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# The Tribune

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## Previous water testing reveals 'scary figures'

**BY AUDREY GREEN**  
CLAREMONT—Nitrates such as fertilizers are possibly in Claremont's wells and the health hazards they pose are a grave concern to Durham Regional Councillor Norah Stoner.

"The problem must be dealt with and now," said Mrs. Stoner. "I'm very concerned."

A water availability and quality study was conducted in the Claremont area three years ago which revealed the wells were small and inadequate said Durham Regional Chairman Gary Herrema.

"The recommendation was for no further expansion of the hamlet (Claremont)," he said. "We've known about the problem for three years...and there is a solution."

Mrs. Stoner explained the findings in the study revealed some "scary figures."

"There has been stuff in the wells that, if given to an infant, would kill it...that scares the hell out of me," she said.

Durham Regional Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Jean Gray, recently said high levels of nitrates in wa-

ter could create Methemoglobin in infants six months and younger. Methemoglobin is caused by the mixture of nitrates with the blood's hemoglobin. The nitrate stops the oxygen in the bloodstream and turns the blood blue.

Another major problem, aside from the well's drinking water, is the predicament of Claremont's septic

system said Mrs. Stoner. She said it is imperative to clean up the septic system just as much as the wells.

"We must have the province agree that's part of the problem," she said. "I want the province to expand their study (to include the septic systems)...the bacteria (coliform) is definitely from the septic system."

Mrs. Stoner said when the testing and reports from

Simcoe Engineering are completed, action should be taken to either construct individual drilled wells or a community water system.

She said the province would help pay the costs of correcting the individual wells, but they would pay less to install a community well which "I find rather strange," she said.

According to Mr. Herre-

ma, residents are eligible for a 75 per cent grant to individually correct their wells, but the region is not entitled to the same 75 per cent grant and therefore the costs to the region would be higher.

"We're prepared to do something," he said. "The residents can fix up their wells, but it's going to cost them...we're prepared to assist, but they'll have to

put up a lot of money first." Mr. Herrema said it might cost Claremont residents \$1,800 to \$2,000 to have their wells cleaned up. Otherwise, the region's costs would be approximately \$10,000 per household because a drilled well and storage unit would need to be installed along with a unit for fire protection.

"We can't just put in a mickey mouse water supply."

Mrs. Stoner said she wanted everyone in Claremont to have good water and to be able to use it without any type of problems.

"We're not going to leave 550 people in Claremont with bad water," stated Mr. Herrema.

### Uxbridge flower show displayed

UXBRIDGE — An orchid display will highlight the seventeenth annual Uxbridge Horticultural Society Flower Show on Saturday, August 20 at the Anglican Church Hall on Toronto Street from 2 p.m. until 5:30 p.m.

Plant and flower admirers can enjoy the orchid collection grown by Arthur Simpson, along with a variety of vegetables and flower arrangements submitted by approximately 20 members of the Society.

### About face

UXBRIDGE — The Uxbridge Parks and Recreation Committee were really 'bummed' out last week when the subject of purchasing new types of toilet paper and hand towels arose.

The committee agreed to try an experiment order of T-wipes and M-wipes from Workwear Corporation Limited to supply the washrooms in Elgin Park.

"I think it would be well worth our while," said Committee Chairman Ian Morrison.

The paper will be bought in bulk. A six-roll case of T-wipes (toilet paper) will cost \$48.50 and M-wipes (hand towels) will cost \$67.90.

### Museum hosts steam show

UXBRIDGE — The Uxbridge-Scott Historical Society will provide a glimpse into the past with their twelfth annual Steam Threshing Days event on August 27 and August 28 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Quaker Hill Museum.

Exhibits like steam engines, threshing machines, drag and buzz saws, gas and oil engines, antique cars and trucks, tractors, and pioneer arts and crafts will be displayed.

There will also be musical entertainment, museum de-

monstrations, and contests. Refreshments and free parking will be available and the cost of admission is \$2 for adults, students and senior citizens \$1, and children \$1. Children can be admitted free if accompanied by an adult.

The Quaker Hill museum grounds are located one mile west of Uxbridge and north of Highway 47 on Conc. 6.

For more information contact President Norm Lyons at 852-6584 or Steam Show Chairman Francis Hockley at 852-7313.

### Light debate

UXBRIDGE — The streetlight on Bascom Street is still causing controversy.

During last week's meeting, the Public Protection Committee said there was a formal request (not from one of the previous petition signers) to install the streetlight. This request came following an incident of vandalism in the local resident's garden.

However, some committee members still have doubts on the subject.

"I think we've had a fairly constant problem out of that park (Centennial)," said Mayor Bill Ballinger. "Does this mean every dark area in town deserves a light?"

The light was petitioned for earlier this summer by some Bascom Street residents, but the committee decided the light was unnecessary. The streetlight would cost the municipality approximately \$300.

Mayor Ballinger said there should be increased police patrol in the park which might help to decrease vandalism.

"I think we should reconsider for the sake of the neighbors," said Mr. Morrison.

"This (light) would help in patrolling," stated Councillor Ron Johnson.

The committee agreed to have all members inspect the area and consider the situation before reporting back to the next public protection meeting.

### Traffic re-routed as road undergoes major facelift

CLAREMONT — The section of Regional Road 5 (Conc. 9 Pickering) currently under construction won't be finished and opened until about November 1983 said Bill Price construction manager for Durham Region.

The \$858,200 project is subsidized by the Ontario Ministry of Transportation and Communication and the 1983 project covers a road area of 2.7 kilometres said Mr. Price.

"It (construction) will improve vision," he said. "The

road was in poor condition to start."

Construction started along Conc. 9 a few years ago. It began at Highway 12 and has since been moving westward.

Mr. Price said after the present construction is completed there will be a 2.0 kilometre stretch to the Claremont bypass left. He said this would be a project for 1984, but it must receive government approval.

Regional Road 5 will remain closed to traffic until approximately November 1983.



Pickering Beach (S.S.1) Public School is still standing, but the question is — for how long? The school was almost signed over to destruction, but it created much public dis-

approval. Many people want the one-room school house to remain standing as part of their history.

Jim Thomas

## Struggle continues to salvage school

**BY AUDREY GREEN**  
PICKERING BEACH — In-with-the-new doesn't always mean out-with-the-old, especially for the citizens who are fighting to keep the Pickering Beach Public School S.S. 1 standing.

The Grade one to eight one-room school house, which has been in existence since about 1840, has a history people don't want to forget.

"It was very important to the people...to protect the only heritage this community has," said Ajax Ward 5 Councillor Pat Clark.

The school house, which was classified two-years ago as a heritage building, hasn't been used as a school for years except for recent art classes which were moved last year when the school was closed and boarded up.

The possibility of having the school torn down bothered people enough to start a petition and write letters to the municipality in hopes of stopping the demolition.

"I was annoyed they would push it over so soon," said Helen Hedge, of R.R. 1 Pickering, who started the petition. "We're not willing to give in without a fight...there are an awful lot of Canadian people who went to a one room schoolhouse."

The municipality received the petition signed with 88 names and 45 individual letters from people interested in saving the building.

"There were a number of people very concerned," said Mrs. Clark. "It's the only one in the area."

After the petition and letters were received she said the municipality agreed on a stay of execution and they're presently looking into the costs of reconditioning.

"What we've come down

to is dollars and cents...and council has not decided where to get the money," stated Mrs. Clark. "I don't feel \$130,000 is too high a cost."

According to Mrs. Clark, the municipality may receive grant money from Wintario or a Bicentennial

grant, but no decision has been made.

"I managed to get council to lay aside some money for repairs," she said.

Mrs. Clark said the building's future holds many possibilities including such uses as a meeting house, museum, location for a his-

torical or community board, an entrance to a possible development on the land behind the school, or a place for local arts and crafts.

"We're (Ajax) basically a new town," she concluded. "It's probably the oldest building around."

### Major injuries received

## Driver loses control vehicle is destroyed

UXBRIDGE — A Whitby man suffered major injuries when his 1977 Chev rolled off the road after he failed to complete a curve said Uxbridge 26 Division of the Durham Regional Police.

Police said on August 13 at 8:59 a.m. the vehicle was travelling northbound on Regional Road 23 near Conc. 14 when the driver missed a curve and lost control of the car. The car swerved onto the east shoulder and across the west side of the road where it rolled over and was totally destroyed.

Charged with careless driving is David Brooks, 535 Mary Street, E., Whitby.

### Juvenile driver

An accident on August 10 at 7:30 p.m. occurred at Sdrd. 28 and the Uxbridge/Pickering Townline when the driver of a 1976 GMC-Pickup lost control and ran off the road into the east ditch.

Police said damage was estimated at \$7,000 and the driver, who was a juvenile, received minimal injuries. The accident is currently under investigation.

Broken steering wheel  
Police said on August 13 at 6:45 p.m. a single vehicle accident occurred at Regional Road 5 and Sdrd. 2 in Uxbridge Township.

Derek Vernon, 1285 Lakeshore Avenue E., 609, Mississauga, was driving westbound on Regional Road 5 in a 1976 GMC van when the van approached Sdrd. 2. Police said the van hit a pothole on the shoulder, the steering wheel broke off, and the van rolled into a field.

Damage estimates are \$2,500 and both the driver and passenger received minor injuries.

### Veggies stolen

Mary Prohaska, R.R.1, Uxbridge, reported a theft to police during the evening of August 12. She reported a large quantity of vegetables like banana peppers and corn stolen from her garden. Damage estimates were unavailable.

### Theft

Police said Peat and Loam Packing Plant, Lot 31 Conc. 3 Zephyr, reported a theft of a \$400 air compressor sometime between August 8 and 13. Police are still investigating.

## College receives grant

DURHAM REGION — During the next three years Durham College will receive the largest amount of money through Ontario government programs then any other Ontario college.

Durham College received \$4,728,000 from the capital acceleration program and another \$257,000 from regu-

lar capital. The total amount received was \$4,985,000 from April 1983 until June 1985.

Minister of Colleges and Universities Dr. Bette Stephenson recently announced the three-year capital allocation grant for Ontario's colleges of applied arts and technology.

Dr. Stephenson also announced colleges would receive money through the government's Board of Industrial Leadership and Development (BILD) program to buy new instructional equipment this year.

"Applications for admission to the colleges have increased substantially this

year. This capital program will allow the colleges to build new facilities and update existing ones to meet this demand. It is evident the colleges will continue to play a key role in meeting the skills development needs of Ontario's business and industry," said Dr. Stephenson.



The construction on Regional Road 5 has been underway for awhile and its completion may also take awhile. The government funded project could eventually be carried through to the Claremont bypass.

Jim Thomas