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Suspect arrested by police after armed robbery attempt

STOUFFVILLE — "Jesus, please help me." These were the words Donna Carthew recalled saying as a man, holding a knife, stood behind the counter at Becker's Store in Success Square, Stouffville, Friday night.

Mrs. Carthew, still shaking from the experience Saturday, said the accused

had entered the store several times earlier that evening. "I was suspicious," she said, "he seemed to be just hanging around, but every time he left, I thought I wouldn't see him again."

Prior to pulling the knife, the suspect purchased and paid for a magazine. Then he confronted her, but didn't say anything, she said.

"The (knife) blade was wide and shiny," Mrs. Carthew remembered. "I didn't know what was on his mind, I decided to co-operate."

At that moment, two customers came in and the man fled. They obtained the license number of the getaway car.

Arrested March 29 near Midland was Manfred Paethke, 33, of R.R. 3, Stouffville. He's charged with attempted robbery and possession of a weapon while committing an indictable offense.

Detective Sgt. Peter Thompson and Detective Richard Metcalfe are in charge of the case.

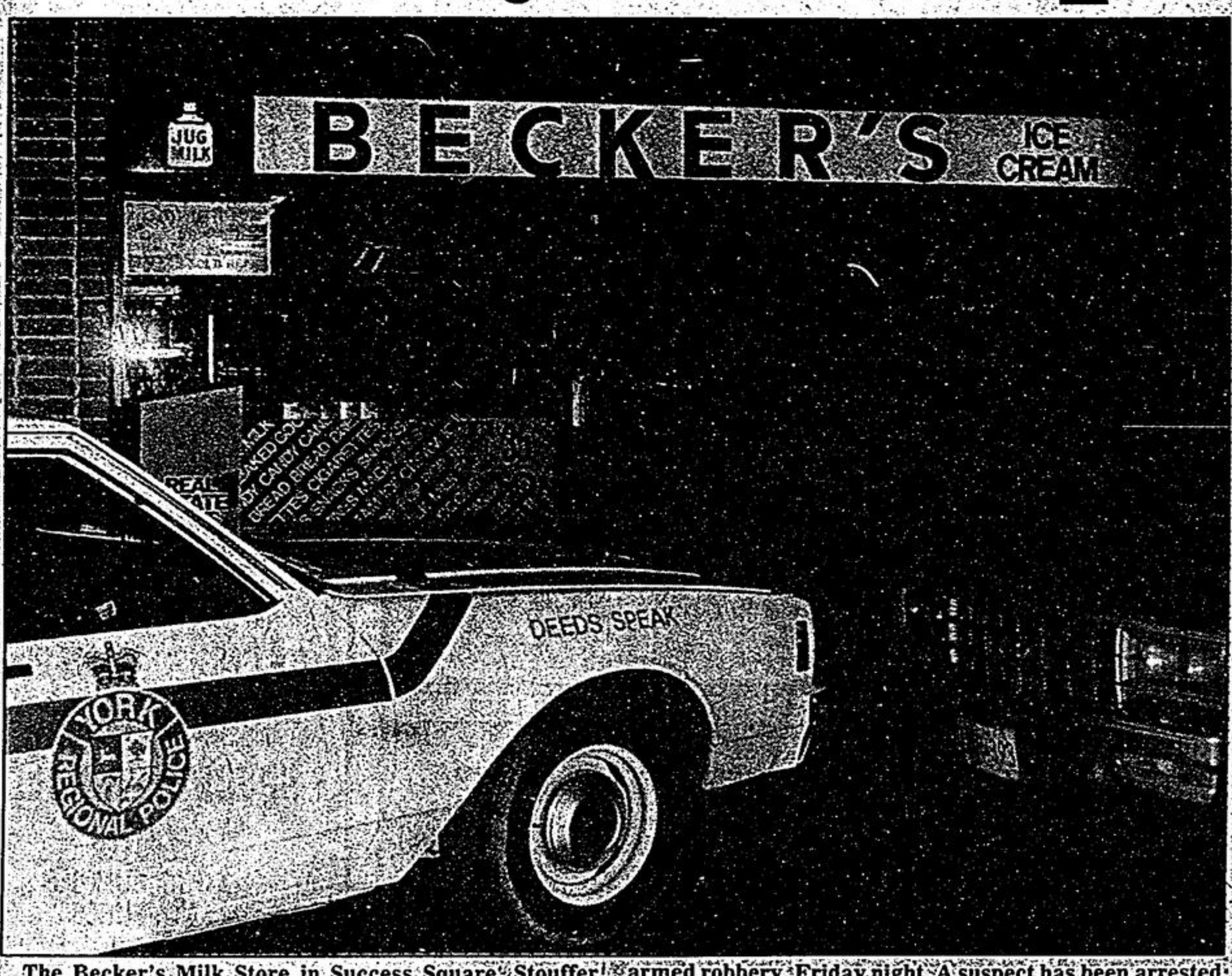
It was the same evening that a man, meeting the description of the accused, was seen in the Monte Cristo Restaurant and Tavern, a short distance from the Becker's Store.

A witness, who asked that his name not be revealed, described the suspect's conversation as that of "a doomsday person." "He seemed angry about something," he said.

Although warned "not to say a word," Mrs. Carthew said she called police immediately after the man ran out the door. She dialed the emergency 911 number.

Police, both York Regional and O.P.P., responded quickly. The store was shut down for the night as an officer "dusted" items for fingerprints.

The suspect was remanded in custody following an appearance in Newmarket Provincial Court Monday.



The Becker's Milk Store in Success Square, Stouffville, was the scene of an attempted armed robbery Friday night. A suspect has been arrested and charged.

Silver Jubilee Club Meeting hall not for sale

STOUFFVILLE — The Silver Jubilee Club won't be losing its meeting place.

The Hon. Sinclair Stevens, M.P., Riding of York Peel, informed The Tribune Saturday that the Ministry had decided against selling the building.

While not "official" until a reply in writing goes to Council, Mr. Stevens said this was the word he'd received in the House of Commons, Thursday.

Last month, the Town received a letter from Real Estate Services, Public Works Canada, saying the property would be sold when the lease expires, Nov. 30, 1986. The municipality, the letter said, would have first opportunity to buy the building at market value.

The estimated price was put at \$200,000.

On learning of the proposed sale, Club members joined forces and whisked a seven-page, 260-name petition off to Mr. Stevens. It, along with an accompanying letter, was delivered personally to the Stevens Law Office at R.R. 3, King City, by Gord and Marjorie Smith, Albert Street South, Stouffville.

Mr. Stevens said the building's location and its ongoing usefulness to seniors, made its preservation vital to the town.

Much of the leg work in collecting the 260 names was done by Marlon Murphy, Main Street East. Mrs. Murphy has been active in seniors' work here, including the Friendship Club that meets monthly at the Legion Hall.

Storm lashes town hydro disrupted

STOUFFVILLE — Sunday was "black Sabbath" in Whitchurch-Stouffville, as freezing rain and gale-force winds lashed the area with an intensity not seen here in years.

Hydro lines and tree limbs snapped under the weight of ice that began building around noon. The first break in power occurred at 4 p.m., on Ninth Line South. Other short-outs followed in rapid succession,

putting much of the town in darkness until nearly midnight.

Stations 1 and 2 of the Stouffville Fire Department responded to thirteen calls. The most serious was a blaze at the Howard Storry home on the Aurora Sideroad, west of Ballantrae. Fortunately, Mrs. Storry was vacationing in Florida or she might have been electrocuted, Chief Walter Smith said. "The interior

was alive," Chief Smith stated. It's believed a high tension line came in contact with the television aerial.

Town hydro employees Gordon Brown, Merle Wideman and Carl Wideman were on duty for a 12-hour period until 3:30 Monday morning. They were called out again at seven.

Assistance was provided by Newmarket Hydro and electrician Bob McNeil of Edward Street.

"It was mainly fusing," Patricia Kuhn of the Town Hydro Office told The Tribune. She reported everything back to normal Tuesday.

Chief Smith described it as "the dirtiest storm he'd ever experienced." Falling wires and branches, he said, made it unsafe to be out.

Mayor Tom Wood praised the co-operation of all departments. "Everyone pitched in and did a marvelous job, he said."



Clerk Donna Carthew was on duty when a man she'd seen in the store on several occasions Friday night, suddenly pulled a knife. He fled when two customers came in. Mrs. Carthew called police.

Lake pollution baffles experts

MUSS LAKE — There's a pollution problem at Musselman's Lake, but the cause still hasn't been determined.

This is the latest report from Dr. John Hodgkinson, York Region's Associate Medical Officer of Health.

"We haven't found the source," Dr. Hodgkinson said, "all we know is what it's not."

Musselman's Lake is an unpredictable body of water in that one week there's no

pollution problem and the next week there is, Hodgkinson explained.

Originally, he said, contamination was thought to be caused by faulty septic systems, but this has since been ruled out. Neither is it the seagulls that frequent the area in great numbers, he stated.

The lake has been tested repeatedly, the associate MOH explained, even to having a scuba diver check the bottom, without results.

Part of the problem, said Hodgkinson, is Musselman's limited recharge. Water is slow coming in and slow going out.

Will the beaches be closed this summer? Dr. Hodgkinson was asked.

"They may be," he replied, "the situation varies from week to week."

Dr. Hodgkinson, working in co-operation with Town Council, is planning a public meeting at the Lake early this spring. He's presently awaiting an updated report from the Environment Ministry that, he hopes, will shed some light on the problem.

Festival grant

STOUFFVILLE — Whitchurch-Stouffville's Strawberry Festival Week begins June 20 and extends through July 1.

The chairman is Jim Kidd.

To cover expenses, estimated at \$11,500, a \$5,000 grant has been requested from the Town along with a \$2,500 grant from the Federal Government. Other sources of revenue are expected from various events

and sponsors.

Display of fireworks is estimated to cost \$2,500, advertising, \$2,000, flags and costumes, \$1,500, and additional police, \$1,000.

The next Festival planning meeting is set for Thurs., April 11 at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Office. The deadline for scheduling events is Thurs., April 25.

Riding of York North Liberals confident of Riding upset

YORK NORTH — While Bill Hodgson of the Progressive Conservatives is out beating the Riding bushes, the Liberals and the N.D.P. (at press time), are still arranging nomination meetings.

Hodgson's head start has

allowed him time to establish campaign headquarters in several areas including Whitchurch-Stouffville.

An official office opening is set for Thursday (tomorrow), at 8 p.m. The location here is 55 Main Street East, in the Bowling Alley block.

The provincial election date is Thurs., May 2.

The Liberal's choice is expected to be Maple lawyer Greg Sorbara. Keith Munroe, a North York firefighter, is likely to carry the banner for the New Democrats. Their nomination meeting is 8 p.m., Thurs., April 4 at 252 Main Street.

Despite the lateness of their start, Richard Clague, campaign manager for Mr. Sorbara feels their man has "a very good chance." The Liberals are also considering a campaign office in Stouffville, Clague said.

The Riding, Clague points out, has grown by 41 percent since the last election.

"There's a large block of undecided voters out there," he stated.

"As for Whitchurch-Stouffville, you've been dumped on in more ways than one," he said, with obvious reference to the Hwy. 48 landfill site.

Long service

STOUFFVILLE — Town Clerk Pat Muir has reached a 15-year milestone with the municipality. She was honored March 26 by Mayor Tom Wood and members of Council for long and dedicated service.

Mrs. Muir began her municipal career locally with the former Twp. of Whitchurch, serving as a telephone receptionist and secretary to the Building Department that was March 19, 1970.

With the switch to region-

al government, Mrs. Muir moved to the municipal office in Stouffville. She issued 11 licenses for the Town, then assisted deputy clerk, Elwood Foskett following graduation from a clerk-treasurer's course.

She became the Town's deputy clerk in 1979 and clerk in 1980.

"It's a much busier pace today," she says, "but I enjoy it."

Mrs. Muir resides in Aurora.

Prices are: Adults, \$5; children, \$2.50. Senior citizens and students are offered a special rate of \$1.00 for opening night (April 25).

To celebrate this Silver Anniversary event, a Music Mania Reunion is planned on Friday, April 26. Participants in past shows are invited.

The host would like to know how many guests to expect, however, so call 640-1333.

Tickets
STOUFFVILLE Music Mania's 25th anniversary show goes on stage April 25, and continues through April 27.
 Tickets will be available Tues., April 9 at the following locations:
 Cards Hardware, Stouffville; G.A. Fame International and Stouffville Printing.
 Prices are: Adults, \$5; children, \$2.50. Senior citizens and students are offered a special rate of \$1.00 for opening night (April 25).
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Scare

STOUFFVILLE — A terrorist bomb threat that plagued Metro Police and the T.T.C. earlier this week was followed in Stouffville Tuesday.

The morning Stouffville Toronto GO train was cancelled when operators discovered one of the cars had been vandalized.

While York Regional Police conducted a thorough search of the unit, passengers were transported to Toronto by bus. Nothing out of the ordinary was found.

The GO train to Aurora was cancelled, but the GO train to Stouffville was not. The GO train to Stouffville was not cancelled.



Beloved Parkview nurse retires
 Dorothy Lamoreaux, (right), a much-loved nurse on the staff of Toronto East General Hospital, Brierbush Hospital and, for the past 15 years at Parkview Home, was honored at a gathering, Thursday, prior to retirement. She's moving to St. Catharines. Here, Margaret Wideman, Parkview's Director of Nursing, bids Mrs. Lamoreaux a personal farewell.