

## Support strong for hospital

By IAN BAILEY  
The campaign to raise funds for the proposed Markham Stouffville Hospital has picked up as organizers move towards a December objective of \$5 million in pledges to demonstrate community interest to the provincial government.

According to David McMillan, Campaign Director for the Building Fund, \$1.5 million dollars in pledges has been committed by individuals and groups.

"There has been a lot of preparation, so far," Mr. McMillan said in a recent interview. "Now it's a long blitz to the finish. So far as the way a traditional campaign

like this should go, we're on schedule."

The 200-bed hospital will be built on 40 acres of land behind Participation House at 9th line and Hwy. 7.

The project has survived two of the nine approval stages in a Ministry of Health assessment process. Other medical facilities in the area were studied in the first stage. In the second, the hospital's specific role was defined.

Mr. McMillan estimates it will be 20 months before the stages are completed and dirt is broken on construction. If the \$5 million pledge objective is not reached quickly to demonstrate community in-



Sebastian Rizza, right, owner of Sebastian Coiffure, in the corporate campaign of the Markham Stouffville Hospital Building Fund. Markham hands a cheque for \$506.00 to Lyle Moodie, left, of

terest, he warns the approval process could be lengthened by the Ministry.

Mr. McMillan hopes the time bought by the pledges, will allow payment of donations over 5 years, will boost the size of the donations.

"My hope is that between now and the end of the summer we will be halfway there," he said.

Between May and August the objective is to raise half of the money. It is hoped the other half will be raised between September and November. December will be reserved for a final clean-up.

Several fund-raising projects are planned for the next

few months. May, 14, will be Hospital Day at Goody's restaurant in Markville. Profits from the sale of Coffee and Deserts will be donated to the fund.

Miss Canada will make an appearance at Markville and McDonald's on June 4th where "I'm a Hospital Builder" buttons will be on sale for \$1 each. Symbolic Bricks made from plastic will be sold for a \$25 donation. The names of the donors will be inscribed on the bricks which will then be assembled to form a wall against the restaurant's west wall. Once the hospital is completed the names will appear on a plaque in the hospital.

"My reading is that there is interest and enthusiasm for the hospital, though there are people unaware of the need," says Mr. McMillan. "I'm aware of people being committed to the hospital. From my point of view I'm anxious to make sure we ask everyone. The degree to which we're successful in reaching everyone is the degree to which we'll be successful raising the money."

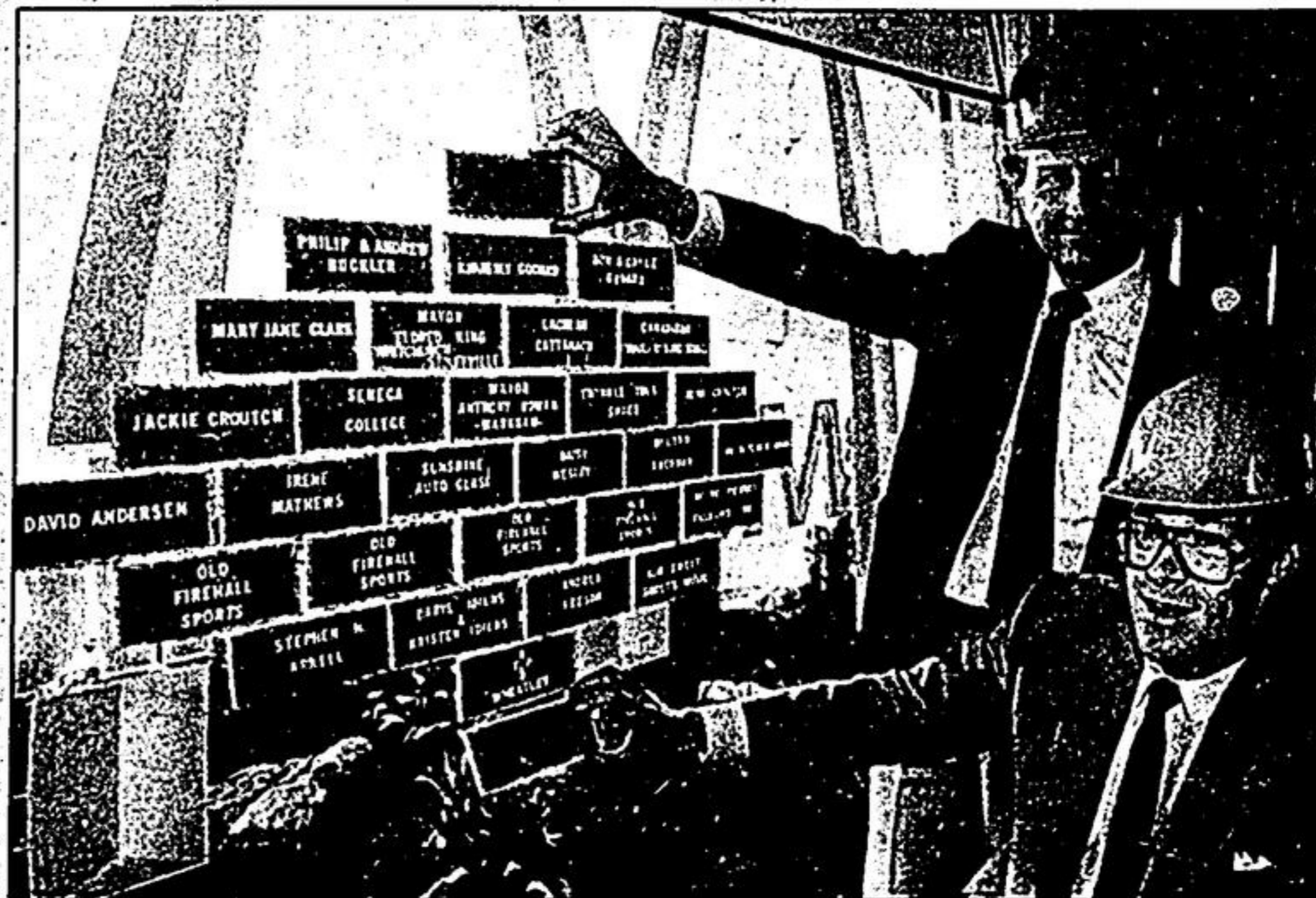
Groups interested in planning a fund-raising event for the hospital should contact Lina Visconti at 294-6660. The fund-raising office is located at 114 Main Street North in Markham.



Markham firefighter, Rob Browning, hands a cheque for \$1,000 to Lachlan Cattanach, Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Markham Stouffville Hospital Building Fund. Shown (l to r) are Stouffville fire chief Walt Smith, Rob Browning, Lachlan Cattanach, Stouffville Mayor Eldred King, Mayor Tony Roman and Markham fire chief Myrl Smith.



Stephen E. Turl, left, president of the Markham Kiwanis Club, and Richard E. Flechner, right, incoming president, present a pledge of \$35,000 to Keith Sutherland, centre, deputy chairman of the Markham-Stouffville Hospital Building Fund.



Two local hospital supporters, York Centre McDonald's "I'm a Hospital Builder" campaign Trade president Michael Larkin, help with the