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Water hook-up the law in Musselman's Lake

JOAN RANSBERRY
Staff Reporter

In a few days, residents of Musselman's Lake and Ballantrae will receive a legal notice concerning the new communal water system.

Under the Ministry of Municipal Affairs mandatory connection bylaw, the legal notice tells 850 homeowners that they now have nine months to get hooked up to the town's new communal water system.

Under the system, hamlet residents can get a two-year extension, and exemptions will be given providing homeowners agree to pay a flat rate equal to 100 per cent of the cost of the water.

Included in the notice is information outlining connection procedures.

More than 100 homeowners are already connected. Those who need it the most seem to "come in first," said Tom Parry, the town's engineer.

Residents are reminded that water hookup is not an option. Under the bylaw, residents must be connected, Parry stressed.

"Because it is mandatory, the town has the authority to go onto a property and make a connection, then recover the cost or add the cost to the tax bill, explained Parry.

On a 50-foot lot, the average cost to the property owner will be about \$1,000. This includes a \$250 meter and a \$30 new-account fee.

Residents must abandon existing wells. Many have shown increasing bacterial and nitrate contamination, town officials have reported.

Government officials, including Parry, strongly urge residents to properly abandon their wells to eliminate the contamination and to prevent further deterioration of the groundwater by allowing contaminants to enter through improperly constructed and poorly-maintained wells.

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@random

News you can use

*** GRASS FIRE:** A small grass fire in Uxbridge brought out Stouffville's fire department Saturday.

At 12:20 p.m. the fire was reported at the Second Concession, near the fire tracks in Uxbridge.

According to Murray Emmerston, Stouffville's deputy fire chief, the one-alarm fire had his crew on site for just over an hour dousing flames from fallen trees and fence posts near the train tracks.

"It takes a little longer in remote areas because you have to bring the water in," he

said. Although the cause is unknown, diesel fuel from a passing train may have sparked the blaze, according to Stouffville's fire chief Bill Brown.

There were no injuries in the incident.

LEGION TAX FREE: The Royal Canadian Legion in Stouffville will be tax free for at least five more years, local council agreed last month.

Taxes are waived because some members of the Legion served in the military for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in past wars.

DANGEROUS DRIVING TRIAL: The driver of a car that killed a Stouffville man and seriously injured his wife is set to get under way in a Newmarket court today.

In mid June of 1995, Geoffrey

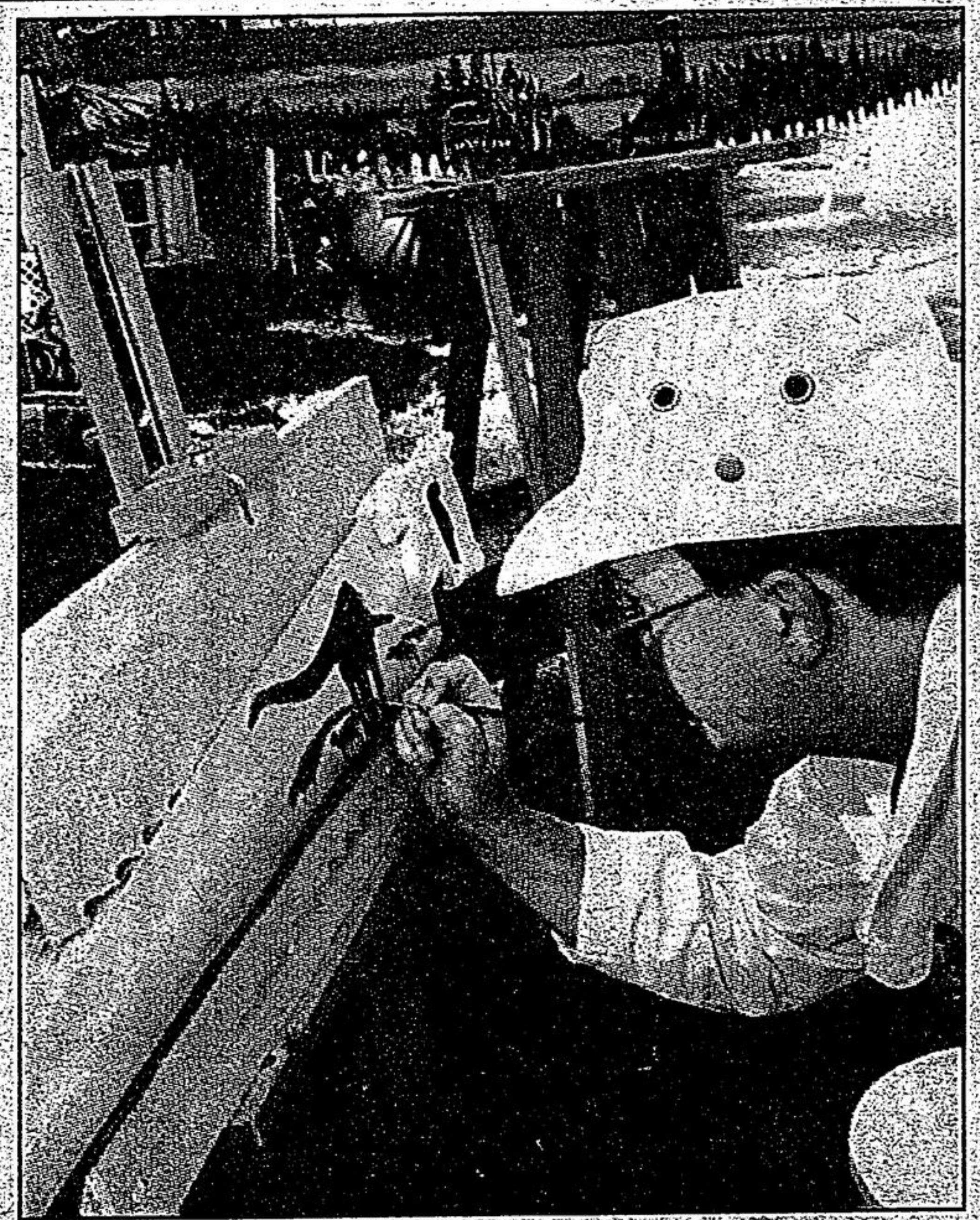
Lam, 22, was charged with two counts, including dangerous operation of a vehicle causing death in connection with the death of Rocco Rea of Stouffville. His wife, Caroline Rea sustained a serious head injury and spent many months in hospital.

Rocco Rea worked at East End Esso Petro Canada service station, while Caroline grew up in Stouffville.

The two-vehicle accident occurred on Hwy. 7 west of Bayview Ave.

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newsline
640-2100



BLADING IN THE PARK: Stouffville's Richard Fronske paints on saw blades at Art in the Park '97 held in Elgin Park last weekend in Uxbridge. Fronske was one of a number of Stouffville artists who showed their work in the exhibit and sale, a fundraiser for the Real People Real Care campaign at Uxbridge Cottage Hospital. The event was sponsored by our sister paper, *The Uxbridge Tribune*.

Photo by STEVE SOMERVILLE

Police get 10 per cent raise with new deal

KATHLEEN GRIFFIN
Staff Reporter

York Regional Police have ratified a four-year contract that by 1999 will mean a 10.5 per cent salary increase for both uniformed officers and

civilian employees.

That means a first-class contract making \$51,751 now would be making \$58,879 by August, 1999.

The contract will cost York Region taxpayers about \$5

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