

Announce Complex addition

By Christine Koserski
UNIONVILLE — The Unionville Home Society has announced the addition of a 120-suite luxury senior citizen's building to the Union Villa and Heritage Village complex. Wynndham Gardens, being touted as a new concept in independent living, will be funded in a unique lease-for-life program which is new to Ontario although popular in the United States.

Prospective buyers will put up the total cost of a unit at the outset. Part of the amount will later be returned based on the length of occupancy.

"It's almost like buying a condo, you buy your suite but you don't buy the ownership — it's like prepaid rent," explained John MacKay, chairman of the Unionville Home Society.

"We couldn't get any government funding at all and we tried every route possible," he said at a press conference. "We had to find alternative funding."

The units, from 680 to 1,300 square feet, will cost from \$60,000 to \$125,000. The one and two-bedroom suites have balconies or patios. A foyer, food store, snack bar, craft rooms, and offices will be on the main floor.

The one-storey cottages in the Heritage Village have proved popular, but the price of land in Unionville has made any such further construction virtually impossible. The three-storey Wynndham Gardens will be built on land purchased by the Town of Markham and held for the Unionville Home Society specifically for seniors' accommodation.

Ironically, there is an advantage to the alternative funding. The building will not be limited by the standards of a funding government agency and is consequently above standards set by the Canada Housing and Mortgage Commission (CHMC).

There is a need for this type of luxury seniors' accommodation, says Mr. MacKay.

"There are seniors out there who want to sell their home and move into a condominium or apartment and want something a little nicer," he said. "This is better because it is a seniors' complex and there are support services."

Another advantage is that the owner will be safeguarded against inflation. Mr. MacKay pointed out. Although maintenance costs may go up slightly, the prepaid rent payments will stay the same.

Hope Holmsted, chairman of the long-range planning committee, said the members travelled to seniors' homes in Metropolitan Toronto and Southern Ontario looking at ways to provide alternative seniors' accommodation.

There are 500 people on the waiting list for Heritage Village who have been informed of the proposal and given application forms.

A sales office for the public should be opening on the site in a few weeks.

Interest in at least 25 per cent of the suites must be shown before the Home Society will go ahead with the project, says Mr. MacKay.

Winning smiles



Girls among finalists in model search

Seventeen-year-old Barbara Chambers, (right), of Unionville and Ancaster's Marcy Gleeson, 16, will compete in the 'Look of the Year' world final in Acapulco, June 16. They're among 10 Canadian girls

selected in an annual international model search conducted by John Casablancas, president of the Elite Agency. The contestants are vying for \$1-million in guaranteed modeling contracts.

New police officers headed for south end of Region

YORK REGION — According to a report prepared by York Region Police Chief Bruce Crawford, all 20 officers hired in January of 1985 will be going to 28 Division — which serves Markham, Vaughan and Richmond Hill — once they finish basic training in May.

Chief Crawford stated that the officers were going to the south end of the Region because that's where crime is increasing the fastest.

In the 1985 Region of York budget approved Thursday, funds were allocated to hire 30 additional police officers in October of 1985. Chief Crawford said the new men, who will not be trained police officers until April 1986, would be dispersed as follows:

- Twelve officers to 19 Division, Newmarket, to establish two new patrol areas, one in King and the other in Whitchurch-Stouffville.
 - Six officers to 28 Division, Richmond Hill, to establish one new patrol area.
 - Six officers to 39 Division, Georgina, to establish one new patrol area.
 - Three officers to Richmond Hill detective office.
 - Three officers to the Community Relations Bureau because of implications related to the newly-approved Young Offenders Act.
- All of Chief Crawford's recommendations on deployment of personnel must still be approved by the York Region Police Commission.



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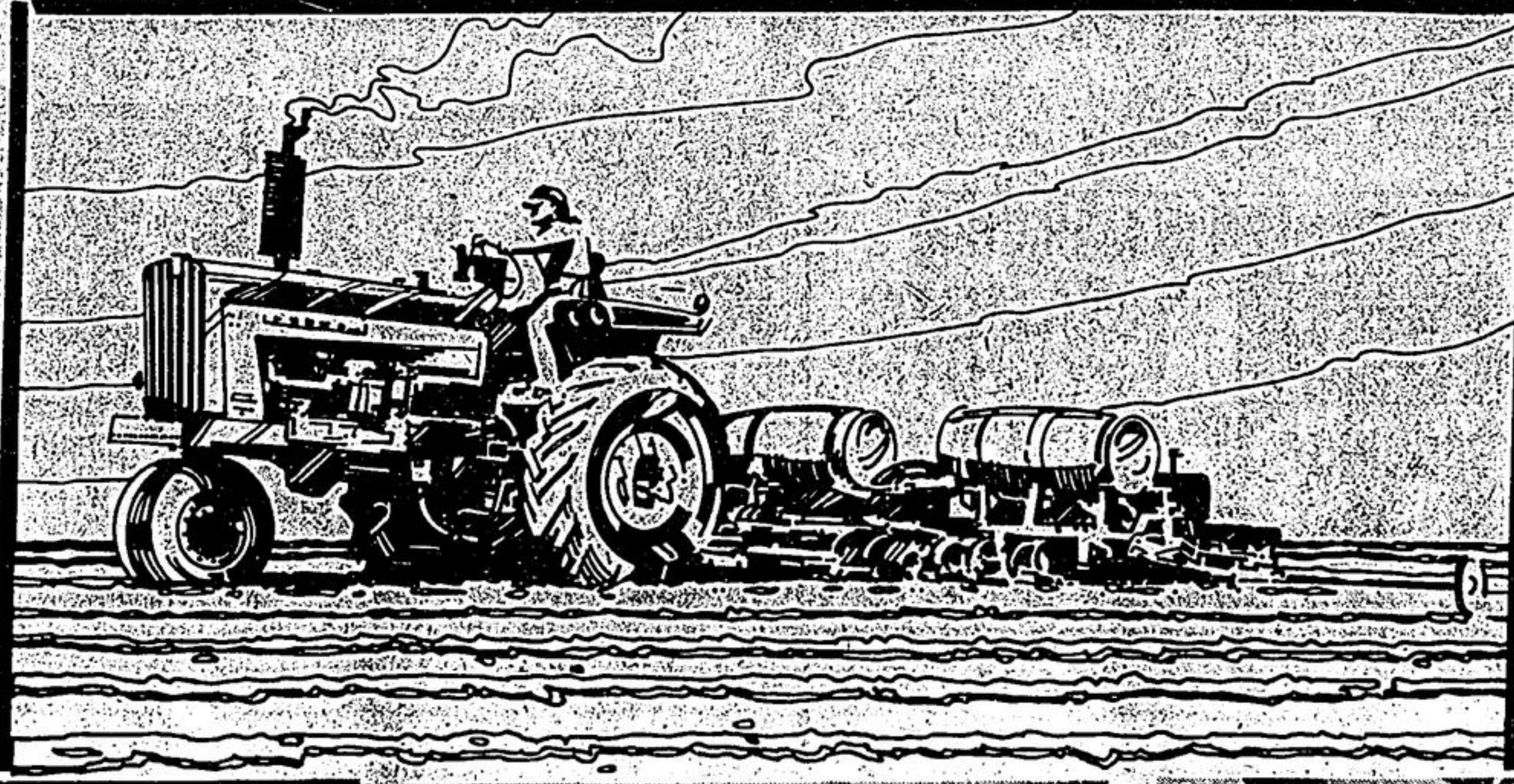
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