

Making a point



photo/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Claremont Public School student Jennifer Barton had an enjoyable afternoon last week when her classmates staged a medieval feast. The students donned medieval attire and dined on a feast of fried chicken, bread and soft drinks. The feast marked the end of the students' study of the middle ages.

Town opposes York move to transfer plumbing duties

TRACY KIBBLE
Staff Reporter

York Region's Health Committee wants all municipalities to take over plumbing inspection responsibilities by January, 1991, but the Town building department has some concerns.

In a report last Tuesday, Town Building Director Bob Bennett listed a number of issues he would like the region to address before any

transfer of responsibility takes place.

Some of his concerns include: Who will be responsible for dealing with the plumber's union? Would Whitchurch-Stouffville be obligated to hire a regional inspector? Who would be legally responsible for projects completed prior to the transfer if litigation takes place?

Mr. Bennett said he would not suggest hiring a regional inspector because Whitchurch-Stouffville is non-union, the municipality could

not afford to pay the present inspector's salary; the Town would have to post the job and receive applications.

He also said the office would have to be re-organized, and more staff and bylaw officers would have to be hired.

Mr. Bennett said other municipalities have similar concerns but larger municipalities would "welcome the addition of plumbing inspections."

"I know Markham, Newmarket, Richmond Hill and Vaughan will want it, and will even push for it because it is a money-maker," Mr. Bennett said.

Ward 6 Councillor Jim Sanders said he is concerned of the "financial impact on the Town" and added it would cost \$93,000 to start up.

"I'd like the region to tell us what impact this will have on us. I'd like to see a financial impact report," Councillor Sanders stressed.

Ward 5 Councillor Doug Alles, also concerned for costs, said the plan would be based on size rather than work performed by each municipality.

He said the scheme is based on size (of the municipality), and if there were reimbursements for activity and not performance, "we'd be on the short end of the stick."

Mayor Fran Sainsbury said she recently spoke to Newmarket Mayor Ray Twinney about the plan, and she told officials he was concerned the "regionalism" would deteriorate and that there would be "nine different ways of doing things."

"Mayor Twinney feels this will create another north/south problem and until the union issue is resolved, all should do it or none should do it," she said.

Council supported staff recommendations to request the region address Whitchurch-Stouffville regarding its concerns, and to set a new transfer date for 1992.

Stouffville passes water quality testing

The quality of Whitchurch-Stouffville's drinking water meets all health guidelines, says an announcement from the provincial health ministry.

A 1988 report shows seven of the 196,300 treated water samples throughout the province were found to exceed one or more of the province's 1,750 recommended health safety guidelines.

And about 50 municipal well supply systems, including Whitchurch-Stouffville, were sample tested for nitrate and lead content from Peterborough to Port Dover.

'Legal error' behind appeal in drug case

TRACY KIBBLE
Staff Reporter

The Toronto Justice Department will appeal a recent District Court decision that stayed drug charges against a local man, the head of the prosecution team announced Friday.

The appeal is based on grounds there were several legal errors made in the decision, Graham Reynolds told the Tribune.

Mr. Reynolds, after meeting the Friday deadline to appeal the decision, said the Justice Department will ask the Ontario Court of Appeal to order the trial to proceed.

"We will allege (Toronto District Court Judge Arthur Whealey) made several legal errors of law" in making a decision last month when he halted the proceedings involving a \$50-million drug importation ring, Mr. Graham said.

The charges, involving 46-year-old Wayne Lambert, owner of Lambert's Corvette in Gormley, were laid in 1986 when joint police investigations uncovered evidence of drug trafficking and importation.

Judge Whealey deemed the case unconstitutional on grounds the case took too long to come to trial, and that the accused would not be given a fair hearing under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, York Regional Police Sergeant Norm Miles said last month.

"I don't want to advocate to the public the argument I will take, and I can't elaborate on the case yet," Mr. Reynolds said. However, he did say the appeal will likely not take place until the fall this year.

"We're going to get as early a date as we can but these things require a certain amount of time," Mr. Reynolds said.

Mr. Lambert and six others, including a Canada Customs official, were charged in 1986 after police uncovered a phony customs stamp and erased records allegedly used to import the drugs from Pakistan to Toronto.

Stouffville Council update

Burkholder closed
Burkholder Street will be closed for the Canada Day evening festivities July 1, Council decided last Tuesday.

The Strawberry Festival Committee had stressed concern to Town Recreation Director Marlane McKee-Wetheral that vehicular traffic could be dangerous for many pedestrians using the street to get to the event.

"Several hundred people attend the cake cutting ceremony as

'Big opportunity'

Little League Theatre founder moving east

The man who brought Little League Theatre to Stouffville is packing his bags and heading off to new opportunities in Atlantic Canada. Steve Payne, a freelance radio and television documentary producer who operated the children's theatre concept in town for the past three years, has taken a position with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation in Sydney, Nova Scotia.

Mr. Payne will do agriculture, fisheries and natural resource stories for the CBC, as well as television reporting, and the development of radio and television series.

Mr. Payne and his wife, Bela, were actively involved in the Stouffville community in recent years.

An ardent recycling activist, Mr. Payne has served as president of Whitchurch-Stouffville Recycling for the past 1 1/2 years, co-ordinating the town's Blue Box program.

He put on the Kiddie Land program at the Strawberry Festival in 1988, was involved with seniors at Parkview Village, and entertained as a clown in the annual Stouffville Magic Festival.

"We're going to miss Stouffville," he said recently. "We were quite involved here. But we're going to a great opportunity in Nova Scotia."

The Paynes, with their one-year-old infant daughter Bryden, will take up permanent residence in Sydney in early July.

well as the entertainment being provided by the Toronto Philharmonic Orchestra. These events will be followed by the Fireworks Display which attracts close to 2,000 people in the main park," Ms. McKee-Wetheral said in her report.

Council supported the recommendation to close Burkholder Street to vehicular traffic from Park Drive to Market Street from 5-11 p.m. on July 1, 1990.

Town Crier Competition

The Strawberry Festival opening will kick off with a loud and clear announcement from a newly-appointed town crier. Council decided recently.

A town crier competition June 27 will be held to choose an official crier for the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville.

Prospective criers are invited to submit their applications prior to June 8, and all applicants will be interviewed by Mayor Fran Sainsbury and members of council.

It was also decided that if no other applications are received for the job, Marc Bossi will be proclaimed and appointed the official Town Crier and will open the 1990 Whitchurch-Stouffville Strawberry Festival.

The criers will be judged separately by a panel of three to five judges on bell ringing, clarity, style and speech content, and should be judged on "the person, not the costume," a report states.

Council supported the competition.

Motorists inconvenienced?

The traffic lights at the Cable Tech Wire Co. building and Mostar Street, inconvenience drivers," says Ward 5 Councillor Doug Alles.

He says he has had many complaints about the length of time the lights stay red on busy Stouffville Road and during rush hour "they are a major inconvenience for many, many motorists."

Councillor Alles says

He suggested the lights should 'flash' at certain times so as not to hold up the bulk of the traffic. Council will have staff look into the complaint.

Dirty streets

There is too much dust and dirt on the sides of streets and roads in Whitchurch-Stouffville, says Ward 5 Councillor Doug Alles.

He adds the street cleaning machine "does not work" and at times the dust is flying up at pedestrians.

"I shovelled up a ton of it myself," he says.

Council will have staff look into the problem.

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