

Centre would be 'focal point'

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-date flea markets and bazaars. It would be a focal point for festivals and community events, for an open-air cafe or a farmers market.

Consultants from Novita estimate about 36 per cent of residents would attend professional performances, 22 per cent would attend festivals and 20 per cent would patronize theatre performances.

SUPPORT FOR PROGRAMS

Based on Statistics Canada information, the consultants also estimate that 18 per cent of the town's residents would go to popular music concerts, nine per cent would attend classical music performances, eight per cent would frequent dance recitals and performances, and another eight per cent would go to children's performances.

The new centre will also serve as a focal point to help revitalize the downtown core and as a link to Civic Square and Memorial Park, which itself is slated to undergo major upgrades and expansion.

About 73 per cent of the programming would be arts-related. That's the conclusion the Hennessy and Associates consultants reached after speaking with local service clubs, arts, culture and heritage groups, businesses, public institutions and sports associations.

About 80 per cent of the facility's time slots would be booked in its first year of operation and more than 90 per cent by the fifth year. The building would be used almost 100 per cent during weekends and weekday evenings.

A board of management would be responsible for programming the building and covering expenses. In the first year, revenues are anticipated to be more than \$97,000, rising to close to \$127,000 by the fifth year.

Half of the cost is anticipated to be funded by the town, a quarter will come from grants and the rest from community fundraising.

A fundraising campaign could succeed, 79 per cent of respondents said, according to the Hennessy report.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL

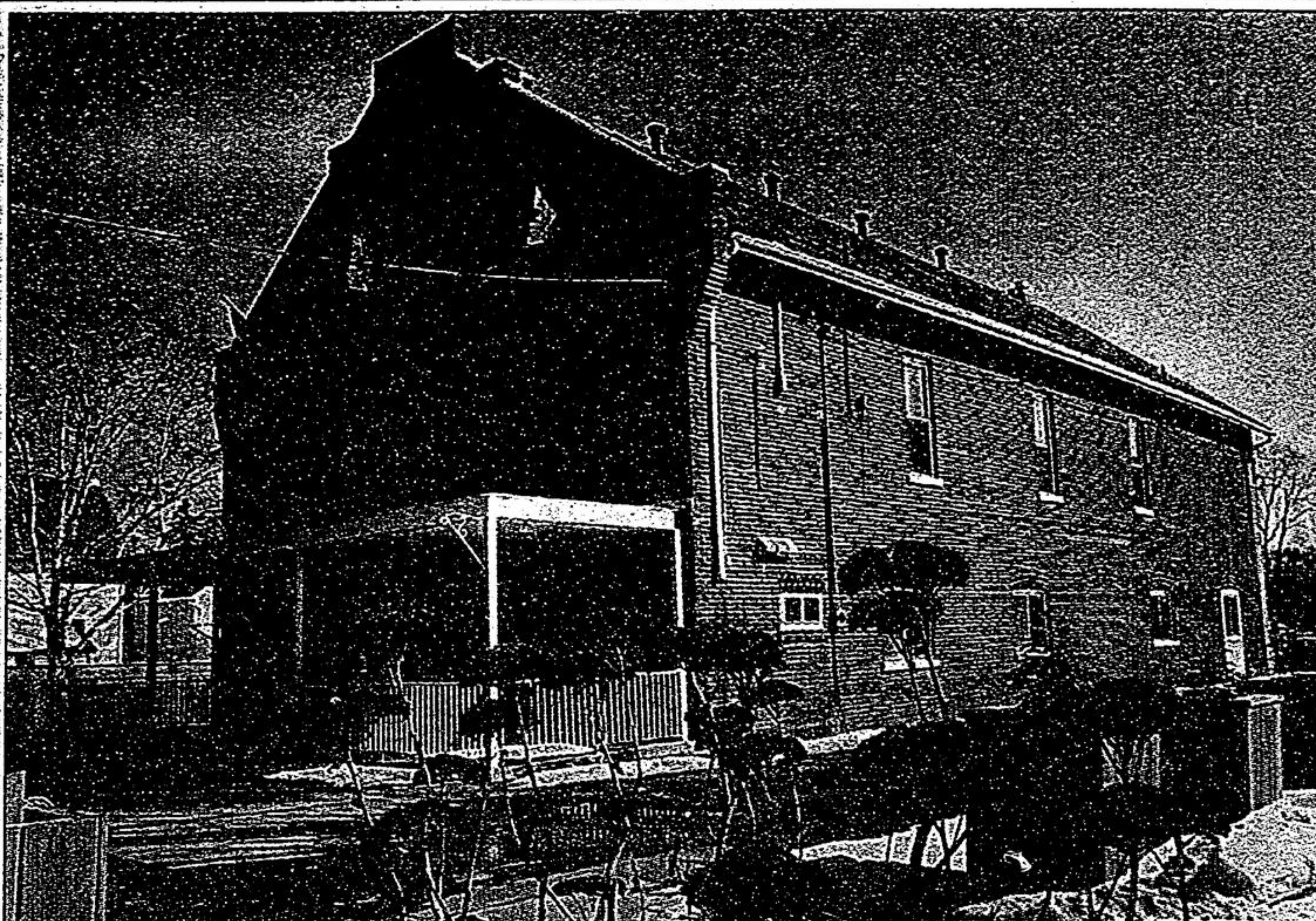
The previous council also gave the town a mandate of looking for space for a large theatre at another location.

Everyone is welcome to attend Tuesday's meeting.

If you want to speak at the meeting, e-mail comments to the town clerk at michele.kennedy@townofws.com in advance.

Individuals can speak for a maximum of eight minutes, while groups of five are allowed 10 minutes.

The council chambers are on the fourth floor, 37 Sandford Dr. Call the town offices at 905-640-1900.



STAFF PHOTOS/JOERD WITTEVEEN

The future of Stouffville's old town hall could be decided after a council meeting Tuesday night.

Theatre group not a fan of plans

The York Durham Academy of the Performing Arts needs more than 150 seats in a performing arts centre, not the 120 that are proposed for 19 Civic Ave. in downtown Stouffville.

If the smaller theatre plan goes through, YDAPA won't be able to use the facility. It would have to go to another facility or even another community.

That's what the non-profit youth theatre company stated in a letter to Mayor Wayne Emerson and Whitchurch-Stouffville councillors Thursday.

The theatre company was started by Stouffville resident Wayne Hill five years ago.

YDAPA wants a large theatre with proper lighting and room for a small band or orchestra to

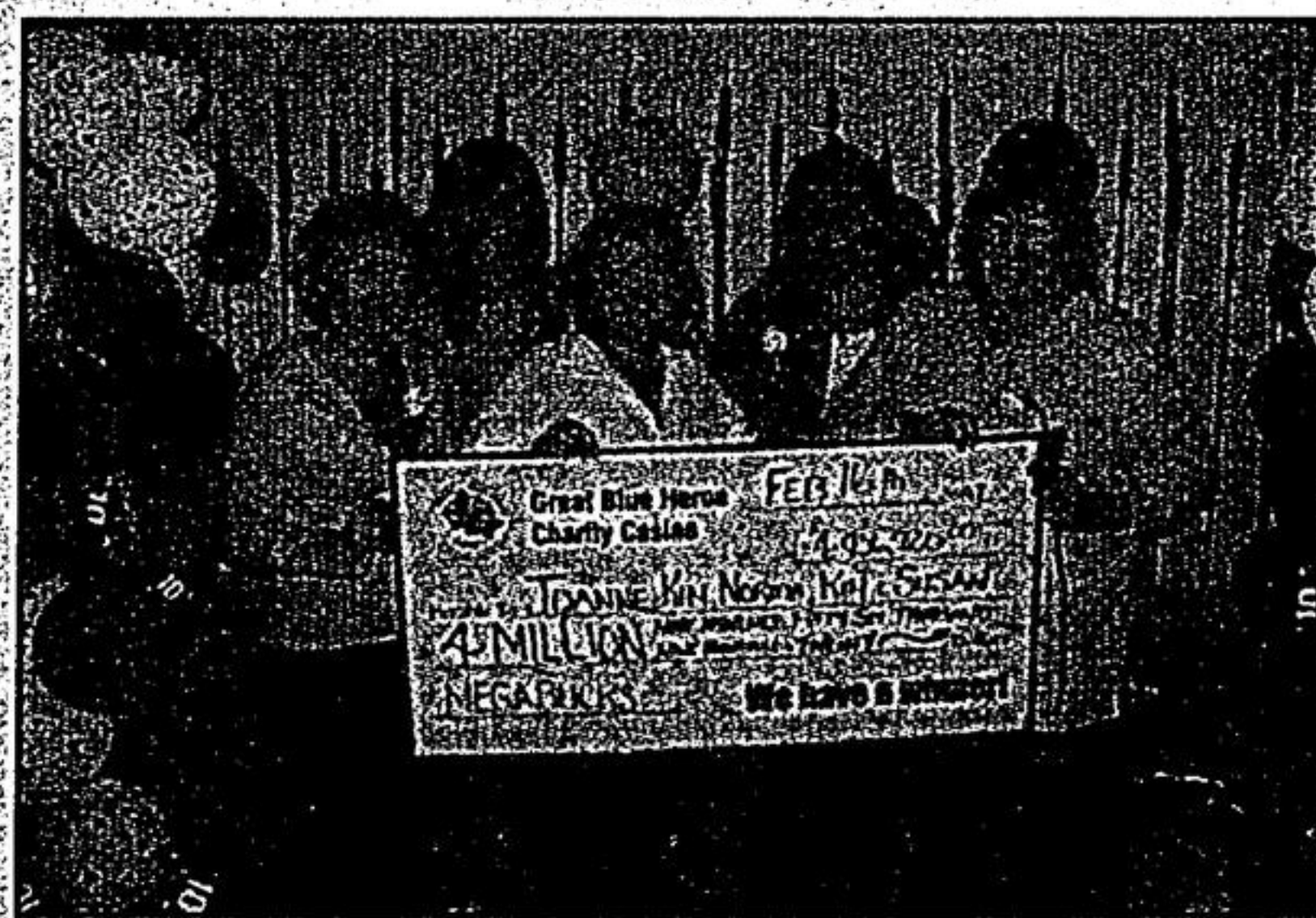
accompany the actors. "YDAPA is more than willing to work with staff, architects, consultants and other performing artists in town to create what could be an extremely charming and intimate performance space at 19 Civic Ave.," the letter stated. "The present design does not meet our needs," it said.

—Hannelore Volpe

Luck Be Five Ladies This Night \$4.95 Million Jackpot Won At Great Blue Heron Charity Casino

Port Perry, ON

We all have dreams of winning the big one, and for Joanne McLeod, Norma Lewis-Lamoureux, Kim Clowes, Kim Potts and Susan Potts, five of seven sisters, their dream was turned into a reality at the Great Blue Heron Charity Casino. On Friday, February 16th 2007 each of the ladies left the Great Blue Heron Charity Casino almost One Million Dollars richer, representing their share of over \$4.9 Million Dollars won while playing the Megabucks Wide Area Progressive Slot Machines.



The sisters were on a girl's weekend when Joanne McLeod hit the Megabucks jackpot at 11:01PM. The "Life Altering" payout of \$4,956,920.00 was a Great Blue Heron Charity Casino record, dwarfing the previous record set by Ken Morris on September 6th, 2006 when Ken won \$2,056,353. This was also another milestone for the casino as it was the third time the Megabucks jackpot has been won at the Great Blue Heron, and the third largest Megabucks jackpot ever in Ontario. Megabucks is a progressive prize slot machine that links all commercial and charity casino sites within Ontario.

These wonderfully effervescent ladies intend on using a portion of the money to build a larger house for their niece to help raise her six children.

"This is amazing. This is going to be life changing, I'll pay my bills & help my girls". My daughter will now no longer have to work three jobs", beamed Susan Potts.

Kim Potts said that her husband would

now get his dream corvette.

"I was at your fair establishment... when the lady won the big one-Megabucks! What a hoot!" exclaimed a Great Blue Heron Charity Casino patron in attendance the night of the win.

"We are so excited for these wonderful ladies," says Director of Slot Operations Stacy Millar. "This record jackpot is a great win and we couldn't be happier for them".

The Great Blue Heron Charity Casino recently celebrated its 10th anniversary and is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week and features 535 slot machines and 60 table games. The casino is located just East of Port Perry, less than one hour Northeast of Metropolitan Toronto, and an easy 30-40 minute drive from Markham, Oshawa, Ajax, Pickering, Peterborough and Lindsay.



Truth or Dare

Believe none of what you hear, and half of what you read. This article, of course, being the exception.

If you had a penny for how many times you've heard, "that's the best price" you wouldn't have to worry about the cost of things, but you do.

This being the case, I dare you to compare what you're paying for your car insurance to what the lowest price really is.

Truth

Your insurance company has probably told you that you're a 6 or even a 10 star driver! You may be receiving a 10% discount for this, and a 5% discount for that. But, if these stars and discounts still mean you're paying double what you would with another company, who cares?

Dare

I dare you to compare. If you are really paying a great price for your car insurance, then you'll know. If you're not, you may have just saved yourself, possibly \$780, or more.



Lee Romanov
Insurance Expert

InsuranceHotline

InsuranceHotline.com's free search compares over 30 insurance company rates, instantly. On average, it could save you in the neighborhood of \$780.

Look At This Chart

Here's a rate comparison, done by the government, for over 30 insurance company rates, showing the lowest to highest rate quoted. Note the spread between these rates.

DRIVER PROFILES	LOWEST	HIGHEST
19 Years-Old	\$5,639	\$13,024
1 Ticket & Accident	\$2,291	\$14,247
2 Drivers	\$2,703	\$7,302
Clean Record	\$882	\$2,590

This rate comparison shows over \$11,000 difference between insurance company rates for the exact same driver. Most drivers are insured with companies whose rate falls somewhere in the middle of this spread.

Dare to Compare

In fact, I've seen many "good drivers" pay more than drivers with tickets or an accident simply because they never did a quick rate comparison through the free service offered by InsuranceHotline.com.

Truth or dare. I dare you to find the truth. Are you overpaying by \$100's, even \$1,000's for your car, home, or life insurance? Find out by going to InsuranceHotline.com.

Looking for a new car?
Check out our Road Test Library.

