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# THE TRIBUNE

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 page 11



More Review page 14

## Town hall-library complex plan stalled

**JOAN RANSBERRY**  
 Staff Reporter

The plan to build a \$3.4 million town hall-library complex in

Stouffville has been put on the back burner for two weeks.

Despite a one-hour debate on Tuesday, Whitchurch-Stouffville council shied away from making a

decision about the proposed complex.

While it's recommended that local council hire a project design-builder, council decided to give the local library board a chance to reaffirm its desire to have the library expanded.

Library board member Sharon Maude told The Tribune that the

delay wasn't needed. The library expansion remains "wanted and needed," she stressed.

If the Civic Avenue operation moves to the new library complex, the existing hall could be converted to a concert hall.

Further complicating the issue is the fate of the art gallery—a plan to have the Latcham Gallery sepa-

rate itself from the library board and possibly relocate to a new spot has been put on hold for six months, said Maude.

Councillor Ivanka Bradley said the need for a town hall has not been demonstrated.

"We don't know if we'll still be a town in three years," said

■ Please see page 3 ■

## Pool benefactor unhappy with spending

**JOAN RANSBERRY**  
 Staff Reporter

A plan to earmark \$250,000 for a new town hall-library complex does not sit well with the benefactor.

Local developer Gino Testa told The Tribune he wants his

\$500,000 gift to be spent on a public indoor swimming pool.

"I'm giving it for a swimming pool for the people. It's not for a library," said Testa.

On Tuesday, town staff recommended that \$250,000 of the Testa money be applied to the town hall-library complex valued at about

\$3.4 million.

Council will make a decision in two weeks.

Testa said he promised the money for a pool because the original plan for his 90-unit seniors apartment building included a swimming facility.

■ Please see page 3 ■



**ON TRACK:** The York-Durham Heritage Railway locomotive comes out of the woods on a test run Tuesday. The railway starts its season Saturday. For more information, please see page 3.

Photo by SJOERD WITTEVEEN

## @random

News you can use

\* Whitchurch-Stouffville Council has decided who will be the town lawyer.

On Tuesday, council agreed to shift the business to Cassels, Brock and Blackwell.

Town lawyer Stanley Makuch recently resigned

from the law firm, Borden and Elliot and joined the firm Cassels, Brock and Blackwell.

### Index

- Comment ..... p. 4
- Gardening ..... p. 10
- Entertainment ..... p. 14
- Sports ..... p. 15
- Classified ..... p. 16

**newsline**  
 640-2100



**STICK HANDLING:** Jonathan Moore passes the baton, in this case a small branch, to team member Samuel Baxter in a relay race held during the Stouffville Christian School track day on Tuesday. Only three battered batons were available for the four-team race.

Photo by SJOERD WITTEVEEN

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