

Stouffville Sun-Tribune

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Pool/library marriage 'embraced' 10 years later

Mayor 'lost friends ... but had to do what was best'

BY SANDRA BOLAN
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It was constructed to bring two different parts of the community together.

The building that houses the Lebovic Leisure Centre and Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Library did just that, but it also divided the community.

"It was very disappointing. I lost a lot of friends because of this. But I had to do what was best for the community," said Mayor Wayne Emmerson, who was also mayor when the facility was built. "People didn't respect what I had to do. I had a job to plan for the future of the town."

"Really, it tore the town apart; it was devastating," said Sue Sherban, a future mayor who was on council at the time.

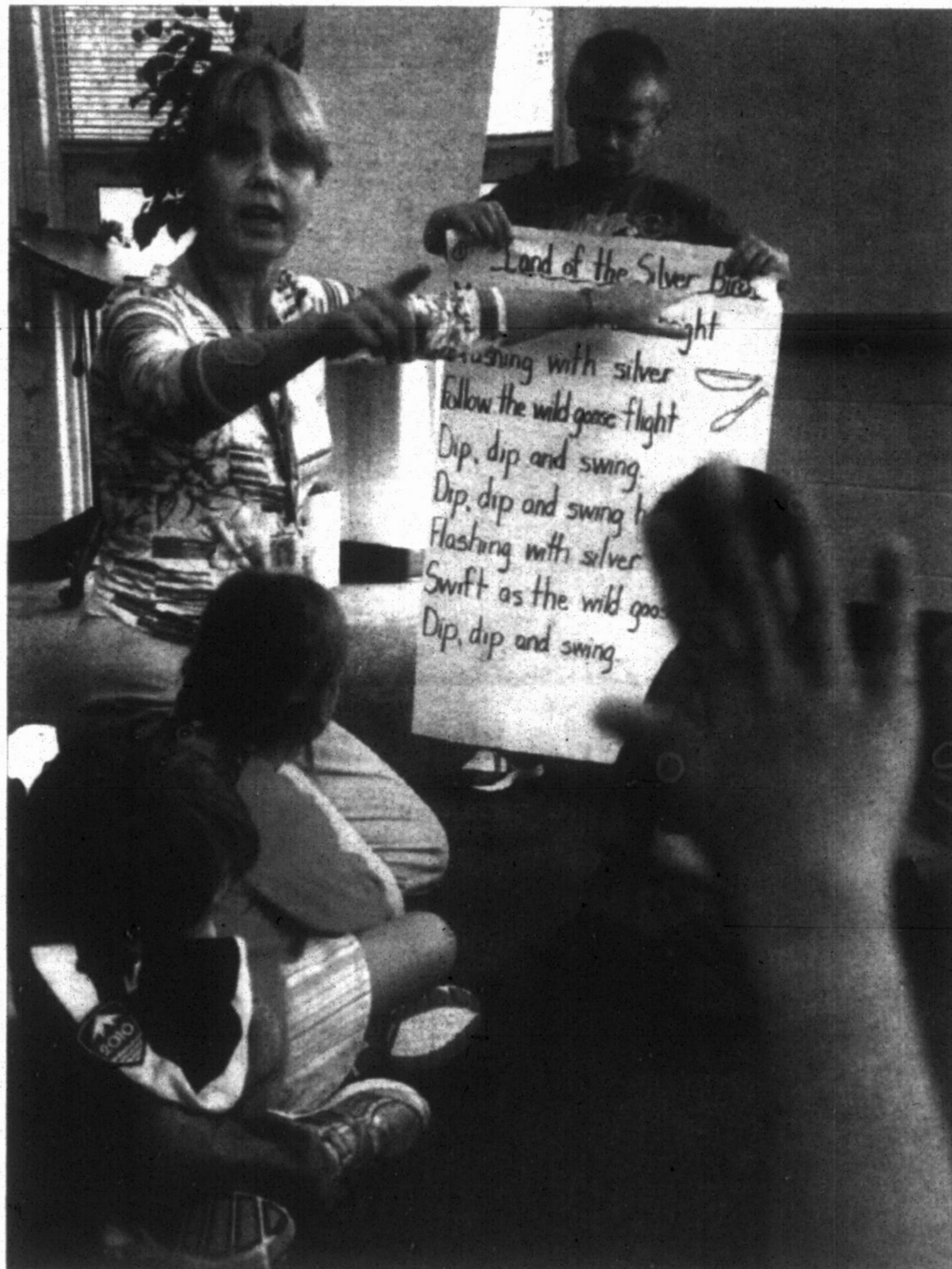
That was 10 years ago and despite the public outcry against combining the library and indoor pool, it has become the centre of the community - literally and figuratively.

"It's nice to see what council had approved 10 years ago is working today," Mr. Emmerson said.

"I'm so proud to say when

See FACILITY, page 15.

THEY'RE BACK



STAFF PHOTO/STEVE SOMERVILLE

Music teacher Nancy Clark, with help from lyric holder Jesse Broney, leads a Grade 1 class at Summitview Public School in song on the first day of school Tuesday.

MURDER VICTIM 'GOOD GUY'

E. Gwillimbury senior's remains found on Warden Ave. last week

BY JOE FANTAUZZI
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Those who encountered Peter Gavin described him as a nice, shy man who kept to himself, but was friendly if you bumped into him.

York Regional Police confirmed Tuesday that human remains, reportedly a skull, found in Whitchurch-Stouffville Aug. 27 are those of Mr. Gavin, 67, of East Gwillimbury, who is believed to have been missing about two months before police were called.

The remains were found by a resident in a rural area of Whitchurch-Stouffville near Warden Avenue and St. John's Sideroad.

Gerald Draper, who said he has known the family for decades, purchased cattle from Mr. Gavin several years ago and rented part of Mr. Gavin's property, on Kennedy Road north of Boag Road, to grow crops such as corn and soybeans.

"He seemed like an awful nice guy to me," Mr. Draper told yorkregion.com.

Mr. Draper said he last saw Mr. Gavin toward the end of June while removing a tree from the East Gwillimbury man's property.

Healthy, he lived alone after his mother and brother died, but rarely left his home after retiring, he added.

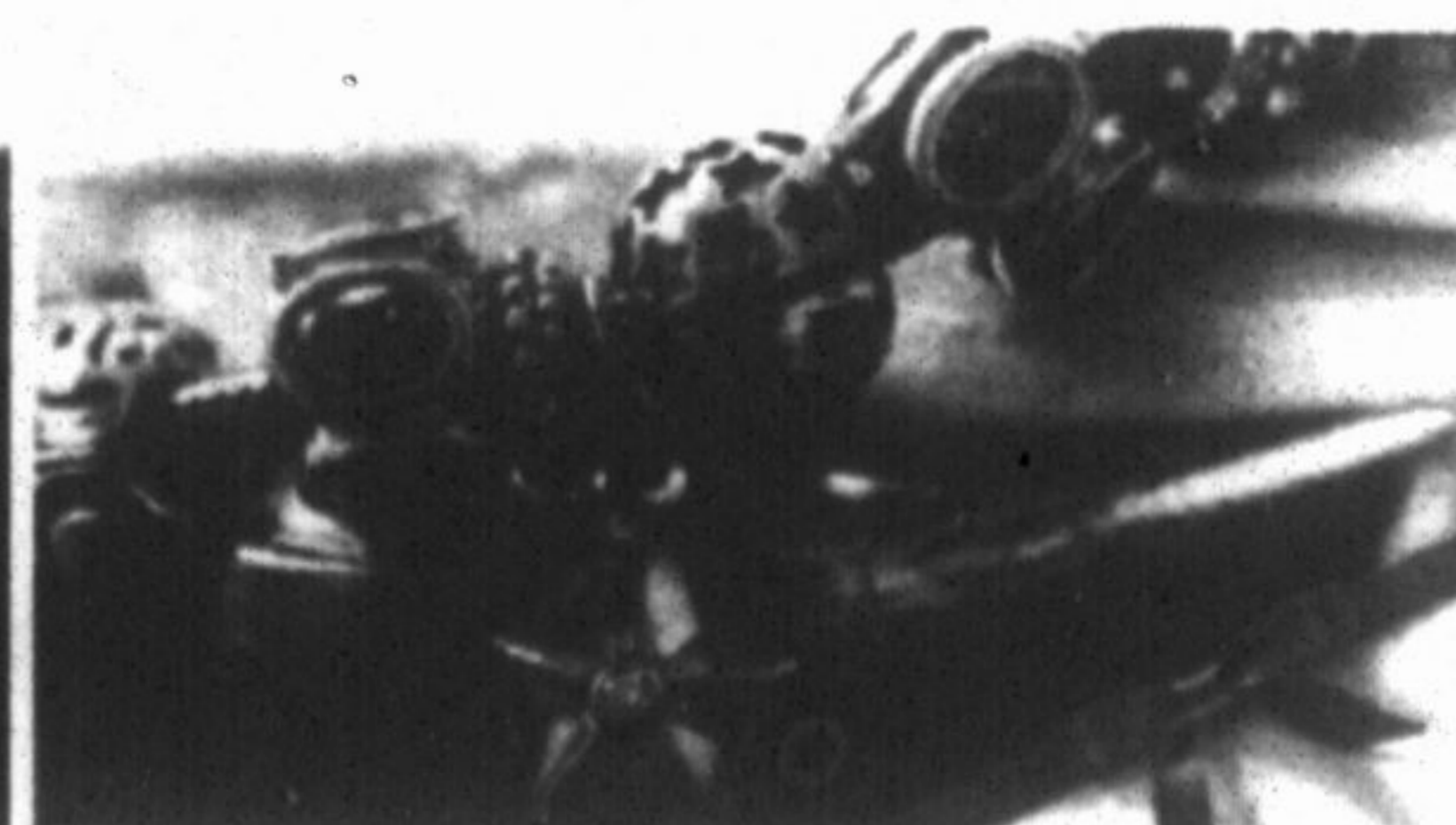
Mr. Draper noted Mr. Gavin had money in bonds to supplement his income and now wonders if someone broke into Mr. Gavin's

See ME, page 14.

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