

# POWR group is denied again

TORONTO — Preserve Our Water Resources (POWR), a local citizen's group Monday was again denied permission to participate in the Justice Samuel Hughes Inquiry.

The inquiry was called to investigate an alleged \$35,000 donation made by Disposal Services Ltd. to the Ontario Progressive Conservative Party in 1974.

Disposal Services Ltd. is the parent company of York Sanitation Co. Ltd., which operates the Highway 48 landfill site.

POWR wishes to make a

submission as to the suitability of the site but were earlier refused permission because they had no direct evidence of political influence. The dump is located on the Oak Ridges Moraine.

Although permission was refused a second time this week John Swaigen, a Canadian Environmental Law Association lawyer representing POWR, told The Tribune he is "optimistic" they will yet be allowed to make a presentation.

Mr. Swaigen said the inquiry chairman has agreed to state the case to the Divisional Court because he felt it "is an

important matter in the public interest."

Mr. Justice Hughes is reported to have said the statutes under which the inquiry is operating are "ambiguous" and should be interpreted by the court.

POWR's cases will be argued at the Divisional Court by attorney Ian Scott, who has acted as counsel for such Royal Commissions as the Berger Pipeline Inquiry.

Mr. Swaigen told The Tribune that Mr. Scott will represent the ratepayers free of charge.

The inquiry has now been adjourned until the Divisional Court makes a ruling on whether POWR will be allowed to appear.

The matter will be heard at Divisional Court either the last week of October or the first week of November.

Mr. Swaigen said the inquiry judge had refused to hear POWR on the grounds that by representing the people he was "usurping the role of the Attorney General" and by allowing citizen's groups to appear the hearings would be dragged out indefinitely.

Mr. Swaigen said he is "pleased with the witnesses" the inquiry is calling.

The town recently received correspondence from the Ministry of the Environment informing council that the industrial waste dump has been granted a 200 ton per day increase. The dump is now allowed to accept 700 tons of refuse daily.

## Smoking still first in causing fires

STOUFFVILLE — Kids playing with matches, overheated stovepipes and grease fires and octopus wiring are no match for careless smoking when it comes to causing fires, according to Stouffville Fire Chief Walt Smith.

Mr. Smith says that 76 per cent of the home fires in the region are still attributed to careless smoking despite massive public education campaigns.

However, Mr. Smith says that car and truck fires are becoming more frequent. "And clothes dryers are another bad thing," remarked the chief, "people don't clean the lint and crap out and it catches fire when it builds up close to the burners." October 9 to 15 is Fire Prevention week, and Chief Smith expressed the view that prevention was the most important component in fire fighting.

To this end the Stouffville company is hosting two open houses at the station this week and showing a fire prevention movie. Firemen are also visiting schools and will make home fire inspections if requested.

Based on his experiences, Mr. Smith made several recommendations to lessen fire risk. "Keep a nice tidy house, clean up the basement, and don't have octopus wiring," he admonishes.

Chief Smith also suggests getting a smoke detector.

"I'm a great believer in

smoke detectors — not heat detectors, by the time heat sets off detectors, you're cooked — although smoke will get you before the fire does," he said.

Mr. Smith says that the best place to install a smoke detector (he recommends a battery powered model that is sensitive to combustion) in the hallway outside the bedroom or at the top of a staircase.

"It would give lots of warning to get out safely," he says.

He also believes every family should have an alternate escape route planned in case they are cut off from usual exits by smoke or flames.



## MIND BLOWING DEVICE

Mind blowing devices, winged creatures, and marshmallows all played a major role in the performance by the English Mime troupe 'Abacadabra'. The performers, who wished to be known only by their group name, played to an enthusiastic crowd at 'Irene's

Goodnight' during a special performance last weekend. The coffee house in Dickson's Hill does not officially open for another two weeks.

—Annegret Lamure

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## Claims Ontario Humane Society

### Vet responsible for dog seizure

TORONTO — Ethel Blaedow, the Dog Lady of Stouffville, still does not know the final fate of her 16 dogs still held by the Ontario Humane Society.

Of the 31 dogs seized from the rented barn south of the Stouffville Cemetery, one dog escaped, and according to a knowledgeable source who asked that his name not be used, 14 have been destroyed.

Executive vice-president Tom Hughes represented the society before the Animal Care Review Board last Friday. Mr. Hughes immediately requested an adjournment on the grounds that the veterinarian who signed the order of seizure was not present at the hearing.

Mr. Hughes, in his opening statement, seemed to be placing responsibility for the seizure on the veterinarian.

He told the board that Stouffville veterinarian Dr. Terry O'Connor "has chosen not to testify voluntarily," because he feared "a loss of revenue and practice."

Mr. Hughes said he could "sympathize" with the veterinarian, who he described as being "frightened to appear before the board", but added that the society was subpoenaing the witness.

The Tribune later contacted Dr. O'Connor by telephone. Dr. O'Connor denied refusing to appear and said he would be contacting his lawyer with regard to the case.

### Lady's baking tops Markham Uxbridge Fairs

GOODWOOD — "I always wondered how I'd compare to other people in the kitchen," laughed Ruby Johnson as she talked about her domestic science entries at the Uxbridge and Markham Fairs.

Judging by her prizes, Mrs. Johnson compares very well indeed. She scored the highest number of points in Domestic Science at both fairs this fall.

At the Markham Fair she was awarded 11 firsts, eight seconds, six thirds and four fourths, and she also took eight firsts, 12 seconds, and three thirds at the Uxbridge Fair.

"I enjoy putting myself forward to see how I compare with other people baking," said Mrs. Johnson, "I'm a housewife and usually when you put a meal in front of your family and they complain, you have nothing to compare it too. But after seeing all the red ribbons I can say, 'I'm not so bad after all.' I too have a place in society — it gives you something to measure yourself by."

Dr. O'Connor said he was called at 7:30 the night before and asked to appear at the hearing. He said the other veterinarian in his practice had made arrangements to be away the day of the hearing and because of this he found it impossible to attend.

"I wasn't able to make arrangements on such short notice," he said, "I would have been happy to appear. I certainly would have gone down there if it was possible."

Dr. O'Connor said a death in

the family had further complicated the matter.

The veterinarian said he had gotten involved in the case, with some "hesitation", at the request of the humane society. He said Mrs. Dick Parry had called him the day of the seizure and asked him to come and look at the dogs as her son Bruce Parry, also a humane society official, "was out at Blaedow's—they were considering a seizure."

Dr. O'Connor would not comment on the seizure as a

court case is pending regarding the criminal neglect charges laid against Miss Blaedow by the society.

Mr. Hughes seemed to be placing full responsibility for the seizure on the veterinarian. He argued that Inspector Dick Parry, who led the raid, as a "layperson — is not in a position to argue with the vet."

He said that even if the seizure is declared not justified the society cannot be faulted as the society officials were (See Fights page 2)

## 'Stoufferville' founder honoured

STOUFFVILLE — It was a proud moment last Thursday evening when the two oldest living descendants of Abraham Stouffer unveiled the plaque commemorating the founding of "Stoufferville."

The unveiling ceremony was held at the new library's Latham Gallery at 7 p.m. last Thursday evening and the Ministry of Culture and Recreation plaque was set out by the street almost immediately afterwards.

The library gallery was packed with a group of people standing at the back.

The town received two flags, one from the provincial representative Bill Hodgson and the other by a representative of Sinclair Stevens the federal member.

Centennial Committee Chairman Keith Sutherland acted as Master of Ceremonies.

Mayor Gordon Ratcliff told the crowd "even in the early 1820's Stouffville had active, interested citizens" and he added "this is the nicest town in Ontario."

Well wishes were also received from York Regional Chairman Garfield Wright.

Library board chairman Jim Sanders, commenting on the gift of two flags, said, "we will have to go back to council and ask for money for a flag pole."

Keynote speaker of the evening was Stouffville historian and author Jean Barkey.

"I underline the word brief but you're just never sure with Jean," said Mr. Sutherland in his introduction.

Mrs. Barkey prefaced her remarks by admitting she had no prepared speech and began by thanking the library board

for "this beautiful edifice." She urged the community to use the library, which was built as a centennial project "to its fullest capacity."

Mrs. Barkey then described that "bleak and miserable day", Dec. 11, 1804 when Abraham Stouffer, accompanied by his wife Elizabeth and two children came onto the future site of Stouffville.

"They perceived it to be a good land," said Mrs. Barkey. She then recounted how the Stouffers went to York to swear allegiance to the British Crown and there purchased 200 acres belonging to Russell Hoag a nonresident.

Another 200 acres was purchased and the Stouffers moved to the present location of the town and built a house on the site where Dr. Bill Murphy's home now stands.

Mrs. Barkey said the

Pennsylvania Mennonite had built his barn near the present location of Stouffville Nursing Home and the piggy had been replaced with the laundromat.

The plaque was located at the site of the new library because it was the location of the third Stouffer mill. The previous two, believed to have been built at the south-east corner of Main and Market Sts., had burned down.

"We are proud of our heritage," said Mrs. Barkey "they worked so hard for a better future."

"They believed in toleration, education, faith in our people and faith in our God," concluded Mrs. Barkey.

Commenting on the voluminous amount of material collected for the centennial book, Mr. Sutherland commented that Mrs. Barkey's (See Oldest page 11)



Some people prefer to hunt up their own mushrooms at this time of the year, but the vast majority opt for the less strenuous, not to mention less risky method of buying them at the local supermarket. If they do, chances are good that they were handpicked by Bonnie Forfar, one of the employees at the Triple A Mushroom Farm in Gormley. For more pictures and story on growing the delectably fungi, turn to page 3.

## Recreation club for disabled will open

YORK REGION — The dreams and hopes of many people will be realized on Thursday, October 27, the opening date of a recreation club for the disabled in York Region.

The project, funded by the Ontario March of Dimes and organized by PROD (Promotion of Realization of Opportunities for the Disabled), will use the Joseph A. Gibson School in Maple as its headquarters.

The club will meet every Thursday from 6:30 to 10 p.m.

However, it never would have gotten off the ground without the donation of transportation by other community groups. Unionville and Participation House in Markham have both agreed to provide vans for the transportation of the disabled adults to and from the club.

Recreation programs planned include arts and crafts, games and relaxation exercises, depending on the preferences of the participants. One program already has a full complement of eager members — the men's wheelchair basketball team is willing, ready, and able to take on all comers. The only thing

they're still missing is coaches.

Program organizers point out that no experience is necessary — anyone wishing to volunteer will be trained by the Ontario Wheelchair Sports Association in refereeing skills.

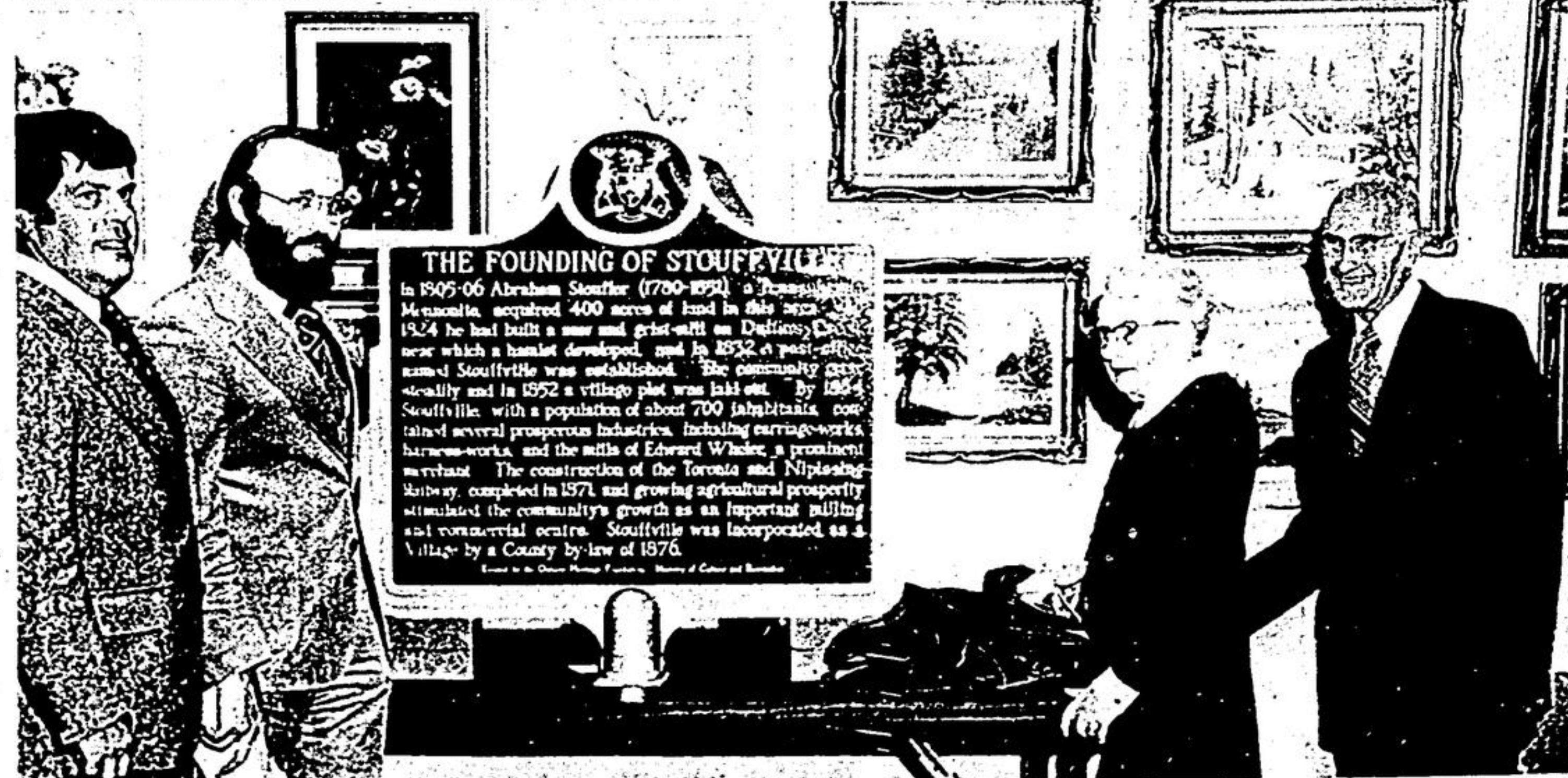
The club is open to all disabled adults (18 and over) in York Region.

Anyone wishing to join, either as a member or a volunteer is asked to call Sharon Galway 717-3878, Jan Virtue, 883-2087, or Lillian Hart, 898-4554.

## Police after cream thieves

York Regional Police are probably looking for thieves with great skin complexion following the theft of 10,000 jars of Noxzema Skin Cream.

The cream was stolen from The Tann Group Distributors, 83 Glencairn Road in Thornhill, sometime between September 13 and October 3. The jars were 66 millimeter size, and were valued at \$5,000.



Mrs. Roy Moyer and Harry Stouffer unveil the plaque commemorating the founding of Stouffville. Mrs. Moyer and Mr. Stouffer are the oldest living descendants of Abraham and Elizabeth Stouffer who founded the town in 1805-06. At left are

Whitchurch — Stouffville Library Board Chairman Jim Sanders (nearest plaque) and Centennial Committee Chairman Keith Sutherland. Jean Barkey told the story of the founding.