

Newsmakers 1994

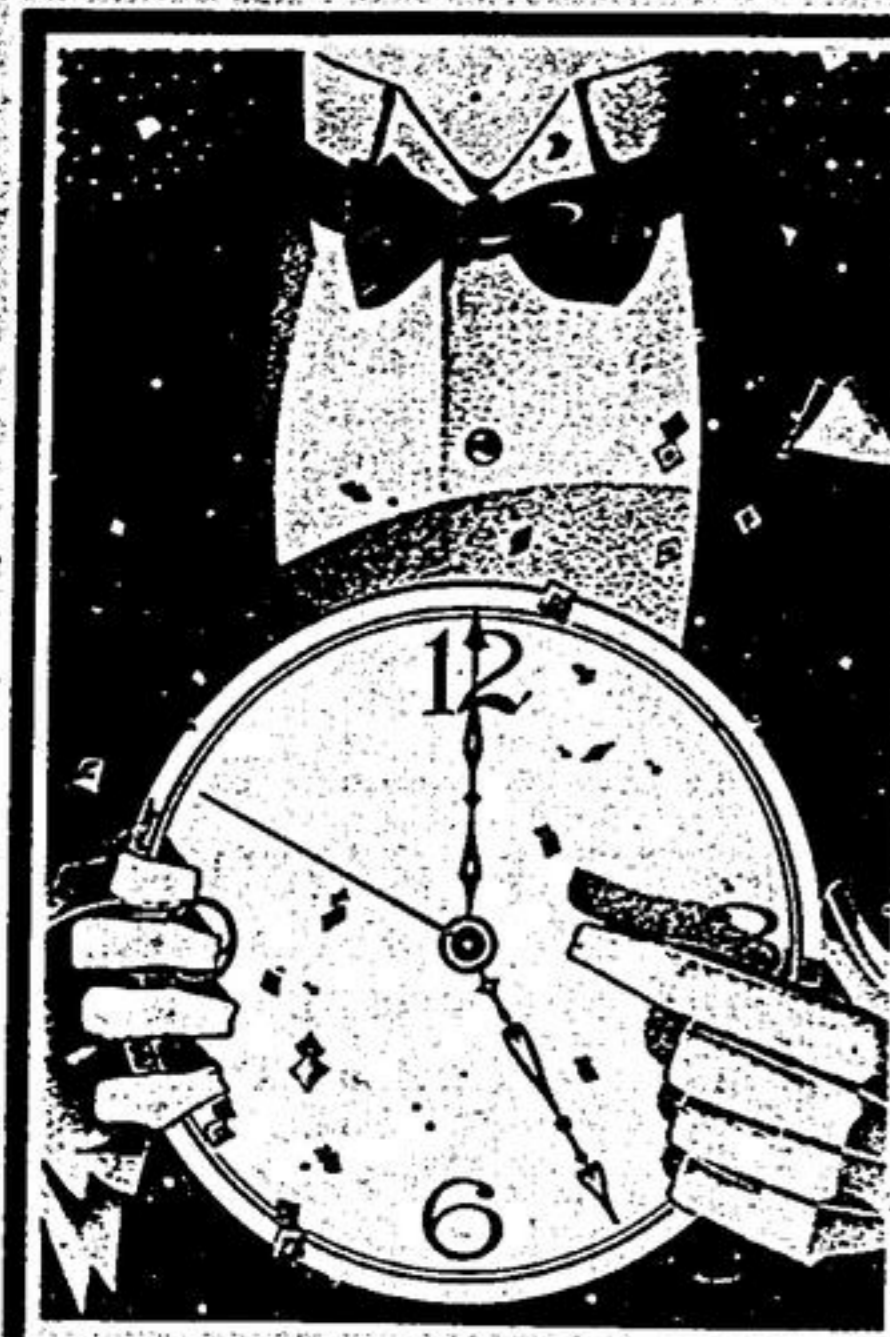
Ivanka Bradley

Along with Ken Prentice, Ivanka Bradley was known as a council disturber in 1994. The two would frequently join forces to oppose proposals put forth by other councillors, leading Mayor Fran Sainsbury to openly complain about Bradley's contribution to council.

Bradley felt the label wasn't fair, insisting she had the right to speak her concerns even though she said she found "there wasn't any room for anyone else's opinions" on council. Bradley was accused of wasting council time by excessively questioning issues.

While conceding that some people probably found her persistence "difficult and offensive," she replied that it was important to hear all sides of an issue in order to be as well informed as possible. She argued that it was important for the public to be aware of what council was up to, pushing for a return to the system where council meetings are held once a week rather than the current twice-a-month routine.

She was also in favor of reinstating the new business, or comments part of the agenda, which was scrapped early in 1994. Bradley pushed for ser-



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vices for rural wards like hers during the year, suggesting that Vandorf be considered as the site of the proposed second arena.

Bradley locked horns with town CAO Merlin Dewing on more than one occasion. In May, she opposed Dewing's contention that administrative staff not require council approval for expenditures under \$20,000.

She took on town finance director Ed Blackburn in April for acting too independently when making "arbitrary" decisions regarding the collection of BIA taxes.

Bradley was an outspoken advocate of the proposed Musselman Lake/Ballantrae communal water system in 1994.

In March, she expressed anger that the town was considering spending \$1.5 million on a new well for Stouffville when the Musselman Lake/Ballantrae residents had been pushing for clean water for the past seven years.

Bradley faced her first election in last fall's municipal campaign after being acclaimed as Ward 1 councillor in 1991. She defeated Ray Preston in a close race.

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