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5 Regional council puts a freeze on taxes for 2000, but the fight for the surplus continues.

ARTS & CULTURE CALENDAR

EVENT: Valentine's dinner
WHEN: Monday, 6:30 p.m.
WHERE: Lions Club, Latcham Hall. 640-1867



14 Skate for a Friend is being held Feb. 26 in honour of a mom who's living with cancer.

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POLITICIANS FORGE AHEAD WITH RISKY PLAN TO SHIP GARBAGE TO THE UNITED STATES

York's trash going south

BY PATRICK CASEY
 Staff Writer

Despite emerging technology that has the ability to convert solid waste into gas and peat, York Region officials will forge ahead with a risky plan to have regional garbage shipped to one of two landfill sites in the United States.

On Thursday, regional councillors disqualified Super Blue Box

Recycling Corp. from bidding on handling the region's 175,000 tonnes of annual trash, once the Keele Valley landfill site finally closes in 2002, because it failed to identify a site for its waste management facility.

A division of Eastern Power Ltd., SUBBOR is constructing a site in Guelph where its three-stage diversion process is being tested.

But a permanent York Region home could be located in East Gwillimbury at the proposed site for the integrated solid waste processing and transfer facility, allowing the region's garbage trucks to haul trash to the nearby location.

Through SUBBOR's state-of-the-art technology, recyclable products are first sorted, then the remaining waste is digested and gas

is recovered and used as steam power, gas turbines and waste heat recovery.

Remaining peat-like solids are combined with a chemical composition that's suitable for compost use.

The company said it could handle a minimum of 160,000 tonnes of

See TRASH, page 2.

Council submits bills for year's work

Pliakes tops list

BY JOAN RANSBERRY
 Staff Writer

Of Whitchurch-Stouffville's six councillors, the top spender in 1999 was Ward 1's Steve Pliakes.

Last year, Mayor Wayne Emmerson earned \$23,306 in salary and \$3,051 in benefits along with a \$3,650 car allowance and \$2,240 for public relations for a total of \$32,247.



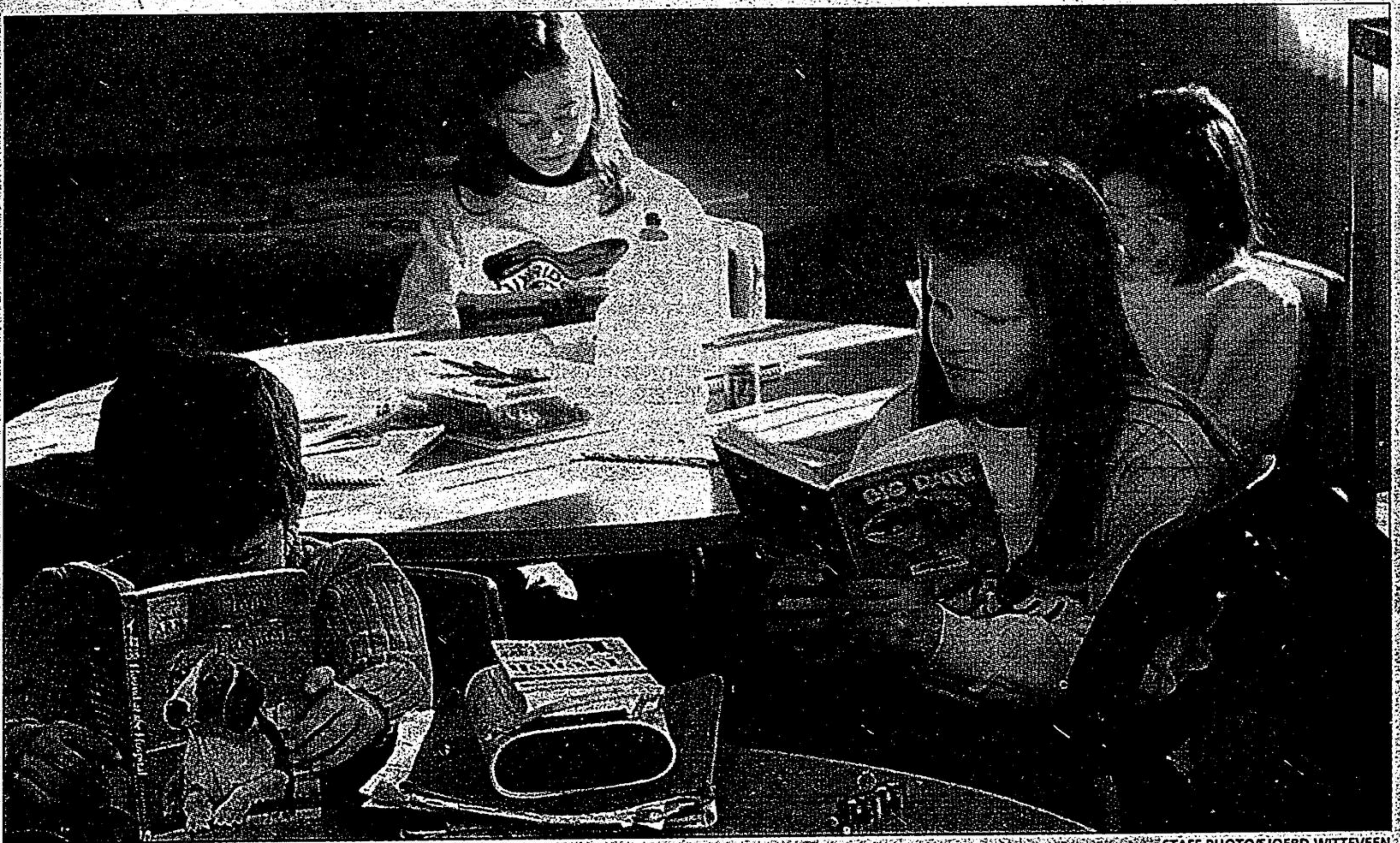
WAYNE EMMERSON

Councillors earned a \$14,740 salary, while each received a flat rate of \$1,043 for car allowance.

With the exception of Ward 3 Councillor Dobrich, each councillor received between \$2,400 and \$2,646 in benefits. Dobrich's benefit package is valued at \$451.

Pliakes submitted a \$1,065 public relations expense bill for a total of \$19,494. In second place is Ward 5 Councillor Judy Scala with a \$1,342 public relations bill for a total of \$19,771.

Ward 2 Councillor Mark Carroll filed a \$775 public relations bill. Ward 6 Councillor Sue Sherban's public relations expenses were \$355 for a total of \$18,784. Ward 4 Councillor Cliff Dunkeld spent \$260 on public relations, bringing his total to \$18,443. Dobrich spent \$925 on public relations for a total of \$17,159.



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

HITTING THE BOOKS

Dickson Hill Grade 4s spend 20 minutes in English class fulfilling their read-a-thon requirements to raise funds for the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Canada. From left are Harrison Browne, Martha Carruthers, Morgan Brown and Man Huen Koo.

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Thank You Markham.
 After doing business in Markham for 32 years, the time has come, February 14, 2000, for us to turn our Mazda dealership over to new owners. What I will miss the most are the business and personal relationships that I have shared with many of you as a result of our dealings. Many new friendships have developed that I will continue to cherish. My most cherished relationship developed when I met Denise, who became my wife and has blessed us with two beautiful children. I wish all our staff health and happiness in the years ahead. It has been our privilege to serve you.

Sincerely
J. P. Kovac, Kovac Motors

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