

Markham Stouffville Hospital Campaign '93

Community joins in the fund-raising effort

Fund-raising, even for essential services, has become a fact of life in the cash-strapped nineties.

Without the generous support of this community, Markham Stouffville Hospital would never have been built. That support is once again being sought as the facility looks to much-needed expansion and the purchase of new equipment.

"The principle issue is that the Ministry of Health funds operating costs, but does not fund capital acquisitions," explained the fund-raising chairman for Campaign '93, Mac Cosburn.

"There is no (financial) provision in terms of new and more specialized equipment, which is evolving all the time, so the money for that must come from local fund-raising and the efforts of the hospital."

In order to ensure the hospital maintains its position as one of the finest health-care facilities in the province, "we're inviting people to participate in this fund-raising drive," Cosburn noted.

"We have a number of new people in the community who have not yet had the opportunity to help out, and our appeal is particularly directed at them."

In addition to the hospital's door-to-door campaign, a number of other fund-

raising events have been organized, many of them with the generous support of local businesses and corporations.

M & M Meats raised \$1,500 for the hospital when they hosted a barbe-

cue last spring. "Every time we open a new store, we pick a local charity to do a barbeque for," explained M & M's owner, Chris Dormer.

"When we had the grand opening for our second

store in Unionville, we figured the hospital is always looking for money and we decided to support them this time."

Everything for the barbeque was supplied by M & M Meats, including food, canopies, tables and condiments, and all the proceeds raised were donated to the hospital.

"The week before there was a blizzard and the week after there was a blizzard, but on the day of our grand opening, it must have been 15 degrees Celsius," recalled Dormer, who strongly believes that supporting community events such as this benefits everyone.

M & M also supplies materials at cost to other organizations who hold barbecues to benefit Markham Stouffville Hospital.

Barbecue today

The Journal Bookstore on Highway 7 in Unionville is hosting a barbecue for the hospital on Sept. 25 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in front of the store. Special guests include Curious George, Clifford and Spot and M & M's own Rex.

Next month, Canada Trust will donate the proceeds of a barbecue being held to mark the opening of its newest branch on Highway 48 at 16th Ave. across from the Sunkist plaza.

And to celebrate the 5,000th birth at Markham Stouffville Hospital in July, Canada Trust has opened up an education fund with \$500 in the name of the lucky baby.

Hay wagon hoe-down

Remax All-Stars Realty is jumping on the hay wagon by sponsoring a Country and Western Fun Night to benefit the hospital at Markham fairgrounds on Nov. 13 from 7.30 p.m. to 1 a.m.

"There will be a local band as part of the entertainment as well as a disc jockey," advised Danielle Volpe, who is organizing the event with Adena Watt.

"We'll have a line dancing instructor and a square dance caller, a raffle and door prizes." Tickets are just \$15 each, with a buffet included in the cost, and there will be a cash bar.

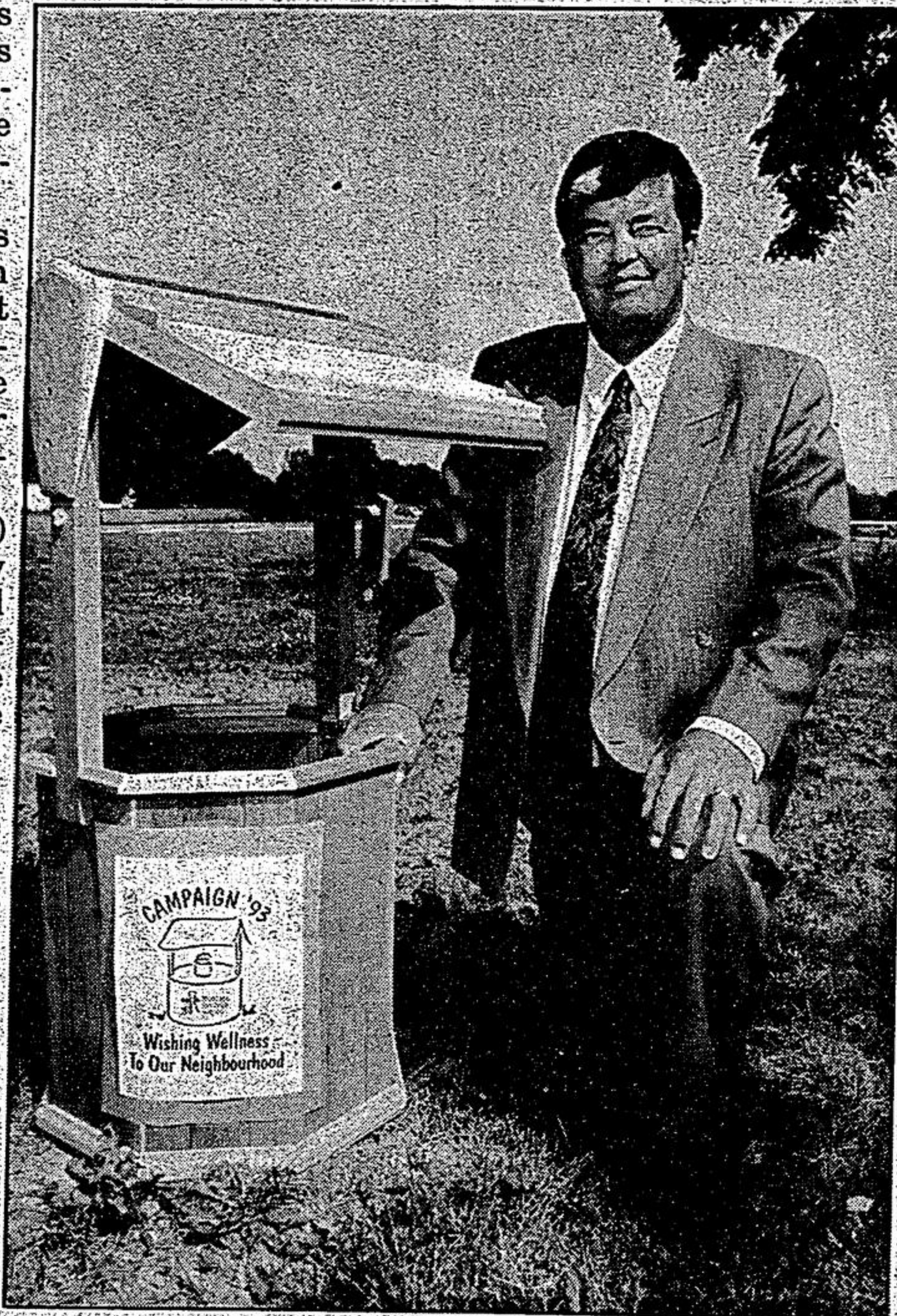
For tickets and information, call Volpe or Watt at 477-0011.

On Tuesday, Oct. 5, starting at 7 p.m., Spectrum Billiards is sponsoring a billiards tournament in support of Markham Stouffville Hospital.

Entry fee is \$20.00 per player and all proceeds will go to the hospital.

Rules of the tournament are "double knock-out".

Spectrum Billiards is located at 166 Bullock Drive in Markham. Call 472-7059 to register.



Mac Cosburn, Markham Stouffville Hospital's Campaign '93 chairman, invites all local residents to participate in Campaign '93 "Wishing Wellness to Our Neighbourhood".

Markham Hydro lends a helping hand

"Light Up Someone's Life" is the theme of Markham Stouffville Hospital's Christmas fund-raising program, which is receiving a

major boost from Markham Hydro.

Included in the commission's October billing to all its customers will be a flyer from the hospital, which will request donations of \$25 in exchange for a light on the spectacular Christmas tree to be erected in the hospital lobby.

Instead of purchasing gifts for friends, family members, colleagues or teachers, residents will be asked to donate a light in the name of the recipient of their choice.

A beautiful personalized calligraphy card, along with a miniature Spiral of Sharing tree ornament which ties in with the donor recognition sculpture at the hospital, will be sent to the recipients to acknowledge contributions made in their honor.

Lights can also be purchased in memory of a special friend or family member and all donors will be invited to attend a Christmas reception at the hospital, during which the tree will be officially lit for the season.

Flyers will be mailed to 50,000 households and businesses in Markham, and area residents who do not receive the mailing are also invited to participate in the Christmas tree light program. Charitable tax receipts will be

issued to all donors.

The program was initiated by staff at the hospital's Foundation office, who wrote requesting the commission's help in distributing the flyers, explained hydro general manager Bob Fabro.

"The commission reviewed the letter at a monthly meeting and agreed that, on a trial basis for this year, they would be more than pleased to co-operate in the venture," said Fabro.

"Once it was approved by the commission, they asked staff, through me, to co-ordinate the details with the Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation."

At the top of this year's wish list for the hospital are three desperately needed patient-controlled analgesia (PCA) pumps. These devices allow patients suffering

severe pain to monitor and control their own medication.

95 per cent of cancer pain can be controlled through this method, bringing enormous relief to those who are seriously ill. \$12,000 will purchase all three pumps, giving those patients the very special gift of comfort, love and caring for Christmas.

And each \$25 received will bring the hospital one step closer to that goal. Light up someone's life this Christmas with a gift of light.

