

Year in review

Stouffville a busy place for news in '90

TRACY KIBBLE
Staff Reporter

The year 1990 marked the beginning of both exciting and devastating issues that many of us will remember into 1991.

The Stouffville Tribune has gathered its most prominent headline news from last year to bring to our readers a collection of another year of history in the community.

JANUARY 1990

Debbie and David Wittred will celebrate their son's 1st birthday New's Year Day, 1991. Jesse David was the first child born at Centenary Hospital in Scarborough in 1990 when he made his way into the world at 12:33 a.m. at 7 lb, 6 oz. Nurses at the hospital celebrated Jesse's birth last New Years by sporting the infant with a hat and taking photos of him. Happy 1st birthday Jesse!

A tragic car crash takes the life of 35-year-old Bruce Shaver of Musselman Lake Jan. 23, 1990 at 5:45 p.m., after a head-on collision at Hwy. 7 east of the 10th Line in Markham.

Whitchurch-Stouffville Town Council backs the Stouffville District Secondary School track dream by agreeing to commit \$40,000 to the \$300,000 project. The eight-lane, 400-metre, oval rubber-coated track is now under construction.

FEBRUARY 1990

Joseph Nighswander, executive admin-

istrator of Parkview services for seniors since 1971, announces his resignation.

Mr. Nighswander will handed over the reins to Lloyd Hogg Dec. 31, 1990 to pursue other interests he was unable to enjoy because of his demanding position.

Whitchurch-Stouffville Town Council is unimpressed with a consultant firm's affordable housing survey, which it claimed bypasses the young sector of the community. Councillors demand Ed Starr Group include questions in its questionnaire that accurately reflect local housing shortages for young people.

MARCH 1990

Ontario's Liberal government proposes a no-fault insurance plan to replace the current system, but is met with opposition from Fair Action in Insurance Reform (FAIR) - a group made up largely of lawyers. Bill Ballinger, Durham-York MPP said the new system will bring insurance premium relief to good drivers, while FAIR claims no-fault would take victims' right to sue away.

Stouffville resident Darrell Rolls, 48, becomes a hero to Metro and York police forces after he helps nab a suspect in connection with the murder of 20-year-old Cheryl Baines of Scarborough. Mr. Rolls spots the suspect at several locations in Stouffville and keeps police up-to-date by telephone on the suspect's whereabouts until officers could arrest him. The man was later arrested in Newmar-

ket at a Yonge Street roadblock.

APRIL 1990

Whitchurch-Stouffville teen Stephen Oldham has a leg amputated after his motorcycle crashes into a pole on Millard Street and Alderwood Crescent at 7:10 a.m. April 1. The youth remained in critical condition for several weeks.

Deer Park Inn is forced into bankruptcy after 90 creditors, including nine Stouffville businesses, are unpaid. The company owes more than \$380,000 (\$13,000 to local business) to various corporations, including Revenue Canada. Roger's Broadcasting petitions the involuntary bankruptcy. Later in the month Deer Park representatives fail to show at a creditors' meeting.

MAY 1990

A Toronto District Court Judge stays drug smuggling and affiliated charges against Stouffville resident Wayne Lambert on grounds the case took too long to come to trial under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

The October 1986 charges relate to an alleged scheme involving importation and trafficking of five tonnes of hashish from Pakistan worth \$50 million with the aid of phony customs stamps and documentation, which were seized from a Gormley business in 1984.

The York Region Board of Education and the town wage a battle over the price

of land that stalls installation of traffic lights at Summitview Public School at Stouffer and Main Streets. Concerned parents say the battle should not take place since both lands in question are owned by the public and the stall tactics jeopardize lives. Local officials argue it has every intention to install and improve the intersection but would lose capital dollars if it accepted the board's deal. Meanwhile, the board says the town should sell the land for \$1 and accuses the town of renegeing on a previous deal.

JUNE 1990

The Liberal no-fault insurance becomes law and opposition groups say they will fight the legislation and its wording. The plan comes into effect June 27 - after a 64-27 Queen's Park vote. Meanwhile, eight of the nine York Regional municipalities oppose the plan.

Motorcycle crash victim Stephen Oldham of Stouffville, defies the odds at a rehabilitation centre in Toronto after his left leg is amputated at Sunnybrook Medical Science Centre following an April 1 crash. Meanwhile, SDSS classmates band together to raise money for the youth to help with post-operative recovery.

Concerned Summitview parents continue to lash out at the education board and town officials over a battle that stalls light installation at the school. Parents threaten to picket Main Street if the two corporations don't come to an agreement of land purchase. Two days later, the parents do begin picketing.

McNeil Pharmaceutical, Stouffville's most prestigious industry, announces it will close its local plant. Mayor Fran Sainsbury says the closure will seriously affect the town's tax base.

Joseph Nighswander, administrator at Parkview Services for Seniors, is chosen as the Tribune's 1990 Citizen of the Year by local residents. Named a "real people person," Mr. Nighswander's work with Parkview facilities included a \$3.5 million reconstruction project at Parkview Home.

JULY 1990

A Musselman Lake water quality report finds phosphorus is the main cause of pollution in the kettle lake, which can be controlled mainly by its residents. The Lake Simcoe and Region Conservation Authority and two other government agencies complete the extensive study to determine the main pollutants of the lake. Urban runoff - 67 per cent of the drainage into the lake - are named the major pollutants.

Whitchurch-Stouffville Mayor Fran Sainsbury loses the provincial Markham Liberal nomination to Frank Scarpitti of Markham in the first ballot. Mayor Sainsbury is "shocked" when her and a

third opponent tied for second place with 244 votes each, while Mr. Scarpitti soared with 728 votes.

AUGUST 1990

York Region hires a consultant to look for possible dump sites within the region to house its garbage on a temporary basis. The Greater Toronto Area, including York, joins forces to solve a landfill capacity shortage. The region looks for suitable sites to dump garbage until 1996. Meanwhile, Stouffville Mayor Fran Sainsbury makes public her fears that this community may be chosen as a potential site to house the region's garbage.

Candidates gear up for the Liberal-called provincial election. Durham-York MPP Bill Ballinger defends Premier David Peterson's motives for calling the early \$40-million election, while Progressive Conservative candidate Jack Hauseman boos. New Democrats have not yet announced a candidate for the riding.

Some Millard Street residents oppose the SDSS track project, claiming lights on proposed tennis courts will affect the value of their homes.

SEPTEMBER 1990

New Democrat candidate Larry O'Connor upsets Liberal incumbent Bill Ballinger in the Sept. 6 provincial election taking 34.1 per cent of the votes in the Durham-York riding. Mr. Ballinger comes close with 30.4 per cent, while Progressive Conservative candidate Jack Hauseman trails at 29.8 per cent. The 1,300-vote victory in Durham-York was one of many NDP victories across the province. New Democrats hold 74 of the 130 seats and the election goes down in Ontario political history - Bob Rae is the first NDP leader to govern Ontario.

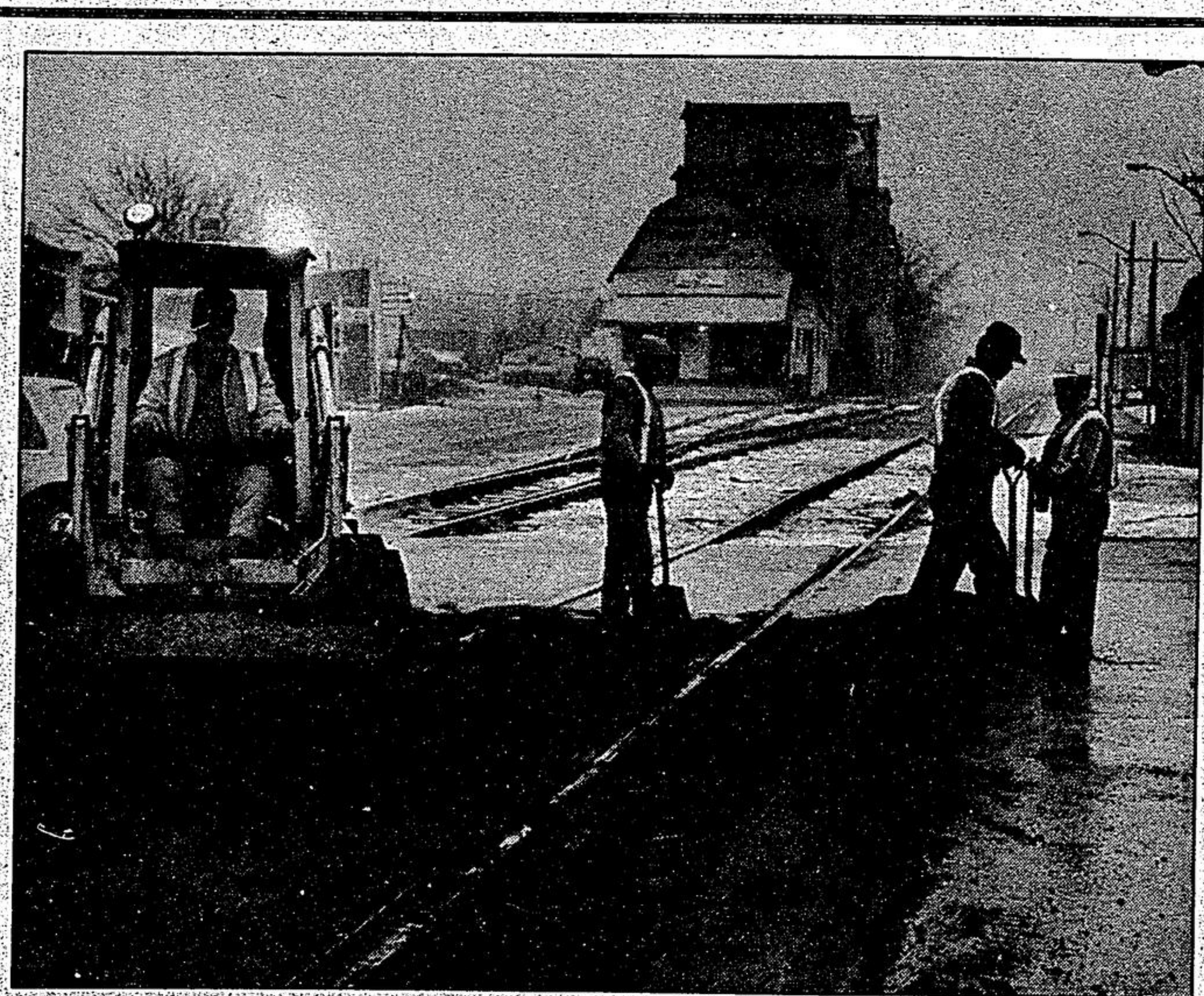
OCTOBER 1990

Ward 2 Councillor Ron Robb resigns his seat from Whitchurch-Stouffville Town Council after serving the Musselman Lake/Ballantrae constituents since 1984. Councillor Robb tells officials he must resign to protect his pension at a Toronto fire department and will need to dedicate all his time to his up-coming exams.

Long-time businessman Norm Faulkner ends more than a quarter century as co-partner at the Stouffville Stockyards, leaving sole ownership to Norm Clements. Mr. Faulkner says he wants to "sit and let the rest of the world go by" for a while and will head south for some relaxation.

Well-known hockey official Ed Grimshaw, 55, is charged by York Regional police with fraud-related charges after funds totalling \$11,800

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CN employees temporarily repaired the bumpy rail crossing on Main Street in Stouffville last week as an early Christmas gift for local motorists. The full repair project, which is expected to cost about \$44,000, will be done in 1991, say town officials.

Stouffville motorists enjoy temporary relief at CN tracks

TRACY KIBBLE
Staff Reporter

The CN tracks on Main Street were temporarily repaired late last month until the full construction project can smooth the problem.

Paul Whitehouse, town public works director, said the spot repairs are being done by CN workers now since the company could not do full repairs before the end of the year as targeted.

He said the temporary work involves grinding the existing asphalt between the rails and the tracks over the travel portion of the road to smooth out the bumps.

Next year CN will undertake the major three-day \$44,000 job of completely re-doing the tracks for an easier ride.

Mr. Whitehouse said the work will cause a lot of inconvenience for motorists, however, and traffic will have to be re-routed off Main Street.

Since CN is insisting Main Street be closed for the project, Council may re-route traffic to Millard/Stouffer Street for local traffic and onto Bethesda Road for highway traffic.

However, CN will open a temporary barricade for the Volunteer Fire Department if the need arises, it was decided September.

The permanent repairs will include a \$44,000 top-of-the-line mud rail and rubber panel installation allowing the smoothest ride. CN is paying 90 per cent of the cost through the Transportation Ministry's connecting link grant program.

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