

Conservation area's plans for concerts strikes sour note

By JOAN RANSBERRY
Staff Reporter

Stouffville will never be a Woodstock, local council was told Tuesday.

People living near Bruce's Mill Conservation Area are not welcoming a plan to host outdoor summer concerts.

They say if controls aren't put in place, the doors are open to something like the famed New York concert of 28 years ago.

Residents living on Stouffville Road near the conservation area told Whitchurch-Stouffville council that if the town

allows concerts, it runs the risk of posing noise, garbage and traffic problems.

James Ryan, who's lived near the site for more than 30 years said if the concerts get out of hand, he might be forced to leave his home.

Conservation officials do not assume the responsibility of garbage cleanup now, council was told.

Garbage blows on to private property, while area residents are forced to clean up the mess.

Al Leach, spokesman for the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, said the concert plans are to bring children entertainers such as Sharon, Lois and Bram. Also, the events could offer

jazz or symphony. There will not be any rock concerts, Leach stressed.

Concerts are being proposed as a way for the conservation authorities to generate funds.

Such concerts have been held in

other communities. They've been problem-free, said Leach.

Members of council suggested that if concerts are to be allowed they'd be permitted one at a time, the concerts would be monitored and the next one would not be held



Author visits

Willow Grove Primary School students were visited by children's author Kim Fernandes recently. Fernandes is the author of books as "Zebo and the Dirty Planet". She writes the stories and illustrates these using plasticine. Here, Fernandes helps Amy Lofthouse create her own illustration using plasticine.

Photo/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Audubon involved

The \$150 million "adult lifestyle" community slated for Ballantrae will be the first community in Canada to seek full signature status with the Audubon Society, an internationally known conservationist group. While the public reviewed the plan, made up of 900 homes and an 18-hole golf course yesterday, the 370 acre-site on Aurora Sideroad will also be put to the Audubon-test. Audubon's signature sanctuary program is designed for development planners who would like to incorporate sound environmental decisions in the design, construction and management of their project.

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