

Health Study response soon

WHITCHURCH — A decision by the Ministry on whether to proceed with an in-depth health study related to Whitchurch-Stouffville, is expected next month, Dr. John Hodgkinson of the York Region Public Health Branch told The Tribune this week.

The recommendation was put forward in January, 1983, by Dr. Ronald Lees, Director of the Health Resource Centre at Queen's University, Kingston, and supported by Dr. Hodgkinson, following a health comparison project involving 50 Whitchurch-Stouffville

families and 50 families in East Gwillimbury. While emphasizing that there was "no cause for panic", Dr. Lees pointed to higher incidents of certain types of cancer here than in East Gwillimbury, a fact, he said, that would require greater investigation.

Fourteen months have elapsed since the university health study was made public. However, according to Dr. Hodgkinson, such time lapses are not peculiar to Whitchurch-Stouffville. "Dollars are the key," he stated.

The Region's Associate Medical Officer of Health said he's hopeful the Ministry will agree to proceed. He recalled that two years had gone by since the study was first proposed. "It's now back on the rails."

With the release of the report back in 1983, Dr. Lees was quoted as saying: "There may be something unusual happening—I cannot say that the illness pattern is as it should be."

The fifty families consulted, all lived in close proximity to the Hwy. 48 landfill site. Dr. Hodgkinson feels the in-depth study, if approved, will cost close to a half-million dollars and extend over a period of four to five years. He hastened to note that "anything gross" would show up long before the study is complete. "We won't use the people of Whitchurch-Stouffville as guinea pigs."

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Caught in the act

On Monday morning, this Great Horned Owl was caught red-handed inside a pheasant pen on the property of Simon DiLiddo, Bethesda Road, R.R. 4, Stouffville. The big bird killed one of the pheasants before being set free.

—Jim Thomas

Approve estate lots despite objections

WHITCHURCH — Town Council has given the 'green light' to applicant Michael Wade for the development of an additional nine estate lots at The Maples of Ballantyne, despite concerns over environmental disruptions and health hazards voiced by a delegation of property owners attending a public meeting Feb. 7.

Residents came to both support and oppose an application to rezone nine lots from rural to estate residential in the Conc. 7 area, north of the Bloomington Road.

A petition, signed by 68 people, opposed the development on the grounds they hadn't been properly informed on several areas of environmental concern. The objections included: inadequate information on the area's water flow; an incomplete health study; undefined ecological sensitivity and a request that development be restricted to existing hamlets.

"My concern is the proximity of the Hwy. 48 landfill site," said 11-year resident, Brian Tinker of R.R. 4 Stouffville.

According to the Town Planner, "the proximity of the site to the York Sanita-

tion Landfill may cause concern, although no studies have been completed related to the nine lots."

Residents expressed alarm about existing water supplies. They were worried, some said, that their wells could go dry.

Others expressed concern over destruction of the environment and the natural beauty of the area. They felt the development would increase traffic and housing and decrease privacy.

"I'm worried about the area," said Jill Tinker, R.R. 4, Stouffville. "Things are proceeding too quickly, we don't want to see the whole area developed at once."

Jerrold Paxton, president of Rennie Transport, said the proposed development would be good for the municipality because of job creation and growth.

"I don't want the town to stagnate," he said. "Stouffville real estate agent, Charles de Bourbon, said in all his years of selling property, "this is the nicest subdivision plan I've seen."

According to Michael Wade, offers are pending on all nine homes.

The report from tests conducted on Phase I, (the 21 lots), has satisfied council's concerns, but not all of the public.

Council, however, voted in favor of accepting the present report which addressed only the concerns of Phase I and apply them to Phase II (the proposed nine lots). They also agreed to proceed with the application.

Councillor Jim Rae, in whose ward the proposed development is located, spoke in favor of the proposal. He said, to his knowledge, very few on the 7th Concession, (McCowan Road), were opposed. He

called some of the arguments "ridiculous", claiming many who signed the petition were far removed from the site in question. He suggested that some, now living here, are resentful of others moving in. "I'd sure

hate to be stuck in a lifeboat," he said. "I'd be afraid they wouldn't throw me a rope."

Councillor Wilf Morley said many of the development's opponents had themselves moved into the area

in the past five years. He referred to the petition as "a waste of time."

Morley stated that, if Council's decision isn't acceptable, the people can always appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board.



Stouffville's Main Street became a toll road, Saturday morning, as members of the Lions Club requested voluntary donations from motorists passing through. One of the canvassers, (shown here), was Jack McDermott. Contributions totalled almost \$1,400.

—Jim Thomas

Lions-sponsored

Toll a success

STOUFFVILLE — The Lions-sponsored toll, Saturday, proved very successful, with receipts totalling almost \$1,400.

Twelve club members, under the chairmanship of Ross Garrett, requested donations from motorists at various locations on Main Street. Most drivers and

passengers complied.

There were a few complaints, including one from an O.P.P. officer who said traffic was being delayed. Minutes later, a second constable stopped and deposited a donation in the container, Mr Garrett said.

One motorist jokingly described the project as "highway robbery." Another asked a Lion if he was Frank or Jesse James.

Mr Garrett said the toll

proved a study in human nature. "The ordinary guy, driving a beat-up Chev, would stop every time while the well-to-do in Lincolns and Cadillacs would drive right on by."

Garrett said after everything was over, he received an envelope from a group of senior citizens, containing five dollars and a note, saying they were sorry they hadn't contributed at the time. "That made it all worthwhile," he concluded.

Win medals

Blanche Cook of R.R. 4, Stouffville and Betty Acton, Burkholder Street, Stouffville, recently competed in the Senior Olympic speed skating events at Lake Placid, New York.

Blanche was successful in winning gold medals in the 200, 1,000 and 1,500 meters and a silver medal in the 500 meters.

Betty won silver medals in the 200, 500, 1,000 and 1,500 meters.

It's the fifth time the two local ladies have participated in this competition. They were accompanied on the trip by Gerry Acton, Betty's husband.

Riding shift is proposed

STOUFFVILLE — If recommendations related to proposed changes in provincial electoral districts are approved, the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville will be removed from York North and placed in the new riding of York-Ontario.

If the present MPP's are still in office when the change comes about, Whitchurch-Stouffville will be represented by Ross Stevenson. The current Member is Bill Hodgson.

Other municipalities likely to be included in York-Ontario are: East Gwillimbury, Georgina, Uxbridge and part of Markham. Boundaries would extend from Lake Simcoe on the

north to 16th Avenue, (Markham), on the south.

A public meeting to explain the proposals is set for May 1, 1984, in the city hall council chambers at Barrie.

"I'll be sorry to lose Whitchurch-Stouffville," Bill Hodgson told The Tribune, Monday, "they've been good people to work with." He said he'd always been strongly supported at the polls here.

Mr Hodgson admitted he was an advocate of boundary change due to the fact York North has a population well in excess of 125,000. The new alignment will reduce this number to about 70,000, he said.

Fifty exhibitors

Bridal Fair

It's an event no prospective bride should miss, or members of the wedding party.

The second annual Bridal Fair and Fashion Show will be held this Sunday, (Feb. 19), from 2 to 3 p.m., at the Thornhill Community Centre, Bayview Avenue and John Street.

The show, featuring 50 exhibitors, is sponsored by The York North Wedding Guild. Tickets, (\$6.00), are available from all Guild locations including The Wedding and Lingerie Room, (640-2522), and Bunny's Flowers, (640-2632).

The fashion promenade is planned for 4 p.m., with a lucky draw, (honeymoon for two to Freeport, Bahamas), at seven. To win, the bride-to-be must be in attendance when the draw is made.

Net proceeds from the Bridal Fair will be donated to the Heart Fund.



Wintario ticket wins new car

"It drives like a charm," said Marion Arrowsmith of R.R. 4, Stouffville, following a spin around the block in her nifty 1984 Mercury Topaz delivered last week by Twin Hills Mercury, Richmond Hill. Mrs Arrowsmith won the automobile in a recent Wintario draw. It's value is placed at around \$12,000.

—Jim Thomas

Back to life

WHITCHURCH — It's running. The John Deere dozer, hauled from a 30-foot deep bog where it'd been buried almost nine years, is purring like a kitten.

John Bolender of R.R. 4, Stouffville, pulled the eight-ton machine to the surface, Feb. 6 and had it operating the following Thursday.

Before putting it to the supreme test, he dismantled the starting motor and alternator; took the valve cover off the top; the oil pan off the bottom and installed

a brand new battery. After draining out the old oil and filling it up with new, he pushed the starter button.

"It began blowing out mud and water—all sorts of stuff," John told The Tribune. "When I poured the ether to it, it started smoking, then took right off. I couldn't believe it."

On Saturday, John put his 'baby' to work, cleaning out the barn. It responded like a brand new model right out of the showroom.

Gormley girl joins tour

GORMLEY — A 14-year-old Gormley girl will leave next month on a tour of France, England and Scotland with the 54-voice Toronto Havergal College senior choir.

Christie DiIorio, daughter of Line and Lynne DiIorio, is noted not only for her lovely soprano voice but for her ability to play the guitar. She's a student in Grade 9.

Although the itinerary isn't complete, the choir will present at least twenty concerts, beginning in Paris, France, then London, England and later Scotland. Christie will play her guitar during program intermissions.

Mr and Mrs DiIorio and family moved to Gormley from Downsview seven years ago. All are interested in music including Christie's two brothers, Eleo and Anthony. Her vocal instructor is Jean Innis of Toronto.

As proof of her singing talent, Christie teamed up

with Havergal classmate Rachel Gorman of York Mills to place first in the Kiwanis Music Festival, girls' duet, 15 years and under. In solo categories, 14 years and under and 15 years and under, Christie scored an 83 and an 81 per cent.



CHRISTIE DIORIO