

Chainsaw sound makes them shiver

By JOHN STEWART
Times staff writer

"Every time we hear saws going, we run out to see what's being cut up now. If you're not sitting there watching all day, more trees can go."

Mrs. Sharon Dearie and her neighbors on Burnbrae Drive are developing a natural paranoia for the sound of chainsaws.

After having workmen come into their neighborhood three weeks ago and cut down over 20

trees, the neighbors thought their problems were over.

They called the police, and the city and the owner of the property agreed that a mistake had been made.

A workman given permission to cut up a few dead trees for firewood had removed a number of live trees, instead, including some on a ravine slope which are designated to be saved.

Then a week ago Saturday, a different crew of

workmen arrived and they cut down two more trees. Neighbors, unable to reach city hall officials, once again called the police.

The workmen removed a barrier the city had erected between the private property owned by Fred Bonotto and the road allowance for the proposed Burnhamthorpe bridge.

Heavy trucks were driven across the property and the barrier was damaged.

Mrs. Dearie called Councillor Hazel McCallion into the fray to try to sort out what happened, but it appears no one is sure.

A meeting at city hall Monday between the property owner and staffers from the recreation and parks and the engineering departments may help solve the confusion. A report is to go to council soon from Lyle Love, parks and recreation commissioner.

Ward 6 Councillor Fred Hooper, who Mrs. Dearie says she has had difficulty contacting, says that "if they're crossing city property, we may be able to lay charges. I'll do anything I can to discourage the removal of these trees."

Bonotto's plan of subdivision is still being processed by the city. He wants to put an additional eight lots on Burnbrae.

Mrs. Dearie wonders what will happen if by

some chance the subdivision doesn't get approval. "If he doesn't get his permit, all these trees may have been cut down for nothing."

City Arborist Tom Spence says Bonotto gave permission for the removal of two or three trees but "the thing got way out of control." The parks department may well require more landscape screening in the development as a result of the removal of the trees,

says Spence. Some kind of compensation will be expected.

Bonotto's work crews have been given permission to go onto the property by the city this Saturday. They will be allowed to remove the barrier.

But you can bet that there will be neighbors looking over their shoulders this time to make sure there are no more accidental slips of the chainsaw.

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EDUCATION

French extension

A parent-sponsored French program, in Peel will be extended until 1983 on an optional basis for students who have participated in it in the past.

Peel Board of Education recommended the program be continued at no cost to the board, with exception of the Whiteoaks Public School French program, which is jointly sponsored by the board and parents of students. The program costs the board \$900.

The board also decided that parents in the Sheridan Park Public School area will be allowed to organize a French-immersion kindergarten program because numbers warrant it.

New schools opening

Construction of seven Peel schools was held up by the recent carpenters' strike but five of the schools will be in operation within the next month.

The schools are North Park Drive Secondary, North Peel Secondary, Cashmere Public, Settler's Green Public and Massey Street Public.

Hilldale Public School will be in operation by Christmas and The Humberview School by February, 1979.

Historic status

Peel Board of Education has supported a staff recommendation that the Britannia School House be designated an historic landmark under the Ontario Heritage Act.

The board will accept some of the responsibility for the restoration.

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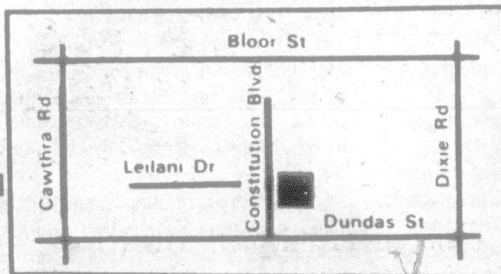
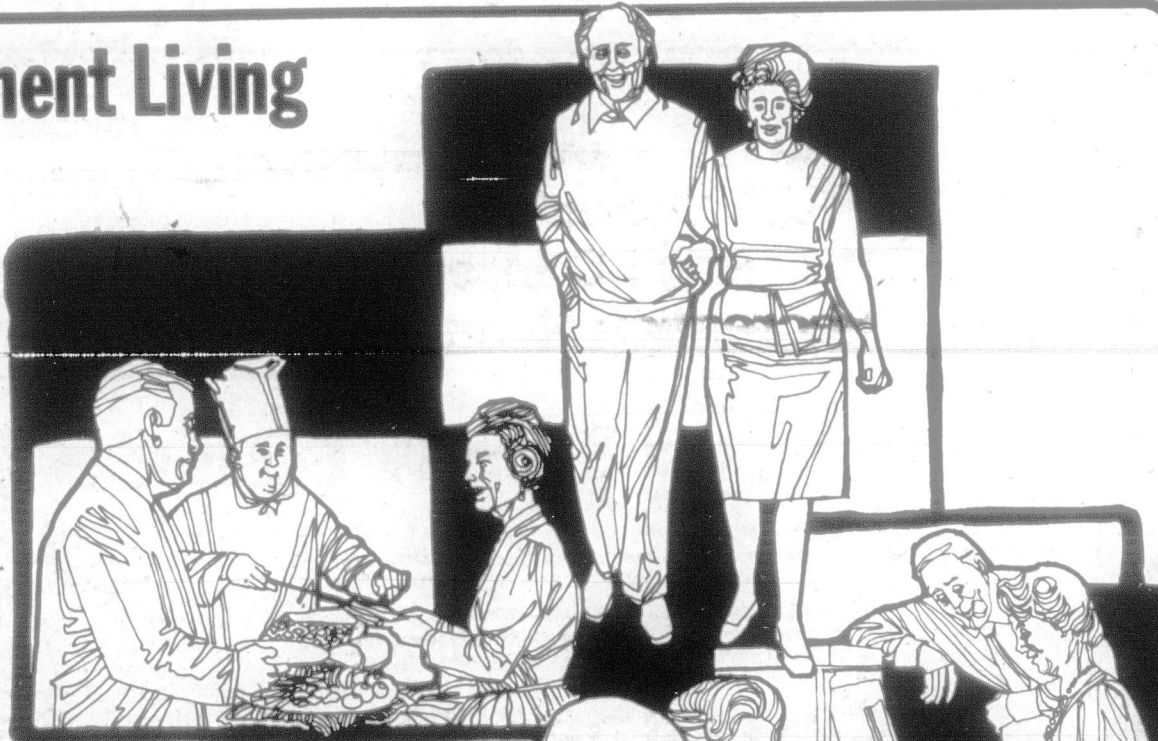
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