

Serious sickness is cause for alarm

By Greg Coates
STOUFFVILLE. — An alarming number of health problems, ranging from cancer related illnesses to pancreas and thyroid irregularities have been reported by residents living in close proximity to the landfill site.

This information was revealed at a press conference, Tuesday, held at the home of Fran Sainsbury, a member of the Concerned Citizens of Stouffville group.

A recent report, compiled by the Children's Services Committee of York Region, also shows that the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville has the highest incident of stillbirths in York Region, accounting for 36.1 per cent.

An informal health survey, taken by local residents last spring, reinforces the fact that there are a higher than normal number of serious illnesses in the area, many relating to

the digestive system, which would indicate they are chemically induced.

There have been 85 cases reported in all. The ongoing survey, which was taken north of Stouffville, in the area surrounding the dump, also reveals that health problems are related to the water flow.

"The dump appears to be on a crown, where the water flows to the north, south, east and west," said Elaine

Fritz, a member of the Concerned Citizens Group. "It's probably the worst place such a dump could be situated."

With the end of January fast approaching, (the date when the Ministry of Environment must decide whether or not to extend the 'temporary' license at the landfill site), the Concerned Citizens have again asked the Government of Ontario to declare an immediate stop to the dumping at the Whitchurch-Stouffville site, and that no more 'temporary' license

extensions be granted until all test results are complete.

"By giving the site a temporary extension, they (the Ministry) give the benefit of the doubt to the dump, instead of the people," said Fran Sutton, another member of the Concerned Citizens. "We insist that they make good on their statements concerning the health of the people, and when the end of January comes, no more extensions be given. The health of the people must be the primary concern."

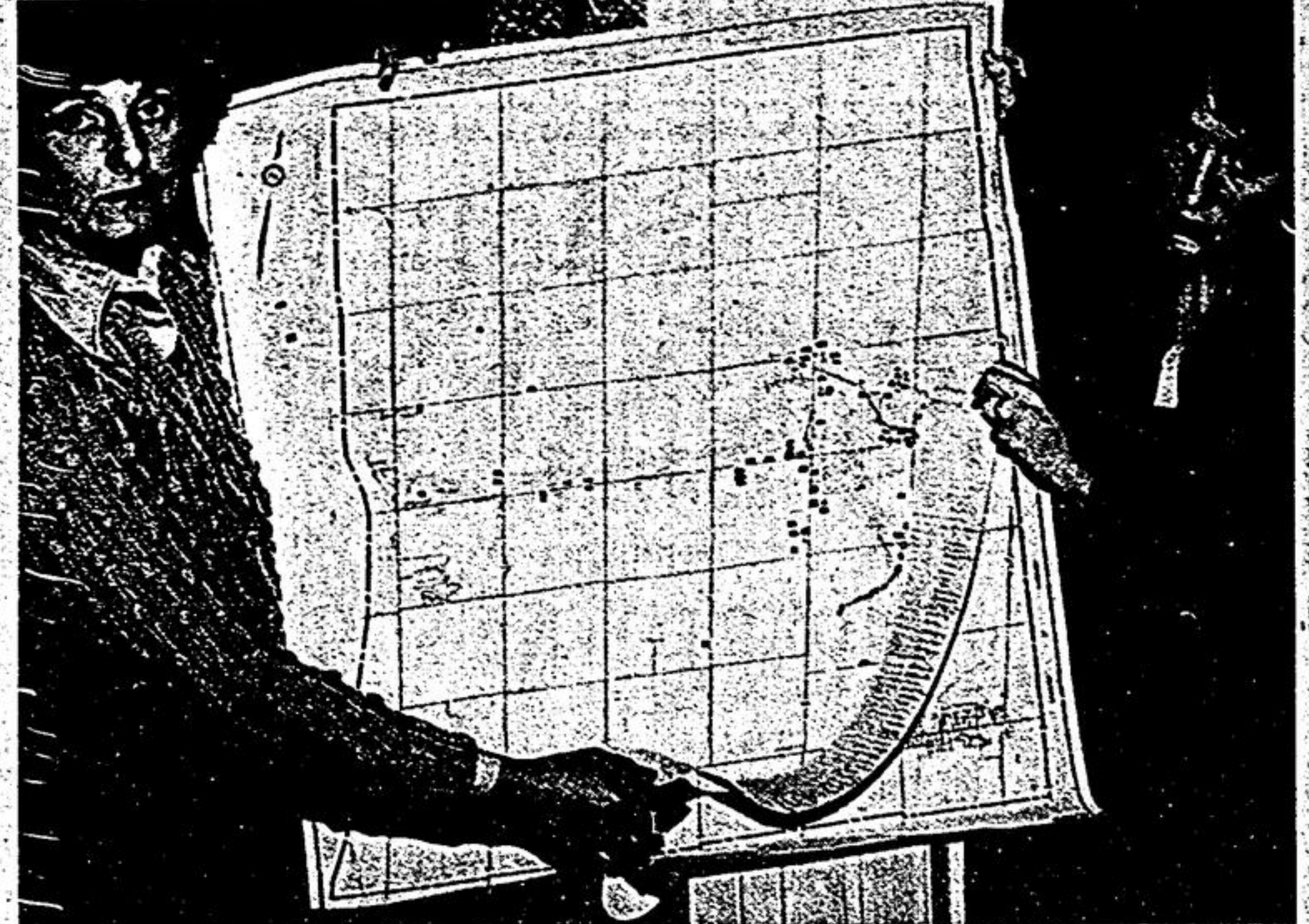
Another concern of the citizen's group is the

Ministry's refusal to do an Ames Test on the well at the Zwiier residence, where previous tests have found the highest levels of contamination in the area.

"Since the Ministry will not include the Zwiier well in their Ames testing, the only conclusion that we have is to do the test ourselves," said Mrs. Sutton, "to see if whatever is in their water can be causing problems to the health of the family."

She added that the Concerned Citizens of Stouffville are also currently running a telephone campaign to find out how people feel and to ask them to express their concerns in the form of a letter, telephone call (or both) to Queen's Park.

"We want to let the Ministry know just how many people really are concerned about what happens at the end of January," she said.



Giitta Gamm (left) and Fran Sutton, both members of the Concerned Citizens of Stouffville group, display a map showing areas around the landfill site where a

number of serious illnesses have occurred. Along with the map is a list of 85 names of people who have suffered health problems. —Greg Coates

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Presentation

By ROSEMARY TIMMS
CLAREMONT — Congratulations to Ellis Britton on receiving his 25-year pin as a director and committee member of Markham Fair Board. The presentation was made at their annual meeting, Jan. 13, at Markham Centennial Centre.

Lillian Gauslin was installed as president of Claremont United Church Women, at their

annual meeting, Jan. 11, at the home of Bernice Ward. Other officers are: Marge Cook, vice-president; Marina Rodgers, secretary; Dorothy Cook, treasurer; Mary Hill, Margaret Gall and Edith Stickwood, quilt committee; Rosemary Timms, publicity; Thelma Hockley, cards and boxes; Bernice Ward, Helen Anderson and Dorothy Britton, social committee;

Karen Marks and Nancy McCance, nominating committee. Mearan Ward Mearan Ward was named president of the Evening Unit, with Rhoda Almack, vice-president, Isabel Evans, secretary, and Dorothy Cook, treasurer. Afternoon Unit officers are: Edith Stickwood, president; Marge Cook, secretary; and Maude Anderson, treasurer. Rev. Edward Cook conducted the installations.

Appointment

By Mildred McTaggart
GREENWOD — Peggy Malcolm, in charge of the Old Greenwood Schoolhouse Library, has been appointed to the permanent staff in the Town of Pickering. Others on the Greenwood branch staff are Anne Dean and Mildred McTaggart.

The Parents Advisory Committee of Valleyview School is sponsoring a euchre and bridge party, Jan. 22 at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Centre.

Sympathy of the community is extended

to Mary McLean and family in the passing of her brother, Harry Bartlett of Bowmanville. Funeral service was held Jan. 18.

Sympathy also goes out to Mrs. Ralph Jones and family in the loss of Mrs. Jones' sister, Mrs. Myrna Morrish. The funeral service was conducted Jan. 17.

Mrs. Gerald Henning has been released from the J.O. Ruddy Hospital, Whitby.

Nancy Hoar and Brenda Swedo attended the 4-H Homemakers Leadership Course on breadmaking at Goodwood.

Claremont Clubhouse is open to everyone in the village, so, when you feel like a game of cards, or some other game, drop in; you'll be welcome. There is a charge of 25 cents for refreshments. Recent euchre winners were: Dorothy Cook, Aldine Evans, Renee Ankor, Margaret Gall, Everett Hammond, Stan Tweddie, Margaret Baker, Grace McLean, Reta Parratt, Margaret Benson, Iva Yake, Lloyd Wilson, Evans Benson and Lloyd Bryant. Winners of the lucky draw: Curly Cook, Irene Redshaw, Doris Wilson, Elsie Taylor, Evelyn Bryant and Gladys Burgin.

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