

Angered Lake Road residents urge gravel truck ban by town council

STOUFFVILLE - Utilizing the South Road at Musselman's Lake as a gravel pit route, has infuriated home-owners in that area.

On July 27, a delegation of ratepayers, both cottagers and permanent residents, taxed the accommodation of the Whitchurch-Stouffville council chambers to air their protest in person. The spokesman for the group was Max Pringle. He explained the peoples' concern.

"The noise of these trucks starts at daylight and ends at dark", he said, "this happens five and six days a week".

Mr. Pringle pointed out that this is a residential road, not an expressway.

"All these people are up in arms", he said, "we come here for a rest and a holiday, but there's no rest at all".

Mayor Ken Laushway explained that 95 percent of

the trucks are going to Lee's Gravel Pit, and there are reasons for their use of that particular route.

Mr. Pringle claimed the problem had become much worse lately. There were murmurs of agreement from the group, and one man said, "One of those trucks passed me doing 70 miles an hour".

Mayor Laushway revealed he had discussed the matter with Mr. Lee, and an offer had been made: Mr. Lee would keep his own trucks off the road, and do his best to persuade other truckers to do the same.

"But if you insist on a total ban", Mayor Laushway told the group, "Mr. Lee will fight you all the way".

At that point a series of outbursts seemed to indicate that everyone there was quite prepared to fight. Charles Montgomery detailed some of the problems he personally

had suffered.

"On March 8, I had a car demolished by a dump truck", he claimed, "and I almost got it again yesterday. I clocked one truck at 55 miles an hour". Mr. Montgomery expressed fears that, with children playing near the narrow road, someone would be killed. He also claimed that noise and vibration from trucks was knocking the mortar loose from his chimney. Bylaw 1824, he said, prohibited nuisances of this kind and he felt the bylaw should be enforced. He was supported by a lady in the audience, who claimed that a similar area near Lake Simcoe had passed a bylaw prohibiting truck traffic except for deliveries. She asked why Whitchurch-Stouffville could not pass one similar and seek Department approval.

It was also pointed out that

heavy truck traffic within fifty feet caused hearing damage and progressive deafness. Other psychological and physiological effects were quoted from an unnamed medical study.

"This is a difficult problem", said Mayor Laushway, "trucks in some areas outnumber people four to one or ten to one". "We've got the same problem right here, downtown", he added, "we would like to get rid of the trucks, but we can't".

Councillor Gordon Ratcliff acknowledged the difficulty, and said that he had observed the problem on a recent visit to the area.

The audience grew restless again, demanding to know why Council had never taken a firm position on truck traffic. "How can we keep this as a resort area with all these trucks roaring

through?" demanded one angry resident. Mr. Pringle again referred to the bylaw, and a sharp exchange ensued.

Pringle: "Can the bylaw be enforced?"

Mayor Laushway: "It's very difficult to enforce".

Pringle: "Then why is it a bylaw?"

Councillor Merlyn Baker interrupted the exchange to observe that these people had a genuine problem. He felt it should be discussed in committee. The group objected, one woman saying, "We don't want to leave until we know something is going to be done".

Councillor Tom Lonergan explained that the gravel operators work on a ton-mile basis. A route to avoid the South Shore Road would increase the distance by about a mile and a half, which is economically unsound for

the truckers. Councillor Lonergan also said there would be trouble with the provincial government if a ban was imposed. "We sympathize", he told the group, "but we can't always do what we want".

One elderly gentleman took strong exception to this, citing instances where people had almost been killed by trucks. "Economics don't take precedence over human lives", he said, "life is more sacred than a couple of dollars on a contract".

Councillor Ratcliff came out strongly in favor of abolishing truck traffic. "Get them banned except for local delivery", he urged, "let's do what we can". His statement was greeted by applause.

Councillor Baker, seconded by Councillor Lonergan, moved that the matter be studied in committee of the

whole. Mayor Laushway urged the group to accept Mr. Lee's proposal which, he said, would ease the traffic for the next couple of months.

Another lady in the audience asked if the Lee offer could be accepted while Council tried to arrive at a permanent solution. Mayor Laushway said he was doubtful that Mr. Lee would go along with this. The Mayor promised to discuss the matter with him and see if a compromise could be reached.

After the delegation left, not completely satisfied, Mr. Pringle said one factor in the problem was a lack of police surveillance. "We feel the South Shore Road is definitely under-policed", he said, "they're never around except on Sundays. Without police, what's the point of a bylaw or a reduction in the speed limit?"

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STOUFFVILLE-WHITCHURCH-MARKHAM-UXBRIDGE, THURSDAY, AUGUST 5, 1971

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Record seizure of hashish on nearby farm

STOUFFVILLE - Whitchurch-Stouffville now holds a national record; an unenviable one. What is believed to be the largest seizure of hashish in Canada, was made early Tuesday by officers of York Regional Police. The find, 350 pounds of substance, was on property in the Ringwood area, near Hwy. 48. Value of the product is estimated at between two and three million dollars, street price.

People leasing the property became suspicious when they observed men prowling behind the house, Monday night. The discovery of a recently-dug area prompted them to call Vandorf police. Responding immediately, officers dug up the hashish which was in one-kilogram bricks (2.2 pounds), sealed in large plastic garbage bags.

No arrests have yet been made, and Inspector Wally Harkness of the York Regional Police could not state when any might be expected. The hashish is not thought to be of local manufacture.

Detectives of the Regional force are investigating, in cooperation with Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

Power line cut

STOUFFVILLE - Communication on the C.N.R. line between Stouffville and Scarborough was broken, Thursday, when thieves stole a quantity of copper cable in an area near 19th Avenue, Markham.

It's the second theft of this kind in the past two weeks. Copper wire brings a high price on the illicit black market.

Sr. citizens' apartment

Survey town need

STOUFFVILLE - The Ontario Housing Corporation will conduct another survey to determine the need and demand for a second senior citizen's apartment in the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville.

The first, located on Elm Road, was opened last December.

The most recent study, to begin possibly this month, has been requested by Town Council.

Interested persons are urged to obtain application forms at the municipal office, Civic Avenue.

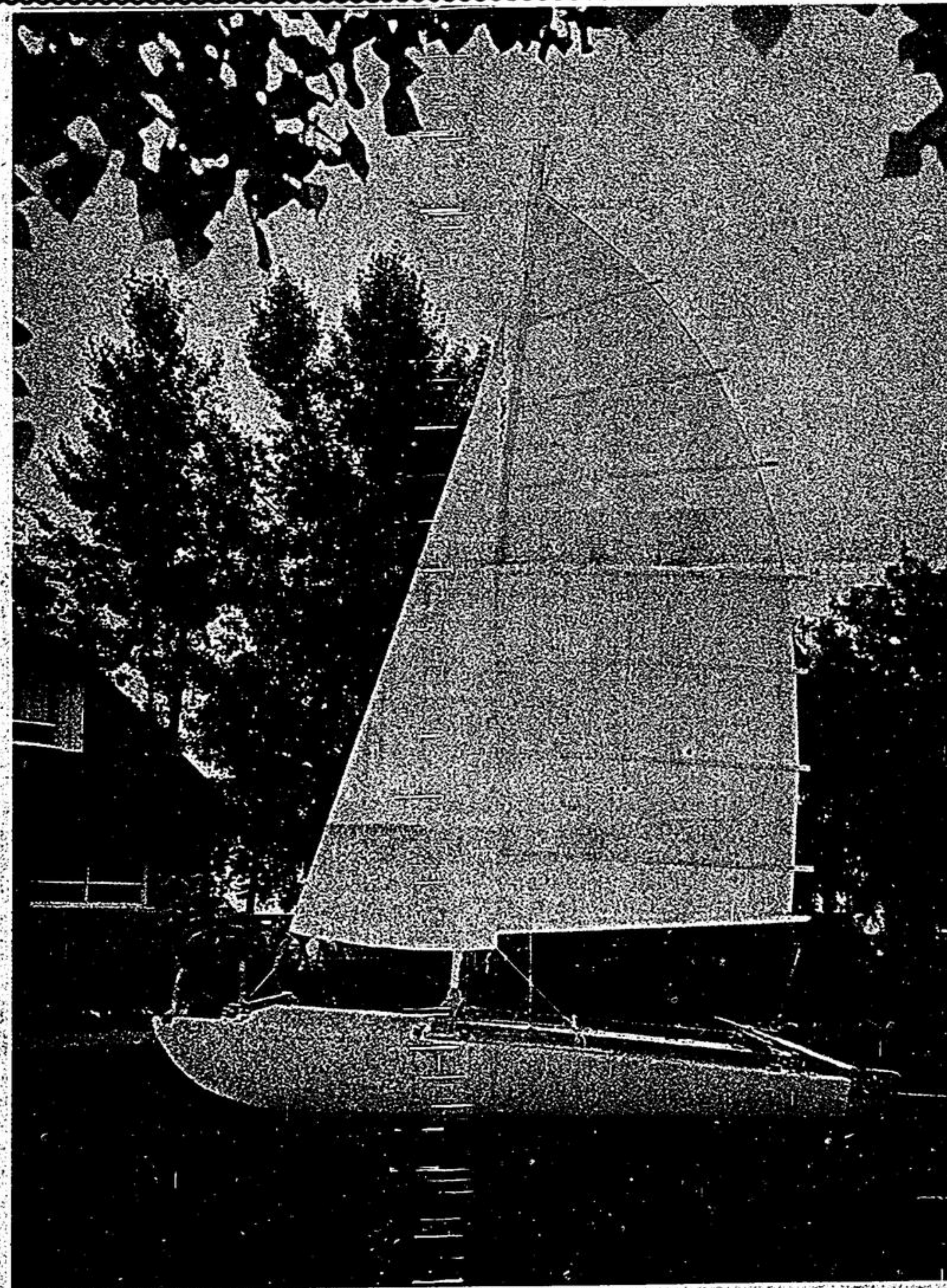
If the survey indicates a need for additional accommodation of this kind, an apartment or perhaps a single-storey building will likely follow. Rental is

geared to income and the minimum, including services, is \$32 a month.

Capital costs are shared by the Provincial and Federal Governments.

White Heron on Markham pond

MARKHAM - A family of white heron, the first of its kind ever reported in the area, landed Saturday at a pond on the farm of Denton Brown, conc. 10, Markham, near 16th Avenue. The beautiful birds, about four feet in height, remained at the site three hours, then flew a short distance south to a branch of the Rouge River.



Boat-builder completes two year project

It was back in 1969 that Jim Clubine, conc. 6, Whitchurch, started construction on a 16½ foot catamaran, doing part of the work in his basement and the remainder outside. On Saturday, the boat completed

its maiden voyage off Woodland Beach in Georgian Bay. Jim both designed and built the craft, including the 25 foot high mast. "Now, all I have to do is learn to sail it properly", he said. —Jas. Thomas.

Dayliner's toot stirs 'hoot'

STOUFFVILLE - The warning whistle, sounded by the Stouffville to Toronto dayliner, serves as a 7 a.m. 'alarm clock' for some residents within earshot of the C.N.R. line approaching Main Street.

But Mr. and Mrs. Sig Kusatz and family, Burkholder Street, aren't anxious to get up that early. And they don't appreciate being awakened at that time either.

Mr. Kusatz has placed his complaint in writing, requesting the railroad to approve an alternative to the high-sounding horn.

John Noel, Public Relations Manager for C.N.R., has replied to the letter expressing his regrets. He points out, however, that federal regulations require such signals.

Mr. Noel indicated that Town Council could pass a bylaw prohibiting train whistles in the municipality and, this in turn, be

approved by the Canadian Transport Commission. The C.T.C. then checks to determine whether other protective

Head-on crash

STOUFFVILLE - Two persons were injured and damage totalled \$4,000 in a head-on crash, Sunday, between two cars on Hwy. 48, near Baker Hill.

Most seriously hurt was Robert Mason, Algonquin Crescent, Aurora, the driver of a 1969 Epic.

The other injured party was Giuseppe Cerninara of New York State, in a 1968 Buick. Cerninara has been charged with careless driving.

Constable David Bourne, Oak Ridges Detachment, Ontario Provincial Police, is in charge of the investigation.

measures, such as gates and wig-wags, are adequate. The Commission can approve or disallow the bylaw.

If such warning devices are not installed, Mr. Noel indicated, the train whistles would keep sounding. The Public Relations Manager stressed the "deep concern which exists over the number of serious mishaps which occur at level crossings".

Mr. Kusatz told the Tribune he may conduct a survey among other residents in the immediate area and later appear before Town Council to seek a solution.

Campaign trail

YORK-CENTRE - Don Deacon, M.P.P., York-Centre, has hit the campaign trail, even though a provincial election date is still to be announced.

The first of a series of ad-

Planner rejects home build-up in rural areas

Several homes completed
court action pending

STOUFFVILLE - Strip residential development in isolated rural areas of Whitchurch-Stouffville, has been condemned by the York Region Commissioner of Planning, Murray Pound.

In a letter to Council, July 27, Mr. Pound designated four areas where building is underway on lots sold through a 'loophole' in the Planning Act.

The Commissioner has advised extra caution in dealing with such applications, as litigations are in process elsewhere and could eventually go the the Supreme-Court of Canada.

Mr. Pound evaluated the developments strictly from a planning standpoint, and on that basis, advised against three of four potential residential districts in the Town.

Area 1 includes eleven lots on the Bloomington Road, east of conc. 9. This area was rejected on several counts - traffic patterns, lack of shopping facilities and agricultural value of land. Three houses are under construction at the present time, Mr. Pound said.

Area 2 includes 12 lots along the Ballantrae Sideroad. These,

he said, were more acceptable. Three homes are now complete and occupied while the others are nearing completion. While indicating a dislike for 'strip development', the Commissioner found some justification for giving the 'green light' to home buildup there. He noted however, that an amendment to the zoning bylaw would be required.

Area 3 is on conc. 9 near Vivian. There, six houses are under construction. While conceding that the property might lend itself to estate-type dwellings, he rejects it on the grounds of isolation from normal facilities.

For the same reason, he is opposed to development on conc. 3, near Bogarttown. Construction there has commenced on three homes.

The Commission advises against issuing further building permits except on land zoned residential.

All four areas discussed are at least partially located in rural zones.

Council discussed the letter briefly, then referred it to the Planning Committee for a report.

Town taxpayers still owe \$162,466.30

STOUFFVILLE - What would you do if you were suddenly given \$162,466.30? If you were public-spirited; you could pay the current tax arrears owing in the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville.

This figure showing taxes not yet collected at the end of June was contained in a report submitted to Council, July 27. The information notes that statements have been sent out in an attempt to collect, and anyone in arrears for three years has received a form letter stating that a tax arrears certificate will be registered unless payment is made.

There will be one last chance for delinquent taxpayers however, as the Treasury Department intends to send one

final notice before proceeding with the certificates.

Boaters call council bluff

STOUFFVILLE - For a time, Whitchurch-Stouffville council was confident their plan might work.

They gave two readings to a bylaw, outlawing the operation of motorboats on Preston Lake. A third reading was withheld, anticipating the cottager's cooperation.

And the majority did. But some didn't, now forcing the Town to take more forceful action.

Councillor Merlyn Baker pointed out that a bylaw, approved in the usual manner, was the only proper method of control. In spite of opposition voiced by Mayor Laushway, he indicated his intention to reintroduce the legislation, Aug. 9.

Stoptlights urged for dangerous intersection

STOUFFVILLE - "Let's check and find out when this will be done. We don't want to wait until next summer."

This statement, by Mayor Ken Laushway at Council July 27, expressed his feelings about a possible delay in the erection of proposed stoptlights at the intersection of Hwy. 48 and the Bloomington Road. Councillors heard a communication from William Hodgson, MPP, York North, stating that the Minister of Transport and Communications was studying a letter detailing Council's con-

cern. A second letter was received from the York Region Engineer's office. The Engineering Commissioner has promised to apply for lights at the corner as soon as construction is finished.

Members of Council expressed dissatisfaction with this, as no date was specified. Councillor Gordon Ratcliff described the corner as 'dangerous'. Following Mayor Laushway's suggestion, Clerk Ralph Corner will write to seek a firm date for installation

vertisements is published in The Tribune this week.

Mr. Deacon is lining up his campaign list of helpers to cover the riding if and when the election comes this fall. The anticipated month is October.