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THE TRIBUNE

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Spirit hits the links. Page 18

Alicia goes to excess Page 6

Well victory for people against pipe

JOAN RANSBERRY
 Staff Reporter

Homeowners not interested in getting hooked up to the new water system in Mus-selman's Lake and Ballantrae scored a victory Tuesday.

Whitchurch-Stouffville Council went along with a plan, proposed by Ward 2 Councillor Mike Watson, to have homeowners with safe, working wells apply for an exemption.

However, these homeowners must prove on an ongoing basis that their wells are safe. Also, documented health conditions of owners could be grounds for an exemption.

The decision to put the hamlets on a communal water system came after health offi-

cial found many contaminated wells, posing a serious health threat to the community at large.

While an \$8-million water system was approved by three levels of government, some residents continue to reject it. Area homeowners Robin McGee, Cindy Ross, Michael Benjamin and Stephen Dabous each told council that it's pointless to force homeowners who neither need nor want water to spend about \$6,000 to get connected to a system they claim they'll never use.

"We're very upset to be forced into a situation to take water we don't want," said McGee.

Benjamin told council he has no interest in "spending \$10,000 to bring a useless pipe" into his house.

A health condition, but only an extreme health condition documented by a doctor, could be grounds for an exemption.

This change came after area resident Peter Dzedzic informed council that he shouldn't be included because he has a severe allergy to chlorine. Exposure to chlorine triggers

respiratory difficulty, Dzedzic said.

Ward 3 Councillor Margot Marshall reminded everyone that the plan to solve a "serious health" threat was 10 years in the making.

So far, about 200 of 850 homeowners are connected to the system.

Gormley cemetery gets okay

The plan to build a cemetery on 86 acres in Gormley is one step closer to reality.

On Tuesday, Whitchurch-Stouffville Council gave the go-ahead to a site plan agreement with Memorial Gardens.

Earlier this year, Memorial Gardens won at an Ontario Municipal Board OMB hear-

ing, paving the way for the company to build the cemetery at 12492 Woodbine Ave., on the west side.

The cemetery plan included a crematorium, columbaria, mausoleum, chapel and sales and service buildings.

-Joan Ransberry



Above, Nicole Carroll and Gabrielle Foley get dishpan hands as they clean clothes the old-fashioned way at the Hands On Heritage Fair at Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum last Sunday. At right, Kay and Gord Wagg promenade across the dance floor at the square dance. Visitors experienced life from a bygone era, with displays of weaving, spinning, rug-making and butter churning, and tried their hands at heritage crafts and 19th century trades.



Photos by CHERYL JOHNSON

@random

What's happening

The old-fashioned steam engine will be huffing and puffing at the Bruce's Mill HarvestFest on Sat., Sept. 20 and Sun., Sept. 21 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Shop at the farmers' market and the county bake sale. Enjoy the barbecue, see apple cider pressing and take a ride on a horse-drawn wagon. Don't forget to visit the historic mill.

Admission is \$4 for adults, \$3 for children and \$2 for seniors. Bruce's Mill Conservation Area is on Stouffville

Road, three kilometres east of Hwy 404.

For details call (416) 661-6600.

Explorers begin again on Mon., Sept. 15 at Stouffville United Church. This is a group for girls nine, 10 and 11 years old (Grades 4, 5 and 6) and meets each Monday evening, 7 to 8:30 p.m.

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