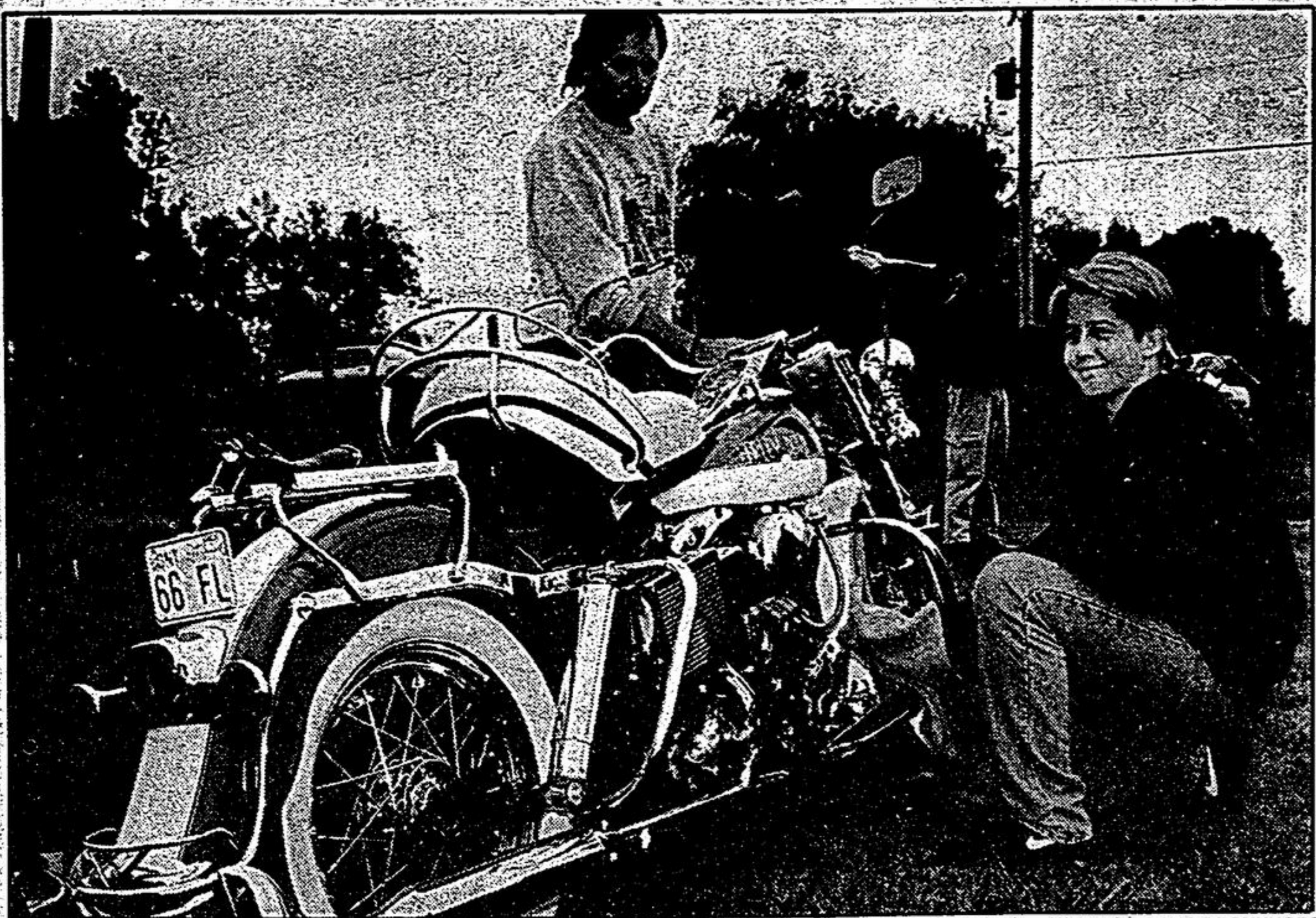


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Photo/CELIA BRONKHORST

### It's a classic

Keith Hopkin, and son Jeremy Hopkin, polish competition at Saturday's show at the up dad's 1966 Harley-Davidson motorbike for Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum.

# Stiff fines needed to avoid illegal dumping in town

TRACY KIBBLE  
Staff Reporter

Illegal dumping within Whitchurch-Stouffville is increasing rapidly and the town hasn't enough clout to encourage an end to the costly crime, said one local official last week.

Ward 2 councillor Stephen Bellerby said the municipal bylaw offers "insufficient deterrent" to illegal dumpers and is calling for higher fines.

Bellerby said the town spent \$25,000 last year to remove and safely dispose of tonnes of illegally dumped materials and is urging residents to "help us pick up these illegal dumpers."

Bellerby is requesting the town urge Minister of Municipal Affairs, Ed Philip, to give municipalities the authority and "ability to enforce this."

He is also calling for the same letter be sent to local area MPPs to encourage the issue be brought before government.

Bellerby wants to request that the Ministry of the Environment and Energy (MOEE) undertake an illegal dumping education campaign across the province "to help people understand the high cost illegal dumping has on taxpayers."

Bellerby said Whitchurch-Stouffville residents can help by writing down the licence plates of any vehicle they spot unloading anything — just in case it turns out to be an illegal dumper — and call the information into the town.

Staff was directed to draft a letter to be sent to Philips and local MPPs.

# New law requested to protect old streets

Whitchurch-Stouffville should have a bylaw to protect heritage streets from being shrouded by over-sized homes, said one local official last week.

Ward 6 councillor Ken Prentice wants to discuss the matter this week after announcing last Tuesday that he would be recommending a bylaw be written governing "monster homes in older established neighborhoods."

Prentice cited the recent Church Street construction of a home as example of what can happen when no bylaw is in place to restrict newer construction on older streets.

Prentice will call for the building department to "revisit the issue" and prepare a report for presentation to council in committee to outline options to "safeguard residents from this happening again."

# Prentice makes noise

The town needs a new, site-specific noise bylaw to handle the various requests for year-round outdoor functions, one local politician said this week.

Ward 6 councillor Ken Prentice will call tonight for a new bylaw governing noise after 11 p.m. "given the different locales and venues for such events."

Prentice will request the town's building and recreation directors along with the chief administrative officer prepare a report on the feasibility of "identifying areas within the town that could accommodate variations to the present noise bylaw."

Prentice will be asking council to support his bid.

# CHATS benefits from fair

CIBC in Stouffville is hosting a fun fair on Friday, Sept. 17.

There will be activities all day at the bank, with proceeds going to CHATS, the seniors assistance program.

For the first time, CHATS is going to the community to attempt to raise funds.

# Miller a done deal: Alles

(From page 1)

Alles, who is active in several volunteer committees across the community and who is a former town councillor, said he personally believes the job should have been tendered.

But he defends council's decision to extend the contract over a long period of time during a rough economy despite comments from the public that locking into Miller for five years is a bad move.

"I'm in favor of tendering the job, but labor rates and interest rates are down now. In any financial decision, if you have done your homework and you have got the best price you think you could get and if the job can be done with minimal service upset why not lock in for a long period," Alles offered.

"Could another company do as good a job or be as helpful or co-operative (as Miller?) Sure, maybe, but maybe not. It's done now."

### Crime

# Van still missing after thieves return boy's walker

KATE GILDERDALE  
Staff Reporter

Carol Reynolds still finds it hard to believe that anyone would be callous enough to steal a vehicle carrying a disabled permit.

She and her husband, Graeme, were visiting friends in Scarborough recently with their son, Evan, who has cerebral palsy.

Sometime during the evening, their locked 1993 Dodge Grand Caravan SE mini-van was stolen from the townhouse parking lot.

The van contained Evan's walker, a device which is no longer manufactured. The walker had been adapted especially for the Stouffville youngster, who will be six next month, enabling him to enjoy much greater mobility.

"Without it he just has to sit around," said his mother.

Happily, the walker, along with Evan's car seat, was recovered following an appeal by the family which was broadcast on CFTO-TV on Labor Day. The van, however, is still missing, causing a transportation headache for the family.

"We had the van converted to carry a wheelchair and we had the handicapped parking permit, which we now have to replace through the Ministry of Transportation," Reynolds noted.

"The insurance company said that 80 per cent of stolen vehicles are recovered so we're keeping our fingers crossed, but it's been very upsetting to our son because he considers it to be his van."

When Evan returned to school at the Hugh MacMillan Centre Tuesday, his mother had to rent a van to drive him there.

"The cost is a lot more than the insurance company gives you for a replacement vehicle, but I had to take a lot of stuff with him for his first day at school."

Evan will be receiving a power wheelchair within the next two months, which is the reason his parents purchased the van, said Reynolds. "You can't just pick it up and put it in the trunk of a car."

The distinctive-looking van is in a dark hunter green, with tinted windows, gold striping and gold wheel rims.

It has a grey tinted Plexiglass hood guard and the licence plate is 350 SYH.

# Officials oppose postal closure

(From page 1)

Craig said upon return from vacation he was informed and just as surprised of the "quick decision" changes as Stouffville residents were.

Ancheril said the Canada Post's decision to end consumer service at the long-standing office "lacks sensitivity," and asked that the town let the corporation know about its strong objections.

Ward 1 councillor Ivanka Bradley said it's hard enough to "keep business alive in Whitchurch-Stouffville" and called the closure a "counter-productive move."

Bradley said moving residential service to an off-the-downtown-beat location places all the "anchor" businesses, such as liquor and beer stores to one end of town.

"This threatens the livelihood and the life of our downtown core. It deserves a lot more attention than it is getting," Bradley said.

Ward 6 councillor Ken Prentice said stamping out consumer service at the "conveniently central" office robs seniors and young families both of vital downtown service. "It should be required that the Whitchurch-Stouffville Post Office continue to remain an outlet for both businesses and residents," Prentice said.

Several citizens are also banding together to formally oppose the move, but according to Craig it won't do much good.

He said Canada Post is currently restructuring its operations and has found that customers find this process more convenient.

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