

The Tribune

Established 1888
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Publisher

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Published every Thursday at 54 Main St., Stouffville, Ont. Tel. 648-2101; Toronto phone 341-1480. Single copies 20c; subscriptions \$4.00 per year in Canada, \$16.00 elsewhere. Member of Audit Bureau of circulation, Canadian Community Newspapers Association and Ontario Weekly Newspapers Association. Second class mail registration number 0894.

The Tribune is one of the Inland Publishing Co. Limited group of suburban newspapers, which includes the Ajax/Whitby/Pickering News Advertiser, Brampton Guardian, Burlington Post, Elgin County Gazette, Markham Economist and Sun, Newmarket/Aurora Era, Oakville Beaver, Oshawa This Week, and Mississauga News.

Editorials

School budget cuts needed

The York County Board of Education remains unwilling to cut its 1976 budget. We say unwilling, because unlike some trustees, The Tribune feels that the budget can and should be cut to a reasonable level.

There is no doubt that 1976 is the year of

Gratitude for job well done

The local library board made quite a "find" when they hired Lynne Robbins two years ago to revamp the decrepit library system. In fact, calling it a system is grossly overstating the condition of the library when Mrs. Robbins took over.

She offered energy, enthusiasm, administrative skill and fresh ideas. The library was moved to a new location and approval received for a new library building. The number of people using the library has increased substantially in just over a year and half.

Now she is leaving. It was inevitable that a person with her qualifications should not stay in a small library for very long. She goes to the City of Toronto library system.

She has done a minor miracle in Stouffville in two short years. The area owes her many thanks for a job well-done.

Craft program underway

It looks like the adult craft program in town will finally get off the ground. In cooperation with Seneca College, the craft courses are to be held at the old library as originally planned.

Students help is appreciated

Winter can be a difficult and exasperating time for people who are getting on in years. Many who own their homes have difficulty shoveling the snow during the winter months.

With this in mind, students at Stouffville Dist. Secondary School pitched in during recent heavy snowfalls to shovel porches and walks for senior citizens unable to do the work themselves.

The senior citizens had only to call the high school and students were dispatched.

Although much is said about rebellious young people these days, the students involved are truly doing their "good deed" for those less fortunate.

We commend such public spirited efforts.

Estate plan unacceptable

Messrs. Gino Testa and Clay Clouter attended a recent planning board meeting to present still another proposal for Mr. Testa's farm on Bethesda Sideroad.

This time a "prestige" development with large high-class homes was proposed. Just a few months ago, the council approved a private club for the property.

Last year, the duo presented a plan that included a large portion of low-cost housing. That was turned down by council as was the recent estate residential proposal.

It must now occur to the developers that

the big crunch. The day of reckoning has arrived. It surprises us that the provincial tap was not shut off sooner. Instead, the board is up to its ears in experimental programs, most of them funded principally with provincial money.

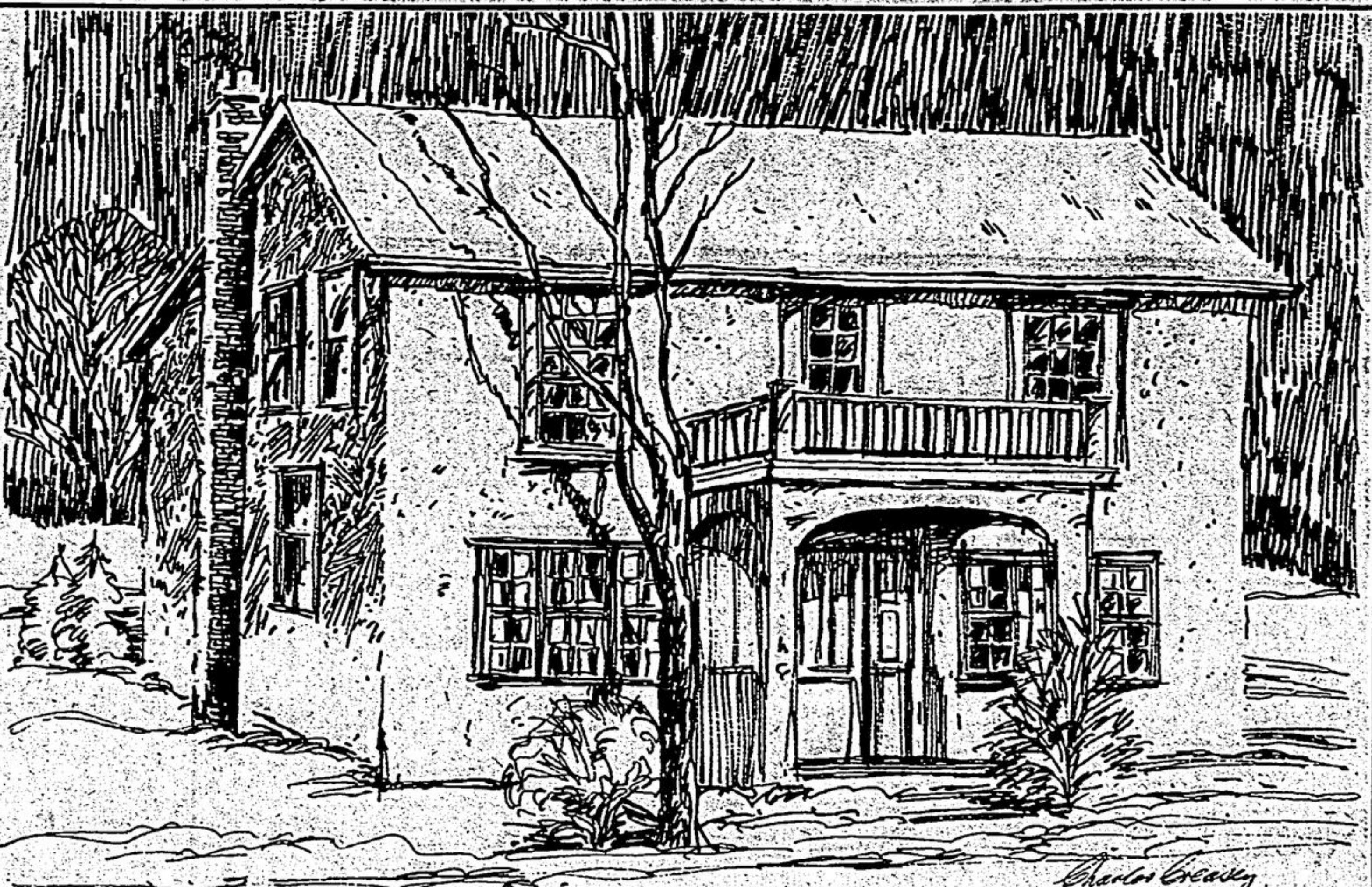
However on the local level there must be a way to cut a budget that totals almost \$70 million. If that budget is approved with only minor cuts, the tax increase could be as high as 30 per cent on the education levy. The increase cannot be less than 16 per cent with such a budget figure.

On top of probable increases in regional and local levies, the proposed budget is just not acceptable. The trustees should realize that the taxpayers are just not going to take such an increase lying down.

The grim imperative is that the budget must be cut down. One area that could well be trimmed is in the number of people employed by the board. Teachers and staff should be reduced in certain areas, while still not creating any real problem in the classrooms. To our knowledge such action has never been considered.

The trustees have a tough job ahead of them. But those who feel a real responsibility to the electorate will make up their minds to the work at hand. The board should "roll up its sleeves" and make the necessary cuts.

If trustees fail to do this, they may find themselves unemployed after this coming December's elections.



Local artist Charles Creasey has been concentrating on sketches of local buildings in recent months. One of his drawings is this Goodwood home, built sometime between 1850 and 1860 by a M. Chapman, the house

is presently owned by local book store owner John Lord. The Lord have lived there since 1972.

SUGAR AND SPICE

Leadership race termed 'low comedy'

By BILL SMILEY



Those Tories are something. This column will not appear until after their convention, but I'm still going around shaking my head in amused perplexity.

Theme of the convention seemed to be "Healing old wounds". This phrase came up again and again, as the blood from the old wounds oozed steadily, paying no attention.

Tone of the convention, aside from the theme, seemed to be, "Open new wounds." And they were visible, pouring forth fresh blood.

Not all the pious proclamations of solidarity, working together, and we're-all-brothers-in-the-great-Conservative-party could hide from any viewer that carrying a chip was the order of the day.

By the time this appears in print, I have no doubt that Joe Clark, the new leader, slick as a seal when he took over, will look more like a porcupine, with all those daggers sticking out of his back.

It's a good thing he weighs only 145 pounds. At least a skinny guy is a smaller target for the knives.

What a scenario! Their leader, Robert Stanfield, was stepping down after eight harrowing years trying to get a crowd of mavericks to make sense. He's the best leader the party has had since Robert Borden.

So what do they do as a zippy opening for the convention? They hold a laudatory dinner for John Diefenbaker, who has made things as difficult as possible for Stanfield since the latter beat him out for the leadership.

Mr. Diefenbaker needed that dinner like he needed a hole in the head. He has been honored quite often enough as the Grand Old Man of the party. And with his ego, he doesn't need anybody to tell him how great he is.

Oh, Stanfield was given a dinner too, but sort of second banana, if he'll pardon the expression. He laid it on the line: Told the Tories present: they had to stop the in-fighting, and get together if they were ever to form a government. That was about as much use as me telling a class of students that if they didn't do their homework, they would fail.

Totally ignored.

Next day the cats turned up for the farce. The actors did everything Shakespeare warned the players not to do, in the play Hamlet.

Heward Grafey and Patrick Nowlan sawed the air violently with their hands, shattered it with their mouths, cast their appeal entirely to the groundlings. This after, like Leacock's hero, leaping each on his horse and riding off in all directions.

John Fraser, a decent-looking chap with about as much charisma as Fred Flintstone, read a speech that would have put to sleep the annual convention of the Women's Institute.

Pretty Boy Mulroney, batting his eyelashes at the cameras, smiled and made and made a speech that might have got him a \$25 fee on the banquet circuit.

Sinclair Stevens, an old-time image of a Bay St. Tory, bald and rich, made the only attempt to inject a little humor, and it bombed with a crowd which seemed able to applaud only platitudes.

Richard Quittenton from somewhere quit before the balloting began.

Jack Horner should have stayed in a corner instead of trying to ride the herd back into the 1940s.

Paul Hellyer, defeated for the Liberal leadership, hotly attacked the Prime Minister with vague innuendoes, and completed making an ass of himself by savagely attacking the press of which he is a working member.

James Gillies, an economics professor, sounded like one, but had the good sense to get out early.

Claude Wagner, formerly beaten for the Liberal leadership in Quebec, and lured into the Tory party with a \$300,000 trust fund, proved a master orator, but said virtually nothing.

Joe Clarke, the eventual winner, made one studied joke, then launched into an earnest, dull speech which managed to cover most of the diamond without touching many bases.

Flora McDonald, to my mind, made the

most honest speech of the lot. She was simple, but eloquent, warm but strong.

Next day the blood-letting began. Diefenbaker, never one to forget or forgive an insult, real or fancied, remembered that Joe Clarke had worked against him in a leadership campaign, and went to Wagner. Little Jack Horner followed him into that corner, after taking a swing at a reporter. Hellyer, looking as though he'd been sucking a persimmon, joined that middle-aged crowd.

Flora, obviously crushed by the knowledge that hundreds of blatant liars had promised her second-ballot support, went to Clarke, as did most of the others.

Quebec media people claimed there was a gang-up against Wagner. Ridiculous. He got just under half the total vote.

It was scarcely high drama. More like low comedy. But the party has a new leader. He looks like a live one, and his smart (in both senses) young wife should help. But he's going to need a lot of bandages to staunch the old wounds, and the new ones.

I don't know Mr. Clarke, but we have both appeared regularly in the High River Times. Go get 'em, Joe.

Thoughts from the

Living Bible

So, dear brothers, work hard to prove that you really are among those God has called and chosen, and then you will never stumble or fall away. And God will open wide the gates of heaven for you to enter into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I plan to keep on reminding you of these things even though you already know them and are really getting along quite well! But the Lord Jesus Christ has showed me that my days here on earth are numbered and I am soon to die.

II Peter 1:10-14

TODAY'S HEALTH

Day-to-day problems and mental stress

BY DAVID WOODS

Margaret Trudeau had herself admitted to hospital for psychiatric care a year or so ago. By doing so, she not only made an intelligent move to protect her own health—she also did a great deal to bring attention to the cause of mental health in general.

In one move she showed that anyone can undergo mental stress, and that the best thing to do is recognize the fact, acknowledge it freely and seek help.

Statistics show that one Canadian in eight will, at one time or another, undergo psychiatric treatment. Mental stress is much more common than is generally believed, and much of it has its roots in problems of day-to-day living.

Because of this, perhaps the best hope for early detection and treatment lies in the community.

In Ontario during the past 10 years, there has been a shift away from the old pattern of psychiatric care in institutions and from what might be termed a policy of "out of mind, out of sight." Last year, fewer than 6,000 patients were resident in psychiatric institutions in this province, compared to 16,000 in 1960.

The trend now is towards treatment in the community and in psychiatric departments of local general hospitals, with the emphasis being placed more frequently on out-patient care. Every population area of 30,000 in Ontario now has a psychiatric facility, staffed, in addition to psychiatrists, by other trained health professionals, including nurses, psychologists and social workers.

At the "grass roots" level, the Canadian Mental Health Association is a national voluntary citizens' organization working to alleviate mental illness and to promote mental health. It has 29 branches in Ontario, and each branch works in co-operation with local psychiatric hospitals and other mental health service delivery facilities.

The task of each branch is to educate people about mental health, encouraging early recognition and treatment of problems that, without professional intervention, might become more serious.

Many of the branches provide hospital visiting services, rehabilitation services, transportation and social events for the discharged patient seeking recreational or

Letter to the Editor

Grads sought for 50th anniversary

Dear Sir:

Cobalt High School is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. To celebrate the occasion, we are holding a reunion on August 2, 1976.

We hope to contact and inform all former students and teachers, and invite them to attend our reunion. We plan open house all day at Cobalt High School and a dinner and dance in the evening.

All former students and teachers who are interested in further details should contact the Secretary, Anniversary Committee, Cobalt High School, Box 9, Cobalt, Ontario, POJ 1C0. DR. L. D. McCARRY, Chairman.

COUNTDOWN: Stouffville Centennial 1877-1977



read as follows: "I'm 17 years old. I'm growing larger and better every year. I have 3,000 volumes, 7 newspapers and 11 magazines. It only costs \$1.00 a year to have access to me every afternoon and evening."

Centennial countdown

For those interested, there are only 288 days until the start of centennial year. That leaves just over nine months, a total of 41 weeks. In fact centennial years is closer than most of us realize. It is at this time that much of the groundwork is being laid for centennial celebrations.

Legion service

In June of 1977, Stouffville Legion will host the area's Drum Head Service. The special event, which takes place at a legion branch in the area on an annual basis will be incorporated into centennial year. It will add color and pomp to the celebrations of our 100th birthday.

Centennial meeting

Tonight (Thursday, March 18) is the monthly Centennial Committee meeting in the council chambers at the municipal offices. The meeting is underway at 8 p.m.