

Spiralling Education Costs Concern Council

Perth Town Council is concerned about the high cost of education in Lanark County and has decided to advise the public and separate school boards and the ministry of education this concern.

A resolution intended to voice the concern to the educational authorities was introduced by Councillor Garfield Leach, Monday night, and approved by council. He has suggested that members of council advise the boards to attempt to find ways of "cutting corners to cut costs" with a view towards reducing the cost of education to local taxpayers.

According to Deputy Reeve Norman Turner the local tax levy could be reduced if the education funding came directly from the province rather than administered through the boards of education.

The Lanark County Board of Education's 1975-76 spending estimates amount to \$12,961,354 which is an increase of \$2,239,190 over last year.

The amount to be raised in county taxation for this year was set at \$3,036,976 with the Perth levy being \$424,783.

The Lanark, Leeds and Grenville Roman Catholic Separate School Board struck a \$3,421,450 budget for the 1975-76 school year which reflected a 20 per cent increase over the previous year's budget.

Approximately \$400,000 of the separate school board's

funding must be raised through taxation in the three counties.

Reeve Carl Greer did not agree with the deputy reeve's solution as he felt that "as long as we are paying the bills, we have every right to squabble." If the province administered the funds completely, Reeve Greer thought the local taxpayers would no longer have much say in the matter.

Mayor Art Daines questioned whether or not council was in any position to tell another elected body how to handle their business. The deputy reeve replied to this argument saying that council is only trying to represent the people of Perth in this matter and has a right to voice its opinion when local tax dollars are being spent.

Deputy Reeve Turner said that "It seems to me we are paying a lot more now for a lot less." He did not explain what he meant by "a lot less."

Referring to the board of education's decision, at a special July 8 meeting, to hire a new director of education and set his maximum salary level at \$41,000, the deputy reeve suggested that council members should speak to the town's representatives in the board about the money being spent by the board.

Perth and North Elmsley Township trustees Bernard Elliott and Peter Burchell voted in favour of the recent salary decision although Mr. Burchell went on record stating that the salary offer was "out of this world."

Director of Education M. W. Lever, who retires at the end of this year, is now earning \$34,500 after more than five years with the local board.



PRESIDENT Jerry Taylor (left) presented a gold watch to retiring Brown Shoe Company employee Ellard Doyle. Also shown: Superintendent Dick Fielding and Director of Manufacturing Bob Waldeck. Mr. Doyle was with the company for 42 years.

The Perth Courier.

WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED THE PERTH EXPOSITOR.

141st Year

15c Per Copy

PERTH, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, JULY 17th, 1975.

Number 51

An Independent Newspaper

Published in the Interests of Perth And District Since 1834

Heritage Buildings

Preserve Them Now, or Lose By Default - Erion

Town Will Share Cost With Property Owners

Owners of local buildings that have some historical value may soon have the task of repairing and preserving their buildings shared with the municipality.

Town Council is studying a recommendation from the local Historical Preservation Committee and is expected to decide at its next meeting whether or not it is prepared to get into the heritage building real estate business.

OPTIONS
Committee Chairman Larry Erion said, at Monday night's council meeting, that there are several options open to the town regarding the municipal heritage preservation policies. He urged council to adopt a "balanced" policy for individual heritage building designations rather than the other options.

The first choice he gave council was a "do nothing" policy which the committee does not recommend because the town runs the risk of losing all of its heritage buildings "by default." Over the next decade the buildings may be lost through demolition or natural disasters, he said.

The town could adopt a policy of simply attempting to educate the property owners on the merits of historical preservation and hope that they will preserve their buildings without being forced to, he said.

The third alternative to the selective designation system is to designate districts and have them included as heritage preservation areas in zoning bylaws.

"This would have a needless umbrella effect since there is no single geographic district in Perth that consists only of heritage buildings," Mr. Erion said.

SUGGESTS COMMITTEE
In order to assist council with its heritage work, the committee recommends establishing a "Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee."

The chairman explained that until this year municipalities have been able to call upon the Ontario Heritage Foundation, a provincial government agency, to handle the work and costs involved with preserving

heritage buildings. Now, the municipalities are empowered to get into the act and may receive financial assistance from the Ministry of Culture and Recreation.

"We can no longer rely on an outside agency to do the work for us," the chairman stated, "if heritage buildings are going to be designated and preserved, it is up to the town to do it."

The committee is compiling an inventory of heritage buildings in town. The list will include any buildings that are associated with historic events or people and buildings that are significant examples of past architectural styles.

According to Mr. Erion, it is possible that council may receive "an avalanche" of requests from property owners to have their buildings designated. One of the purposes of the advisory committee will be to study the requests and make recommendations.

To protect the interests of the property owners and the public, anyone may object to a building's designation and force a hearing with the newly formed Ontario Conservation Review Board. After the hearing, the travelling review board will make recommendations to council and council will make its final decision based on the input received.

30 PERCENT HYDRO HIKE PERTH COUNCIL PROTESTS

Town Council voted Monday to endorse an Association of Municipalities of Ontario resolution protesting Ontario Hydro's application for approximately 30 per cent consumer rate increases for 1976.

Council Wants Roof Water Removed From Sewers

Town Council intends to force every property owner in town to remove their building's roof storm water from the sanitary sewers "eventually".

That stand was affirmed Monday night following a lengthy debate on the questions of whether it could be done and whether or not it is necessary.

Council has the legal means, with a 1970 bylaw, to force owners to do the necessary work on their buildings to remove the storm water from the sanitary sewer system. But, there are some problems involved with enforcing the bylaw. Mainly, according to Town Engineer Art Knowles, it would take years to check every building in town.

The first step in the town-wide enforcement will be notifying some property owners in the James pumping station area that they, and other property owners, are expected to comply with the bylaw.

Jamesville is considered to be a potential problem district, although there have not been any serious overflows or backups in that area over the past couple of years.

Drug Cache Confiscated

A couple of nighttime swimmers at Stewart Park have been charged by the Perth Police Department under Narcotics Control Act.

Investigating a report received on July 4 regarding a group of swimmers in the park, police found a quantity of narcotics which was claimed by two of the swimmers.

Charged with possession of narcotics for the purpose of trafficking was Monica Kathleen Marshall, of RR 5, Smiths Falls. Charged with possession of narcotics was Craig Bernhardt, 22, of the Riv-Lar Hotel, Perth.

Police seized three bags of marijuana, a plastic container half-filled with marijuana and a small quantity of chemical drugs believed to be mescaline. Total estimated street value of the drugs seized is \$100.

Break-ins At Brankin's

The local John P. Brankin fuel oil company was the victim of thievery twice last week.

The first theft, last Wednesday, resulted from a break-in at the company. A pocket calculator and two tires were stolen.

On Thursday, a truck owned by Brankin Fuels was broken into and over \$350 worth of power tools were removed.

Fiddlers, Stepdancers Draw Full House

There was standing room only Saturday evening at the Perth Community Centre for the eighth annual Central Canadian Fiddling and Stepdancing competitions.

The competitions, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Perth, drew 76 competitors and over 2500 spectators for the two-day event.

Donald Reed from Sudbury, Ont., took top honors in the Open Fiddling class and received \$400 plus the Bill Munro Memorial Trophy.

Debbie McWatty, of Kinburn, Ont., was the winner of the Open Stepdancing Class and received the Perth Summer Festival Trophy.

Top winners in the Stepdancing classes were: Siobheann Leahy, Lakefield, eight and under class, winner of the CKBY FM Ottawa Trophy; Dale Lowe, Carleton Place, 12 and under class, winner of the Bill McLean Memorial Trophy; Christine Leahy, Lakefield, 18 and under class, winner of the Wiseman Shoe Store Trophy; Larry Proulx, Renfrew, 50 and over class, winner of the Walker Boats

Trophy; Debbie McWatty, in the open class.

In the Fiddling classes the top winners were: Robert Reed, Sudbury, 12 and under class, winner of the Bernard McCann Memorial Trophy; Rick Cormier, of Pickering, 18 and under class, winner of the Glenn Girdwood Trophy; John Lacaille, Sturgeon Falls, 64 and over class, winner of the Bill Devlin Memorial Trophy; Donald Reed, open class.

Bruce Blair and Tommy Yorke, both from Perth, placed second and third respectively in the 12 and under fiddling class.

Dawson Girdwood, last year's open fiddling champion, tied for fourth place in the same class.

Master of Ceremonies for the two-day event was Ray McNelly, and guest artist was Rudy Meeks, a two-time fiddling champion at Shelburne.

Sixteen hundred dollars in prize money and twenty-six trophies were distributed among the top three in each category.

60 Enter Block Race

Organizers of the Glen Tay Block Race reported Tuesday that they had already received 55 entries for tonight's (Thursday) 9 1/2-mile race.

With the addition this year of two new race categories, the master's division and the open women's division, organizers had been expecting about 35-40 entries compared to an average of 25 runners in recent past events.

The total number of runners competing in the 6 p.m. race could reach 60 or more as the deadline for entries is the starting time for the race and at least one area track club had not, as of Tuesday, entered their runners.

Senior division champion and senior record-holder, Doug Scorrar, a Perth native and a member of the Seaway Valley Track Club, will defend his title in this year's race.

The Seaway Valley Track Club and the Perth Legion are co-sponsors of the block race.

Festival Events

Perth Summer Festival 1975 continues today (Thursday) with entertainment on the mall provided by the Freddy Dixon Show and Dave, the Glen Tay Block Race and an evening Perth Citizens' Band concert at Stewart Park.

Thursday and Friday, throughout the afternoons, here will be a flea market, bake sale and afternoon tea at St. Andrew's Church.

Highlighting the festival activities Saturday will be the annual Jaycee Soap Box Derby, at 1 p.m., on Harvey's Drummond Street. Saturday night, at 9 p.m., a Legion Dance will get underway at the Legion House in Beckwith Street for members and guests.



A REPEAT PERFORMER from last year, two-year-old Jordan Dawson of Pembroke shows Karen Bargley, Miss Eastern Ontario, how a fiddle should be played, during the fiddling and stepdancing competitions last weekend.

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Weekend Accident Toll Heavy

A Chesterville youth suffered a broken left wrist in a motorcycle accident in Darling Township last Sunday.

Larry Curran, 17, of 58 Main Street, Chesterville, was driving eastbound on a hydro right-of-way, west of rightside, when the front tire blew on his bike.

He was taken to Carleton Place Hospital to be treated for the broken wrist and cuts.

Fifty dollars damage was done to the motorcycle.

Also on Sunday, at 10:45 a.m., Douglas William Anderson, 28, of RR 1, Tichborne, suffered cuts and bruises when his \$250 car was totally wrecked in an accident on County Road 10, 8, less than half a mile west of County Road 1.

The eastbound car went off the road at a curve and rolled in the south ditch, police said. The driver has not been charged.

At 11 p.m., Sunday, approximately \$1,500 damage was done to a car that collided with a calf on the Scotch Corners Road, 1.7 miles south of Highway No.

Driver of the car, Jeffrey Lee Klipp, 21, Carleton

Place, received cuts and bruises in the accident that killed a 375 calf.

The collision occurred after the driver had successfully avoided striking other cattle on the road, according to the Perth OPP.

Charges have been laid as a result of a single-car accident, involving a local youth, which took place last Saturday, at 12:01 a.m., on

Pakenham Girl Missing

The Perth OPP reported Wednesday morning that the search for a Pakenham girl, missing from her home since last Friday afternoon, was still on.

Jennifer, 12, of RR 1, Pakenham, was seen riding her three-speed bicycle northbound, on Highway 29, towards Arnprior, at 3:30 p.m. on Friday.

Constable Al Perry, in charge of the investigation, said Tuesday that foul play was not suspected. The girl's parents have requested that her last name be withheld.

Highway 7, 1.2 miles west of Perth.

According to police, the right side wheels on a westbound car dropped off the pavement and the driver over-corrected causing the vehicle to veer across the road and onto the south ditch. Damage to the car amounted to \$800.

Charged with impaired driving, drinking under-age, operating a vehicle without a licensed driver and possession of a stolen auto is 17-year-old John Francis Crawford, 19 Harvey St.

As a result of a single-car accident on County Road 8, near Watson's Corners, an RR 3, Lanark man, Kenneth Newberry, 22, has been charged.

The 1:50 p.m., Saturday, accident caused \$950 damage to the vehicle and cuts and bruises injuries to a passenger, Jeffrey Bartraw, 13, of RR 3, Lanark.

Two people were injured Friday, at 7:25 p.m., when the car in which they were riding went off a Bathurst Township road and collided with a Hydro pole.

Driver of the car was Scott A. Sickler, 18, of Ves-

tal, New York. Passenger in the vehicle was Wayne Allen, 18, of RR 3, Perth. Both suffered cuts and bruises when the southbound car left the road, half a mile north of Dewitts Corners.

Damage to the car was estimated by police at \$865. Last Thursday, at 4 p.m., Brian Schofield, 28, of RR 4, Lanark, received a fracture-

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WINNERS of the 8th annual Central Canadian Fiddling competitions last Saturday evening were: Rick Cormier (18 and under class),

Robert Reed (12 and under class), Donald Reed (open class), John Lacaille (64 and over class).



STEPPDANCING competition winners were: Christine Leahy (18 and under class), Siobheann Leahy (8 and under class), Larry Proulx (50

and over class), Dale Lowe (13 and under class), Debbie McWatty (open class).