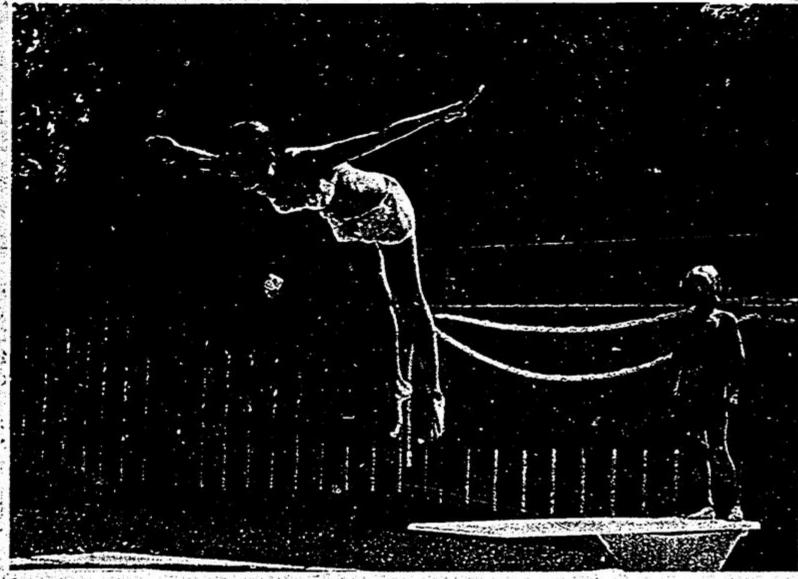


Backyard pools gain popularity in Stouffville



The Schell's backyard pool gets a lot of use. Left, Harvie Schell, 9, watches while Julie Parish, 14, demonstrates proper diving form. Above, Harvie decides he prefers his own version of the backflip. —Mark Niblett

STOUFFVILLE Swimming pools have made - if you'll pardon the expression - a big splash in the Stouffville area this summer.

Marvin Betz, of Betz Pools, estimates there are "about 100" private pools in or near Whitchurch-Stouffville. He said perhaps a dozen of these would be in Stouffville proper. His firm has

installed two pools in town so far this summer.

Many people, said Mr. Betz, start with an above-ground pool. Later, when a little more money is available, they will have an in-ground pool installed.

Betz Pools specialize in custom-designed installations, where the price is based on square footage. The

firm does not work on in-ground vinyl pools; steel-reinforced concrete is their preferred material.

Pools are generally considered better than ponds, as a properly built pool can be cleaned and kept in top condition. Besides, how often do you see a cow in a swimming pool?

As Mr. Betz pointed out, though, there is a

local bylaw which requires all pools to be fenced. (Many municipalities, if not most, have such a bylaw.) No such restriction, however, applies to ponds.

The Tribune talked to Mrs. Lorne Schell, who has recently had a pool installed by Betz. Mrs. Schell, who has four children ranging in age from 9 to 17, said the pool has been in constant use since its installation early in June.

"I think there was one day they didn't use it," she said. "They were too tired out."

Mr. and Mrs. Schell moved into their house on the Ninth Line North just two years ago, after living in an apartment for several years. The swimming pool is something they always hoped to have.

Mrs. Schell feels the swimming pool is a family affair. The children invite their friends and neighbors come over to sit on the patio and chat.

All the Schell children have had swimming lessons and Mrs. Schell observed somewhat wryly that the young members of the family can outdo their parents. She praised the privacy and comfort of a private pool.

"Right now the kids are teaching us how to dive properly," she said. "You just couldn't do that in the public pool."

Mrs. Schell said the pool is very easy to take care of, and they've had little or no trouble.

Another advantage is that, with the pool, the Schells no longer drive to a cottage 60-odd miles away, which they have used frequently in the past.

Conservation Authority explains methods

YORK REGION Following recent expressions of concern from Regional Council members, a delegation from the South Lake Simcoe Conservation Authority appeared at the August 12 Council meeting.

Derek Sterritt, spokesman for the group, outlined the Authority's present projects and methods of operation. He described programs of assistance available to both municipalities and individuals; these include technical advice, erosion control, a tree-planting program, outdoor education, and others.

Considerable discussion followed concerning the question of payment for various projects.

centered over the region. He also said, in response to a question from East Gwillimbury Mayor Gladys Rolling, that the hazard-lands policy originated at "a higher level."

Mr. Sterritt emphasized the co-operative aspect of the Authority.

"Participation at the local level is our greatest strength," he said.

Increased co-operation between the Region and the Authority was promised. Council is to examine the possibility of setting up a liaison committee.

Historical hearse sold

BALLANTRAE Used hearses are apparently popular items around here. A 1957 Cadillac hearse, belonging to Mrs. Ann Barrett, was sold within four days.

Mrs. Barrett is Animal Control Officer for Uxbridge Township, and has used the hearse for that purpose for a year. She decided to sell because of the vehicle's high running cost. Asking price was \$700.

Before Mrs. Barrett purchased the hearse, it was used in Springhill, Nova Scotia. It performed nobly after the mining disaster in that town.

The big black Caddy weighs in at almost three tons.

At the time, the Tribune talked to Mrs. Barrett, there were just over 46,000 miles on the vehicle. The hearse comes with all accessories, including automatic transmission, flower-holders in the interior, and a little sign on the door saying "Please Close Gently."

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If you need further assistance, please telephone the Area Two Office of

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