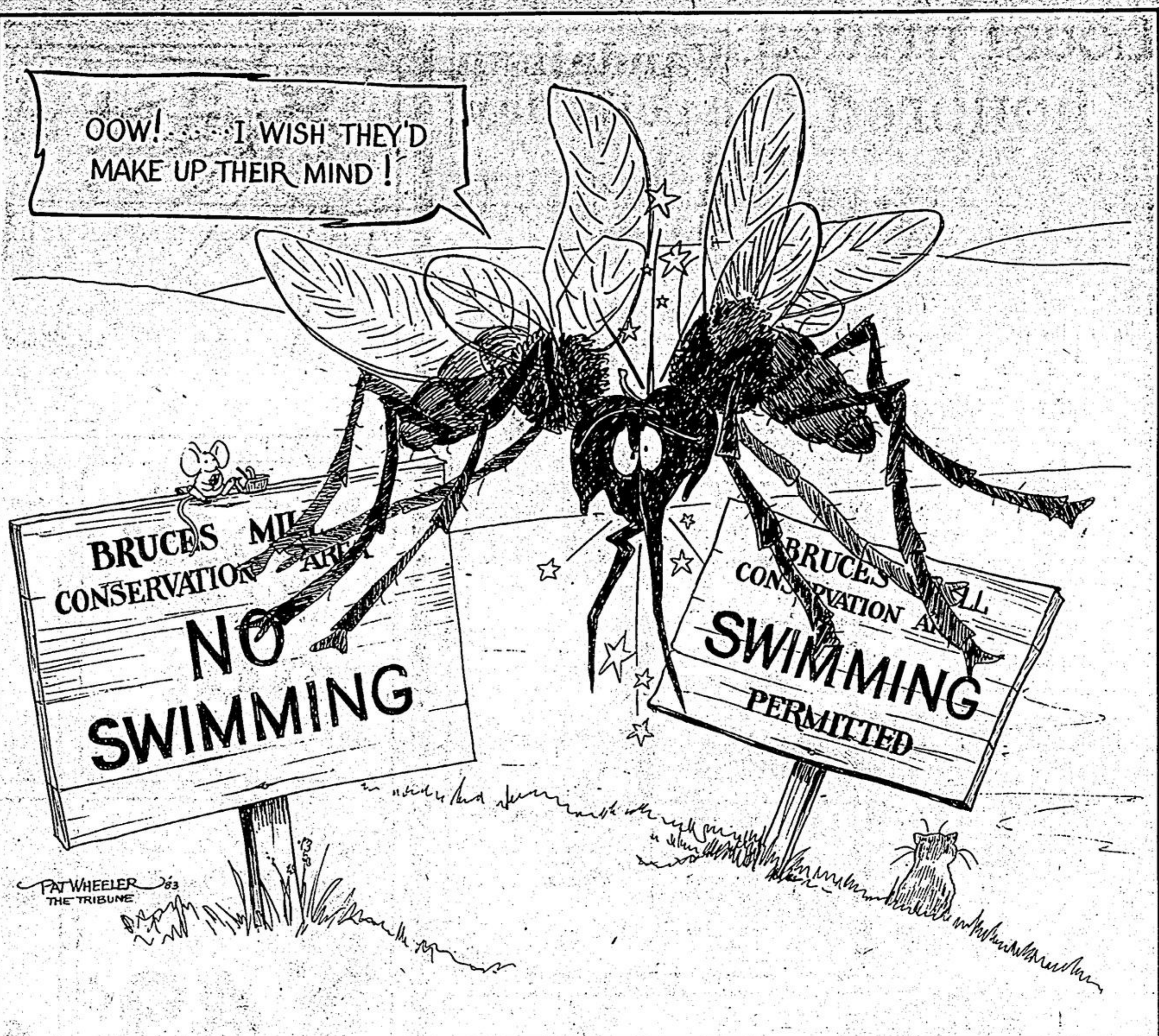


Editor's Mail Silence!

Dear Editor:
My opinion may create controversy, but it's an issue about which I feel very strongly.
It relates to the subject of abortion.
I'm one of those fence-sitters about whom Mrs Passafiume wrote in your July 27 issue. I prefer NOT to take a stand because I will NEVER be involved in the trauma of an unwanted pregnancy.
For women to speak out on this matter is fine. They are directly involved. But for men to "spout off" and even sit in judgment is abhorrent.
Every time I see photos of men involved in such campaigns, (pro or con), I burn. How dare they address themselves to an issue they know nothing about.
It's the woman who must bear the child or the burden of an abortion. The man experiences neither.
Sincerely,
Joseph Callaghan,
R.R. 2, Gormley.

Thank you

Dear Editor:
On behalf of South Lake Simcoe District Boy Scouts of Canada, I wish to thank you for the coverage your newspaper provided us and our visiting British Scouts.
We appreciate the time and effort you put into your article. At the same time, we were very disappointed in our own newspaper, The Newmarket Era, who sent out staff people to conduct interviews and take pictures, but couldn't find the space to put anything in. They explained that they were only "little Boy Scouts" and were obviously unaware of the importance of the event, one that has only occurred once in thirty years and won't soon happen again.
The South Lake Simcoe District wishes to say again how happy we were that your newspaper provided such excellent coverage and you, yourself, realized the importance of the event.
Yours in Scouting,
Dianna Beaucamp,
Secretary, British Scout Committee,
Newmarket, Ont.



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640-2100

SMILE AWHILE An individual's right BY AUDREY GREEN

Every day when I open a newspaper or magazine, the word ABORTION stares me in the face. This long-standing dilemma has been magnified by recent publicity related to Dr. Henry Morgentaler and his fight for freedom of choice.
I don't wish to preach, but I've bitten my lip long enough. I want to present my views then close the book up tight.
I can't comprehend how anyone, and I mean anyone, can claim abortion to be right or wrong. This aspect of the question is one that only the individual facing the problem can decide. Also, the onus of responsibility falls on the woman alone and no one else. Men obviously have a role in conception, but from that point it's the woman's responsibility. Men do not have to encounter nine months of pregnancy and the trials and tribulations that accompany it. Bearing a child doesn't mean that, after nine months, the experience ends. Having a baby is a life-long commitment.
I really wonder if people actually consider the pros and cons seriously before passing judgment. I doubt it.
The argument that abortion takes a human life is hog-wash. Whether or not the fetus is human or just an organism of blood and tissue, makes no difference. The difference relates to the the woman carrying the fetus.
Why should anyone be forced to carry out a full-term pregnancy if the child is to be neglected, unwanted, and often given over to society to look after?
Why are newborn babies found in garbage bags? Their mothers obviously didn't want them. Ending a life before it starts seems much more humane to me than inflicting mental and physical cruelty until it kills.
I have worked in a hospital and have seen many women, both young and old, go through the trauma of abortions. Yes, these women suffer! They carry mental scars the rest of their lives. As the saying goes — the cure is often worse than the illness.
True, in many instances, the pregnancy is a mistake. But everyone makes mistakes. No one is perfect!
What happens to women who are pregnant because their parents failed to provide sufficient sex education? What happens to women who become pregnant through incest or rape? And what happens to women brutally forced to have sexual relations with their husbands, never given an opportunity to practice birth control?
I don't think abortions should be performed time and time again merely as a form of birth control. Society should begin stressing improved methods of education in the area of birth prevention.
I don't support or condemn abortions. I believe each situation has individual circumstances which should be looked at in an unbiased light.
If a woman is determined to have an abortion she will, legal or not. Isn't a sterile clinic better than a back-room butcher?
I haven't personally faced the abortion decision, but I know those who have. It's not an easy decision. Individual choice is the bottom line and since we live in a democratic society we should all have that right.
This is my opinion. However, those directly affected are the ones who must make the final decision.

Editorials The ultimate insult

It was the ultimate insult—the Stouffville Pool closed to swimming Friday due to a break-in Thursday night.
If gaining entry to the property wasn't serious enough, the vandals smashed a dozen beer bottles within the swim area, forcing staff personnel to collect the splinters, piece by piece. The situation was made all the more difficult due to a breakdown in the pool's vacuum pump. The clean-up couldn't be completed until the unit was repaired.
Stouffville's main park has been the location of disturbing "gang scenes" in previous summers, but never anything equalling this. It's time someone in authority lowered the boom on these hoodlums and let them know in no uncertain terms that we as citizens have had our fill.
This responsibility, of course, falls on the shoulders of our police. Instead of placing a cruiser in the entrance way to the Town Library or parking one by the clock tower on Civic Street, the "spot

checks" should be concentrated in the area where problems are known to exist—the Town Park.
Nor is an occasional drive-through the answer. An officer should be stationed there unless required elsewhere in an emergency.
Last week's vandalism didn't occur in a matter of minutes. The break-in at the pool and the attempted break-in at the staff quarters, would have taken at least half an hour. Where were the police all this time? Obviously not where they were needed.
This is not the first summer for such mindless activity. The Park has long been the target of vandals. However, on most occasions, the pool has escaped. Not this time.
We strongly suggest that Town Council show its concern in the form of a strongly worded letter to Police Chief Crawford, indicating its desire for stepped-up surveillance of Stouffville's No. 1 problem area.

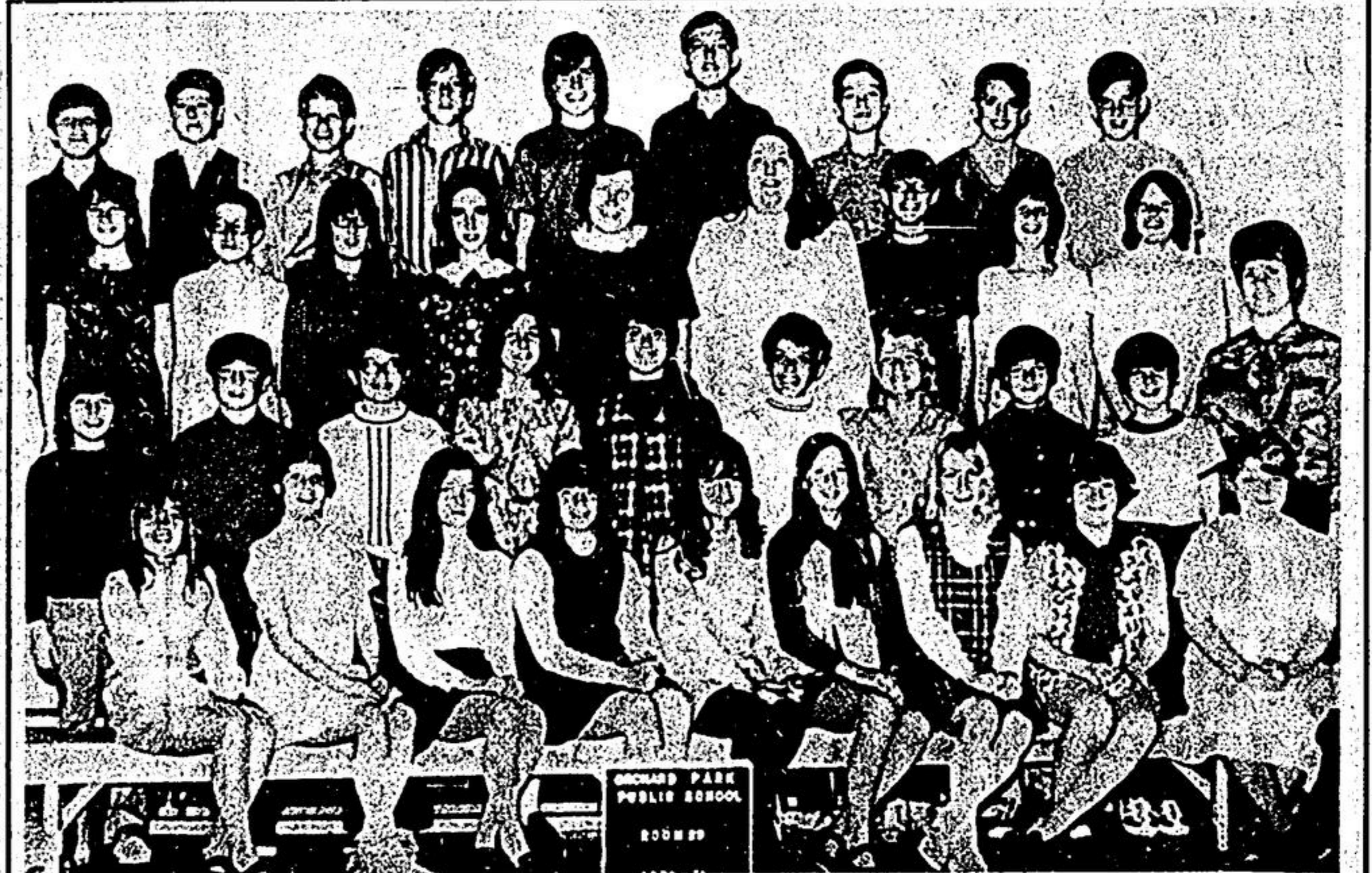
Doesn't anyone care?

Many private wells in the village of Claremont are reported polluted. This is serious, for not only does it pose a health hazard within the community but also affects the re-sale value of individual properties. A home without a good or adequate water supply is depreciated by as much as fifty per cent.
Strange as it may seem, the hamlet's 550 residents don't appear all that concerned. They seem content to sit back and see what happens.
The Town, it appears, has adopted a similar attitude. Repeated attempts by this newspaper to contact a political representative for a statement have proved unsuccessful.
Due to Claremont's location, (out of sight, out of mind), the matter has been virtually ignored. One can just imagine the response had the problem occurred in a more built-up region of the municipality. Emergent meetings would have been organized long ago.
While Council may contend that private wells are indeed a private problem, we argue that any problem of such magnitude and importance goes beyond the realm of privacy. It's a village problem

and therefore constitutes a municipal problem, one that could become regional in scope.

Out at home

Stouffville has a fine Squirt fastball team, well mannered and well managed. They have provided excellent sports entertainment here this season.
Paired against Unionville in the first round of the Ontario Playoffs, our boys won the first game but dropped the second. The third and final match-up was to have been here, (in Stouffville), Monday night. However, diamond time was booked. The "home club" was forced to take this all-important contest to a foreign field at Vandonr.
We object to this. A game of lesser importance could surely have been shifted so that these lads could have had whatever advantage the home field affords: A Provincial Playoff encounter should hold top priority when it comes to diamond allotment, especially when the contest involves kids.



Orchard Park graduating class—1970-71
This year marks the 25th anniversary of the opening of Orchard Park School in Stouffville. To celebrate the occasion, a reunion is planned this fall. Pictured here is the graduating class of 1970-71. Members are: Front Row (left to right)—Karen McGuckin, Rose Cairns, Nancy Eldt, Julee Nigh, Patil Jennings, Laurie Houston, Donnalee Herbert, April Brown, Lily May Taylor. Second Row (left to right)—John Aschwanden, Jeff Williams, David Moscarello, Dawn Hollinger, Nancy Dart, Kyle Paisley, David Huxtable, Kevin Hamilton, Bill Snowball, Mrs Barbara I. Wideman (teacher). Third Row (left to right)—Anne Marie Hetherington, Laura White, Kathi McPhee, Janice Stouffer, Penny Smith, Paula Lovegrove, Patti Haining, Debbie Foley, Kay Blumreisinger. Rear Row (left to right)—Randy Grant, Mickey Thorn, Richard Waitte, Jamie Noble, Fred Tyson, Willie Bateman, Jerry Buker, Wayne Craven and Bill Elson.