

RESCUE REVISITED



On Friday, York Regional Police jumped into Musselman's Lake in Stouffville to re-enact the watery rescue of a man trapped in a van in a lake near Newmarket. John McRae (left) and Nadine Marcos "rescue"

Pat Smyth while Marcus Gumpenberger operates the video camera in the boat steered by Gerald Lanna. The video is to be shown at the police chief's annual dinner next week.

STAFF PHOTOS/JOERD WITTEVEEN

Outdoor storage plan has neighbours fuming

Changes at industrial park taken to OMB

BY JOAN RANSBERRY
Staff Writer

Living across from an industrial park can have a down side, seven Stouffville homeowners are discovering.

Residents near Bloomington Road and 10th Line are inviting Whitchurch-Stouffville council to join their fight against an Uxbridge industrial park.

Today, area homeowner Colleen Dalgliesh is scheduled to address local council and outline the concerns of the residential neighbourhood, located across from the industrial park.

The park is made up of 22 industrial lots and a commercial block on the northeast corner of Regional Road 30 and Hwy. 47.

Homeowners are taking issue with the fact that York Pacific Ltd. wants to change the rules linked to the operation of the industrial park. The park owner has the backing

of the Uxbridge Committee of Adjustment.

"So far, the fight has cost the Stouffville homeowners \$15,000.

"We don't know what the total will be. The process is costly. We are being caught in the expensive loop," Dalgliesh said.

The issue is the subject of an Ontario Municipal Board two-day hearing slated for May 4 at the Uxbridge municipal building.

York Pacific wants permission to use 20 per cent of its property for outdoor storage, while a request to reduce the 50-per-cent landscape demand to 15 per cent has angered residents.

"I don't want to look out at outdoor storage. Nor do I want to see the landscape ruling relaxed," Dalgliesh said.

"It worked for years. We negotiated an agreement with the (former) owners and they stuck to it."

TOWN PROMOTES BUSINESS AND HISTORY

Stouffville comes alive at new online site

Stouffville's gone online. Residents and visitors to Whitchurch-Stouffville can now access community information on the World Wide Web.

StouffvilleOnline, a directory and tourist guide, has been launched as the primary online information source for people wishing to learn about their home town.

Developed by Stouffville-based Internet company Panorama Internet Publishing and supported by the Whitchurch-Stouffville Chamber of Commerce, the web site features a complete guide to life in and around town.

"Both residents and visitors will benefit by using the site," said Panorama president Glenn Jackson, who also acts as administrator of StouffvilleOnline.

"If you are looking for local business contact information,

upcoming events or local weather and road conditions, you will be able to find it on site. All information is up to date and easily accessible," Jackson said.

StouffvilleOnline features a local business directory with contact information listing, community service directory, historical information and resources and geographic information with maps.

StouffvilleOnline has been in production for eight months and joins similar ventures in more than 480 Canadian towns and cities, including Newmarket, Aurora, Richmond Hill and Markham, in using the Internet to promote their communities on a global scale.

StouffvilleOnline can be accessed at www.stouffvilleonline.com

REGIONAL News Digest



WHAT'S HAPPENING

Special Olympic Games
May 11 to 14
Throughout York Region
Call 905-SPECIAL

Special Olympics hospitality director Gerry Pike with floor hockey competitor Shane Robinson take a shine to the event. Thousands of stars will be placed all over the region to remind residents the Games are approaching.

Freeze quashes land sale

Liberal Leader Dalton McGuinty's call for a freeze on all Ontario Realty Corporation land deals has stopped a controversial sale of land in Aurora.

McGuinty told Queen's Park earlier this month a property at Bloomington Road and Yonge Street in Aurora was still proceeding even though it is one of several questionable deals being investigated by the Ontario Provincial Police.

He demanded all land sales be frozen immediately.

McGuinty said the property was being bought by Woodbridge developer Frank Gabrielle, who also bought nine hectares of ORC land in Mississauga a year ago for \$1.9 million and sold it in November for \$4.4 million.

But Judith Baird, an ORC spokesperson, confirmed on Friday that no offers have been accepted on the property.

She also confirmed the sale will not be able to go ahead while police are investigating.

Baird also stressed all other sales will be reviewed by the management board to determine if they need to be audited.

The Ontario Provincial Police are investigating land deals at the ORC because a forensic audit uncovered irregularities.

The ORC owns thousands of acres of land in York Region, including the Parkway Belt West greenbelt beside Hwy. 407.

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