

Baby made ill—families told not to drink water

BALLANTRAE — Two families here have been advised by the Ministry of the Environment not to drink the water from their wells.

Derrick Smith, a ministry official involved with the case, said it is unknown whether the well contamination is "a natural problem" or a "manmade problem" but he expressed

confidence the York Sanitation dump on Highway 48 is not responsible.

He said the dump is located a mile and a half from the wells involved and, according to reports, the groundwater flow from the dump is in the opposite direction to Ballantrae.

Other reasons he gave were that any contaminants would

have been diluted by the time they got that far off the dump site and there would have been some indication from the dump's monitoring wells.

Sharon Powell learned of the water pollution when her young baby became ill with diarrhea and was hospitalized for 10 days. She said the baby's condition stabilized when she

was in hospital but after returning home became sick again.

A specialist suggested they have their water tested and the family called in the York Region Health Unit.

The water was tested in March and again in June. Three weeks ago the Powell family and Randy and Joyce Huskisson, the

neighbours immediately to the north, were warned not to drink their water.

The Powell's were advised not to feed the water to their baby after the tests came back from the March analysis.

Mr. Smith said in about a month, the ministry will undertake a survey of the wells in the area in an effort to determine the source of the pollution.

of contaminants of the condemned wells.

Mr. Smith said the water from this well is still drinkable. He told The Tribune that salt

(sodium chloride) in the water is the biggest problem.

Water tests by the Health Unit indicate an amount of (See Unpotable page 9)

Town plans joint effort in going to Ombudsman

STOUFFVILLE — The town will approach the Ontario Ombudsman jointly with the Preserve Our Water Resources group on the subject of the Highway 48 York Sanitation dump, following a 4-3 vote Tuesday night.

Also last week, Mayor Gordon Ratcliff sent a letter to MPP William Hodgson

requesting he set up a meeting with the Minister of the Environment concerning the dump.

Councillor Eldred King said he didn't disagree with a citizens' group going to the ombudsman about the dump. He said, however, he felt council should first meet with the (See Will page 9)

The Tribune

VOL. 89 NO. 20 WHITCHURCH — STOUFFVILLE, SEPTEMBER 23, 1976 20 CENTS 16 PAGES

Library bids over budget back to drawing board

STOUFFVILLE — Library board members received an ugly shock Monday evening when tenders for the new library were opened and the lowest bid submitted came in \$123,000 over budget.

Council had promised \$250,000 to build the 7,000 square foot structure, which is to be Stouffville's centennial project.

Architect's fee is 10 per cent, leaving \$225,000 for the actual construction. The lowest bid, submitted by Janin Building, was for \$358,000.

Before tenders were opened the board had been hoping the cost of the 7,000 foot building would come in low and there would be enough money left over to add an extra 3,000 square feet.

Earlier it had been predicted that 19 plus bids would be received and there was

speculation that fierce competition would drive the price down.

Only seven bids were received and the highest of these was from Sandgate Construction for \$428,000.

Library board will meet tonight (Thursday) with the architect to discuss ways of cutting the costs.

The cost of lighting can be reduced by \$30,000 according to head librarian Terry Verity. Lighting fixtures were supposed to be available at Canadian prices which are considerably lower but at the time the contractors were estimating the job the fixtures were still only listed at American prices.

A second cost over-run of about \$20,000 turned up when it was discovered a portion of the soil under-lying the library site

was not part of the natural formation but had been built up with fill.

As the fill is not compacted enough to support the library it necessitated designing for pylons to be driven into the ground, to support the weight of the building.

Mayor Gordon Ratcliff said he would favour a softening of council's original stand that no more money would be forthcoming from the town.

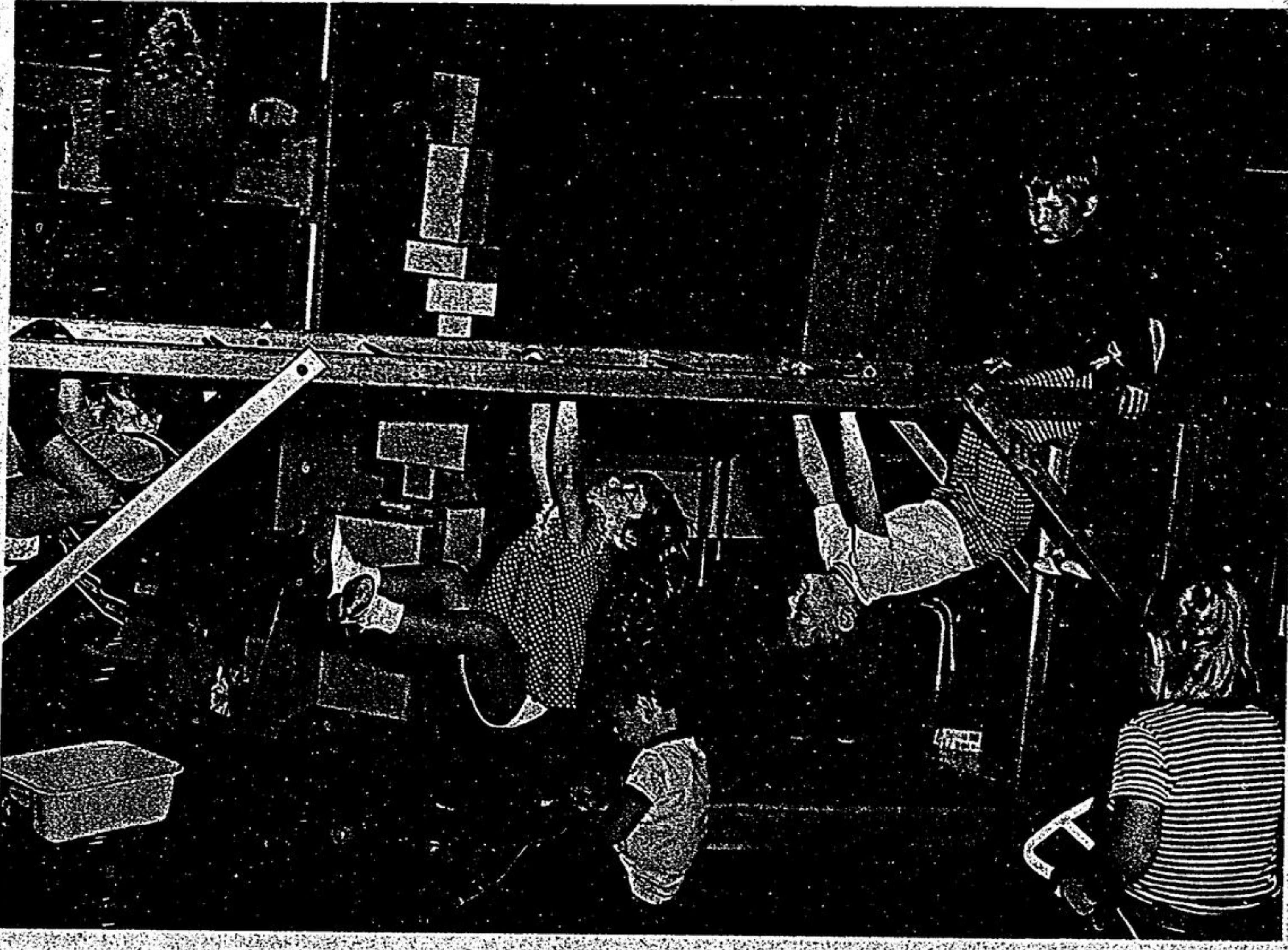
"I would not like to see all the money placed in the building and leave nothing left for furnishings," he said.

He told The Tribune he would like to see council approve an additional \$15-20,000 if it proves necessary. He said he could see little benefit in going from brick, as is now planned, to cement block or steel siding for the sake of only a few thousand dollars.

Mr. Ratcliff, who is also a member of the library board, said the figures "don't add up."

The estimates for the additional 3,000 square feet are especially puzzling. Janin Building, the low bidder, submitted a price of \$160,000, which works out to \$53 per square foot for just four walls. Yet, the price for the main building, which includes installation of all services is only \$51 per square foot.

The building would have to be built at \$32 a square foot to erect a 7,000 foot library for the amount of money granted by council.



St. Mark School's Junior Kindergarten bears little resemblance to a conventional classroom as can be seen from the way the kids in this picture scramble around the monkey bars. The class is to help children develop socially through organized play. Children are, from left: Maura Kirby, Hillary Chen, Julia Sorichetti, Kevin Green, Dominic Caraci, Stephen Syveret, Cathleen Shinnars. For more pictures see page 15. — John Montgomery.

Irene's Good Night Coffee house opens

MARKHAM — Friday and Saturday evenings are the opening nights for a coffee house to be located at the home of Irene Turpin, south of Dickson

Hill Public School on Highway 48.

"Irene's Good Night" will feature singers and musicians from the Stouffville area and around Toronto.

Susan Cogan, who was featured at last year's Winter Nights concert series at Latcham Hall, is one of the performers slated to perform for the opening nights. A notice posted in Stouffville also lists Edgar Herrell and Jerome Jarvis as performers.

OP finished held meetings for residents

STOUFFVILLE — The Official Plan for Whitchurch-Stouffville is now completed and public meetings have been scheduled for October.

Monday, Oct. 18 a meeting will be held at Latcham Hall in Stouffville, a Ballantrae meeting is set for Wednesday, Oct. 20, and Vandorf residents will be heard Thursday, Oct. 21.

Mrs. Cogan told The Tribune a lot of other artists will be on hand to play.

Admission is \$1.75 for adults and \$1 for those under 16 and over 60 years of age.

Mrs. Turpin, former owner of Reliable Taxi, guarantees good coffee will be served.

Tribunes to museum

BOGARTTOWN — Copies of The Tribune, most dating from before the turn of the century, that were sold recently by auction have not been lost to the community.

The papers were sold at the auction of the property of Merv and Eleanor Bunker, who were expropriated out of their Altona home.

Jean Barkey and Wes Brillinger purchased 43 newspapers for the Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum at the auction.

The lot included seven copies of the Stouffville Pilot and 36 Tribunes. The oldest paper was from 1888 and the newest from 1904.

According to Mr. Brillinger, who is chairman of the museum board, outstanding articles will be reprinted from the papers and sold to museum patrons.

The papers sold for an average of \$17 each, totalling just over \$700.

Barn gutted shortly after cattle moved

VICTORIA SQUARE — A barn worth \$40,000 was destroyed by fire Saturday at a farm owned by Gerhard Schickedanz, as firemen were on the scene from 12:45 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. dousing the blaze.

The farm is located about a mile south of Victoria Square on Concession 4.

The fire call was turned in by the wife of a farm manager and five rigs from Markham and Unionville and a tank truck from Stouffville attended the scene.

Without a four-acre pond at the farm that was nearly drained by the firemen, Chief Smith said that the damage could have been greater than \$1,000,000.

The day before the fire, 150 beef cattle had been moved out of the barn.



It was not your average ground-breaking ceremony Sunday at the sod-turning for the new Markham Fairgrounds on concession 7 and 18th Avenue, Markham. Participants all pulled on long ropes attached to a plough, which broke the earth, symbolizing that the

Malton stalling called Pickering airport con

PICKERING — Ottawa may be holding back on efforts to alleviate congestion at Toronto International Airport in order to create the need for Pickering airport, a confidential provincial transport ministry memo states.

The memo, by G. H. Johnston, executive director of the Ministry of Transportation and Communications planning division, is dated June 11 and was leaked to the press last week.

Dr. Charles Godfrey, MPP for Durham West and chairman of People or Planes, says the memo substantiates "what I have been saying all along."

The memo cites opinions by Hugh Devitt, a former manager at Toronto International Airport who retired June 30, in suggesting that a "closed mind attitude" exists which is "obviously part of a master plan to revive Pickering by refusing to

develop any facility which will help to relieve the pressures at Malton."

According to the memo, a third terminal at Malton is necessary and a site for it already chosen, but when Mr. Devitt suggested the idea to Canadian Air Transportation Administration director, William Huck, he was told "to forget it."

Mrs. Johnston also says that some of Mr. Devitt's comments about the airport are valuable ones, such as the statement that a second airport may be necessary in the future, although not necessarily a major international one.

About the leaking of the

document to the press, Mr. Johnstone said that "Obviously it will be interpreted as something which represents the official position of the ministry and it is far from that. It is just recording some comments that were made during the course of a conversation."

Dr. Godfrey has suggested that if Malton was used to its fullest capacity that it could handle the volume of air traffic until 1985 or 1990.

He says that he feels the money being proposed for the airport in Pickering could be better spent on ground transportation.

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Bill Kamps declares

STOUFFVILLE — William Kamps of Rupert Avenue is running for the Ward 4 council seat now occupied by Cathy Joice, who has announced she is a candidate for mayor of Whitchurch-Stouffville.

"I have no axe to grind," Mr. Kamps told The Tribune Monday. "The town's great, but I want to make sure we keep the green belt between Markham and us. I'm for controlled growth."

Mr. Kamps now serves as a member of the Committee of Adjustment and was a planning board member for three years, two of which he served as chairman. He points out that while he was on planning board, the as-yet unrealized Dulverton subdivision was first approved.

"I'm also for better sports facilities than what we have right now." The means of getting the facilities, he said, would be through "self help" and by "grants we haven't received because we haven't asked for it."

Former gravel pit may be subdivision

STOUFFVILLE — A gravel pit may be proposed as a site for a subdivision, council was informed last week.

A letter from J. B. Earl, Ministry of Resources district manager, said that the pit, south of Bloomington Road in Concession 8, is now being considered as a potential subdivision.

Mr. Kamps said he didn't want the projects to add to the tax burden because "since I'm a heavy taxpayer myself, I know what it's like."

"I think the council's doing well," he added, "but I think we should have a bigger voice at the Region. We deserve a bigger voice."

The candidate has been a resident of Stouffville for 16 years. He is the father of six children and is a pharmaceutical representative by occupation.

Woman acquitted on theft charges

TORONTO — Lynn Downey, formerly of Stouffville and now of Willowdale, was last Friday acquitted in County Court of theft charges.

Judge Rodgers ordered an acquittal when the Crown Attorney chose not to call evidence.

Charges were laid in the spring of 1975 after the Stouffville law firm of William G. Parsons reported an alleged shortfall of about \$1,000 in a trust fund.

The Tribune wishes to apologize to Mrs. Downey for the tone taken in the original story about the charges which appeared in the paper at that time. This report caused her unnecessary additional anxiety.

Markham Fair requires "everyone pulling together," as fair president Harvey Brown put it. Guiding the plough for the ceremony were Mayor Tony Roman, federal agricultural representative Ken Charles and Mr. Brown.