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'It's about the money'

One CK councillor says opposition to turbine moratorium was about keeping community wind funds

Heather Wright
The Herald

Chatham-Kent Councillor Mike Bondy is quite blunt: "it's about the money we're going to lose."

He's talking about his bid to have Chatham-Kent Council ask the province to stop the development of up to 100 wind turbines in North Kent until it can figure out if the projects are leading to water problems.

Dover Township residents have been raising alarm bells about the problem. After the turbines arrived, their water became cloudy and sand clogged filters. Local well drillers believe the turbine companies have anchored the giant units to the rock which holds the local water table and the vibration has made the water unfit to drink.

The Well Water First group has taken up the cause, demanding the province puts safe water before green energy projects. Bondy agrees with them and wanted council to ask Premier Kathleen Wynne to put the project on hold until it could be determined if turbine development is actually causing a problem.

See PILES OF CASH PG 2

EARLY MORNING WORKOUT



James Napper was putting Primary Pick through its paces at the tree-lined track in Bothwell's Victoria Park early Friday morning. Napper and his wife train 10 standard-bred horses for racing at Dresden, Leamington and Flamboro Downs near Hamilton and train at the historic Bothwell race track almost every day of the week.

Heather Wright Photo

Getting ready for a nice long walk

Heather Wright
The Herald

Marvin Jaques likes to go for a nice long walk - long being the important word.

The 79-year-old Bothwell man is in training to walk a marathon the day after he turns 80, Nov. 19.

In 1982, Jaques was diagnosed with diabetes. His doctor told him the best thing he could do to control it, aside from healthy eating, was to go for a "vigorous" 20-minute walk each day.

"I had a hard time with it," he admits. "I was told to walk and I don't like to be told."

But after thinking about it, Jaques changed his mind; "if it's my life I'm dealing with, I

better get walking."

So he did. And he found he enjoyed it. And Jaques' health improved because of the walking paired with a diet which includes about 70 per cent fruits and vegetables.

Soon, Jaques was setting challenges for himself including walking a marathon from the Tim Horton's in Dresden to the Tim Horton's in Wallaceburg and back again several years ago.

Today, he's training for his 80th birthday feat - 26 miles (42 kilometers) around the track at St. Clair College's Thames Campus indoor track. Each day, Jaques logs two hours of walking time - about eight miles. "I'm not fast for everybody, but I'm probably pretty fast for people my age," he says.

Jaques walks for his health and the challenge, but he also walks for a cause - Ronald McDonald House. The local facilities for families with children who are in hospital in London and Windsor have promised to spend any funds he raises directly on services - something Jaques appreciates.

But he's also doing it to show what a difference diet and exercise can make in a person's life. Thirty-four years after being told by a doctor to get off his couch, Jaques believes he's in better shape now - heading towards his 80th birthday - than he was then. "I was quite a bit overweight," he says. "I was 210 pounds and I'm 160 now."

See WALKER PG 2



Marvin Jaques of Bothwell is preparing to walk a marathon for his 80th birthday.

Heather Wright Photo

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