

## Taxes increase by 5%

Stouffville Council has approved a 5 per cent increase in the town's annual tax rate, which will average \$1.25 million in additional revenue.

The council's decision was made after a long session which included a presentation by the town's financial officer, Jim Sanders, who outlined the town's financial situation and the need for the increase.

The council also discussed the town's budget for the coming year, which includes a number of new initiatives and programs. Sanders said that the town's financial situation is "stable" and that the increase is necessary to maintain the town's services and infrastructure.

The council's decision is subject to a referendum at the next town meeting. Sanders said that he expects the referendum to pass, but he is not sure.

The council's decision is a reflection of the town's commitment to providing high-quality services to its residents. Sanders said that the town's financial situation is "stable" and that the increase is necessary to maintain the town's services and infrastructure.

## Judge quashes charges

STOUFFVILLE — A charge of sexual assault against two Stouffville men and another from Scarborough was thrown out of court.

The three men, Elias Raptis and George Mantziouras of Stouffville and Nicholas Mantziouras of Scarborough, stood accused of sexually assaulting a 16-year-old girl who worked for them at the Country Stop Burgers restaurant.

They were in court June 3 to stand trial 16 months after the charge was laid.

Defence lawyer P. Murray asked that the charge be quashed on the grounds that it didn't make sense.

It alleges that the three men committed a single sexual assault on the girl between the months of October and December, 1984.

Provincial Court Judge Daryl Draper described the charge as absurd.

"No accused should be called upon to defend a charge that is manifestly absurd on its face," he said.

Crown attorney Elizabeth Cowie argued that the charge could be amended so the trial could begin. She requested that the wording of the charge be changed to: "did sexually assault during the months of October, November and December, 1984."

Miss Cowie explained that by rewording the charge as such it made more sense, but did not make the accused men any more or less guilty.

Mr. Murray disagreed, saying that such an amendment would be changing not only the form (which can be amended) but the substance of the charge.

Judge Draper sided with Mr. Murray, saying, "The resulting charge would be so completely different as to deprive the accused of their legal rights."

"The new charge is complex. It may involve actions by one, two or three of the accused at different times, in concert or in various combinations," he said and with that he quashed the charge.

No new charge had been laid at press time.

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## Owner defends Sales Barn expansion plan

By CHRIS SHANAHAN

STOUFFVILLE — A proposed \$1.25 million redevelopment of the Stouffville Sales Barn will enhance its overall impact on the surrounding community, claims a co-owner of the well-known flea market.

Norm Faulkner defended the project — which would see the existing main barn structure adjoined by a similar structure to the east — after nearby subdivision residents claimed that expansion of the facility would further disrupt the neighborhood.

Several ratepayers voiced concerns including noise pollution and traffic congestion when the proposal came up for discussion at a Council public meeting June 3.

However, Mr. Faulkner, who owns the Hwy. 47 operation with Willowdale's Norm Clements, claimed there isn't going to be a doubling of the operation as many residents believe.

He said the purpose of a new barn is to accommodate vendors already selling their wares outdoors on the 36-acre property.

"Our demand for inside space is much greater than for outside space," Mr. Faulkner explained. "We don't expect to extend the market any more than it already is."

As to the post-expansion traffic situation, the Stouffville man said in an interview, "I think there will be some weekends when it will get heavier."

A prime concern of objectors is the inclusion of an "amusement" designation in the requested commercial zoning bylaw.

While some feel this would leave the door wide open for the kind of attractions found at theme parks like Canada's Wonderland,

Mr. Faulkner stressed that kiddy car rides will be the barn's only form of amusement.

Health and traffic are the two main concerns, according to Council member Jim Sanders, who commended the proposal because of the owners' apparent attempt to improve the complex.

A new sewage system will be installed to meet regional standards and an additional 10 acres of parking will be created on-site to handle Saturday and Sunday crowds.

Several councillors spoke of the positive impact the facility has had in the area for decades, even referring to it as an "institution."

The majority of objectors reside at Westfield Estates, a prestige residential subdivision south-east of the Sales Barn.

Council is reserving a final decision on a zoning bylaw amendment, until it receives additional information from Town Planner Michael Saunders.

Mr. Faulkner said he hopes to begin construction this year.



**Kids of all kinds enjoy a fair**

Fourteen-month-old Teegan Jones-Webb of R.R. 3, Stouffville found a special friend Saturday in the town park during Stouffville Christian School's Spring Fair. This cuddly kid and a selection of other animals were supplied by Lionel's Pony Farm, McCowan Road.

—Chris Shanahan

## Police lay additional charges

DURHAM REGION — An additional two people have been charged in the 1982 murder of Clark Major, 52, of Brooklin.

Mr. Major was dragged by a van and killed when he attempted to stop thieves from stealing his tires.

The two men, arrested on June 3, are Donald Herbert McCoy, 36, of Midland Ave. and Ralph Warren Fisher, 33, of Amroth Ave., both of Scarborough.

A third man, Danny A. Huntington of R.R. 1, Oshawa, has been charged as an accessory after the fact and with possession of stolen property.

McCoy and Fisher have been charged with second-degree murder, robbery, possession of stolen goods, and conspiracy to commit theft.

Previously charged in this case were Frederick Fisher of Whitby, his sister, Elizabeth Fisher, Oshawa, and a sister-in-law, Janet Fisher of Scarborough.

The arrests have come four years after the fact thanks to Durham Regional Crime Stoppers program, which aired a reenactment of the crime on May 1.

## Man killed in accident

UXBRIDGE TWP. — A 21-year-old Blackstock man was killed Friday when the southbound vehicle he was driving collided with an eastbound vehicle at Hwy. 47 and Durham Region Road 23.

Ontario Provincial Police said Garry Guernsey failed to obey a stop sign at the intersection and was struck by a vehicle driven by John Gorman of Bobcaygeon.

Guernsey died of injuries sustained in the crash.

There were no charges.

## Vehicle torched

UXBRIDGE — A police officer's personal vehicle was set on fire outside the Durham Regional Police detachment in Uxbridge Saturday night.

A blaze set beside a 1978 Ford Thunderbird caused approximately \$2,000 damage to the car.

A 32-year-old Uxbridge man has been arrested and charged with mischief to property.

Zoltan Gyvicsan of Brock Street will appear in court June 26.

**Busy barn**

Stouffville's well-known Sales Barn is slated for a \$1.25 million facelift, including the addition of a 10-acre parking area to alleviate congestion on and around the Hwy. 47 site.

—Chris Shanahan



## York North MPP will accompany Premier Festival excitement builds

STOUFFVILLE — York North MPP Gregory Sorbara will accompany Ontario Premier David Peterson at the June 25 opening of Whitchurch-Stouffville's second annual Strawberry Festival.

According to Mr. Sorbara, "When the Premier last visited

Stouffville, to open the Whitchurch-Stouffville Recreation Complex on Sept. 12, he mentioned his love of strawberries and an invitation to attend this year's festival was immediately issued."

Mayor Fran Sainsbury renewed that invitation recently, and Mr. Peterson's attendance

has been confirmed for Wednesday evening, June 25.

"I am looking forward to joining the Premier in Stouffville," Mr. Sorbara said. "His second visit in less than a year says something about the warmth and good feeling of the people of Whitchurch-Stouffville."

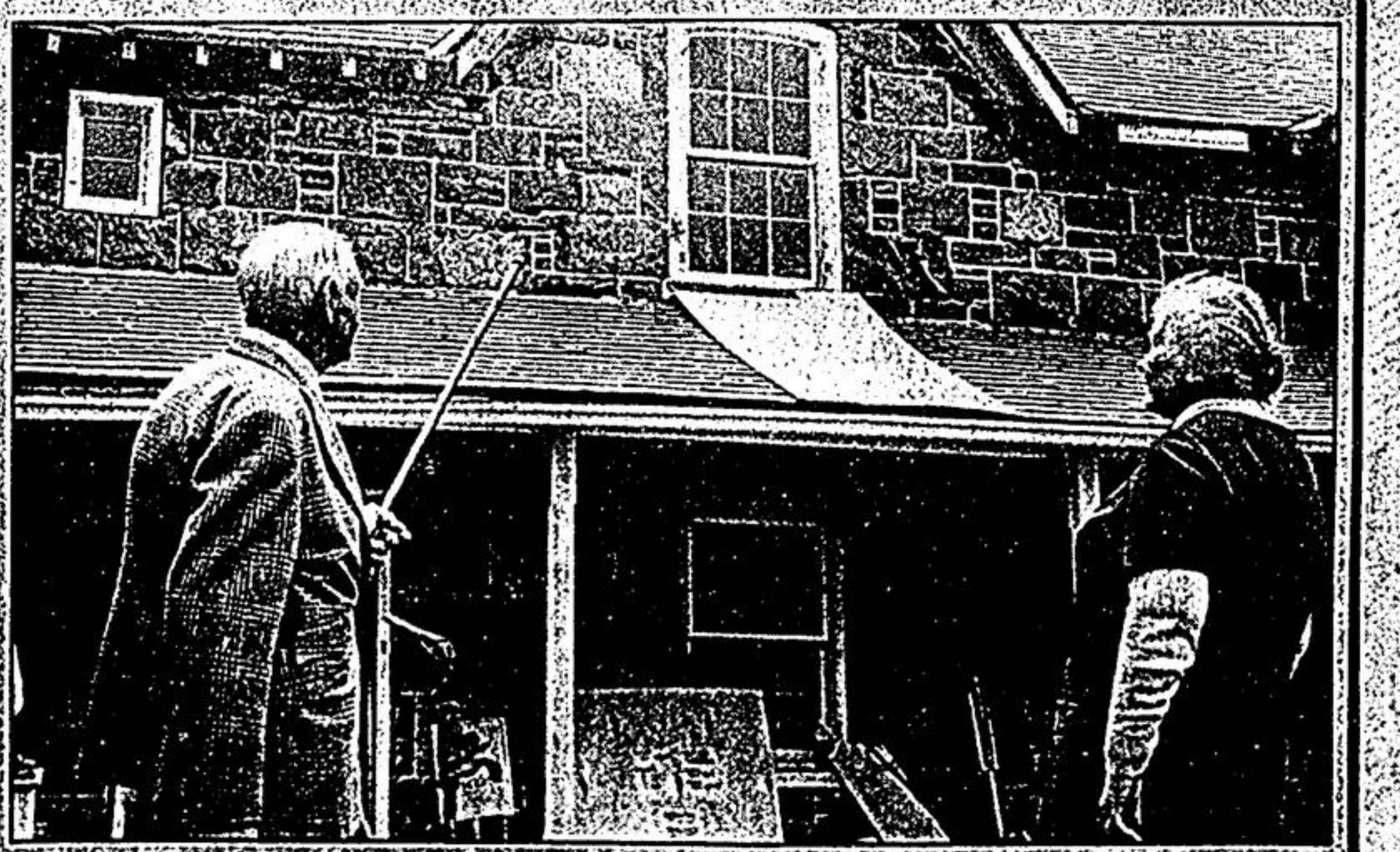
## Fire victims praise community

PICKERING — Saturday's "Up From the Ashes" party enabled Hugh and Elsie Miller to show their appreciation for the "overwhelming" community support they received following the 1985 fire at their historic homestead.

Hundreds of people came to the couple's aid and helped restore most of the Conc. 7 house to its original state.

The following people received recognition for their contributions to the rebuilding project: Philip Goldsmith — Heritage Foundation architect; Ken McTaggart and Bill Middleton, Greenwood, Claremont's, John Devitt and Ken Ramsay, Brougham — Carpenters; Gerry Fisher, Greenwood and Ernie Carruthers, Goodwood —

Electrical Wiring; Allan Kayes, Pickering — Plumbing; Austin Metcalfe, Whitevale — Heating; The Wood Joiner, Uxbridge Twp. — Kitchen Cabinets; Kerry Gould, Scarborough — Interior Painting; Ross Madill, Stouffville — Exterior Painting; and Monarch Home Interiors, Ajax — Furniture.



Hugh Miller (left) points out a feature of the restored Thistle Hall homestead to wife Elsie during Saturday's open house at their north Pickering farm property. The national, provincial and local historic site was severely damaged by a mysterious fire back on Jan. 9 of 1985. Concerned citizens from near and far banded together to help the elderly couple get back on their feet.

—Chris Shanahan