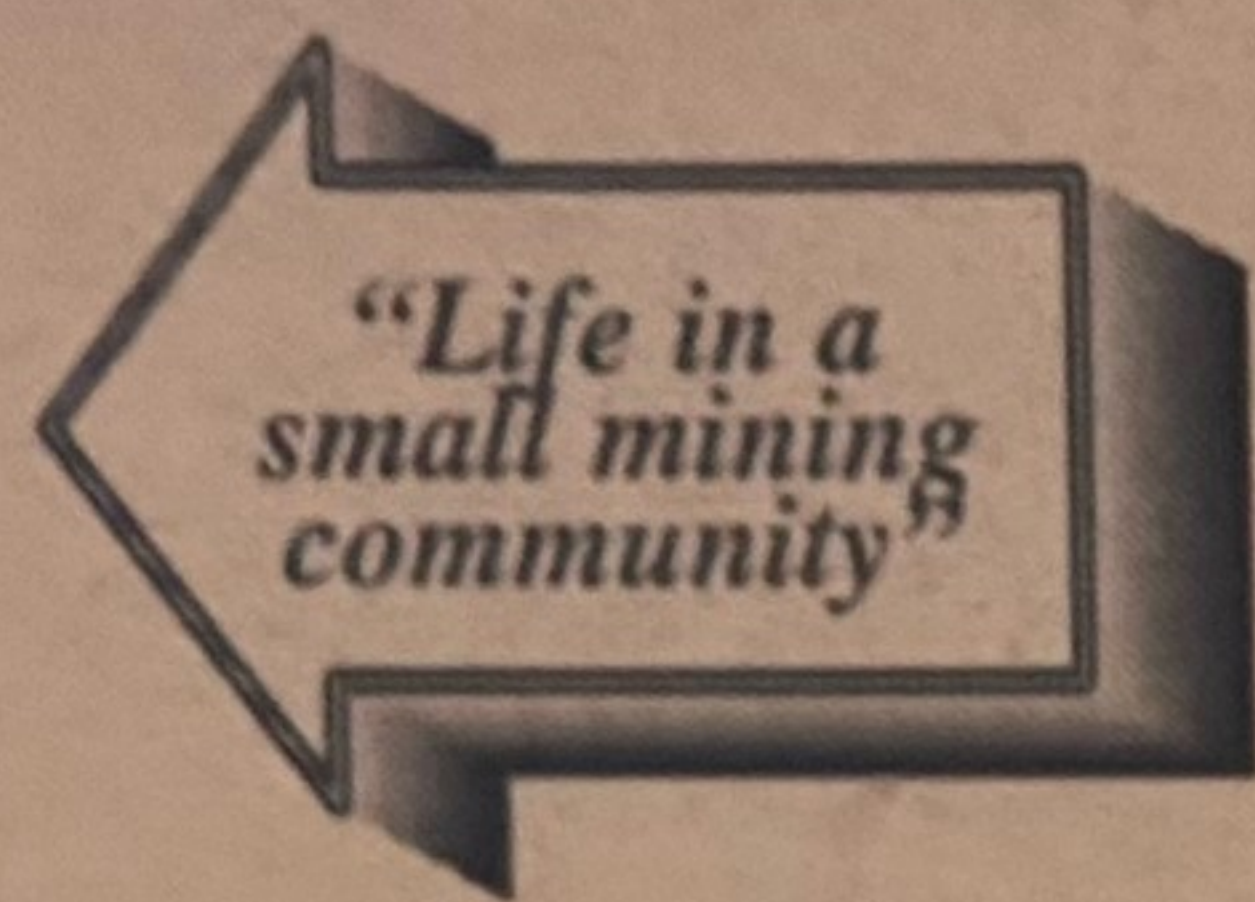










“A Narrow Slippery Slope”

THE BRIDGE

Shortly after the main DMIR was installed through Aurora, a bridge was erected. The St. Louis County Road and Bridge division felt strongly that the potential for car train accidents, warranted building a bridge deck over the top. The bridge in this picture was the County's solution to a traffic problem, however, over the years it began to cause more trouble than good. The incline out of downtown Aurora was relatively steep, while the south end was sloped and curvy. The top was very narrow and as vehicles got larger it was difficult to pass without careful attention. The whole matter came to a head between 1958-1960. Aurora was booming and the City Council wanted the County to build a new bridge or bypass to improve traffic safety. The pro's and con's of tearing the bridge down led to an actual fist fight in council chambers between two residents on opposite sides of the issue. Ultimately, misdemeanors were handed out to the local residents and the County tore the bridge down!