

Snowmobiles, power boats could be banned from lake: Councillor

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"Many of the snowmobilers are OK. But some destroy private property and they don't give a damn," said Gallagher. "We've had many complaints already. They cut fences with wire cutters, ruin lawns in their quest to get to the lake and they make a great deal of noise disturbing the peace of others. We got so many complaints of property damage, we decided to let them have access to our leased park (at the west end of Cedarvale Boulevard).

"They'd already cut our locks anyway. They're damaging our park, but we'll do the repairs in the spring."

Now that the snowmobilers get on and off the lake at the end of Cedarvale, residents in the area are feeling their presence.

"I think it's a great sport, but they're driving all over my lawn and ruining it," said Christine Vlazcos of Cedarvale Boulevard.

To help Vlazcos, the Cedarvale Community Association roped off her front lawn with ribbons, making the property look like a crime scene. "I caught one snowmobiler in the middle of my lawn. He just said he was lost," said Vlazcos.

Rob Durnford lives next to the water at Musselman's Lake. While he's experienced no property damage, Durnford would appreciate it if the late-night noise would cease. "It's just too late," said Durnford. "I don't care what they do. Go to the forest far away."

If lake residents object to the snowmobiles, they should move, said Rick Cook.

"If they don't like the night noise or the winter wonder-

land we are creating, and if they don't like to look out and see the beautiful sight of the machines flying back and forth or the power boats in the summer time then they can sell to people like us," said Rick Cook.

"They can let people like us live on the lake. They can get out, if they don't like us. That's the answer."

A strong word of warning is issued to snowmobilers from Whitchurch-Stouffville Deputy Fire Chief Tim Beckett. "Ice on one part of the lake will be four or five inches thick and then another area will be only one half-inch thick," he said.

A 32-year-old Stouffville man learned first hand how Mother Nature can and has fooled snowmobilers. On Boxing Day, Scugog firefighters were called upon to fish their first snowmobilers out of Lake Scugog this season, including the Stouffville resident. "It was sheer stupidity," said Scugog Fire Chief Richard Miller.

His department and Durham Regional Police are considering sending the Stouffville man a bill for rescuing him.

Whitchurch-Stouffville Mayor Wayne Emmerson says Scugog should make the Stouffville man pay for his own rescue. Having to carry out a rescue in the icy lake jeopardizes the lives of firefighters and police officers, Emmerson says.

Snowmobiles and large power boats could be banned from Musselman's Lake, Ward 2 Councillor Mark Carroll says. The issue will likely be debated by town council "if not this year, at least next year," said Carroll.

In the meantime, the local

councillor said he's going to talk to the municipal bylaw department regarding the noise bylaw as it applies to the snowmobiles.

The only solution to the problem is to apply the

Darwin theory, said Mike Gallagher of the Cedarvale Community Association. "Some snowmobilers drag their knuckles on the ground. It's a matter of evolution. The Neanderthal snowmobilers

will go through the ice and be the lost. The real snow snowmobiler hasn't had his machine out of his driveway. There's no snow."

The only safe place to snowmobile is on established

trails, said Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Club general manager Ron Purchase.

He suggests snowmobilers be patient: The snow is on its way. Trails will be covered soon.

We're one great New Year's Resolution!

RRSP Deadline is March 1, 2002.

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Card Of Thanks

On the recent Dec. 17, 2001 passing of our loving Husband, Father and Pappa, Robert "BOB" Bangay it would be so easy to say a simple "Thanks you know who you are". Today that would not be the case.

From the onset of the last ten weeks the support from both Family and Friends has been overwhelming. From the simple phone call, "can we take the kids for a while, to the continual flow of food and treats, it has never stopped".

Both Family and Friends have made a dark time seem a little better. To the nurses Helen, Margaret and Marg, friends who helped make things a little easier. Pauline of Homecare your attention and respect was appreciated by both us and our father. To Jim Thomas whose newspaper article brought tears to my eyes. Rev. Lou Geense your words were a true comfort. To those who called and travelled across the country your friendship is unmatched. To the Aunts who so closely watched over us, and were as near as a phone call.

To all of you mentioned or not a few short words seem so trivial at a time like this. Once again you glorify what mattered most to our Father, "The Love of Family and Friends".

We know the loss will last, the pain will heal, but the Memories will shine Forever.

The "Bob" Bangay Family



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