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Oil spill clean-up is costly

By JIM THOMAS

STOUFFVILLE — Ministry of the Environment is continuing its work in an effort to clean up a major oil spill, Friday, at the Stouffville Co-op on Edward Street. An estimated 890 gallons of clear diesel fuel poured from an underground tank during filling operations at the site. A ground level cap became dislodged, allowing the liquid to escape. A portion of the load

flowed into nearby Duffin Creek. According to deputy fire chief Murray Emmerson, the truck operator was unmindful of the accident until informed by a passerby. At that time, it was thought only about 200 gallons had escaped. The full extent of the spill wasn't learned until Saturday morning.

Cost of the clean-up has been estimated at \$10,000.

Mr. Emmerson said about 90 gallons of oil was collected near the site. Because of the dark, firefighters had no way of knowing so much had escaped.

Peat moss, hay bales and oil absorbents were employed to soak up the residue as best possible. Janet Humber, a Ministry officer told The Tribune. Booms were set up near the Library and the Works Dept. in an effort to block the flow.

Two ducks, rendered immobile by the slick, were pulled from the stream, treated and released, Emmerson said. Fish, he explained, seemed unaffected because the oil remained on the surface.

Eight truckloads of contaminated soil have been trucked to a landfill site near Maple, the officer said.

Don Maitland of the Environmental Office, Don Mills, said the Fire Department followed all established procedures including a phone call to the Spills Action Centre in Toronto. At that time, the situation was thought to be under control. Daylight revealed a more serious problem, he explained.

"Spills are tricky once they get into drains," he said. Fortunately, he noted, the fuel is not explosive and tends to 'break up' as it moves along.

Even so, he said, no stone will be left unturned in an effort to complete the clean-up properly. The cost will be borne by the polluter, he stated.



Lake resort owners witness end of an era

After 25 years, this Saturday marks the final public dance at Cedar Beach, Muskegon's popular resort. The building will still be available for private functions. The date is May 26 at Ballantrae Public School. Lorentana, a graduate of St. Robert's High School, Thornhill and presently enrolled at Ryerson's Canadian College of Dance, says she's pleased help out in a small way. The girl's mother told The Tribune no dates been set for surgery since her other daughter isn't a match. Rebecca was Lorentana's pupil several years. Lorentana moved with her parents from Richmond Hill to Ballantrae in September, 1986. She's been a dance instructor five years with ballet her specialty. She also teaches tap, jazz and theatre arts. Student enrollment, that began with eleven, has climbed to 40 ranging in age from three years to adult. Admission to the recital, May 26, is five dollars, two dollars of which will go the transplant fund.

Recital proceeds

Aid to dancer

BALLANTRAE — Dance studio operator Lorentana Maiuri is holding a recital, May 27, with a portion of the proceeds subsidizing the cost of bone marrow surgery for a former student.

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Town band struggling

STOUFFVILLE — The Whitchurch-Stouffville Concert Band, temporarily 'out of tune', will try one more time to get back on track.

Pat Ratcliff said members have regrouped after a two-month break. They hope to meet four commitments in June, she said, including concerts at the Stouffville Legion; the Vandorf Museum; Parkview Village and the Strawberry Festival.

Poor attendance has plagued the band all winter, Mrs. Ratcliff said. At some rehearsals, numbers were down to between six and ten people.

Following planned appearances next month, a members' meeting will be held "to see where we go from here", Mrs. Ratcliff explained.

She's hopeful the June dates can be filled.

Despite disappointing turnouts, Thomas LeGrady, the band director, "has been great," Mrs. Ratcliff said.

"I still think there's a place for a concert band in a community like Whitchurch-Stouffville," she responded optimistically, noting poor attendance had been a problem during past winters as well.

"But then there are some who like time off in the summer too," she concluded.

Truck problem still unsolved

WHITCHURCH — Unless the Ministry of Transportation can be convinced otherwise, trucks will continue to use the entrance-exit to and from Standard Industries Limited on the Bethesda Sideroad, Whitchurch-Stouffville.

Area residents claim truck traffic poses a hazard. They want the right-of-way changed to Hwy. 48.

This recommendation had been approved by the province but the permit was allowed to expire. Mayor Fran Sainsbury informed a Planning Committee meeting May 3.

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"I think we should get Bill Balinger, (Riding MPP), in here to shake things up a bit," commented Committee chairman Wil Morley. Councillor Morley wondered if the Liberal government had changed its mind on the issue after gaining a majority.

It was suggested the Town's influence over the matter might have been greater when Greg Sobara was a Cabinet minister and Riding representative.



Respected

Service was held Saturday from the Stouffville Missionary Church for Reginald Stouffer following his passing May 5. He was 76. Mr. Stouffer, a former town business man and councillor, is survived by wife Mary, a son David, a daughter Susan and five grandchildren.

Rate of Town growth remains contentious issue for Council

STOUFFVILLE — How big is too big? The on-going debate came to the fore again May 3, with Town Planning Committee members presenting varying opinions.

Mayor Fran Sainsbury claims Stouffville must grow; by what means she's open to suggestions. Councillor Jim Sanders, on the other hand, feels it's best to hold to the status quo; that population expansion isn't that important.

Mayor Sainsbury emphatically denies she's pro Big Pipe, (hook-up to the York-Durham sewer system).

"I'm simply asking York Region what our options are," she stated.

"Our current system, (the sewage plant), is at capacity. We've been told we can't use septic tanks in new developments. What are we going to do, put Johnny-On-The-Spots all over town?"

The Town, she said, has been offered the opportunity to tap into the York-Durham sewage system, but some other municipalities are opposed.

"They claim we haven't our planning in place to handle the increase in population this hook-up would bring," she states.

According to the mayor, the former Village of Stouffville has reached its ceiling of 10,000 people as established by the Province in 1973. She feels the figure should be

revised to 20,000 by the year 2011, with a population of 30,000 for Whitchurch-Stouffville as a whole.

The request, she said, has been deferred by the Region.

"We should be trying to improve the quality of life for the

people who are here now," countered Councillor Sanders, "rather than open the doors to new people."

Mayor Sainsbury is proposing a public meeting to discuss the pros and cons of doubling Stouffville's population in the next thirteen years.

Parkview honors its volunteers

STOUFFVILLE — Thirty-two Parkview volunteers were the recipients of Appreciation Pins at a 'thank you dinner' hosted by the administration of Parkview Home and Parkview Village.

Guest speaker was Mark Cullen of Weall & Cullen Nurseries Limited. Special music was provided by Geoff Tiller, William Street, Stouffville.

The presentation of pins was made by Herb Diller and Lorna Hogg, (Parkview Home); Sheila Jones and Lorraine Steckley, (Parkview Village).

Recipients follow — Darlene Campbell, Shirley Gilham, Hazel Grove, Brenda Hamm, Joan Hetherington, Joyce Miller, Sandra Penner, Rev. Wayne Reed, Beverly Reesor, Julia Reesor, Mahlon Shantz, Eureka Skinner, Glenville Simpson, Velma Steckley, Emily Truesdale, Adin Ward, Albena Hodgson, Louise Marlatt, Beatrice Wideman, Allan Meyer, Reata Meyer, Elwood Foskett, Effie Foskett, Flossie Thompson, Mabel Williamson, Hugh Innis, Jane Innis, Nan James, Alma Nigh, Elizabeth McGonigal, Margaret Fitzpatrick and Vera Hall.

Sixty-eight volunteers were honored previously.

Mr. Cullen, the guest speaker, was introduced by Parkview's Executive Administrator J.M. Nighswander. He was thanked by Education Co-ordinator Diane Duffon.



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