

Churchill Baptist Church to celebrate its 125th anniversary

In today's society it is a rare accomplishment for any small rural church to remain vital and the heart of a community. For 125 years, Churchill Baptist Church has done just that.

Local Churchill resident Agnes Leitch has lived directly across from the quaint white frame building, and held the church close to her heart. Back in 1933, Agnes and her siblings and mother, first attended the small white wooden structure.

For all but three years of her life, Agnes and her family have made Churchill Baptist Church their place of worship. Now, when any of 11 grandchildren visit, they attend church with their grandmother.

Back in 1872, people from the community wrote to the Assembly of the Christian Church seeking permission to go ahead and build. In August of 1872, a letter was received granting permission, and the building enthusiastically began.

Prior to this, church-going residents attended the Christian Church at Bloomington and the Ninth Line. Transportation through rain, sleet, snow or sunshine while



Rural Route Ruth

Ruth LeBlanc

traveling by horses, oxen or by foot, made the news of a church to be built within the community very welcome.

A gentleman by the name of Mr. Quantz gave one acre of land, while William Badgero offered the lumber. One rural router, Peter Spring, worked all day then came home and hand-make the roof shingles.

On a chilly morning in November, 1872, the church opened its doors for the first time. As Agnes says: "After 125 years God is still being worshipped in this church."

Sadly, many of the small rural churches are being sold for residential use or moved to a different location. In the worst instances, some have been torn down, falling by the way-side in these fast and furiously times. Churchill can indeed be proud of maintaining a small but devoted

congregation for more than a century.

Over the past few years, I have had the good fortune to meet some of these people who attend this rural church. One such couple is Mark and Jane Doble, who, until last September lived within the Churchill community. Last fall, the Doble's, along with their son Michael, bought a house and moved to Pefferlaw. Even now, with other churches close and more convenient, they make the drive south to attend services.

You can bet on Sunday, June 1, when a special anniversary service will be held honoring the church, the Doble's will be there along with the McLaughlins, the Parkes, the Pritchards, and all the families who have made the church their home.

Mayor Emmerson, along with the council members, will be on hand to celebrate with the parishioners and enjoy refreshments later at the Ballantrae Community Centre. Church Pastor Dr. E. Sikakane, a retired teacher from the Bible College and a very involved member in the church, will lead the service. On hand from the Peoples Church in Willowdale, will be soloist Doris

Mugford and all rural routers are invited to attend this and any service. A guaranteed friendly welcome is waiting for you.

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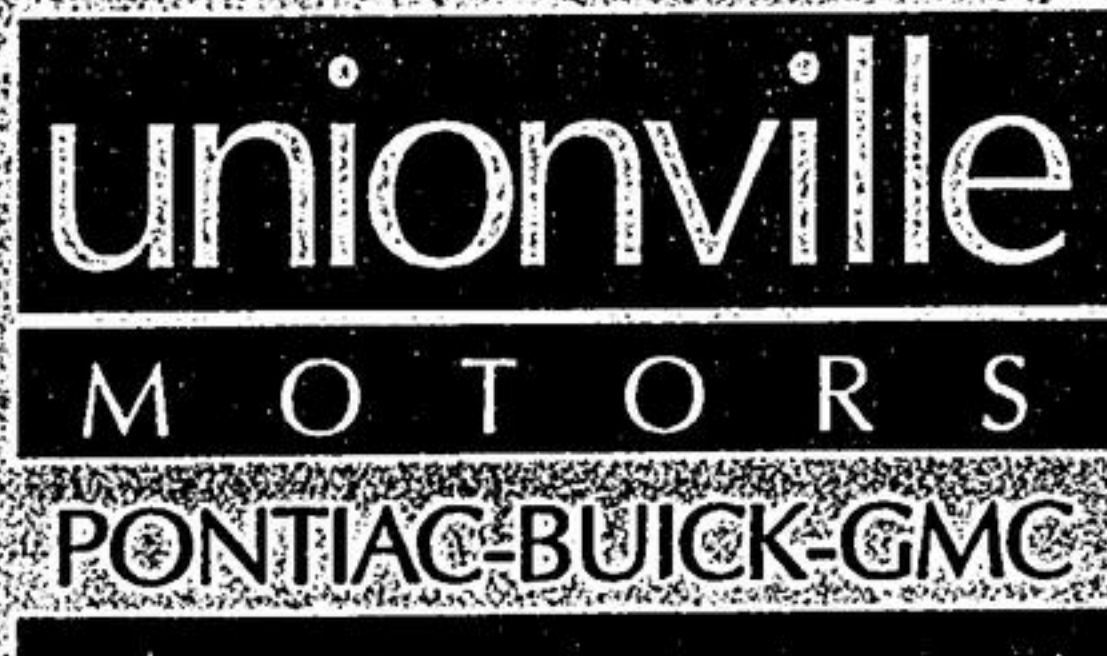
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SALES HOURS - Mon. - Thurs. 9:00 - 9:00, Fri. 9:00 - 5:30, Sat. 9:00 - 5:30

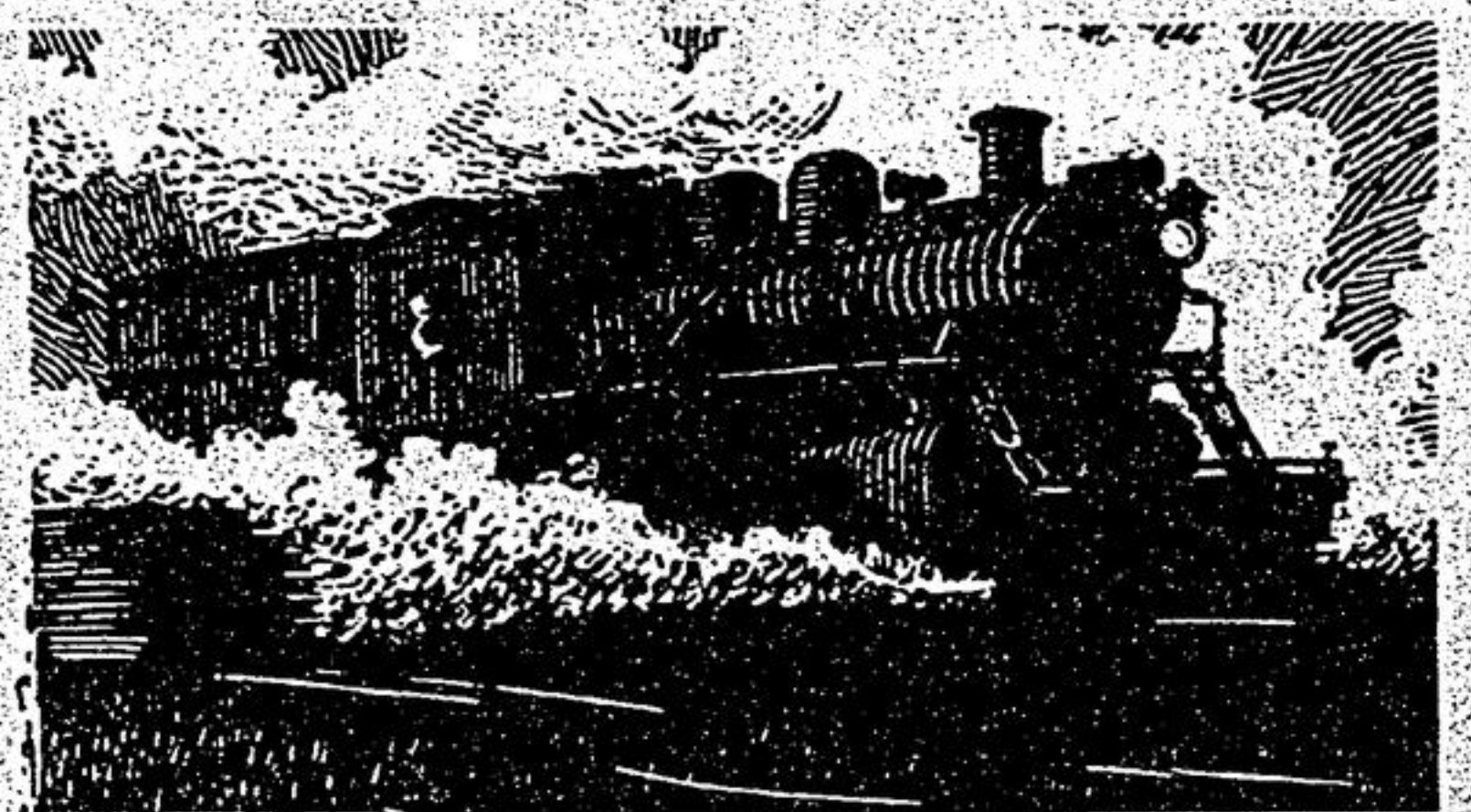
SERVICE HOURS - Mon. - Thurs. 7:30 - 7:30, Fri. 7:30 - 5:30, Sat. 8:00 - 1:00



4630 Hwy. #7, Unionville (at Kennedy Rd.) 477-1666

PICKERING MUSEUM VILLAGE

STEAM UP & OPENING



Sunday, May 25, 1997
11 am to 5 pm

- ◆ The Museum's Gas & Steam Barn will "Steam Up" with working mills, traction engines & authentic scale models
- ◆ Costumed interpreters bring village to life.
- ◆ Model Railroad Displays
- ◆ Collector items, railway memorabilia
- ◆ "Springtime" village activities
- ◆ Family entertainment

3 km east of Brock Road on Hwy. 7 in Greenwood, Ontario
420-4620 or 683-8401



THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK
STOP UP AND CLOSE
STOUFFVILLE ROAD (Y.R. 14)
TOWN OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE

THE COUNCIL OF THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF YORK PROPOSES TO PASS A BY-LAW AUTHORIZING:

1. The stopping up and closing as a public highway that part of Stouffville Road (Y.R. 14) designated as Part 1 Plan 65R-19160, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville and the conveyance of the said lands to the abutting owner.

Pursuant to Section 300 of the Municipal Act, the Transportation and Works Committee of the Regional Council will, at its meeting to be held at 10:00 a.m. on the 4th day of June, 1997, in Committee Room "A" at the Regional Administrative Building located at 17250 Yonge St., Newmarket, hear any person who claims that his/her lands will be prejudicially affected by the by-law and who applies to be heard. Anyone wishing to be heard is requested to advise the Office of the Regional Clerk (telephone 895-1231 or 731-0201, ext. 1303).

DATED at Newmarket this 24th day of May, 1997.

DENNIS HEARSE
Regional Clerk
17250 Yonge Street
Newmarket, Ontario
L3Y 6Z1