

Letters to the editor

Reader defends board against criticism

Dear Sir,
In last week's paper W. B. Hartshorne criticizes the Ballantrae Community Centre Board for its improper administration of the centre. Council, according to Mayor Ratcliff, has faith in the decisions the board makes.
As written in the Ontario Community Centres Act "The board of a community centre may make such rules as it deems necessary relating to the management and control thereof and may fix such charges for the use of the community centre as it deems advisable." Council was quite right in supporting the board.

Under Regional Government our taxes are now pretty equal across the whole of Whitchurch-Stouffville and so recreational facilities should be more equally balanced, when at all possible. One way of getting some balance is with our new lighted softball diamond and an outdoor skating rink. Unfortunately, our water pressure is insufficient for proper flooding nor do we have enough volunteer manpower to flood the rink. As a result, last year we had no rink. With Works Dept. help we were trying to remedy the situation. We're still going to try to get a rink in this year.

The efficient operation of a community centre is important if our taxes are not to go even higher. When working out the yearly budget for council, we must not only work out a general operating budget and capital expenditures but we must also estimate our assets for the coming year. These assets include donations and rentals. Certainly we are not making a profit when our rentals are much lower than our general operating budget.

It has always been the policy of this board and past boards that children's groups such as cubs, brownies, baseball and youth groups use the centre free of charge. We want to encourage, not discourage, these groups to continue operating. Since the centre caters basically to local people we don't feel the people in the southwest area of the town should subsidize us completely. Even council pays a rental fee when it uses the centre for any civic meetings. We, by paying a rental fee, can contribute toward the continued operation of the centre just as others rent and support Latham Hall, Vandorf Hall, the swimming pool and other community buildings.

Perhaps Mr. Hartshorne would like to see us charge all groups the same amount of rent so that we might no longer have cubs and brownies or any other groups which use the centre on a weekly basis.

May I extend an invitation to Mr. Hartshorne and any others who might have any questions—Come to a board meeting and find out what is going on, or put your name on the agenda so you can air your problems. By attending a few meetings, you may find out some of our problems as well.

Thank you for your time and space in The Tribune.

Eileen Gayton
Treasurer
Ballantrae Community Centre Board

May I clarify one point. It has always been the policy of the W-S Community Centre Board to let the young people of the Community, such as cubs, brownies, youth clubs, etc. use the hall FREE — and that policy is still carried out.

Mr. Hartshorne will be happy to know what the new lighting he refers to at the Community Centre is coming out of a Provincial Grant that his Board had the foresight to apply for and was fortunate enough to get.

Jack Wedley,
Chairman,
W-S Community Centre Board.

P.S. If Mr. Hartshorne is anxious to keep our taxes down would he please volunteer to flood the rink at the centre this year — I found it to be a pretty cold job!

J.W.

Councillor claims remarks misquoted

I am writing with regard to a letter which appeared in the Tribune last week from Mr. W. Hartshorne, protesting the rental fees charged at the Ballantrae Community Centre, and your article reporting my comments on this letter. I feel that you have misquoted me, and would like to clarify my position on this matter.

First of all, the comments I made were not in support of Mr. Hartshorne's objection, but were made to clarify the situation. I prefaced my statements by saying that some factions in the community felt that all groups using the Centre should be charged rent, and some felt that no one should be charged rent. In fact, the policy of the Ballantrae Community Centre is that all groups are charged the same rental except those few that offer a community service, but are not economically independent (such as Cubs and Brownies). It could be pointed out that when the Municipality wishes to use these facilities for Planning Board meetings or for polling stations for Municipal Elections, it is charged the same rental fee as all other groups.

The rate schedule is established, not to make a profit, but to offset some of the financial burden of maintaining the Centre, by those who wish to use it. Certainly no profit is made.

Mr. Hartshorne suggests that all taxpayers should use the building free. This may sound well in theory, but would not be practical. The Town subsidizes many activities, such as hockey, baseball, swimming, etc. If this logic were applied, all these activities would be free to all taxpayers, and the cost to the Municipality would be horrendous. Subsidies or grants for activities or Community Centres are, in my opinion, a base from which these programs can be made available to the public; however, the balance of the expense must be borne by those who choose to use these facilities or take part in these activities.

One has only to serve on a Community Centre Board, as I have for the past several years, to appreciate the difficulties which would arise from a policy as suggested by Mr. Hartshorne.

Although the Community Centre Boards in the Town are basically the same, the needs can differ slightly in the various localities. At present I believe that some Centres charge rent to everyone, and some give consideration to certain groups. None offer their facilities free of charge. I feel that the policy established by the Ballantrae Community Centre is a sound and just policy for all parties.

Jim Wong,
Councillor, Ward 2.

Editor's note: In the opinion of The Tribune Mr. Wong was quoted accurately. Mr. Wong made the statement that "Cubs and brownies are being charged. I'd like to see the situation remedied." This statement was interpreted by The Tribune as supporting Mr. Hartshorne's protest.

POWR, mayor urge public to take part

Dear Sir,
Your local council has taken a firm stand to close the dump site located on Hwy. 48, just north of the Stouffville water wells, because of the enormous potential danger it poses to all the residents in our area.

This action confirms the feeling of a vast majority of concerned citizens throughout the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville. Because the Ministry of the Environment and the operators of the dump site (York Sanitation) cannot give us full assurance that our water supply will not become contaminated by the continued operation of this dump site.

You as concerned citizens are being given a last chance to make your wishes known by attending the hearing being held by the Environmental Hearing Board.

The Chairman of the Environmental Hearing Board stated in his opening remarks, "the board wishes to learn if this site was acceptable to the residents of Whitchurch-Stouffville." The will of the people can only be expressed when the people are concerned enough to speak out.

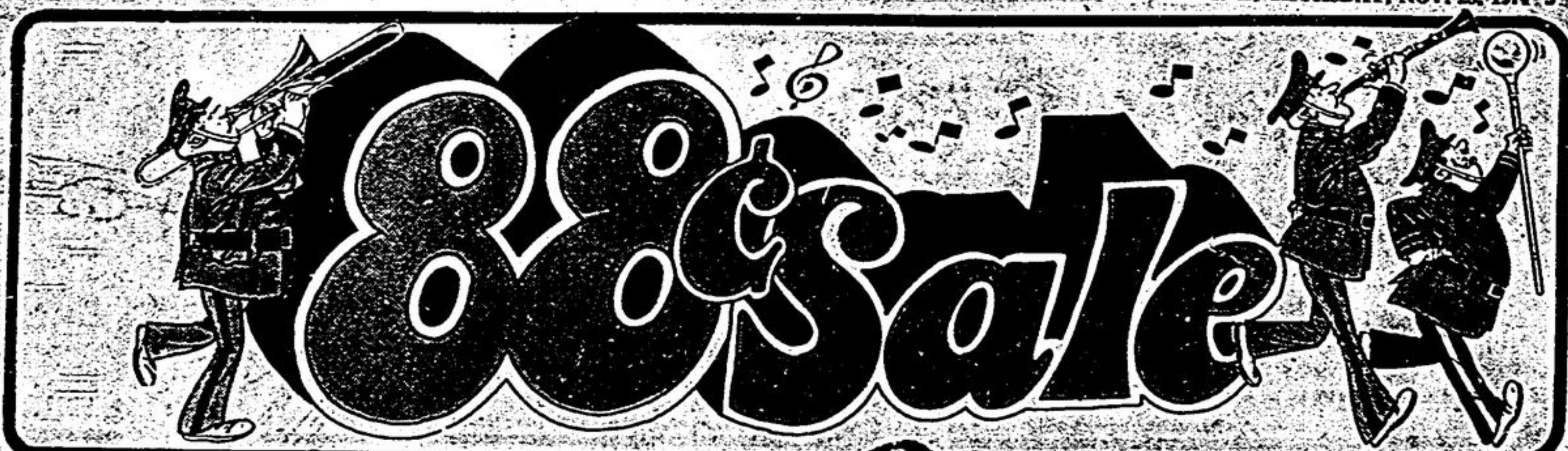
Make a special effort to attend this hearing and be sure that anyone in your household who is old enough to be concerned, also attends.

Tom Wood,
Chairman, POWR.

Dear Sir,
The POWR group is an association of concerned citizens who have volunteered their time and efforts to close the dump. They are not a politically oriented group. They consist of members of all political parties, bound together for a common cause.

The activities of the POWR group are intended to support our own council in this matter. Council fully endorses the activities of the POWR group.

Gordon Ratcliff,
Mayor.



(NON-RETURNABLE)
Coca-Cola
3 26-FL. OZ. BTLs. **88¢**

OLD SOUTH FROZEN
100% PURE FROM FLORIDA CONCENTRATED
Orange Juice
2 12-FL. OZ. TINS **88¢**

IGA FANCY
Apple Sauce
3 14-FL. OZ. TINS **88¢**

OREO, FUDGE-O OR CHIPS A-HOY
Christie's Biscuits
16-OZ. PKG. **88¢**

FRESH FOR FLAVOUR
FLORIDA MARSH SEEDLESS RED OR WHITE
Grapefruit
10 SIZE 48'S FOR **99¢**
SWEET & JUICY, FLORIDA
Tangelos
2 SIZE 120'S DOZ. **88¢**
CRISP, PRODUCE OF U.S.A. NO. 1 GRADE
Celery Stalks SIZE 24'S BUNCH **39¢**
FLAVORFUL, PRODUCE OF U.S.A.
Spinach 3 16-OZ. PKGS. **\$1**
CRISP, LOCAL GROWN CANADA FANCY GRADE
McIntosh Apples 3-LB. BAG **69¢**

FRESH! Pork Roasts
SHOULDER PORTION **69¢ LB.**
BUTT PORTION **79¢ LB.**
FRESH Butt Pork Chops 99¢ LB.
MEATY PORK Side Spare Ribs 99¢ LB.
LAZY MAPLE OR PAN DANDIES
Pork Sausage 1-LB. PKG. **88¢**
ECONOMICAL & NUTRITIOUS
Pork Liver 2-LBS. **88¢**
DEVON RINDLESS SLICED
Side Bacon 1-LB. PKG. **\$1.19**
McQUAIDES (2 PIES PER PKG.) STEAK, CHICKEN OR PETITE TOURTIERE
Meat Pies 2 8-OZ. PKGS. **88¢**
SWIFT'S PREMIUM (5 VARIETIES)
Sandwich Spread 2 8-OZ. CHUBS **88¢**
SWIFT'S PREMIUM "OLD WORLD"
7-VARIETIES
Salami Chubs 20-OZ. CHUB **\$1.59**

FACELLE ROYALE (ASST'D. COLORS)
Bathroom Tissue (2-PLY) 4-ROLL PKG. **88¢**
CARNATION
Coffee-Mate 11-OZ. JAR **88¢**
FANCY (ASST'D. VARIETIES)
Aylmer Soups 4 10-FL. OZ. TINS **88¢**
JIFFOAM (PP. 1.09) 14-OZ. AERO TIN **88¢**
KELLOGG'S
Rice Krispies 17-OZ. BOX **88¢**
CLAIRE REGULAR & ALL SHEER OR QUEEN SIZE (POPULAR SHADES)
Pantyhose ONE SIZE FITS ALL PKG. **88¢**
NORMAL, DRY OR OILY
Breck Shampoo 7-FL. OZ. BTL. **88¢**
DILL, HERB & SPICE OR ONION
Kraft Ready-Dip 2 8-OZ. TUBS **88¢**
PILLSBURY QUICK
Crescent Rolls 2 8-OZ. PKGS. **88¢**
FBI PURE UNSWEETENED
Grapefruit Juice 2 32-FL. OZ. BTLs. **88¢**
RIO CHOICE FROZEN SLICED
Strawberries 2 15-OZ. PURE PAK CONTS. **88¢**
CHUN KING FROZEN, CHICKEN & PINEAPPLE
Sweet & Sour Breaded Shrimp or Pepper Steak
Chinese Dinners 11-OZ. PKG. **88¢**

CHOICE
IGA Peas
3 19-FL. OZ. TINS **88¢**

HUNT'S
Tomato Sauce 5 7-FL. OZ. TINS FOR **88¢**
(ASSORTED FLAVORS)
Nestle's Puddings 2 3.5-FL. OZ. TINS FOR **88¢**
WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES

IGA HOMOGENIZED
Peanut Butter
24-OZ. FREEZER JAR **88¢**

HUMPTY DUMPTY, REGULAR OR RIPPLE
Potato Chips 7-OZ. PKG. **59¢**
SOF.SPREAD
Imperial Margarine 1-LB. TUB **79¢**

Play ...
LUCKY PUCK
YOU COULD WIN **\$5 or \$10**
"LUCKY PUCK FEATURE"
TOP BREED (ASST'D. VARIETIES)
Dog Food
3 15-OZ. TINS **88¢**

Still more support for centre board

Dear Sir,
Hurrah for Mr. Hartshorne!
He's doing his best to get rid of the few hard-working volunteers we still have who give their time free to run our Ballantrae Community Centre.
If Mr. Hartshorne has his way they may all quit and then we can hire a full-time manager to run our busy community centre and then our tax dollars could go up.
My sincere thanks to our Ballantrae Community Centre Board for their hard work.
BARBARA COOPER
R.R. 2 Stouffville

Something seems to be rotten in Ward 2 race

Dear Sir,
What an incredible co-incidence that the Tribune should be printing three separate items criticizing the Whitchurch Centennial Centre Board in one issue (November 21), at this particular time!
Isn't it interesting that Ward 2 candidate Tom Wood just happens to be chairman of the Whitchurch-Stouffville Ratepayers Association, the group instigating the criticism! It couldn't possibly have any bearing on the fact that the other Ward 2 candidate happens to be the wife of the Centennial Centre Board's chairman, or could it?
TRUDY PARKER
R.R. 3, Stouffville

Board chairman defends policy

Dear Sir,
Mr. Hartshorne in his letter to your paper last week does not seem to understand the method by which Community Centre Boards operate. I would invite him to come to our next board meeting, and we will gladly explain to him why the present system "saves" the majority of taxpayers money.
For example, The Whitchurch-Stouffville Ratepayers Association, of which I am a member, have an average attendance of from 15 to 20 people at their meetings and comprise a membership of approximately 7 per cent of the residents of this area, and are charged only for expenses to cover heat, electricity and clean-up. The non-profit fee is \$15. for such meetings. Now if we let all groups such as this have the hall free we would have to ask Council for a "larger budget" — and then Mr. Hartshorne your taxes and the taxes of other residents who do not belong to such organizations might be affected.

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STOUFFVILLE-IGA
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