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Farmers' woes squelch fires at OP meeting

STOUFFVILLE — Comparative newcomers to Whitchurch-Stouffville were prepared to have their say at an Official Plan review meeting in Latham Hall, Thursday.

However, a farmer from R.R. 3, Newmarket, took the wind out of everyone's sails.

Addressing the audience without benefit of notes, Harry Rawluk flayed ratepayers and politicians who oppose the dividing of rural land on the pretext of 'pre-

servicing the family farm. "People are starving to death on the family farm today," he said. "We can't sell our crops, and when we can't sell our crops, we can't exist," he continued.

As the people turned their collective heads and listened, Mr. Rawluk went on.

He recalled how, a few years ago, there were 16 dairy farmers in his neighborhood. Now there are two.

"Everybody seems to be wor-

rying about preserving agricultural land. Why?" he asked. He said in many instances, farmers are working their properties only to keep down the weeds.

Mr. Rawluk said people are only fooling themselves if they think Whitchurch-Stouffville's still a farming community.

"How many people in this room are bona fide farmers?" he asked. There was no response.

The speaker said he could see nothing wrong with splitting up farms into residential lots. "These homes aren't shacks," he said, "they pay their way."

Mr. Rawluk said he recently called on several machinery firms in Whitchurch-Stouffville and discovered the biggest sellers were not farm tractors but garden tractors. This, he said, is an indication of how quickly rural land-use is changing.

"Where are our young people today?" he asked. "They're not farming," he said, "they're pounding computers."

John Hulshof of R.R. 4, Stouffville, said his application for a residential building permit on his farm had been rejected by York Region with only one member of Town Council voicing support.

"In Whitchurch-Stouffville, the young farmer isn't wanted any more," he charged.

Town Planner Michael Saunders said a policy change in this regard is being considered. He stressed, however, that Council stands opposed to farms being 'chopped up' into small lots.

Bob Maynard of R.R. 4, Gormley, called the policy "disgusting." "Five houses or ten houses, it shouldn't matter," he stated, "if a farm's not farmable, break it up."



Chris Anderson, Main Street West, Stouffville, gives daughter Logan an affectionate kiss following her return. Logan had been reported missing and a search of the area was underway when the little girl's whereabouts was learned.

'Missing' girl sparks search

STOUFFVILLE — Tears of concern turned to tears of joy Thursday when a five-year-old Stouffville girl reported missing around 10 a.m. was returned safe and sound.

Logan Anderson, daughter of Bill and Chris Anderson, Main Street West, had gone to Markham with her mother. Before leaving, little Logan told her mom where she was going, but Mrs. Anderson hadn't heard.

When the child couldn't be found, the mother became alarmed and called police. An immediate search of the neighborhood was started, involving local residents and senior students of Orchard Park School.

Mr. Anderson was informed and immediately left his teaching position on the staff of Elia Junior High School. The whereabouts of the child was discovered shortly after 11 a.m.

Mr. Anderson admitted fearing the worst. "Very few of these stories have happy endings," he said.

He praised the co-operation of neighbors. "I'm pleased people can get together so quickly." He personally visited Orchard Park School and thanked Principal Jan De Laat for his assistance.

"I couldn't believe the response," Mrs. Anderson agreed. "It was wonderful."

A missing child announcement was broadcast over the High School PA by Principal Peter Bright. Signs of relief were heard in the halls when the safe and sound report followed.

York Regional Police sent four cruisers to the area. Officers helped organize the search.

"First fear, then relief," Mr. Anderson concluded, "one always suspects the worst."

Parents praise caring friends

Dear Editor:

Was Thursday the normal course of events around our house was abruptly altered. Our five-year-old daughter was thought to be missing.

The experience reminded all of us just what is valuable in our lives.

We wish to express our appreciation to neighbors, friends, indeed, the entire town, for their immediate and sincere concern for the well-being of our family, also the efforts of York Regional Police and students of Orchard Park Public School and Stouffville Dist. Secondary School who offered search assistance.

We now have more concrete examples of why we are able to tell people of the benefits and joys of living in a caring community.

Sincerely,
Chris and Bill Anderson

Ring out the old!

GOODWOOD — An event of historical interest will occur at Goodwood United Church, Saturday.

A bell, 'rescued' from a fire that destroyed the Goodwood Methodist Church in 1906, will be re-installed. A dedication service, involving congregations at Epsom, Utica and Goodwood, is planned for Sunday, June 7. It's also the Goodwood United Church anniversary.

History records how the bell's chime was once heard throughout the village, heralding the people to worship every Sunday morning and again on Sunday night.

When the church burned, little was saved except the bell and the organ. The organ was later used in the new sanctuary.

Last call!

Only five days to go. The deadline for entries in the Miss Whitchurch-Stouffville Pageant is Monday, June 1.

The reigning queen is Jackie Chong, Stuart Street, Stouffville.

To qualify, entrants must be 16 years of age or older; must be full-time residents of Whitchurch-Stouffville and must be able to participate in the Canada Day Parade, June 27.

The Pageant is scheduled for June 25 at the High School. The same evening, the Town's Citizen of 1987 will be honored. The deadline for receipt of these nominations is June 17.

Standing room only

STOUFFVILLE — A strong indication of community interest and response is when a facility's executive administrator is forced to stand.

Such was the case Sunday for a 'Celebration' marking completion of a \$491,000 renovation program at Parkview Home, Rupert Avenue, Stouffville.

So large was the crowd, J.M. Nighswander, Parkview's Executive Administrator had to stand out in the hall.

The board of directors did manage to find seats for guest speakers including Town Mayor Fran Sainsbury, Margaret Evans of the Ministry of Community and Social Services, and Parkview Home Administrator Herb Diller.

Glenn Steiner, board chairman and master of ceremonies, revealed that since the Home's opening 22 years ago, 747 residents had been accommodated. Both he and Mr. Diller praised the co-operation received from staff and seniors alike since the most recent project was started in 1986.

The cost has been subsidized by a major capital grant in the amount of \$245,643.36 from the Provincial Ministry of Community and Social Services.

Mayor Sainsbury filled a dual role in representing both York North MPP Greg Sorbara and Council. Mr. Sorbara could not attend.

Describing Parkview Home as a 'role model', Mayor Sainsbury said "I'm very proud of this facility. I love this place."

Homes conform

STOUFFVILLE — Should architectural control be imposed in Whitchurch-Stouffville?

The question has come up after residents on Geoffrey Crescent complained a particular house in the subdivision will 'stick out like a sore thumb' because it's not one of eight models proposed for the development.

Town Building Official Bruce Arrowsmith admits it presents problems. He says most urban developments proceed by way of model selection. "There must be some consistency," he says. "At the same time, some of the most attractive subdivisions feature a multitude of designs," he points out.

He agrees when one house is particularly unique, it tends to stand out from the rest.

Mr. Arrowsmith says design variation is common in older developments. This, he notes, has occurred during in-filling as well.

As far as new subdivisions are concerned, he feels developers have been very design conscious here, more so than in some municipalities.

Christian School Bright future

STOUFFVILLE — Stouffville Christian School, now located in the former Altona Missionary Church plus a former feed mill hardware store across the road, will occupy a new facility in 1988.

This is the hope of the board, the principal and staff. The application is currently being processed by the Region of York.

Information on the proposed facility was touched on at the School's annual dinner, Thursday, held in the banquet hall of The Maples of Ballantrac.

Funds are now available to make a start, board member Jake DeBoer told his audience.

The school will occupy five acres of a ten-acre site, fronting on Hwy. 47 north of the Sales Barn. Principal Wally Robinson told The Tribune: "Once in the new building, a grade will be added each year up to Level 12 and maybe 13," Mr. Robinson explained. "As of September 87, classes will extend from our Kindergarten through Grade 10. Enrollment (K to 9) currently stands at 130."

While a start on the structure is dependent on action by the Region, Mr. Robinson is hopeful on a date this fall or early spring. The completed facility will be available to the community, he said. The board wants to add a nursery and day care later on.

Mr. Robinson considers the site an excellent one, central to Markham, Unionville, Ballantrac, Clarendon, Goodwood, and Uxbridge.

"In some people live in the world where they desperately need the truths of the Bible," he said. "I'm sure the banquet, guest speaker and director of Circle C in New York State, they require Christian guidance in the church, in the home and in the school."

Kelly set example for us all--pastor

By JIM THOMAS

STOUFFVILLE — Five years to the day she was taken ill, Kelly Ann Hanley passed away in Toronto's Sick Children's Hospital.

She was only 14, but in those 14 years, she touched the lives of many people, Rev. Marlin Ressler told mourners attending the funeral service in Stouffville Pentecostal Church, Saturday.

The pastor told of visiting Kelly the day before she died. He described her comments as "a glowing testimony I'll never forget."

Rev. Ressler shared the service with Rev. Craig Pitts. Special music was provided by Judy Steckley, a close family friend and Jackie Hanley, Kelly's sister. Allen and Marie Hanley, Kelly's parents, live on Hemlock Drive, Stouffville. A second sister, Joanne, resides at Gormley and a brother Robert lives in Toronto. One grandmother resides at Parkview; another lives in Kitch-

ener.

In spite of much suffering over the past five years, including two kidney transplants, Kelly displayed a faith that proved an inspiration to everyone, Rev. Ressler said.

These memories were supported by Esther Harrison, a nurse on the Sick Children's Hospital staff. "She won her way into our hearts," she said.

Kelly was born April 17, 1973. She was a student at St. Mark's School, Stouffville.

Her life was described as sweet, innocent and radiant. "It's difficult to understand the mystery of death," Rev. Ressler said.

The 23rd Psalm and two songs, 'My Tribute' and 'Robe of White' were Kelly's favorites, Rev. Pitts explained.

Pall-bearers were Robert Hanley, Kelly's brother; two uncles, Dennis and Bernard Hanley; Clarence Wideman, a close family friend; Mark Doble and Mark Sadowski, her sisters' fiances. Interment was made at St. Mary's Cemetery, Hesson, Ont.

Benefit by budget

YORK NORTH — "I'm pleased as punch."

This is Greg Sorbara's response to the 1987 Ontario Budget handed down by the Peterson Government last week.

The York North MPP is particularly happy the green light's been given to a start on construction of Hwy. 407. The new east-west arterial route will extend from Mississauga through to Pickering.

Mr. Sorbara is also supportive of a Government commitment to provide \$220 million for the construction of more affordable rental housing.

The Housing Ministry's budget for 1987-88 will be 34% more than was spent last year, the local Member said.

Says Mr. Sorbara: "Bob Nixon has managed to produce a budget that commits money to all the right places, without raising taxes, while at the same time, reducing the deficit. I'm pleased as punch with the positive impact it will have across York Region," he concluded.

History in stone

There's history in stone, especially a millstone. This antique was found by Bud Sanderson of Orchard Park Boulevard, Stouffville, on the former B.Hillinger farm near the railroad track. Later, during sewer installations, it was accidentally buried. But Bud was not to be denied. He recovered it again. While its age has not been determined, Bud's certain it's every bit as old, if not older, than its owner.

— Jim Thomas

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