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After 15 years

Ninth Line comes under region

After years of trying by Stouffville and Markham, York Region has agreed to assume responsibility for the Ninth Line between Hwy 7 and Main St. in Stouffville.

The road which is the main access route to Markham Stouffville Hospital is in extremely poor condition south of Main St. to 16th Ave., and has been a source of frustration between the two municipalities and the region over who is responsible for its upkeep.

The region agreed to take over the road at its council meeting Thursday after a motion presented by Markham Regional Councillor Fred Cox and Whitchurch-Stouffville Mayor Fran Sainsbury. The vote passed by a 10-7 margin. It had been on the order paper since 1991.

On Monday, Sainsbury told *The Tribune* she had asked Cox to raise the matter because it would have ensured at least six regional votes with all Markham regional councillors backing the motion.

"The Ninth Line arterial road linkage break should never have happened. That's what regionalism is all about. Stouffville has worked so hard for our share of the hospital's debt and we really need a short, safe and accessible road," she said.

"This is great, wonderful news," said Cox. "We've been trying to do this for 15 years."

Regional staff will be looking into what interim work can be done on the road, but major improvements can't be expected until the 1995 budget is set.

With the York approval, the mayor said building the controversial Ninth Line S. sidewalk was a good move because the funds sitting for road improvements for Parkview Village means that the region would have taken the funds, and used it for the road improvement.

Critics have said that the region would now ask Parkview Village for a share in the funding for any improvements.

Photo/BRUCE STAPLEY

This fire razed a barn Saturday night. Fire officials were on hand for hours battling the $200,000 blaze. More than 25 horses were rescued from the barn when the fire broke out.

Horses saved from barn fire

BRUCE STAPLEY
Correspondent

Fire officials are estimating damages in excess of $200,000 after fire consumed a horse barn in the Bloomington Rd. and McCowan Rd. area Saturday night.

The 60 foot by 80 foot structure, which belonged to former Canadian Olympic rider Tom Gayford, burned to the ground while local firefighters were successful in attempts to save a horse arena attached to the barn.

Gayford, along with his family and employees, were able to rescue the 25 to 30 horses that were in the barn when the fire broke out around 9 p.m.

Twenty-five men from the Stouffville and Bal-

(Please see page 3)

Teacher strike looms at local high school

JULIE CASPERSEN
Staff Reporter

Fear of a teacher strike has resurfaced in high school corridors.

A few months ago, even just a few weeks, ago, the possibility of a high school teacher strike in York Region was the main topic of conversation in classrooms and hallways, but when negotiations stalled, talk faded, and so did students' fears.

The possibility of a strike became more and more remote when no headway was made by the union and the board toward a settlement, and the possible strike was no longer part of the daily conversations at school.

An announcement Friday morning that the teachers' union and the board had once again deadlocked with no agreement in sight has rumors flying again.

"OAC students are deathly afraid," said Milliken Mills High School student council president Ben Ho. Mid-term marks are due next week. These grades are sent to colleges and universities and used in the admission process.

The two sides embarked on a bargaining session Thursday afternoon, but by midnight talks had once again broken down.

Union leader Lynn Johnston said the 1,700 high school teachers could be working to rule in two weeks. "Our negotiating team is meeting this morning to set guidelines. (A recommendation) goes to executive for approval early next week," Johnston said yesterday.

Once the executive passes the motion for strike action, the board is notified and a five-day waiting period must lapse before teachers start a work-to rule campaign.

(Please see page 3)

Y&R star here Sunday

Jeanne Cooper, who plays Katherine Chancellor on the Young and the Restless, will be at the Stouffville Country Flea Market on Sunday, at 11:30 a.m. where she will answer questions and sign autographs.

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