

Stouffville Sun-Tribune

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at Lemonville church event

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Couple rings in new year with their first child

Mom figured she
was having a girl

BY SANDRA BOLAN
Staff Writer

Little Teanna Tsirigotis arrived at 8:25 a.m. on Jan. 1, making her Stouffville's first baby of 2009.

Teanna, who weighed in at seven pounds, 14 ounces, is also the first child for Jenny and Peter Tsirigotis.

"Words can't even explain how exactly it is," Mr. Tsirigotis said. "It's a life-changing experience."

Throughout Mrs. Tsirigotis' pregnancy, friends and family were convinced the couple was going to have a boy.

Mom knew otherwise, without medical confirmation.

"I just had an inkling it was a female because of how I carried," she said.

Teanna was actually due on Dec. 31, but was born via C-section a day later.

"We're just blessed that she came," Mrs. Tsirigotis said. "They say how you spend your New Year's day is how you will be spending the rest of your year."

For the Tsirigotis family, that means changing a lot of diapers.

Markham's Joshua Parsa, born 10 seconds after midnight, was the first baby born at Markham Stouffville Hospital in 2009.



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Jenny and Peter Tsirigotis and their first child, Teanna, back at home in Stouffville. Teanna was born Jan. 1 at Markham Stouffville Hospital, the first baby from Stouffville born there in 2009.

5.9% tax hike proposed by town

Additional staff members
in departmental proposals

BY SANDRA BOLAN
Staff Writer

Whitchurch-Stouffville's draft budget proposes a 5.9-per-cent municipal tax hike, which translates into an increase of \$61 per household assessed at \$360,000.

"It's a draft budget only," Mayor Wayne Emmerson said at Tuesday morning's public release of the document. "Council now has an opportunity to go over this."

Previous budgets used an assessed home value of \$330,000. However, according to Marc Pourvahidi, Whitchurch-Stouffville's director of finance and treasurer, existing home values have actually increased by about 20 per cent. The new number takes into account newer homes.

The proposed budget calls for an overall operating budget increase of \$815,108, which includes a 212-per-cent increase in planning and building services. The department was created last November after the development services department was dissolved.

A 27-per-cent increase to the leisure services budget is also proposed, as is a 12-per-cent hike to the fire department and 10-per-cent to the administrative budgets.

A library grant increase of 15 per cent, or \$113,485, is also being proposed.

Various town departments have requested a total of 13 new staff positions for 2009 that includes four additional firefighters and two additional captains, which are required in order to provide around-the-clock staffing

See BUDGET, page 12.

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