

Stouffville cashes in on clay

TRACY KIBBLE
Staff Reporter

The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville will be about \$12,000 richer after 300 truck loads of clay are transported every day for six months later this year to the Keele Valley Landfill site in Maple.

After hearing Gormley Aggregates at Warden Avenue and Bloomington Road will supply the clay to the Vaughan dump, local officials learned the Town could cash in on the removed clay under the new Aggregates Resources Act, which came into effect Jan. 1,

1990.

The Natural Resources Ministry which licences the pits had earlier informed York Region it would be using the local clay to line the Keele Valley site.

The region recently learned that Metro Toronto will pay for the 300 truck loads a day to be transported via a 26-mile route to Keele Valley, which could take up to six months to complete.

Metro Toronto currently uses two pits next to Keele Valley, which "became depleted during the summer of 1989," says the Ministry's maple district aggregate inspector,

Berti Janssen.

He adds clay was removed from Gormley Aggregates last year for Keele Valley, a job which started in July and lasted until October.

Mr. Janssen estimates this haul could take as long, but says a figure can not be made definite until a report is submitted by the company at the end of the year.

According to a spokesman from Gormley Aggregates, each tri-axle truck would carry about 37,000 kilos or 80,000 lbs. (40 tons) for the dump's lining.

Mr. Janssen says the clay removal could take from four to six months and the Town will earn about \$353 a day.

Under the Act, Whitchurch-Stouffville is entitled to four cents per metric tonne, the region and Gormley Aggregates are each entitled to half a cent a tonne, while the province will keep one cent per tonne, says Whitchurch-Stouffville CAO Bob Panizza.

"We have been advised by the ministry people that the pit operators are to submit a report to the province, which is reviewed by the Natural Resources Ministry," Mr. Panizza adds.

The Town will receive its first payment from the province in June 1991 for sand, gravel and clay removed during 1990.

Rec staff battles line-ups

Whitchurch-Stouffville town staff "did the best they could" last Monday trying to cope with long line-ups at the department's registration night for summer programs.

"The computer system slowed us down. But my records show last year for the 300 participants we served it took about eight hours. This year it took only six hours," says Recreation Director Marlane McKee-Wetheral.

"That works out to one minute and 20 seconds per participant, but sometimes we had whole families to register," Ms. McKee-Wetheral says.

She adds staff worked until 2:30 a.m. Tuesday morning dealing with all the registrations and ensuring all the information was input properly and maintains, "(the system) is not perfect, but we're trying to improve."

Several councillors said she beat them to the punch on bringing up the matter, because many of the officials received calls from complaining residents.

Local hero saves kitty

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A Whitchurch-Stouffville youth didn't lose that lovin' feline instead he saved one of the furry animal's nine lives in a recent rescue effort.

Dayle Lewis, 17, of Millard Street, is now deemed "the cat savior" by friends and local residents after spending nearly two hours straddled up a tree in the Stouffville Town Park coaxing down the scared and hungry cat.

The feline, although having a bird's-eye view from above, had been trapped up a 35-foot maple tree in the Stouffville Park for more than four days, say neighbors and passersby.

The youth said he and several friends were sitting in a car about 4 p.m. Wednesday, May 30 at the park, when one of them said there had been a cat stuck up the tree, crying for about four days, possibly since the Saturday before.

Dayle suggested they try to save the feline and then bravely proceeded to climb the massive trunk, while the others watched from below.

"I had to straddle most of the way up because there were no branches. When I got up there further I saw the cat was stuck and afraid of this one steep spot," Dayle said.

After about one hour, the teen gained the cat's confidence and he began petting it gently.

"It took a while for it to come over to me and once it was close enough I had to grab it by the scruff of the neck and pull it down branch by branch," Dayle recalls.

He said the cat really wanted to come down, but was too afraid to move any further down the tree.

Meanwhile, Rose Fockler, whose house is situated on Main Street directly in front of the large tree, had heard the cat meowing for days.

She said she had called the Whitchurch-Stouffville Fire Department to report the stranded animal two days earlier.

"The fire department would not come. They said they couldn't in

case a fire call came in," Mrs. Fockler said.

She also said she called the Ontario Humane Society, "but nobody from there showed up either."

When she noticed the youth up the tree, "it seemed he was up there for hours," she ran out of her house with an Igloo cooler and suggested they put the cat inside it to lower it down the rest of the way.

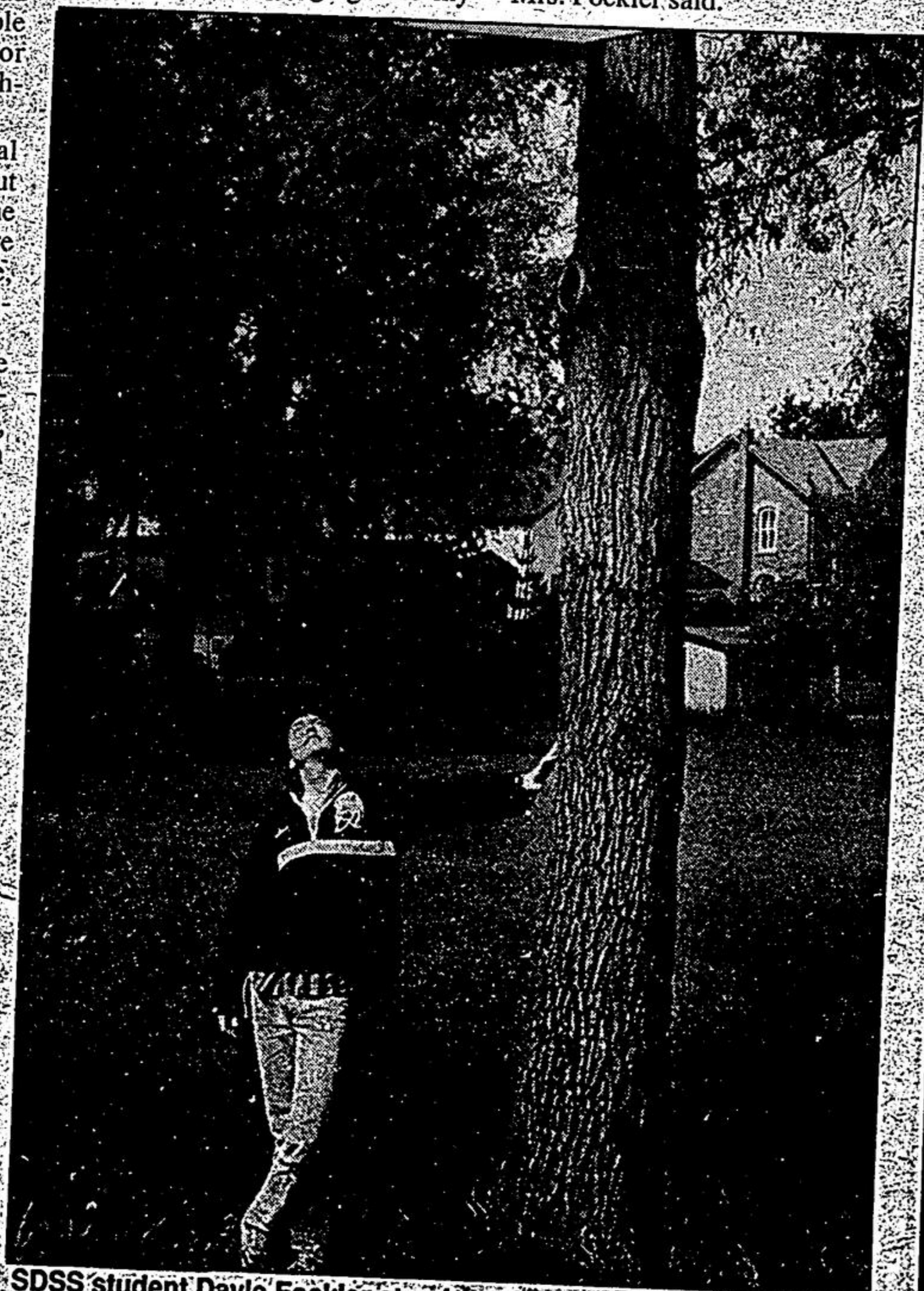
This seemed like a good idea to Dayle, because at this point the frantic cat was "clinging onto my

back and sticking its claws into the tree," he said.

"We couldn't just drop the cat down because it was a 16-foot drop from where I had (the cat) in my arms," Dayle said.

Finally after 1 1/2 hours of coaxing the feline to come down, the youth, with the help of his friends, trapped the cat in the cooler and lowered it down with rope.

"I thought it was really good and kind of him. How many other teenage boys would even bother?" Mrs. Fockler said.



SDSS student Dayle Fockler stands at the tree where he rescued a cat recently. The courageous teen climbed 35 feet to rescue the animal, which local residents say was stuck there for up to four days. He was praised for the act by friends and neighbors.



photo/RICK MADONIK

Brides of days gone by

Ruby Burkholder (left) models a bridal dress circa 1910 and Jennifer Baker wears one from 1896 at a fashion show held last week at the Goodwood Community Centre. The interesting show was held by the Goodwood Christian Women's Club.

Stouffville business urged to prepare now for 1991 GST

Stouffville area business should begin preparing for collection of the federal government's controversial Goods and Services Tax (GST), the Whitchurch-Stouffville Chamber of Commerce was told last week.

The GST, which comes into effect in 1991, affects most goods and services which are currently free of a visible federal tax.

And its far-reaching effects on business and consumers requires preparation in 1990, said Wayne Matheson, an accountant and partner with financial firm Deloitte and Touche, at a Whitchurch-Stouffville Chamber of Commerce breakfast meeting last Wednesday.

With the new tax, businesses will pay GST fees to suppliers and in turn pass it on to consumers, Mr. Matheson said to Chamber members. Then, based on calculations of transactions that are forwarded to the federal government, retailers could be in a "credit position" for refunds on the tax.

"Theoretically, as business people, we should pay no GST," Mr. Matheson pointed out.

And he said there will likely be benefits of the tax, which replaces the hidden 13.5 per cent tax currently applied to manufactured goods.

Meanwhile, a federal watchdog agency is being set up with the GST's introduction to monitor industry and business "to see that there is no gouging," he added.

And, with an illustration depicting a businessman with his pants down projected on a screen behind him, Mr. Matheson urged local merchants to become involved now in readying themselves for application of the GST this year.

"I advise you to begin the transition prior to 1991," he said at the conclusion of his presentation. "And wish each other good luck. Your going to need it in the next while."

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