

Mayor expects prosperous year

By CHRIS SHANAHAN
Staff Reporter

STOUFFVILLE — Whitchurch-Stouffville's first lady mayor can't wait to face the many challenges that face the municipality as 1987 approaches.

Mayor Sainsbury said the "total learning experience" she enjoyed during her first year at the helm should serve her well as she helps guide the town's fortunes for the remainder of her five-year mandate.

As a learning experience and now a Council member, she has gained knowledge and worked together to make things happen faster. Mayor Sainsbury said "I think Council is becoming more and more aware of public relations and of getting out and visiting the people on the street."

A main project carrying into the new year is the BIA (Business Improvement Area) Board takeover of the designated downtown business core.

A finished design plan is in Council's hands and it's now a matter of deciding what approach will work best for all parties.

"This is the year we will bring all the plans to fruition and put the funding in place for 1987," she explained of the streetscape project, noting that application for partial funding will be made through the Ministry of Municipal Affairs' Pride program.

Other priorities in '87 are extensive improvements to Latham Hall for sports groups and to the Whitchurch Centennial Centre in Ballantrae, solving the water contamination woes of ratepayers in Ballantrae and Musselman's Lake, plus enforcement of a new property standards bylaw to clean up unsightly areas across the municipality.

It's also Council's goal to keep its 1987 municipal budget in line with the consumer price index. Hopefully, the mayor said, the next tax hike won't exceed five per cent.

Mayor Sainsbury feels a Jan. 19 information meeting at Stouffville Legion Hall will enable Council to receive valuable input from the backlog of residential property developers. At present, all new proposals are on hold due to Whitchurch-Stouffville's sewage and water capacity shortage.

Mayor Sainsbury noted that new development creates new assessment, thus lowering taxes.

"I hope that we can continue to bring in industry and commerce in 1987. Industries that are good corporate citizens and environmentally safe," she said.

A town list of industrial and commercial projects that came on stream in 1986 mentions a total of 27 developments, however, some of these won't become a reality until 1987. For example, Stouffville's first enclosed shopping mall is approved but not yet constructed.

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Santa Claus better late than never

STOUFFVILLE — What one BIA director described as "poor communications" caused Santa Claus to miss an appointment with some Stouffville youngsters this Christmas.

Due to a mix-up somewhere between Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Library and the North Pole, Santa was a no-show at the first of three library photo sessions scheduled by the BIA (Business Improvement Area) Board.

"Somewhere along the line there was a lack of communication," Board director Bob Ancheril explained, adding that some children were upset when St. Nick didn't appear for the photos following the town's Santa Claus Parade.

Fortunately, the North Pole visitor did touch down in Stouffville for two subsequent library sittings.

Mr. Ancheril apologized on behalf of the BIA for any inconvenience caused by the Board's error. He said the matter has been cleared up and plans are already in place for Santa's BIA-sponsored appearance next December.



Parkview quartet

Some familiar faces were front and centre during Parkview Home's Christmas program on Dec. 24. Parkview staff members (from left) Leonard Hoover, Herb Diller, Eugene Reesor and Joe Nighswander joined forces as a male quartet to perform several delightful holiday selections.

—Chris Shanahan

Police laud holiday motorists

DURHAM-YORK — The anti drinking-driving message appears to have really hit home with motorists this holiday season, according to police forces in York and Durham Regions.

Police spotchecks have netted far fewer impaired drivers so far this year as compared to past Christmases.

"It has been one of the better Christmases we've had from a police standpoint. It's really good to see," Durham Sgt. Ian Garvock told The Tribune.

He said the only rash of holiday mishaps was caused by icy road conditions on Christmas Eve.

There were numerous minor traffic accidents in Uxbridge and surrounding areas on the evening of Dec. 24, he said, but most of these were caused by inclement weather and not drunk driving. There were no serious injuries.

While statistics weren't available on the number of impaired driving charges laid by the Durham force in 1986, Sgt. Garvock said the number of such offences is minimal. The same holds true in York Region.

Decision is near on airport future

PICKERING — A decision on the future of the federal government's Pickering Airport land holdings should be made early in 1987.

"We expect it sometime early in the New Year," Lucy Langille, executive assistant for Ontario Riding MP Scott Fennell, confirmed Monday.

Transport Minister John Crosbie is still reviewing information compiled during an extensive study of future site options.

His ministry is responsible for the 18,000 acres of land expropriated in the 1970s for a now-shelved

international airport at Pickering.

The federally-appointed Pickering Airport Lands Revitalization Committee has recommended in a report that the entire parcel be sold back to private owners without the right to subdivide.

The four-person committee, consisting of Bill Newman, Lorne Almack, Andrea Graham and Douglas Turner, wants to see the property designated as an agricultural preserve.

Mr. Fennell, Progressive Conservative MP for Uxbridge, Pick-

ering, Ajax and Whitby, supports a proposal to return at least some of the federal airport holding back to the public.

"The main point is that there is far more (expropriated) land than is needed for an international airport," he said in an interview earlier this year.

The Claremont-area resident expects as much as 50 per cent of the airport land will be sold, with original owners having first option to purchase. This would likely involve properties around Altona and Claremont, he said.

Bunny's is best

STOUFFVILLE — Bunny's Flowers, 17 Main Street East, is the winner of a Christmas store-decorating contest sponsored by Stouffville's Business Improvement Area (BIA) Board.

Many downtown shops entered the competition but Bunny's window display was the clear winner, said a Board spokesperson.

Winners of a special BIA draw were: Steven Irwin of Stouffville — \$100 gift certificate; Raggaela Degli'Angeli of Stouffville — \$50 gift certificate; Tracy Evans of Claremont — \$25 gift certificate.

Music Maniacs begin planning show for 1987

STOUFFVILLE — It's Music Mania time again.

The first meeting of the 1987 edition of Stouffville's annual variety show is scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 7, at 8 p.m. in Summitview Public School.

Everyone's asked to attend this session, including singers, dancers, skit people and committee heads.

The '87 show will be co-directed by Ann Bell (640-5923) and Jane Stott (640-1639), and produced by the duo of Doris Harvey (640-2782) and Vi Schope (640-5143).

Music directors are Linda Hollin (640-3871) and Ann Bell, while Judy Todd (640-5296) and Jane Stott are in charge of skits.

The dance director is Angelina Tucker (640-4180), who advises dancers to come prepared to perform on the first night.

Music Mania hits the stage at Stouffville Dist. Secondary School April 30 and May 1 and 2.

For additional information,

contact any of the above people or Heather Andrews at 640-3185.

Thieves snatch equipment

WHITCHURCH — More than \$2,600 in construction equipment was removed last week from a work site at Whitchurch-Stouffville's Cardico subdivision.

A&S Construction of Stouffville reported the loss of the tools after they were found missing sometime between 5:30 p.m. on Dec. 22 at 5:30 p.m. and 7:45 a.m. on Dec. 23. York Regional Police continue to investigate.

In another case, a car valued at \$5,000 was stolen from the driveway of Brian Ogen's house at Hwy. 48 and Bethesda Sideroad. No suspects have been located.

Trial date set for 3 accused in bus accident

UXBRIDGE TWP. — Three men will stand trial in Ajax Provincial Court June 3 on charges stemming from last August's bus-truck crash north of Claremont.

The driver of the bus, 30-year-old Ronald Henshaw of Whitby, and truck driver Daniel Henry, 44, of Holland Landing, each face separate counts of careless driving.

Henry has also been charged by Durham Regional Police with operating an unsafe motor vehicle. The owner of the truck Henry was driving at the time of accident, Gregory Smith of Keswick, stands charged with permitting the operation of an unsafe vehicle.

The case was remanded when the accused appeared in court Nov. 13.

A total of 23 people suffered minor injuries Aug. 28 when a Charterways bus loaded children and camp counsellors collided with a dump truck on Brock Road near the entrance to Pleasure Valley park.

The bus passengers, part of the Whitby Youth Action group at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, were on their way to a day-long outing at Pleasure Valley when the mishap occurred.

Both Henshaw and Henry were uninjured.

Spread Christmas joy

UXBRIDGE — Residents of Uxbridge's Daheim Nursing Home had a joyous Christmas again this year thanks in part to a generous group of Avon representatives.

The saleswoman visited the Reach Road facility prior to Christmas and delivered a special

gift to each senior citizen, along with a large signed greeting card.

The six-year-old project is under the direction of Agincourt's Fran Selleck, whose local connection comes from her relation to the Paul Dempster family of Uxbridge.

Firepower

Const. Paul Wier displays one of the pump-action shotguns now mounted in the front seat of Durham Regional Police cars. Other parts of the cars, the seats, the windows, provide increased protection for officers and passengers.

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