

# 'Tis the season



'Tis the season for grass fires. It happens every spring. On Saturday, Stouffville volunteers were called out to extinguish a blaze on Tenth Line South that spread over several acres. Firefighters shown here are Larry Leonard, (left), carrying a new portable sprayer and Murray Emmerson. Property damage was minimal. —Jim Thomas

## Cyclist feels frustrated

Dear Editor:

I begin this with great dismay and frustration because it has been almost a year since I delivered a letter to Whitechurch-Stouffville Council with my bicycle path proposal for Stouffville.

To date, I have received no response.

I telephoned York Region offices and was advised that no plans were on record to upgrade the Ninth Line North to the Bloomington Road within the next ten years.

I later read in the newspaper there is a possibility that the Ninth Line North to Bloomington Road WILL be upgraded, certainly within the next ten years. If this is so, then I'm being led blissfully up the garden path so to speak.

I proposed that when the Ninth Line North is upgraded, provision be made to accommodate bicycle traffic from Stouffville to the Bloomington Road.

I have, over the past year, spoken to many people who bicycle for both recreation and competitive sport. They agree that the extra space provided and paved outside the solid line on each side of the road would be relatively safe and sufficient.

I'm sure there are many people with bicycles who would like to pedal it for pleasant journeys into the country in relative safety. Should the proposed build-up in Bloomington become a reality, we will see more children riding their bicycles into Stouffville for school and other activities.

Plans to upgrade the Ninth Line North to Bloomington without including some provision for bicycles would be turning a blind eye to the needs of many people. People will bicycle for many reasons including exercise and conservation. Failure to include consideration for them would be disregarding their safety.

This is an election year and politicians will be extra nice to voters. I encourage everyone who has ever ridden a bicycle, to write, or telephone, or stop his/her Ward Representative on the street, or the Mayor, or the Regional Chairman, and persuade them that NOW is the time to plan for a Ninth Line road that will encourage bicycles to share with cars, both in speed and space.

Sincerely,

Robert S. Lewis,  
R.R. 2, Stouffville

## Supports exchange

Dear Editor:

Through your newspaper to the administration of Stouffville Dist. Secondary School, I wish to say I'm fully supportive of exchange programs, whether they involve students in music, languages, art or whatever knowledge and skills are associated with this sort of thing.

I consider exchanges very excellent learning experiences. However, apart from the academics involved, there is much to be learned through cultural exchange, even if the students are only a few hundred miles away in the United States.

As the parent of a student, I regret I didn't have such opportunities and I honestly admit I'm the poorer, intellectually because of this.

I only wish we adults could, in some way, become more involved in exchange programs, even to accommodating guest students in our homes. I enjoy talking to people, particularly young people from other lands and I avail myself of this opportunity whenever possible.

When the band and choir members were in Stouffville from Olean, New York, I went out of my way to converse with them, in the restaurants and on the street. I found them very intelligent and responsive, and extremely polite. I'm sure our own group of students will similarly impress the 'natives' of Olean, when they return the favor.

Sincerely,  
Helen Wilkinson,  
Ninth Line,  
Stouffville

## Hand-clappin' country time



It was foot-stompin', hand-clappin' time at Vandorf, Sunday evening, as Friends of the Museum hosted a country and western music program in the Community Hall. One of the vocal participants was Museum curator Mary Hopkins.



Jim Davis of Pickering displayed both vocal and instrumental skills. Straw hats and overalls were common, both on stage and in the audience. The hall was nearly filled for the event. —Jim Thomas



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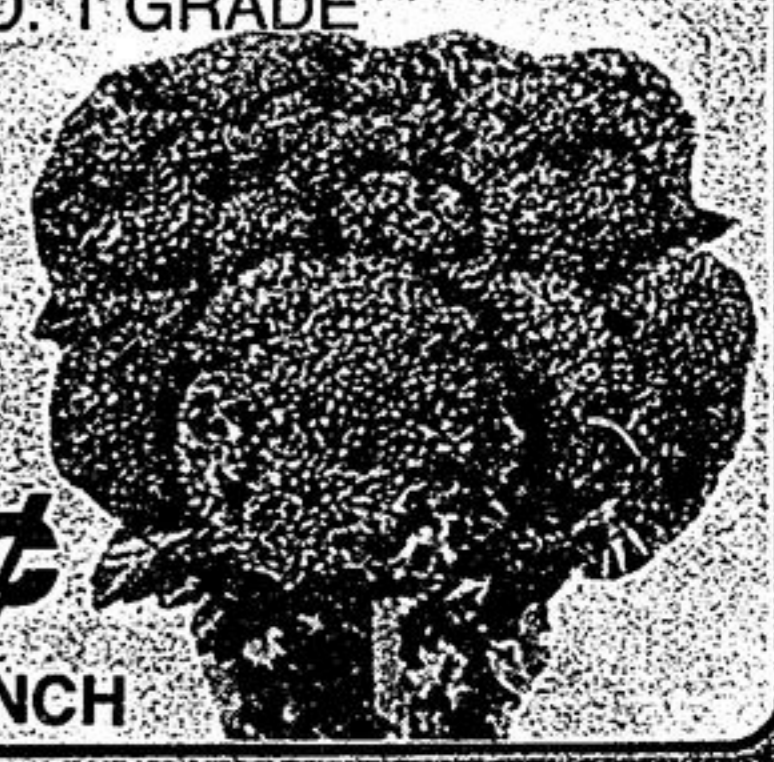
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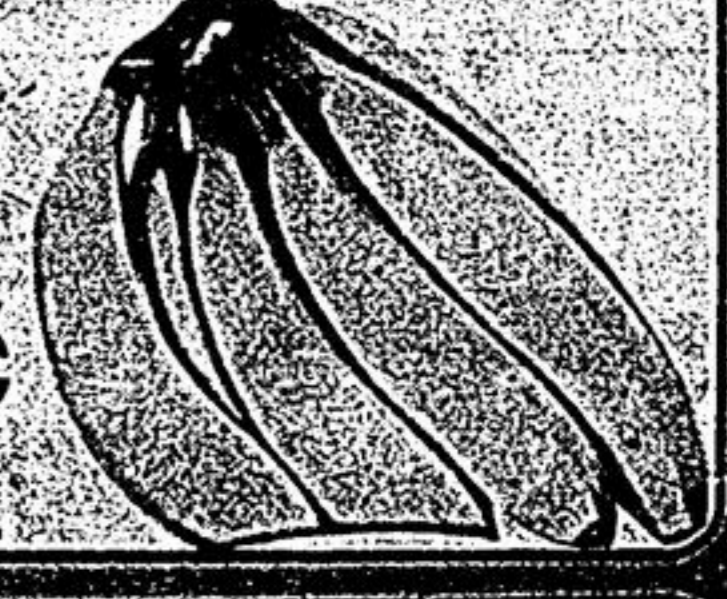
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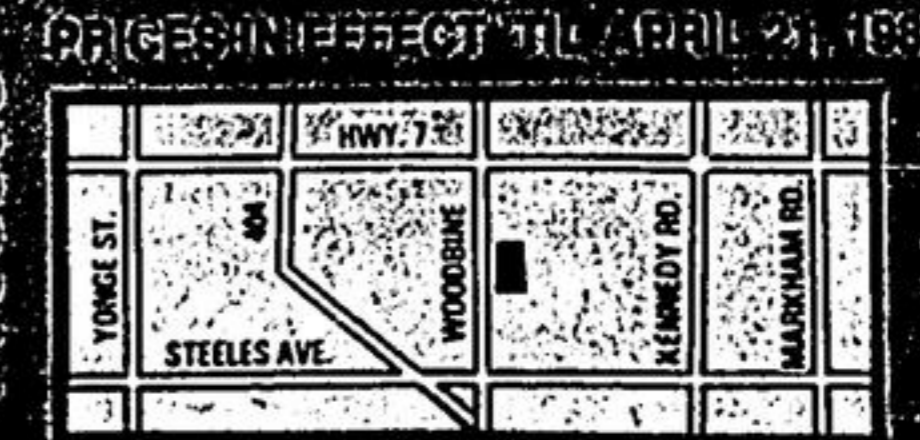
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