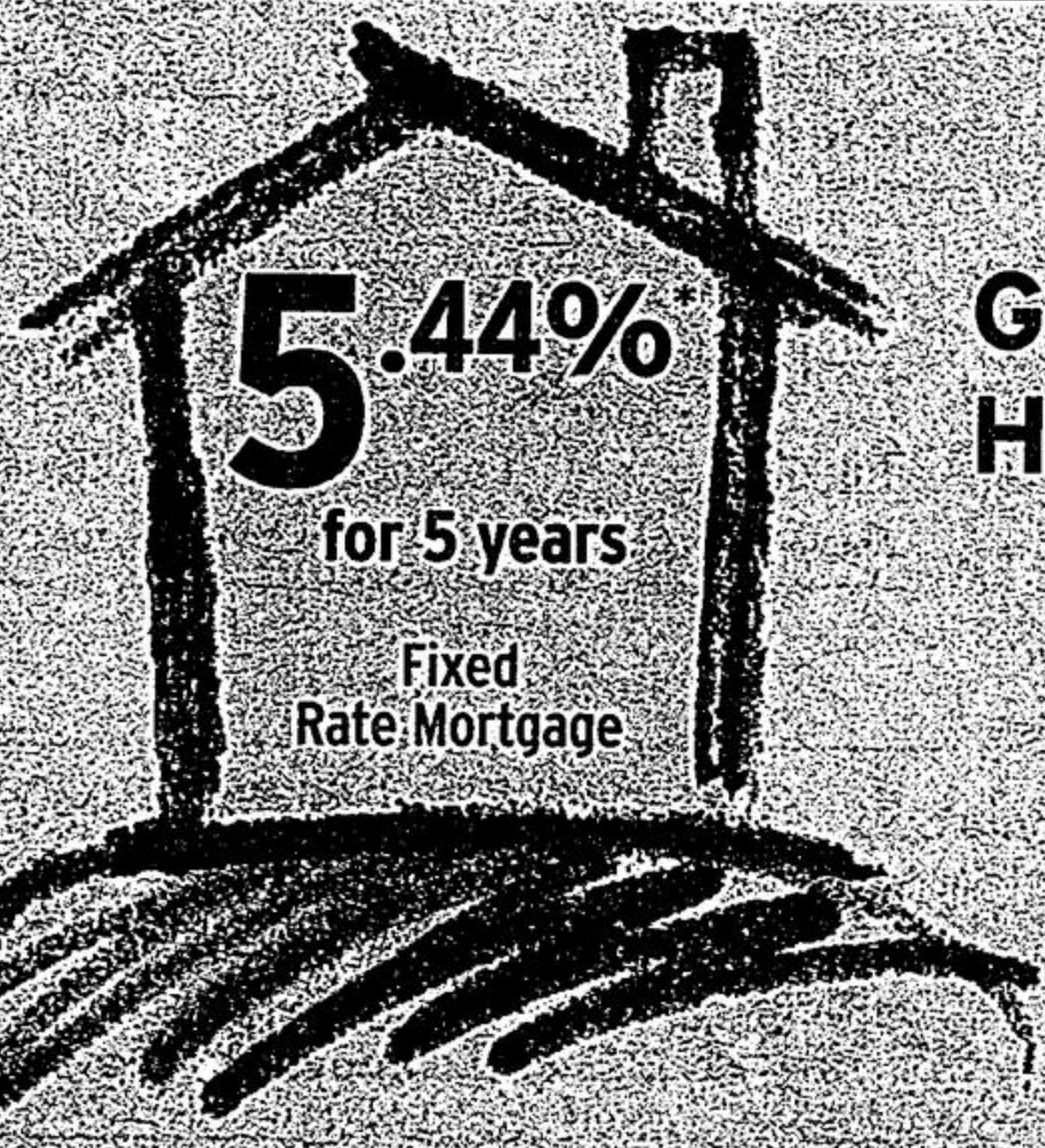


In our Community



Thank you to all who attended
M & M Meat Shops 15th Annual Charity BBQ on Sat., May 10.
The event was a great success, raising over \$1.2 million for
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HOURS: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.



IMPORTANT NOTICE TO RESIDENTS

Residential Water Well Survey
for the
Proposed York Region Southeast
Collector Trunk Sewer

Over the next few years, York Region will undertake important infrastructure projects to accommodate planned residential and industrial growth.

One of those projects is the Southeast Collector Trunk Sewer. The Southeast Collector will begin at the community of Box Grove and end at the intersection of Finch Avenue and York/Durham Line.

As part of the preparations for the project, representatives from the Region of York will conduct a private water well survey between May 19th and June 6th. Region representatives will contact households in the vicinity of the project site to obtain information on wells. The survey will cover the area bounded by the following roads:

- 14th Avenue in the Town of Markham;
- Altona Road in the City of Pickering;
- North of Finch Ave. in the City of Toronto; and
- 9th Line in the Town of Markham.

Your co-operation in completing the survey is very much appreciated and will be an important part of our efforts to successfully complete this project.



Hand washing best control, expert says

From page 1.

prepared to handle another outbreak of SARS and other infectious diseases.

"I think (SARS) was a wake-up call, evaluating what we've got, what's been done and what we have to do differently. If people think this was a blip on the radar screen and now we're over it, I think that would be a very big mistake."

But at York Central Hospital, closed for 20 days due to an internal outbreak of SARS, some doctors are cautioning there's no need to over-react.

Dr. Hy Dwosh, clinical director of the intensive care unit, wrote an article this month in the Canadian Medical Association Journal with three other physicians detailing the SARS experience at York Central. He was also part of a team of doctors who wrote an article for the Journal of the American Medical Association outlining the outbreak at hospitals in the Greater Toronto Area.

While he agrees proper infectious disease controls are an important part of any hospital's operations, Dr. Dwosh believes there's no reason to make radical alterations.

"Ninety per cent of infection control is hand washing. That doesn't mean rinsing finger tips through the water. It means at least 30 seconds of proper lathering."

Dr. Dwosh would also like to have negative air pressure rooms at York Central and a better system to track patients between hospitals. He also agreed using masks, gowns and gloves, if someone is known to have an infectious respiratory disease, helps prevent the spread of the illness.

Mr. Carriere doesn't believe implementing stringent controls is over-reacting, comparing the situation hospitals face because of SARS to the aftermath of terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

"Where do you draw the line on 9/11? Is there ever going back to pre-9/11 days? No, we're living in a new world," he said.

"In health care, we're living with a new awakening. We really have to err on the side of safety. Not to do so is exposing our staff and patients and community to risk that is avoidable."

Markham/Stouffville Hospital president Dr. Jim MacLean agreed hospitals need to assume anyone coming to their emergency rooms may be carrying an infectious disease.

"I think we've learned a lot from the SARS outbreak and we will need to make changes to some of our policies and even to our physical plants," said Dr. MacLean, who argued the outbreak proved how thinly hospitals and medical staff are stretched.

"Obviously, we were not prepared for a major outbreak. We don't have the physical resources, supplies and even staffing."

Meanwhile, Dr. Dwosh accused public health authorities of over-reacting during the SARS outbreak.

West Nile virus: Preventing bites.

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