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Weekender Edition

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Auto Express

YOUR



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Town wants Hydro to remove old lights

SAL BOMMARITO
Staff Reporter

The town wants Ontario Hydro to handle the disposal of old streetlights just in case PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) are present.

A resolution was passed by council to make the request, after Ward 1 councillor Ivanka Bradley raised questions about the disposal of light ballasts resulting from the town's participation in a streetlight conversion program.

"Are some of the ballasts containing PCBs to be stored at the town?" Bradley asked Paul Whitehouse, director of public works.

"Yes. There are not a lot of companies which transport (the ballasts)," said Whitehouse, in response. Transporting the material is also prohibited by government legislation, he added.

The town has approached Stouffville Hydro about storing the ballasts, since they are already storing PCB-laden transformers, said Whitehouse.

"(Stouffville Hydro) are not receptive to getting them," he said.

Whitehouse said the town has not yet encountered any of the PCB-laden streetlight ballasts.

Council has authorized town staff to enter into an agreement with Ontario Hydro to begin participation in the Street-Smart Lighting Program. The first phase of the project will involve converting the 125-watt mercury vapor lamps in 90 of the post-top streetlights in the Thicketwood Boulevard, Booth Drive and Stuart Street areas, according to a public works report.

More energy-efficient high-pressure lights will be installed at those locations. The agreement requires Ontario Hydro to reimburse the town 25 per cent of the total cost of the work, with 25 per cent of the first phase being paid on signing the agreement, the report says.

The town will phase the project over a four-year period, with total conversion of all streetlights by Dec. 31, 1994.



Family escapes serious injury in Christmas collision

SAL BOMMARITO
Staff Reporter

Four members of an Uxbridge family escaped serious injury Christmas Eve after colliding with another vehicle on Aurora Sideroad.

York Regional Police said one member of the family sustained minor injuries in the accident and was taken to Uxbridge hospital by ambulance.

The accident occurred around 7 p.m. near Lake Island Drive when an eastbound Chrysler swerved into the opposite lane, the spokesman said.

A westbound Chevrolet, which a man and his family were riding in, swerved to avoid the vehicle and ended up in the ditch.

The eastbound vehicle continued out of control, striking the westbound vehicle before coming

to a stop on the lawn of a residence located on the south side of the road, said the spokesman.

The driver of the eastbound

vehicle, a 32-year-old Stouffville area man, was charged with impaired driving following the accident.

The family, including the man's wife and two young children, was shaken following the accident, said the spokesman.

Impaired driving reduced in 1991

Motorists are getting the message about drinking and driving, York Regional Police said following the December RIDE campaign.

Despite a slight increase in the number of impaired charges laid by York Region officers, the number of drivers facing over 80 charges has dropped since the December 1990 crackdown.

Last year, 22 people were killed in 20 motor vehicle collisions in York Region, a substantial decrease over the number of 1990 car crash fatalities where 43 people died on regional roads in 38 accidents. Not all these incidents involved alcohol.

time period	1991	Dec. '91	1990	Dec. '90
vehicles stopped	91,744	22559	82,274	N/A
Alert tests	1,987	321	2,058	636
impaired	79	7	72	12
over 80 mg	150	4	163	24
refuse to blow	10	2	22	4
traffic act violations	630	149	604	220
seat belt violations	291	27	89	11

These statistics from York Regional Police RIDE program

Man, 21, faces sentencing

A 21-year-old Stouffville man will appear in court Jan. 13 for sentencing in connection with a fire which nearly gutted the vacant Deer Park Inn last April.

Kevin David Cumming was charged with break, enter and theft, arson and mischief over \$1,000 following the blaze.

Damages caused by the fire are estimated at \$1-million.

The inn is located at Hwy 47 and Bloomington Rd.

Cumming, who turned himself in April 17, one day after the 5 a.m. fire, will appear in Ontario Court, General Division in Newmarket to enter a plea on the charges, according to a court spokesman.

Three youths, whose identities are protected under the Young Offenders Act, were also charged in connection with the fire.

Grimshaw trial set

A Stouffville man accused of misappropriating more than \$11,000 from the Whitchurch-Stouffville Minor Hockey Association last year will stand trial this summer.

Ed Grimshaw, 56, who was charged last October in connection with the incident, will appear in Ontario Court, General Division in Newmarket June 15, according to a court spokesman.



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