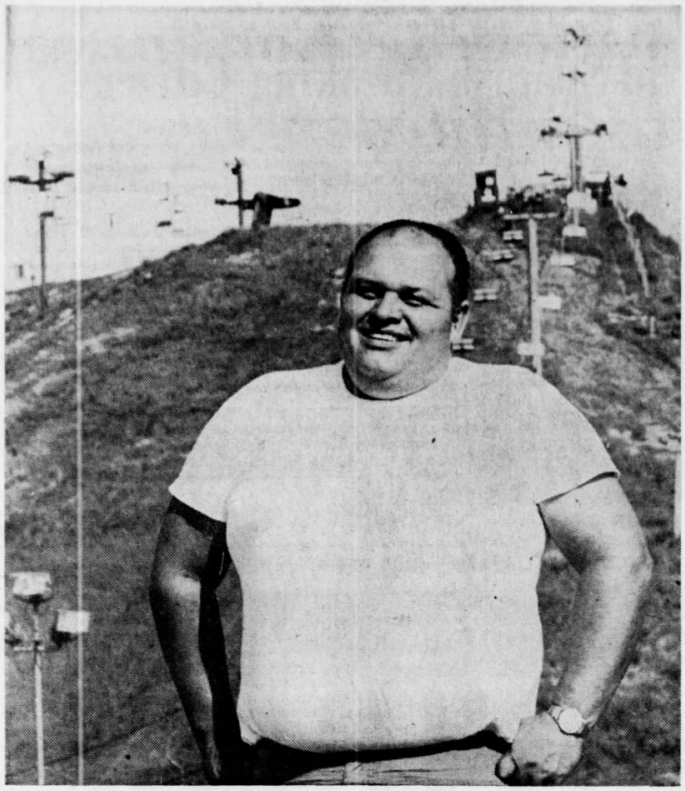
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William Riskey Wants to Build Ski Mountain

Mountain Builder

Brighton Ski Resort Owner Wants To Make Slopes Out of Trash

By JAN GUGLIOTTI
State Journal Staff Writer

HOWELL — If a Brighton "mountain builder" has his way, a lot of Livingston County and mid-Michigan residents may, a few winters from now, be schussing down a pile of the old milk cartons and broken toasters they are throwing away now.

William Riskey, who built three ski hills in Brighton by piling up millions of yards of dirt, thinks he may have found a cheaper way to build more ski mountains, and solve a big solid waste headache nagging the county at the same time.

Riskey has told the county Department of Public Works (DPW) that he may be willing to buy a $60,000 hammer mill trash processor and handle all the solid waste the county can generate for the next 10 or 20 years. He said he would install the grinder on his own ski resort property and pile the resulting material into ski mountains.

CHEAPER

Although he would still cover each day's accumulation of shredded wastes with an adequate layer of dirt, Riskey said he thinks piling shredded trash will still be cheaper than building a whole mountain out of dirt.

One hangup Riskey noted is that pressing as the solid waste problem is to county residents whose township dumps face closing, the volume of trash now being generated there is inadequate to build a mountain fast enough. Riskey has proposed laying a spur line from the railroad tracks that pass by his property to his grinder site, and processing trash from out of the county.

Bringing in trash is currently forbidden by county statute, but Riskey said the county might be persuaded to change its mind if he can show bringing in more trash would not cause any harm.

DROP PLANS

He stressed, however, that he will drop his plans to build a "Mt. Trashy" if the county, township or neighboring property owners object to the venture.

Studies of the hammer mill Riskey is considering have shown it has caused absolutely no noise, odor or health problem in use in Madison, Wis. "But they're still my neighbors," Riskey said, "and if they think it will cause trouble, I'll drop the idea."

Riskey said he will continue studying the financial angles involved to be sure his plans will actually be profitable, and will travel to Toronto to inspect two ski hills built there out of processed, shredded trash. He said he hopes to meet again with the DPW to discuss how much of the costs, including the collection system, the county and townships will bear.

DEADLINE

The state health department has given the county DPW until next spring to present an alternative to "illegal" township dumps now in operation. DPW members have been planning a countywide sanitary landfill, but estimated site acquisition, purchase of the hammer mill and operating costs would amount to well over $100,000, not counting the cost of collecting refuse and trucking it to a central site.

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Portland F

By MIKE WAGONER
State Journal Staff Writer

PORTLAND—Surfacing soon after the first of the year, the belief that narcotics and dangerous drugs are being used in

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