

## Manager says quick response saved bank from destruction

STOUFFVILLE — "Another 10 minutes and we wouldn't be sitting here," Ron Berry, manager of the Stouffville branch of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, told The Tribune Tuesday.

The night before, a fire had started in the basement of the bank. Mr. Berry said that quick response by the Stouffville Fire Department saved the building.

No one was in the bank when the fire started, but a neighbor across the street, Brian Lehman heard the fire gong ringing. Apparently, the alarm was short circuited by the fire. Mr. Lehman looked, saw smoke and quickly called in the alarm. The damage was confined to the

basement and the bank opened for business Tuesday morning.

Fire Chief Walt Smith said that the cleaning staff had been burning garbage in the incinerator in the basement. He said that an exploding aerosol can in the garbage had blown the lid off the incinerator and started the room on fire.

Chief Smith estimated the damage at \$2,000 and Mr. Perry said that nearly \$1,000 worth of stationary supplies were ruined.

Telephones were out of order and hydro was off in some parts of the building Tuesday morning. Except a smokey smell, the main part of the bank was untouched by the blaze.

## Still seeking complex

# Council says no to land purchase

STOUFFVILLE — The Recreation Complex Committee appeared before council last week in an unsuccessful attempt to get a further commitment from the town.

John Foulds, Chairman of the Committee, told council they had "worked three years, more or less getting nowhere," and he asked them to "advise us or give us some kind of support we can take back to our clubs."

Mr. Foulds urged council to take advantage of the free land offered by the York County

Board of Education and to enter into negotiations for a required three acres of land owned by the separate school board.

Council refused to commit themselves to negotiate for the land but merely reiterated their willingness to contribute \$200,000 towards a swimming pool.

Mr. Foulds said the money was not the problem but the primary concern was to acquire land so plans could be made for the future. He indicated the committee has no power to bargain for land so it is up to council.

Councillor Cathy Joice praised the committee members for the time and energy they have devoted to the project but she was critical of council. "We should have the intestinal fortitude to tell them its off instead of beating around the bush as we have for the last two years."

Mayor Gordon Ratcliff argued that council had stated their position which was that

they would back a swimming pool but not a complex.

"We are not particularly pushing to have the whole project done right away but we have to start somewhere and land is obviously the first thing," said Mr. Foulds. "You can have the library and day care centre at the other end of town but it will cost more."

Mrs. Joice suggested they "get the land and then see what we can afford." She indicated they might not be able to afford to build anything for four or five years.

Councillor Eldred King said council "can't make a clear and definite decision until we get other matters settled."

Ross Hetherington told council getting the land from the school board for a dollar a year is now worth \$500,000 and in two or three years would be worth a million. He accused council of not being able to "make decisions."

Mr. Foulds thanked council for hearing them out and asked for their decision in writing.

## Arson suspected in high school blaze

MARKHAM — Arson is suspected as the cause of a fire at Markham District High School which caused an estimated \$4,000 damage.

According to police reports, a man was seen leaving the school in a car about five minutes before a fire was discovered in a construction shack beside the school. The fire spread from the shack to a chute and blower for removing sawdust from the woodworking shop.

A neighbor, who reported the fire to the Markham Fire Department, also supplied police with a description of the suspected arsonist's vehicle.

About 1 p.m. Friday morning a Stouffville man, Ronald

Thompson, spotted a barn fire on the 7th of Markham.

Mr. Thompson notified Harold Nobbs, the owner, who was sleeping at the time and attempted to remove livestock from the barn, which is located at Lot 19.

About 25 sheep and 20 chickens were saved but 95 pigs, five head of cattle, a tractor, and feed were destroyed.

Police estimate the loss at \$32,125.

## Pole broken, hydro off

STOUFFVILLE — Power was off to homes on Edward St. for almost six hours Friday as a scrap metal truck caught a hydro pole and broke it off.

Gordon Brown, of the Stouffville Public Utilities Commission, said that the truck, driven by Sherman Middleton, pulled over to the side of the road when one of the hydraulic arms caught the pole.

The incident happened around 10:45 a.m. Power was off for about 30 minutes along Main St. as a result of the incident. Mr. Brown said that fuses blew at the sub-station and until the trouble area was isolated the power was left off.

By 4:30 p.m. PUC workmen had repaired the damage and replaced the pole.

## Town to pay for bus trip

STOUFFVILLE — The town will pay the cost of busing senior citizens to the Strawberry Festival to be held at Black Creek Pioneer Village. Council decided to make the busing their contribution to senior citizens week. Seniors can make reservations by calling the town office at 640-1900 or Parkview Home at 640-1911 by June 10.



Jane Mosel isn't really losing all her hair. She is clearing the bar during the high jump event at the Orchard Park-Summitview

combined track and field meet Monday. The once-postponed event went off at the first of the week at Orchard Park Public School.

— John Montgomery

## Police budget again

# Region wants \$200,000 cut

YORK REGION — York Region has requested the regional police to chop \$200,000 from its budget, instead of the \$300,000 originally suggested.

Chief Bruce Crawford and representatives of the police commission appeared before Regional Council Thursday. The Chief maintained that cutting the \$300,000 from his budget would seriously weaken the service provided by the force.

He explained that 13 men were needed to fill vacancies in various departments. He said that without the 13 men he would have to take men off the roads and increase the size of patrol areas.

He agreed that approximately \$100,000 could be cut, but rejected the \$300,000 figure.

After some discussion, Councillor Ray Twinney suggested that 10 men be hired and the hiring be done later in the year. The budget then could be cut by \$200,000.

The chief warned that reducing the force's efficiency was not a good idea and that "this is not the time to be reducing law enforcement in our community, it is not being done anywhere."

Later in the meeting when the budget was being discussed, a proposal by Georgina Mayor George Burrows to allow the police to cut \$140,000 was defeated.

A further motion by Councillor Bob Adams that \$200,000 be cut from the police budget was passed by a close 8-7 vote.

Richmond Hill Mayor Dave Schiller wished to insure that the police not hire more than 10 men in 1975.

"Legally you can't do that," Councillor Twinney said. "The board won't hire more than 10 men." Councillor Twinney and Markham Mayor Tony Roman are members of the York Region Police Commission.

## 25% increase in region levy

YORK REGION — With some small adjustments, York Regional Council approved a 1975 budget last week that shows an increase of almost 25 per cent.

The regional levy will increase about \$18 on a house assessed at \$20,000 in Whitchurch-Stouffville. That does not include increases for the local levy or school board.

For Markham, the increase is about \$20 on a house assessed at \$20,000.

The total amount to be raised by the regional levy is \$8,986,685, an increase of \$2,352,768 over 1974 levy. The increase in spending is almost 35 per cent. Increased assessment in the region lowered the impact of the amount to be charged to individual property owners.

Last week council made three minor changes in the budget approved early in May. The engineering budget was trimmed by \$35,000 and grants were lowered by \$13,800. That was offset by an addition to the police budget of \$100,000.

## Town takes step to limit firearms use

PICKERING — Hunters and others with guns have sometimes caused problems in the Town of Pickering by firing indiscriminately and in unsafe areas. Last week, the town executive took the first step towards correcting the problem by passing by-law controlling the firing of guns.

Three readings of the by-law needed to take place at council meeting on Monday to make it law.

## 'Costly' night court refused by Province

STOUFFVILLE — Council has endorsed a Town of Newmarket resolution calling for the formation of a night court in York Region.

Two previous requests for this service, from regional council, have already been refused by the Ministry of the Attorney General.

In the second letter of refusal Attorney General John Clement admitted, "we do not at the present time have the resources to properly administer day courts at Newmarket."

Personnel and budget restraints are cited as reasons the night court will not be allowed.

The ministry also argues the granting of any night court outside of Metro Toronto would create a demand for similar service in many other municipalities.

The new law stipulates that landowners may use a firearm no larger than .275 calibre to control varmints on their own property, provided they don't shoot onto another property area.

Also required is that hunters must have all necessary licences and the landowner's permission in writing to use his land.

Fines for contravention of the by-law would range from \$100 to \$300.

The resolution calling for night courts was unanimously supported by Whitchurch-Stouffville council.

"It makes sense to accommodate people in this way," commented Councillor Merlyn Baker.

## Meeting on expropriation

PICKERING — Ontario Riding M.P. Norm Cafik has called a public meeting Monday June 9 to discuss the expropriation procedures in the airport area.

It will be held at Pickering High School, beginning at 8 p.m. A spokesman for the M.P. said that Mr. Cafik will be making some announcements about government policy at the meeting.



The UCW ladies of Lemonville United Church designed this banner to tell something of the 50th anniversary of church union. Over 200 ladies gathered at Stouffville United Church Monday to celebrate the union which took place on June 10, 1925. Forty-five churches in the York Presbytery were represented.

— Ted Wilcox

## Claremont legion 25th anniversary

CLAREMONT — Claremont Legion celebrated its 25th anniversary in grand style Saturday.

The festivities started in the early afternoon with game tournaments in euchre, cribbage, pool darts and shuffleboard.

The highlight of the day was the dinner in the evening with 250 members and guests present. Head table guests were — Legion President Jack Bates and his wife June; Auxiliary President Jean Bradshaw and husband Jack; and Zone Commander Audrey Bate and husband Bob of Bowmanville.

The anniversary cake was cut and served by three charter auxiliary members — Josephine Linton, Norma Benson and Rowena Lehman.

At the conclusion of the dinner, 25 year pins were awarded to Harold Hopkins, Jack Lehman, Howard Hockley, Jack Rennie, Ralph Norton, Gord Benson, Ken Norton, Gil Wannop, Randy Carruthers, Jim Norton, Ren Loyst, Frank Hollingshead, Mike Norton, Gord Taylor, Earl Cook and Doug Norton.

Twenty-five year pins were presented to auxiliary members — Josephine Linton, Norma Benson, Rowena Lehman, Arvilla Lehman and Eva Towner. Twenty year pins went to Evelyn Carruthers, Gloria Jones, Myrtle Hill, Helen Pascoe, Irene Redshaw, and Elizabeth Goden.

Winners of the 50-50 draw were Bernice Barron, Jean Martin, and Jess Burrows.

A gala dance followed the dinner. Out of the town guests came from Port Perry, Scugog, Stouffville, Oshawa, Whitby, Bowmanville, Ajax, Brougham, Uxbridge, Toronto, Maple and Pickering.