

Stouffville Sun-Tribune

SATURDAY, JAN. 31, 2009 ■ SERVING THE COMMUNITY OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE ■ 16 PAGES/\$1 INCLUDING GST

3

Youth sports organizations prepare to take financial hit



Entertainment..... 4
 Character 5
 Sports 10
 Classifieds..... 13

No takers for free heritage building

150-year-old diner must go for wider road

BY SANDRA BOLAN
 Staff Writer

Free to a good owner: two-storey, 3,600-square-foot wood frame commercial building that currently houses a diner, sign business and three apartments.

The catch? The buyer must pay for the building's removal from its current location, at Hwy. 48 and Main Street, by April 30.

And there have been no takers and no calls, except from The Sun-Tribune for this story.

The freebie has been advertised in the local paper this month and a heritage publication in December.

The building is the home of Da Classic Scoop. The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville has decided to offer up the building, to any interested party, for free in an effort to save it, and so the municipality can move forward with the intersection's road widening and reconstruction project.

"That's ground-breaking because we haven't seen an incentive like this before," said Gleya Beatty, co-chairperson of the Whitchurch-Stouffville heritage advisory committee.

"We'd like to see somebody come forward and take the building," said Paul Whitehouse, the town's director of public works.

Although the municipality will not dictate where the building be moved to, if someone were to purchase it, keeping it in Ring-

See N0, page 7.

YORK REGION CEOS SEEK \$22M, OR \$60 PER REGIONAL TAX BILL

Will you pay new hospital tax?

BY DAVID FLEISCHER
 Staff Writer

If we don't do it, no one will.

A majority of regional councillors reached that conclusion at a special council meeting Thursday, realizing there was no choice but to use property taxes to fund our hospitals' growing needs.

Representatives from each of York's hospitals, as well as Vaughan's

planned hospital, made presentations asking for a tax levy which would give them \$22 million a year, starting this year, adding \$60 to the average tax bill.

Passionate debate filled a packed committee room and while everyone supported the hospitals, not everyone was happy about having to fill a gap which should be the province's jurisdiction.

One after another, local hospital CEOs explained why they need the region to contribute nearly \$500 million over the next 18 years.

"The time is ripe now. We have to build," Markham Stouffville Hospital CEO Janet Beed said.

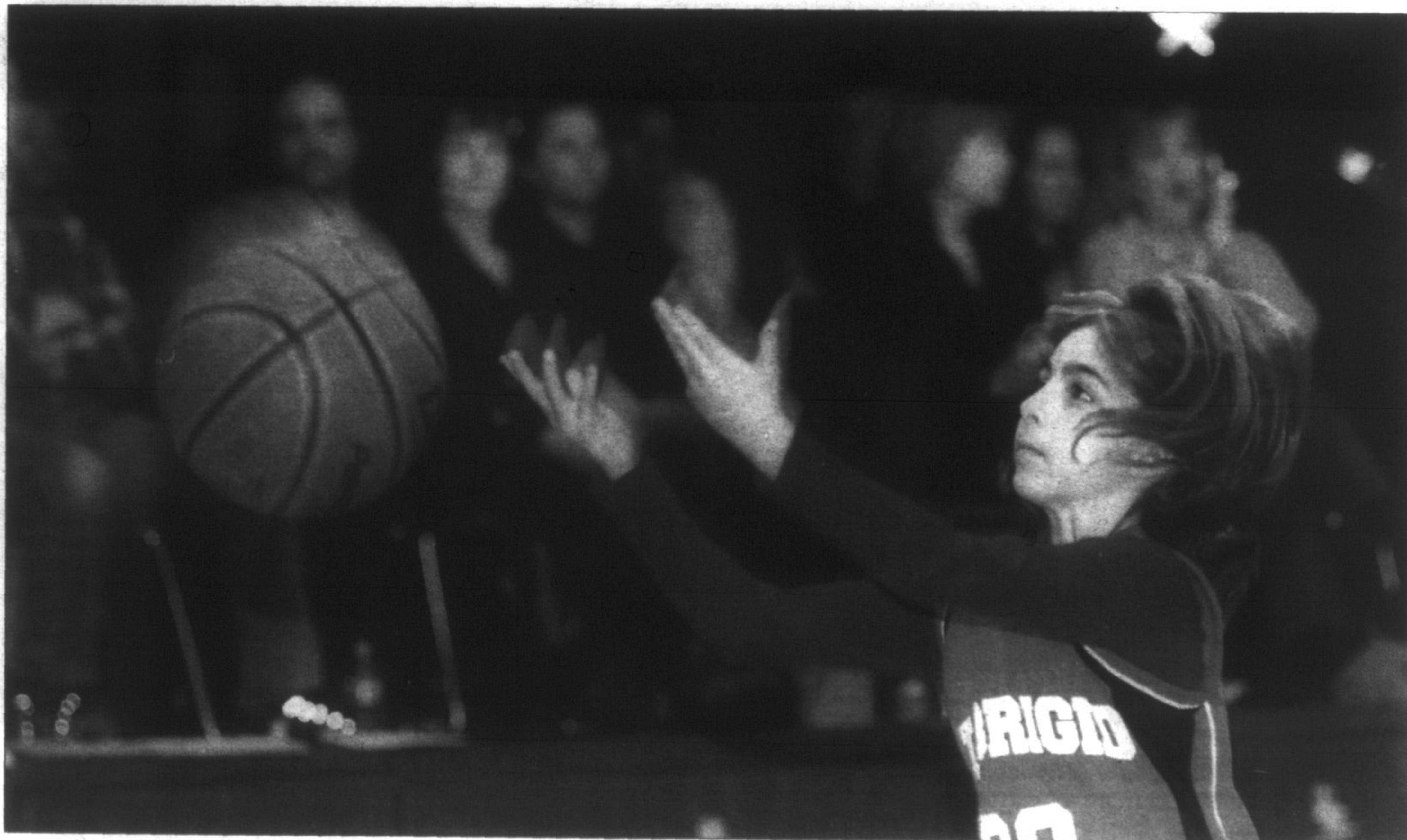
Ms Beed presented plans to spend \$400 million, almost doubling the size of a hospital serving triple the population for which it

was designed.

They need \$110 million raised locally and, if all goes according to plan, can have shovels in the ground next year and be operational by 2014.

Aside from construction, the expansion brings 875 new jobs, including 66 physicians.

See EMERGENCY, page 7.



NOTHING BUT NET

STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Samantha Tomei, 11, a Grade 6 student at St. Brigid Catholic School, fires away during the Knights of Columbus' 15th annual Whitchurch-Stouffville free-throw competition at St. Mark Catholic School Wednesday. For more information and an additional photograph, see page 10.

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Boston Pizza® UPCOMING EVENTS

<p>UFC Saturday, January 31st 9 p.m.</p>	<p>St. Marco vs. Penn</p>	<p>SUPERBOWL PARTY Sunday, February 1st 4 p.m.</p>	<p>VALENTINE'S DAY Saturday, February 14th Home of the Heart Shaped Pizza!</p>
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