Township aids tornado victims

Donate $25,000

UXBRIDGE TWP. — Council has donated $25,000 to the Central Ontario Disaster Relief Fund on behalf of the citizens of Uxbridge Twp.

Details were finalized at a special meeting, Thursday, six days after the May 31 tornadoes that devastated parts of southern Ontario.

Mayor Bill Ballinger said Council's anxious to assist the ravaged communities because we realize "it could have very well happened to us. we're fortunate it wasn't us.

"We as a corporation think the contribution on behalf of the citizens of Uxbridge Twp. is a fair and responsible one," he added.

Uxbridge is presently in "good financial shape" due to a general upswing in the economy combined with an increase in municipal assessment, according to the mayor.

"We're fortunate in Uxbridge," Mayor Ballinger said. "If we're ever going to make a contribution, this is the year."

The $25,000, allocated from the township's reserve fund, represents an approximate per capita expenditure of $2, he explained.

The mayor encouraged Uxbridge residents to make individual donations if they so wish. The province will match each dollar donated with three of its own.

Hardest hit by the afternoon twisters were Orangeville, Barrie and Tottenham.

Mayor accepts keys to new station

Goodwood's new $175,000 flood control system was opened, Friday, during a ceremony arranged by the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority. Those who helped unveil a special plaque at the hamlet site are (left to right): Durham Region chairman Gary Herrema; Bill Ballinger, mayor of Uxbridge Twp.; Bill McLean, Ajax mayor and vice-chairman of the Authority's water and related land management advisory board; and Authority chairman William Foster. Mayor Ballinger received a set of keys to the new Goodwood Pumping Station, which will be operated by the township. —Chris Shanahan

New system offers flood protection

GOODWOOD — The hamlet's new flood control system was officialy opened at a ceremony, Friday.

The Goodwood Pumping Station is a project of the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (M.T.R.C.A.), in co-operation with Uxbridge Twp., Durham Region and the provincial government.

Bill McLean, mayor of Ajax and vice-chairman of the Authority's water related and land management advisory board, served as master of ceremonies.

Mayor McLean and other members of the platform party — Uxbridge Twp. mayor Bill Ballinger; William Foster, chairman of the M.T.R.C.A.; and Durham Region chairman Gary Herrema — unveiled a special plaque marking the new pumping station.

The community of Goodwood, developed in the mid-1800s within an area of irregular terrain, is situated in a depression without a natural overland drainage outlet.

The hamlet has, therefore, experienced severe and persistent flooding.

The existing station, maintained by the Authority since 1957, has protected residents from flood damage. But increasing maintenance and operating costs, due primarily to its age, led the M.T.R.C.A. to review the system.

As a result of this study and discussions with Uxbridge Twp., the Authority adopted a project designed to replace and update existing facilities.

The new pumping station consists of an underground chamber that houses two automated, submersible pumps, therefore eliminating the need for an operator.

Its design and construction also accomodates the collection ditch and surface drainage improvements proposed and executed by Uxbridge Twp. and Durham Region.

The project's $175,000 price tag is being shared by the province ($96,250); the regional municipality ($12,500); and the municipal government ($66,250).

Although the M.T.R.C.A. has run the station for the past 28 years, Uxbridge Twp. has agreed to assume operational responsibilities of the new facility.

The old station has been retained as a standby emergency system.

Also participating in Friday's ceremony were: Terry Allsopp, chief of scientific services at Environment Canada, and Sheila Adams, special assistant to The Hon. Ross Stevenson, Minister of Agriculture and Food and M.P.P. for Durham-York riding.

The event was held in conjunction with Environment Week.

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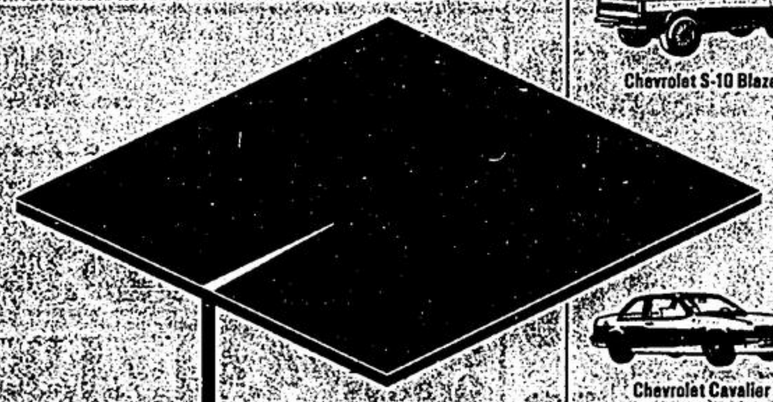

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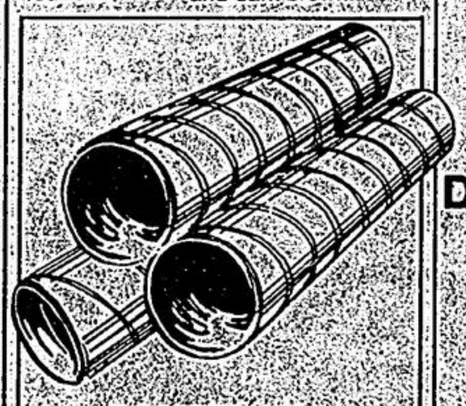

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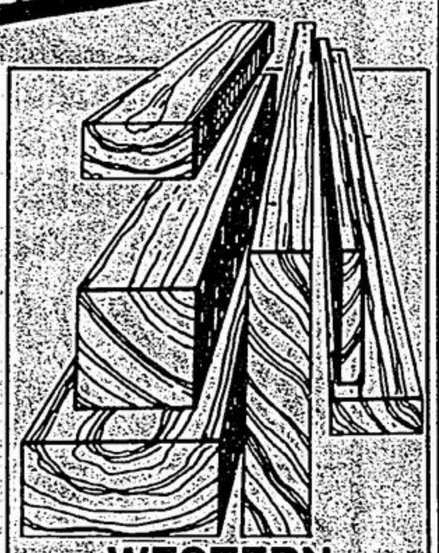

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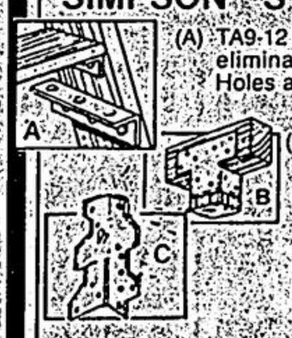

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