

Stouffville goes to the Fair



Stouffville's own April Strait was the winner of the Baby Contest (Girls 3-6 months division) at the Markham Fair on Saturday. Here April holds her trophy while proud mom Gail looks on. The annual fair pulled in big crowds over the weekend at the fairgrounds.



Spectators cheer for their favorite porkers during the pig races at Markham Fair on Saturday. There were a large number of events to keep crowds entertained during the three-days of the fair.

Photos
by
Lori
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Council

Mayor demands apology

TRACY KIBBLE
Staff Reporter

Mayor Fran Sainsbury hinted this week she would take legal action against a taxpayer if he didn't publicly apologize for making potentially slanderous comments about her last month.

The mayor hand-delivered a letter two weeks ago to Lemonville resident David Probert requesting he make a public apology for comments he made during the fiery and controversial Sept. 7 garbage contract debate at council chambers.

When Probert refused to make the requested apology, however, Sainsbury told him she would then "pursue the

matter differently."

Sainsbury, who refused to divulge the contents of the letter, accused Probert of making libelous, slanderous and defamatory comments during a scheduled delegation opposing council's decision to waive its tender policy for a renewed garbage deal.

Probert had insinuated the mayor would "perhaps" receive enticing kickbacks involving financial and property gain in turn for her vote to hand Miller Waste Disposal Systems a five-year, \$2 million garbage collection contract and to waive the town's tender policy.

Probert asked if the mayor would get her driveway paved in turn for her Miller

Waste vote.

Sainsbury said Probert attacked her personally even though three other councillors voted the same way.

"When you single out someone like that it's not government anymore. It's something else," Sainsbury said.

The mayor said it was not her place to reveal the contents of the letter because it was Probert's mail.

But the issue became a public matter when she requested he apologize on record for comments he initiated during a public meeting.

Probert said he took exception to being bombarded with an apology request upon his arrival at council this week and refused to make one.

Hospital staff off this Friday

Markham Stouffville Hospital will pay its social contract dues through service cuts this Friday. Oct. 8 is the first of two unpaid days off for staff earning more than \$30,000 a year as the local hospital prepares to meet its obligation to the provincial government's Social Contract Act. The next unpaid

day off for staff is Dec. 24.

Outpatient services, including ambulatory care, rehabilitation services and surgical assessment, as well as all elective surgery have been cancelled.

The emergency ward will be open as usual on a 24-hour basis and inpatient areas will be staffed on a weekend sched-

ule. The hospital has a social contract budget reduction target of \$1.5 million to reach in its 1993-94 plan. Wages have been frozen since Aug. 11 and will continue at the current level until March 31, 1996.

No layoffs are expected, but staff vacancies may not be filled immediately.

Pre-trial set in sex crime allegation case

(From page 1)

Night for children. Police said the boys were allegedly fondled under their pants on separate occasions during different evenings while attending the games night at the 90-year-old church.

Elders and the church congregation are proclaiming the innocence of MacNaughton, and have made public statements backing their

member. MacNaughton, a well-known Uxbridge grandfather is a retired North York public school teacher who volunteers his services at two public schools as well as the Stouffville church Club Night.

He is charged with two counts of sexual assault and two counts of sexual interference for two unrelated incidents, police have said.

Council to beef up security at meetings

Local politicians will look at ways to turf out unruly citizens from council chambers next year, the mayor announced last week.

Mayor Fran Sainsbury said the town needs tighter security on hand when public issues come before debate because of past problems with some "rude, mean-spirited" people.

The mayor said staff will "re-vamp" its current procedural bylaw that would tighten up security considerably, since the town's current policy has no teeth in that area.

"We've never had to worry about this before," she said, but admitted topics and issues dealt with locally are a way for frustrated, over-taxed citizens to lash out at all levels of government.

Several meetings held earlier this year became raucous, unruly and downright out-of-hand, she said, and the town needs to have people available that can toss obnoxious people out of council chambers.

"We need something in writing; we must keep things in order," she said.

During several meetings this year councillors have been subjected to name-calling, yelling and clapping, booing and have endured the brunt of several rude comments that are out of order, she added.

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