


The Tribune
Established 1888



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Editorial

Looking back at '71

The year 1971 is all but over. For the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville, the past twelve months cannot be looked on as a period of outstanding progress, but rather, one of realignment - re-organization, as part of a new area, under a new system of Regional Government.

The Council, like the people it was attempting to serve, often found itself bogged down by 'bigness', frustrated by problems created through total amalgamation of two distinct kinds of communities - urban and rural, and often impaired by impersonal contact, one with the other.

With the exception of lot fill-ins, residential development was non-existent in the former village of Stouffville. Finally, with demands for services too costly for one developer to absorb, five firms formed a syndicate and revealed plans for 1,000 homes, between Ninth Line North and Hwy. 47. The one development that did move ahead was at Ballantrae, with a V.L.A. Subdivision covering 57 lots.

To the east, the much-touted Century City project came to a rather inglorious end.

There were protests - with residents asking for extended free-call telephone service to Toronto; farm relief from police and fire costs; removal of gravel truck traffic from South Road, Musselman's Lake; improved police service in Stouffville; reduction of through-traffic on Main Street; opposition to Hydro's proposed tower line across Whitchurch; some disapproval of

the salary rates for Whitchurch-Stouffville councillors and opposition to any plan that would utilize the once-infamous Bremner Disposal Site as a Town garbage dump. The latter is a carry-over into 1972.

There were accomplishments - the completion of a second medium-rise apartment and a start on a third; approval of a second senior citizens' apartment; opening of a museum in the former Bogartown School; erection of traffic lights at Hwy. 48 and the Bloomington Road; completion of Whitchurch-Stouffville's new Zoning Bylaw; inauguration of a Stouffville-Toronto rail commuter service; construction start on a new Community Hall in the Stouffville Park; successful purchase of the former Lemonville School as a Community Centre; a bylaw to control truck traffic on the South Lake Road; tax decrease in most areas of Whitchurch-Stouffville; recognition of hazards in school bus areas where safety flashers ruled illegal and a decrease in school taxes with Whitchurch-Stouffville trustee Art Starr, the Board's 1971 chairman.

While municipal elections must wait until 1972, a Provincial election attracted considerable interest. In York North and Ontario Ridings, Bill Hodgson, Bill Newman and Matt Dymond were easy winners for the Progressive Conservatives. In York-Centre, Don Deacon held on for the Liberals against a determined Tony Roman, Mayor of Markham. That was the year that was.

Looking ahead for '72

Despite the general economic slowdown throughout the country in general, the holdups in development and a disastrous fire which wiped out a major business block, there is enthusiasm about 1972 for Whitchurch-Stouffville.

With fingers crossed the economists believe the federal government has weathered the worst of the economic slump and "things are looking up", the turmoil of changing to a regional form of local government is smoothing out, particularly in the planning field; and there are ample signs that the town will be a prime target for new and renewed development in the year ahead, both in the commercial and housing fields.

However, more and more people are coming to realize that the idea "if it's bigger it's better", born out of enthusiastic affluence, can be false. These people must also be brought to realize that a certain amount of growth is absolutely essential. Those who love the rural scene are going to see it infringed upon more and more. Efforts to preserve

it must be reasonable but firm.

Several important commercial developments are on the drawing board for next year, redevelopment of the downtown fire site being a major one.

There are dozens of plans before the Planning Board, the major proportion of which are for housing projects. The largest takes in the area between the 10th con. and the 9th con. and including the Lehman and Stouffer farms on the north boundary of the present Stouffville built-up area. The third apartment house is under construction, a fourth is being considered. In addition plans are underway for the erection of additional senior citizens' apartment units.

Pressure will continue to be exerted as an overflow from Metro, with the large estate area of the municipality near Lemonville and the urban area of Stouffville receiving the most attention.

Undoubtedly the gradual build-up of apartment population will prove most attractive to would-be plaza and other commercial developers.

Keep in mind this New Years

The social drinker is one of the leading causes of auto accidents in the country. Statistics show that alcohol is involved in nearly 50 percent of the fatal accidents. There are some 5,000 deaths and 175,000 reported injuries every year.

Alcohol is not a stimulant. It depresses, and the first area of the brain it hits is the area of higher function including social

restraint and judgement.

Those enjoying a drinking evening might be surprised to know that it takes more than an hour to eliminate each 12 ounce bottle of beer or ounce and a half drink or three ounces of non-fortified wine.

There is only one thing that can sober a person - time.

Editor's Mail

Dear Mr. Editor:

Being one member of the deputation which appeared before Council a couple of weeks ago, I can agree with your lead editorial in the following edition when you say "on the surface" it would appear illogical not to use the Bremner dump for local garbage.

But "on the surface" is not necessarily where the garbage run-off will necessarily stay. The phrase "water recharge area" would seem to indicate to me, at least, that such an area is not suitable for any kind of garbage disposal.

No complaints appear to have been received regarding the operation of the dump near Aurora but surely the delegation already mentioned would indicate unhappiness with the site on Hwy. 48.

It seems strange that some members of council and the Mayor can so soon forget the 1,200 person demonstration which forced into being the bylaws which the local people in the area of the site now claim are being disregarded. Especially since an agreement with York Sanitation appears to have been by-passed in favor



The Tribune



SUGAR AND SPICE

How to save a girl from love

By BILL SMILEY

New Year's resolutions seem rather pointless, when one looks back over the past year and realizes what a mess one made of it.

But hope springs eternal in the human beast (note to ed. - that's beast, not breast), and most of the time I feel as though I'm still animal, though I have a lot of calcium in the wrong places - not teeth, but elbows, knees and shoulders - and there are moments when I feel pure vegetable, maybe a withered turnip. So here goes.

The very first thing I'm going to do in '72 is get my rake and lawn chairs out of the backyard and into the basement. Provided I can find them under the snow. Same goes for my woodpile, which has been sitting there, "drying out", since August.

The second thing I'll do is stop listening to my wife and make her start listening to me. She is eternally getting into jams because she won't listen to me

because she never has because she thinks she knows more than I about practically anything you can name. And she is forever getting me into jams because I listen to her because she thinks etc....

That will clear a lot of the fog in our domestic air, I know. You think that's like a mouse bragging that he's going to straighten out an elephant. And it is. But it's also a fact that we mice have been known to panic a whole herd of elephants. Anyway, it'll be fun trying. That old spirit of adventure, you know. Even if it does cost me a broken nose or a couple of thick ears.

Another thing I'm going to do is stop worrying. I'm a terrible worry wart. Some weeks I worry a total of twenty-seven minutes, about something I can't do a thing about. I'm going to cut that down to twenty-seven seconds, do it once a week, and get it over with.

I'm going to give up late nights. They take a terrible toll on a fellow when he must work next day. No more of those. Except on exceptional cases, such as Friday and Saturday nights and anytime we go to a party or have one. Or anytime I really feel like staying up.

I'm going to put a stop to my daughter falling in love. This will be one of the trickier assignments. I just get nicely adjusted to the fact that she's deeply in love and settling down when I get word that it's off with the old and on with the new and this time it's "real".

In the past year, she's been in love with an English professor, an American (imagine!), student, twice engaged to the same guy, name of Joe; and is currently head-over-heels with a sculptor. How much does a struggling sculptor make? I don't really care, but I don't fancy the old idea that two can live as cheaply as one, if I'm paying the bills. I don't know what technique I'll use to stop her, but I'll come up with something fiendish that will guarantee her a long spinsterhood.

I'm going back into the arms of the church for a long-awaited (on her part) embrace. I am steadily growing more sinful, just like the rest of you, but it's time to start straightening the accounts. Well, that's enough to keep me going for the year. A nice mixture of physical and psychological problems.

In closing, thanks to all those who have written during the year. Forgive me if I haven't answered yet. Have a good year.

And a special wish to all those in trouble; Western farmers, the unemployed, the old, the mentally ill. Keep your chin up. Things can only get better. And remember, somebody is thinking about you. Maybe Edgar Benson won't, but I will.

Peeping Toms

Ontario Hydro employs eleven helicopters for varying duties, including tower line patrol. These flights are not conducted indiscriminately, however. The craft stay clear of turkey and mink ranches, penitentiaries and missile installations, a Hydro spokesman said. "Nudist camps are left to the pilots' discretion", he concluded.

ROAMING AROUND

In 1972
I resolve...

By Jim Thomas.

Over the weekend, The Tribune conducted an opinion poll among shoppers on Main Street, to learn the popularity of New Year's resolutions.

One in every five persons approached, admitted to making certain promises to themselves. The others - well, if they do, they aren't prepared to tell the world about it.

But not me, no siree. I've concocted a whole raft of resolutions. Some I'll keep. Some I won't.

Here are a few:

—I'll never complain when my wife asks me to pick up two jugs of milk, on a Saturday night, half-way through the third period, of a game between Toronto and Boston, after I've already driven past the store six times earlier the same day.

—I'll put aside at least one Sunday a month to take my wife and family somewhere besides church.

—I'll sit down for a normal breakfast instead of taking two morning coffee breaks at Bing's.

—I'll invest in a pair of snow tires - next winter.

—I'll have all the storm windows on before Dec. 21.

—I'll always remember to replace the cover over top the basement sump pump hole. That sudden 'drop' in the dark is hard on the nerves.

—I'll never delay the start on my Christmas shopping to Dec. 24.

—I'll always remember to turn off the car headlights, on a foggy day, after it's parked. The power drain is hard on the battery.

—I'll never utter another critical word concerning the 'air-conditioned' toilet in the Uxbridge Twp. hall at Goodwood. Instead, I'll just grin and 'bare' it.

—I won't say a thing when son Barry wakes me up at 6:30 on a Saturday and asks - "Dad, will you drive me to the rink. I have to play hockey at seven".

—I'll always remember to take the ignition keys out of my car, even when it's left on the parking lot at church.

—I'll never go downstairs to watch television with the kitchen taps turned on. —I'll weatherproof the kid's rabbit pen instead of letting their pets have the run of the basement all winter.

—I'll never again attempt to convince a York Regional police officer that doing 50 miles an hour in a 30 zone on Main Street in Stouffville, at 2 a.m., doesn't necessarily constitute a charge of dangerous driving.

—I'll never stop for a haircut at the A & P Plaza and leave my car parked in front of the Brewer's Retail.

—I'll never go on talking (to myself), after an irate reader slams the receiver down in my ear.

—I'll explain to all prospective brides the chance that the writeup of their wedding may not appear in print until nine months following the ceremony.

—I'll religiously check all birth announcements prior to publication, so that the two occasions do not conflict.

—I'll appease my kids by taking a death-defying plunge from the high board at the Stouffville Pool, July 1 - feet first.

—I'll attempt to convince Postmaster Jack Sanders to vote Liberal at the next federal election.

—I'll try and persuade Eldred King to run as a councillor instead of for mayor at the next Whitchurch-Stouffville municipal election.

—I'll attempt to impress on Chief Walter Smith, the necessity of installing a 'fire phone' in my home or - a second siren on Rupert Avenue.

—I'll send Pickering reeve John Williams a road map of the township, indicating in bold type the locations of Altona, Atha, Claremont, Cedar Creek, Balsam and Mt. Zion.

—I'll cut back on my usual diet of six chocolate bars a day, to only three.

—I'll arrive at work sharp at nine every morning and leave on the stroke of six; never staying on past midnight except when attending the occasional meeting of Uxbridge Twp. Council.

—I'll re-organize my schedule and write this column sometime other than Sunday afternoons.

—Happy New Year.