

# Uxbridge abduction on Crime Stoppers

By CHRIS SHANAHAN  
Staff Reporter

It was back on Sept. 15 of 1985 that a 30-year-old woman was abducted in downtown Uxbridge and taken on a 20-kilometre ride of terror.

The Pickering resident was driving alone that day at about 7:40 p.m. when she stopped her blue 1981 Buick Regal at the intersection of Church Street and Hwy. 47.

Before she was able to pull away from a stop sign, a man wearing a nylon stocking over his face entered the car and ordered her to drive to a secluded area.

They eventually ended up on Conc. 6, just north of the Uxbridge-Pickering Townline. After a brief scuffle, the woman escaped and her assailant is believed to have fled the scene on foot toward either Brock Road or Durham Region Road 23.

Durham Regional Police were given a detailed description of the attacker — said to be about 6'3" and 220 lbs., clean-shaven with a low voice, squinty eyes and predominant lips — but a subsequent investigation failed to lead to an arrest.

The force is now hoping its new Crime Stoppers program will provide a break in the case.

On Thursday afternoon, Durham Police will stage a re-enactment of the incident in conjunction with a film crew from Toronto's CITY-TV.

The segment is scheduled to air on Citypulse news Thursday, May 22 at 6 and 10 p.m., as well as on CKVR (Barrie) and CHEX (Peterborough) the next day.

Sergeant Sandy Ryrie of Division 17, Oshawa, said he's hopeful the telecast will assist the investigation.

"We're looking for an eyewitness," Sgt. Ryrie said. "Maybe someone picked him (the suspect) up and didn't realize a crime had been committed. Maybe this will jog their memory."

In an attempt to generate community involvement, Durham Regional Crime Stoppers recruited Uxbridge residents to help recreate the abduction.

Mary Bolter, a member of the community's amateur theatre group, was contacted by police and asked to recommend two local actors for the roles of victim and assailant. She suggested Edie Kwade and Uxbridge Secondary School student Bill Bagshaw.

Both agreed to the volunteer assignment and will be part of the action when cameras start rolling on Church Street at about 5 p.m.

Sgt. Ryrie also stressed the important role the press plays in publicizing such cases, saying "without the media, the program wouldn't work."

Last month, Durham teamed up with Metro Toronto, Peel and York Police to form Toronto and Regional Crime Stoppers, the second largest organization of its kind in North America.

The joint program offers cash rewards of up to \$1,000 for tips on committed crimes. Each week an unsolved case is selected and re-enacted on television, printed in newspapers and broadcast on radio stations.

A special toll-free tipline (1-800-387-8477) will connect Durham Region residents with the Crime Stoppers' office Monday to Friday between 8 a.m. and midnight.



## Clean-up begins

Investigators remove luggage and golf gear from the wreckage of a twin-engine Piper Aerostar aircraft that crashed minutes after take-off from Buttonville Airport Thursday morning. Pilot Robert Allan, 25, of Pickering died in hospital following the crash. Four passengers, including Unionville and Stouffville residents, were injured in the accident. Police and investigators (inset) inspect wreckage of the plane.

— Bill Lanning (inset: Sjoerd Witteveen)



# Controversial hotel approved

By PAULA CROWELL  
Staff Reporter

Despite the plea of a former Markham mayor to please the people, the Town's Planning Committee has approved a plan of the Rouge St. area that about 265 residents opposed.

The neighborhood, located south of Hwy 7 on both sides of Hwy 48 is about to see the development of a hotel, restaurant, dinner theatre, tavern, banquet hall, and chapel.

About 70 residents showed up at a public meeting Tuesday night as a last resort to change the minds of the councillors, but to no avail.

It was a continuation of a meeting held March 26 and attended by ab-

out 265 residents, some of whom became angry at the end of the meeting.

### 'Please the people'

On Tuesday Alma Walker, the former mayor of Markham village, advised the committee to "please the people."

"I made mistakes a few years back and you too will be accused of making a mistake (by voting in favor of the secondary plan)," she said.

A secondary plan is a more specific version of the Town's Official Plan. It was created in response to an application for the 'wedding centre' on the east side of Hwy 48, to

determine what would happen to the whole area in the future.

The area is one of the oldest and most established in town and will undergo many changes when the proposed Hwy 407 comes to pass. Although the highway is not anticipated for at least 15 years, Town planners are preparing for its construction now.

The Princess and Rouge St. neighborhoods will remain residential, but Rouge St. will be dead-ended at Hwy 48 and a new road will be built opposite Princess St. to give Rouge St. access to the highway. A 65-home subdivision will be permitted east of the hotel site.

The residents were not so much against the secondary plan as a whole, as the commercial zoning which will permit the hotel complex.

Lawyer Don Hindson, who represents the residents said the plan is premature.

"No consideration was given to the increased volume of traffic resulting from the plan and no one is in favor of the application other than the applicant," he said.

He suggested considering a

bypass around Markham rather than yielding to "the desires of one individual in the face of reasoned opposition."

Councillor Gord Landon, in whose ward the hotel will be built, explained that Council has carefully considered the area and what is best for it.

### Not fair

"I don't think it's fair to say we're not thinking ahead. We're planning to the year 2011," he said adding that the pleas for a Hwy 48 bypass have not fallen on deaf ears.

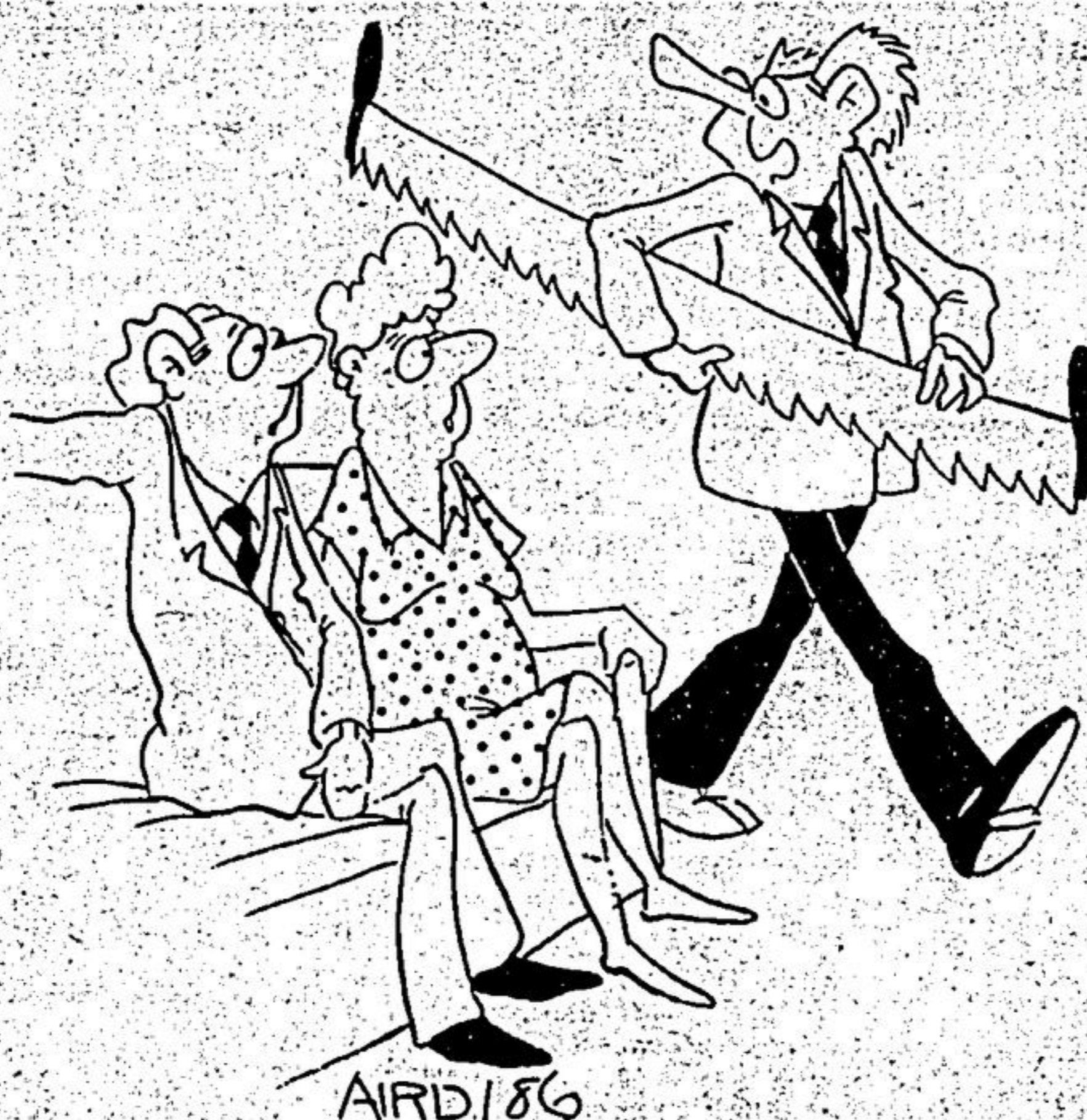
Those who approved the secondary plan are Ward Councillors Landon, Mike Popovich, Bob Sherwood, Doreen Quirk, Alex Chiu and Tom Newall, and Regional Councillor Ron Moran.

Voting against were Mayor Carole Bell, Regional Councillor Frank Scarpitti and Ward Councillor Fred Cox.

Ward 6 Councillor Elson Miles is chairman of the planning committee and only votes to break a tie. He is in favor of the secondary plan.

Regional Councillor Bud Bonner who opposed the plan at the public meeting in March, is on holiday.

## Ed and Claudette



If you folks will just excuse me for a moment, I have to help Claudette cut the meat!



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