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Second Section

A Metroland Community Newspaper

Wednesday, July 4, 1984

Taxes attract interest

UXBRIDGE — Councillor Sandy Ewen is concerned that the township is losing revenue because municipal tax payments aren't entering the bank soon enough.

"Aren't we losing a pile of interest?" Ewen asked during last Thursday's finance and property committee meeting.

The councillor noted that he's had a couple of residents actually inquire why their cheques weren't cashed sooner.

Administrator Ron Kester explained that the township usually receives between 3,000 and 4,000 cheques on the final day of the payment deadline, resulting in a logjam that takes staff two or three weeks to process.

Staff are swamped with cheques at the last minute and the resulting delay is why the money isn't deposited in the bank sooner, he explained.

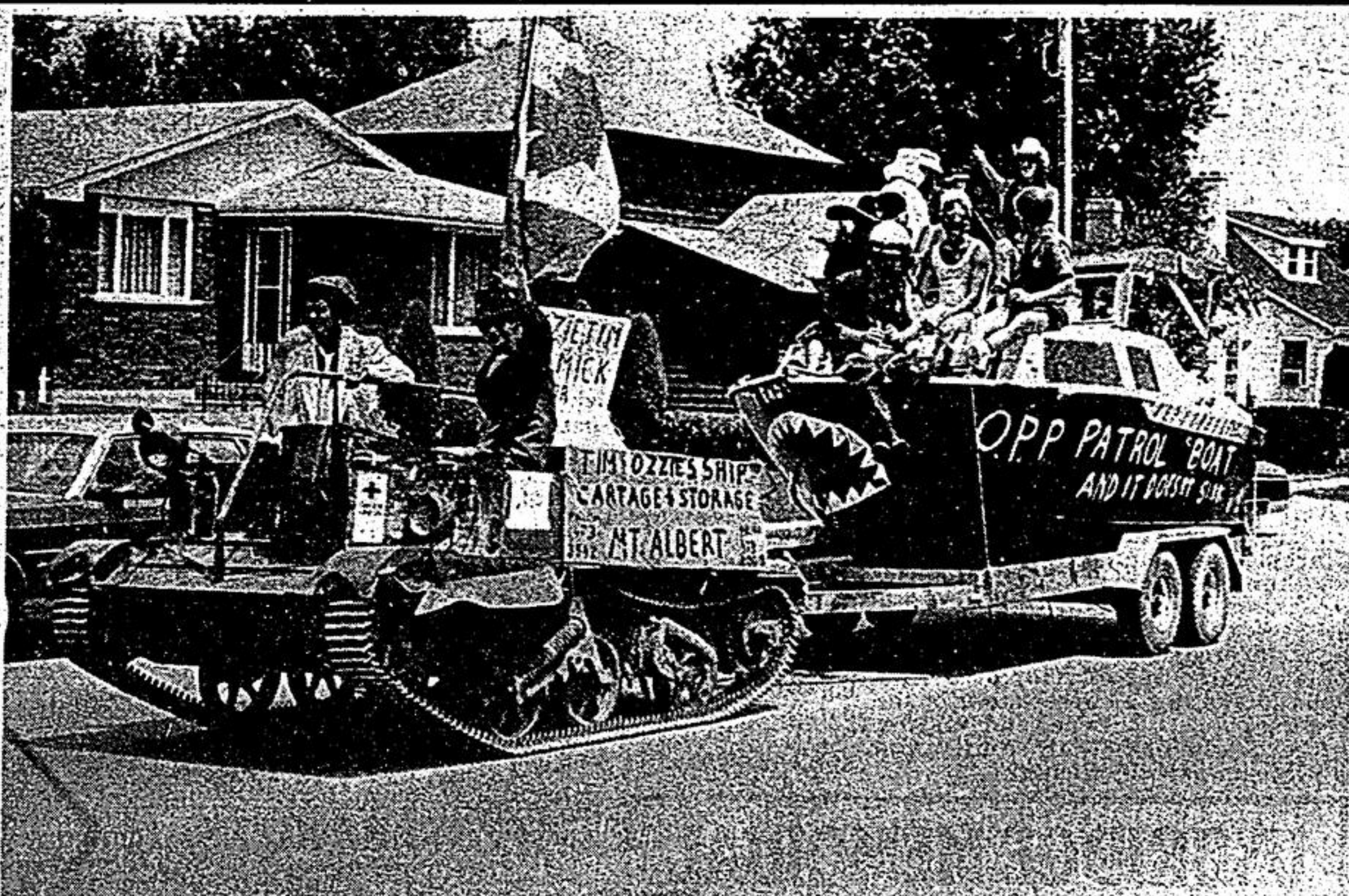
"A lot of mail in a short period, that's the problem," Mr. Kester said. "But I agree they should go in quicker."

It's a problem the township faces every year, he noted.

A possible solution would be to increase staff during the tax rush, but Mr. Kester isn't sure this would help.

Workers must understand our tax system, and bringing in new people might just slow things down, he said.

Sun shines on Spring Water Days



Unique floats highlight big parade

This tank/patrol boat combination was one of many imaginative entries in Saturday's Spring Water Days parade. Floats crowded the streets of downtown Uxbridge as hundreds of spectators enjoyed the colorful festivities and the sunny skies. Newly-crowned Fair

Queen Wendy Lewis (right) also took part in the parade and was present for many of the other events. The pretty 18-year-old will reign over the Uxbridge Fair in September.

—Chris Shanahan



Goodwood redevelopment project

Firm chosen, work to start soon

GOODWOOD — A Pickering firm has been awarded the contract for phase one of Goodwood's redevelopment program.

Elirpa Construction and Materials Limited submitted the low tender of \$150,769.10, opened at a special meeting of Council held June 27.

This bid was in line with a project estimate made by the Uxbridge Township's engineers, according to Clerk Walter Taylor. They had figured it would cost about \$152,000.

Only other tender was received from G.C. Romano Sons (Toronto), Limited (\$197,116.50).

Goodwood was slated for redevelopment after Uxbridge Township was awarded a \$200,000 grant under the Ontario Neighborhood Improvement Plan (ONIP) late in 1983. The program requires the municipality to match the government funding 100 per cent, bringing the total to \$400,000.

Paper work is being finalized, enabling the project to begin in early July, Clerk Taylor said.

Improvements to the hamlet's storm drainage system are scheduled over three phases, with the first one including the area along Regional Road 21 west of the CNR tracks. Upgrading of the pump house and drainage channel are also planned.

Phase two will focus on Mill Street, while the third segment of work will involve replacement of the pumping station and installations along Front Street.

Landscaping and tree planting in the parks as well as upgrading of the community hall's stage, roof and lighting are slated for 1984-85.

A refurbishing of the community hall has been proposed for 1985-86.

UXBRIDGE — St. Andrew's Chalmers Presbyterian Church is one historic landmark with a bright future.

An extensive restoration project is helping the church retain the proud appearance established in the early 1800s.

What we're trying to do is restore it back to its original condition," explained St. Andrew's pastor Frank Vanderzwan.

Work began back in December of 1983 and is still in full swing.

"We expect to have the bulk of it done by the end of the summer," the pastor said, adding that installation of a new roof is another major project slated for a future date.

An entrance has been completed on the west end of the building, and there have been extensive renovations to the interior, he noted. Cost of the present project has been estimated at \$150,000.

Local tradesmen have been hired to do as many of the jobs as possible,

although pastor Vanderzwan admitted that much of the detailed restoration work must be performed by highly-skilled professionals.

Members of the congregation have spent countless hours supporting the project.

Church fundraising events included a 'Strawberry Dessert' last week, with proceeds going to the Building Restoration Fund.

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CLAREMONT — It promises to be a summer to remember for local equestrian Kelly Plitz.

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She's one of four riders recently named to Canada's three-day event team.

The 26-year-old competitor leaves for Los Angeles, Calif., on July 22, allowing some time for preparation before her event begins near the end of the month.

Kelly's parents are understandably excited, and they'll be in Los Angeles to watch her perform atop horse 'Dialdream'.

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Council takes holiday

DURHAM REGION — Councillors in Durham Region have voted themselves a month-long holiday.

Chairman Gary Herrema of Uxbridge, and the 30 councillors representing eight member municipalities will take leave from their regional responsibilities during the month of August.

There will be no council or committee meetings during that time, although other business will carry on as usual. Regional employees and administrative staff will remain on the job during the summer months.

Historic church is restored

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Twelve Ontario Scholars

UXBRIDGE — Michelle Lebreux topped a list of 12 Ontario Scholars, announced last week at Uxbridge Secondary School.

She had an average of 95.5% during the 1983-84 school year.

Uxbridge's other Ontario Scholars are: Brent Bauer (89.6%), Mark Ford (89.5%), Wendy Lewis (87.8%), Esther Giles (87.5%), Roseanne Neumann (87.2%), Sherry Morris (85.3%), Jill Watson (84.8%), Patricia Rance (84.2%), Ted Samuels (81%), Laura Reesor (80.3%), Heather Bell (80%).

Each will be formally recognized at Commencement Exercises in the fall.

YMCA executive plan future activities

UXBRIDGE — Durham Region Family YMCA wants to continue its involvement in Uxbridge's recreational programs, but first the agency wants a little direction.

Three YMCA (Young Men's Christian Association) representatives appeared in front of the parks and recreation committee last Thursday to ask for assistance in determining their future role within

Uxbridge Township.

"We want to know what you would like us to do in your community as an agency," Durham YMCA president Sandra Frise told committee members. She requested that a list of needs be prepared for reference purposes.

Parks and recreation chairman Ian Morrison received positive response when he suggested starting children's instruction at Ux-

bridge's new tennis facilities.

"That's just what we want to hear," replied Eric Ellis of the Port Perry office. The YMCA could provide support for such a project, possibly helping to train new staff, he added.

Chairman Morrison said he'd make sure to include the tennis suggestion in upcoming recommendations.

Establishment of a school-aged day care facil-

ity was also discussed as a possible YMCA-sponsored service.

Although Uxbridge is serviced through Port Perry, it's hoped the Y's future will become more locally centered, ultimately offering more to local citizens, the committee was told.

"Our programs are self-supporting, so the municipality doesn't have to pay a subsidy," Frise noted. "No-

body misses out because they can't pay."

The group hopes to have a formal response from Uxbridge by mid-July, so the recommendations can be used during planning sessions in the fall.

Durham YMCA has been involved in numerous recreational activities in Uxbridge over past years, including Community Service Order and the ever-popular gymnastics program.

Also on hand for Thursday's discussion was Durham Y's executive director, Fraser Stewart.

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Students honored at Uxbridge Public School

Uxbridge Public School students Amy Barton (right) and Luke Austin received the Excellence in Academics' plaque during an awards assembly held June 22. The honor is in recognition of their outstanding scholastic achievements during the 1983-84 school

year. Cheques were also presented on behalf of Royal Canadian Legion branch 170. Rhonda Barnett and Geoffrey Hedde were recipients of the school's Junior Canadian Citizenship Award.

—Chris Shanahan

Top country stars at annual Jamboree

BROUGHAM — Carroll Baker and Pure Prairie League are just two of the top country music acts featured at the eighth annual Rick Johnson Molson County Jamboree.

The jamboree runs July 13, 14 and 15 on the Brougham property of well-known local musician Rick Johnson. The site is located on Brock Road, north of Hwy 7.

Music gets started on the Friday evening with Mark Haines and The Zippers, Rick Johnson & The County Band and special guests Pure Prairie League.

Entertainment gets rolling at noon on Saturday with the Battle of the Country Bands, featuring Buster Fykes (formerly of Alabama), Stella Long, plus Dennis LePage and Station Road. Then at 9 p.m., 'Country Queen' Carroll Baker hits the stage.

Reverend Ken and his lost followers kick-off another full day of music on Sunday.

Molson's Light and Heavy Horse Pull is scheduled for Sunday at noon, followed by radio station CFGM's Opry North Show.

Weekend passes are available for \$20 in advance

or \$25 at the gate. Daily admission is \$8 advance and \$10 per day at the grounds.

Tickets are available at all Bass outlets, Mario's Music Media in Pickering Village, The Country Music Store in Toronto and Cosmo's music in Richmond Hill.

Food and refreshments will be available throughout the three-day event.

Net proceeds from the jamboree will go to the Canadian Cleft Lip and Palate Family Association, Ajax-Pickering Hospital and Pickering minor sports.