario Hydro, has settled the majority of private claims in a gesture of goodwill.

The Hydro Commission here does its job with little fanfare. The availability of power is, in fact, a service that's taken for granted. Not until something of a serious nature occurs do residents realize such a Commission exists; and then, the comments are mostly negative.

In response to this emergency, we feel both the local Commission and Ontario Hydro acted wisely and well. We feel the service is in good hands at both levels and we commend each for its response.

Roaming Around



Man is nature's worst enemy

By Jim Thomas

It's oft been said that traits we possess as men and women, we acquired as boys and girls.

I believe this, not entirely of course, for there are exceptions to every rule. However, for the most part, we are what we were.

Some of us can base these beliefs and feelings on particular incidents that occurred "once upon a time". Regardless of how trivial, they've been known to turn lives right side up or upside down, depending on circumstances.

I can recall several and each in its own way tended to shape the way I think on a certain subject — that of destroying anything related to nature.

My wife, for example, attempts to conceal her frustrations as I stand with the front door open so a trapped moth can fly free. The kids to hide their smiles as I gather up stranded deworms from the driveway so they won't become part of the pavement. I hate to see anything needlessly die and I'm openly irritated at the actions of 'humans' who delight (even in the name of sport) at snuffing out life.

They're no heroes in my book; more to be pitied than praised.

As stated, such personal feelings are a throw-back to my pre-teen years, five lessons I've never forgotten.

The first was the day one of our neighbors shot a fox. Boy, that was something. A bunch of us walked a long way (from school) to see it. But the thrill soon diminished when the "ferocious beast" we had expected, turned out to be so beautiful and so small.

Lesson No. 2 occurred at a birthday party. When the festivities were over, a bunch of the boys said they knew of several crows' nests in a nearby field so we all tagged along. I remember standing there speechless as the kids climbed the trees, raided the nests and killed every bird.

The third was a 'sick' school project that paid five cents for starlings' eggs' ten cents for starlings' legs and twenty-five cents for groundhog noses. As young as I was, I couldn't believe our teacher would condone such a thing. To show my displeasure, I printed simple warnings on small pieces of paper and attached them to dozens of trees.

Lesson No. 4 was a study period on spiders. The idea was to catch the largest spiders we could find and study them; nothing wrong with that. Trouble was, each was pierced with a pin and stuck on a display board where it writhed in pain until dead.

And fifth was the day, also at school, when one of the kids spotted a garter snake. The girls, of course, threw up their hands in horror and smaller boys stayed well away. Seeing

my opportunity to become an instant hero and save all these damsels in distress, I set upon the poor snake and beat it to death with a stick. Naturally, I was lauded as the St. George of S.S. No. 19. However, that afternoon, our teacher, using the opportunity for nature study, conducted a lesson on this type of reptile. From it, we learned how beneficial it is to man and how little it is to be feared. I remember feeling so ashamed, I hid behind the furnace.

These little episodes in life I haven't forgotten, nor will I ever. And, as much as possible, I'm trying to impress my "live and let-live" practices on my family.

Then, to their disgust and mine, we read last week the story of the killing of a bull moose by Durham's Regional Police in Pickering — the same moose that created such a furor at Musselman's Lake back in September. The poor beast, although far removed from its natural environment, posed no threat to anyone. It wished only to be left alone.

But while we invade their territory, they dare not trespass into ours. The penalty — death!

Will man's inhumanity to nature never cease?

Only if we as mature adults set an example — a task that may take several generations to attain.

Service Corner



Transportation is a service

By Mahlon Shantz

The conversation had run down and there seemed little more to be said. They sat silently in their chairs, each with their own thoughts for some time, then Mildred got up and started preparation for the evening meal. Mervin continued his frustrating search for answers to a new set of problems they faced since that morning.

Mervin had a birthday coming in the near future, his eighty-second and he had gone to Aurora for the required fitness test and driving examination. This time his vision was not good enough to safely drive a car in traffic. This made radical changes in their life-style. Since a nephew was looking for a car, they had a ready market for it and arrangements could be made for certain regular errands but they had been quite actively involved in good and useful ways and since they lived on the outer edge of town, the car would be sadly missing.

In recent months, this column has looked at a variety of experiences that are a part of

life "After Sixty". We noticed the inclination to relax and "Let others do it" as a part of the change of pace when younger people take over our responsibilities and jobs in much of our involvement in society. We saw a challenge to remain mentally and socially sensitive to the needs of others, especially those in our own age group. This "Social Fitness" as we called it, benefits everyone, both the giver and the one who is helped. We never know how soon we might become one of

those needing help.

Home Support Services needs volunteers in several areas of helping. This time we are calling for drivers with cars who might want to help the "Mervins and Mildreds" who are trying to cope with a sudden change in circumstances. There are many retired seniors still driving cars. Have we an offer of this kind of help once or twice a week? Call the office at 640-6554 from 9-12 noon, Monday to Friday for more information.

People are confused

Dear Editor:

While I fully appreciate what the Concerned Citizens' Committee of Whitchurch-Stouffville is attempting to do, I would suggest a 'cooling off period', at least until the Assessment Board

decision is made known. As things stand now, the who's right and who's wrong stalemate is only confusing people.

Sincerely,
Bradley Cooke,
R.R. 2, Stouffville.