

Stouffville Tribune

VOL. 102 NO. 14

Metroland Community Newspaper

Wednesday, April 4, 1990

28 Pages

50 cents



photo/RICK MADONIK

A flair for fashion

Stouffville residents were treated to a fashion show displaying what's hot this spring at Parkview Village on 9th Line in Stouffville last Thursday. A wide array of the latest fashions were modelled as part of the Tulips and Tea Fashion Show held at the

local facility. Here, model Joanne Harmen fashions a warm-weather ensemble before the crowd. Other local models took to the stage as well, bringing a taste of spring to residents who turned out for the show.

Growth plan 'hurts' Stouffville

TRACY KIBBLE
Staff Reporter

A York Region plan to restrict industrial development means Whitchurch-Stouffville taxpayers will carry the load to meet high demands for roads and schools, says Mayor Fran Sainsbury.

Whitchurch-Stouffville and other rural municipalities not on the York-Durham servicing scheme could be shunned by developers and will further strain the tax base, she says.

"It's totally unfair. (The region) is placing tougher (rules) on top of the toughest."

The plan to restrict development on lands already using municipal services is "a control mechanism" to keep the smaller communities off the big pipe, the mayor adds.

York Region Chief Planner Hershel Weinberg also wants stricter environmental controls on industrial plans for the region's 2,089 acres of vacant land, with annual inspections to meet standards and bylaws.

But Mayor Sainsbury says most of the development Whitchurch-Stouffville is reviewing, like the Gormley Industrial Park, would cause little or no impact on the environment.

"There are many tiers of industry. We're looking for a second tier industry that doesn't need a lot of services."

"No one wants to protect the environment more than I do but there is something wrong with the process" if the Town has to wait years for development through costly studies once "the drinking source is protected."

The move to squash industry hits Whitchurch-Stouffville and East Gwillimbury the hardest. Both towns are largely residential, and both mayors agree the move could cause financial disaster in their small communities.

The region has 9,433 acres of industrial land, and 1,365 acres of that would house the proposed Gormley Industrial Park which has been in the planning stages for two years.

However, the park needs an Official Plan amendment and the mayor told her regional colleagues the park is a necessary development to improve the health of the tax base and lower residential tax rates.

"It's unfair to force taxes on the houses. There is no money to build roads and schools and we just can't afford it," she concluded.

The issue will be reviewed by all nine York municipalities and dealt

Stouffville teen injured in Sunday motorcycle crash

An 18-year-old Whitchurch-Stouffville teenager lost a leg after a weekend motorcycle accident on Millard Street, York Regional Police Sergeant Norm Miles says.

Stephen Oldham was driving a 1982 Honda motorcycle eastbound on Millard St. at 7:10 a.m. Sunday when he lost control and hit a pole as he approached Alderwood Crescent, Sgt. Miles says.

The youth was taken to Markham-Stouffville Hospital and transferred to Sunnybrook Health Science Centre in Toronto where he is in the surgical intensive care unit listed in critical condition, hospital officials said Monday.

Impact from the accident caused extensive damage to the driver's left leg, which had to be amputated below the knee, Sgt. Miles says.

Mr. Oldham was not wearing a helmet and had no licence, no insurance and no licence plates on the motorcycle, Sgt. Miles says.

His passenger, Sean Lewis, 18, of Millard Street, was taken to Markham-Stouffville Hospital, treated for minor injuries and released. Police say he wasn't wearing a helmet either.

Sgt. Miles says York Regional police have embarked on a new program to step up enforcement for motorcycle drivers because "it was found half the people driving them on the roads are not licenced and do not have insurance."

"People drive bikes but don't always realize they are lightweight and have awesome pick-up and speed," says Sgt. Miles.

Charges are pending investigation in the April 1 crash, he says.

DRAMA



HOCKEY

Stouffville girls get to semi-finals
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MISSION

