

# Black powder shoot at conservation dam

STOUFFVILLE — Pioneer days will come alive again with a bang at the Stouffville Conservation Dam site on Sunday, July 3, thanks to the Whitchurch-Stouffville Conservation Club.

In the afternoon from 2-5 p.m. there will be demonstrations of old fashioned outdoor skills in which the audience can participate.

The most spectacular, not to

mention noisiest, event will probably be the black powder shoot. The Tecumseh Ridge Runners will bring their muzzle loaders, both rifles and handguns, and give the public a chance to actually fire these old fashioned weapons. However, a cloth was instead of a lead ball will be used for ammunition.

The club will also demonstrate and teach the finer points of axe and knife throwing and the York County Bowmen will be on hand to give an archery demonstration. The Bowmen will also coach the spectators in how to shoot and give the public a chance to fire good, high quality bows.

Crosscut saws and the use of the hand axe and long axe will also be taught.

As a change of pace, there will be canoeing on the lake. Conservation club co-ordinator Ed Macdonald expects about 20 canoes, complete with instructors, will be available to teach the public the finer points of paddling. A small motor boat will also cruise the lake, in the interest of safety.

Less energetic pursuits have also been scheduled for the fainthearted. John Clark of Tottenham will teach firefighting, both by conventional methods and flint and steel, and there will be demonstrations of outdoor cookery. Several Conservation Club members will bake sourdough biscuits in front of an open fire and make hickory coffee.

"Sourdough biscuits and beans will be an interesting snack in the afternoon," commented Ed Macdonald.

All these activities will of course, be available free of charge. "Our only object is to demonstrate as many outdoor skills as possible and have the public fully participate," said Mr. Macdonald.



Sizing up the competition

Here are six of the 89 entries in the Centennial beard growing competition. Each face was closely shaved at the start, and will be judged on Friday July 1, at 3:30, for the fullest and most original

beard. From left to right, Cliff Aiken, Ed Macdonald, Paul Roney, Ed MacAloney, George Ross and Jim Rae. —Annegret Lamure

## Swimming pool inquest

# Chain link fence unacceptable

NEWMARKET — Chain link is not acceptable as a means of safely fencing backyard pools, a coroner's jury here has recommended.

The inquest, held last week examined the circumstances surrounding the death of Marcus Gerstung, a two-year-old who drowned in a backyard pool in Stouffville on March 15.

The boy was the only child of Manfred and Regina Gerstung of 81 Fairview Avenue, Stouffville.

Other recommendations by the jury included; yearly spotchecks by municipalities to see that fencing regulations are being adhered to; distribution of water safety information along with pool construction applications; pool preparations for winter involving the laying of boards across the pool and stretching netting across them; enactment of the Red Cross proposed water safety bylaw on a province-wide basis; and, fencing of pools in accordance

with Red Cross "kidproofing" suggestions.

The five-man jury made the recommendations after hearing two hours of testimony about the child's and similar deaths across the province.

Late in the afternoon of March 15, the child was allowed to cross the street to wait for older children returning from school.

Testimony showed that the boy apparently crawled under an eight-inch gap beneath the

gate in a fence surrounding the pool. He is believed to have slipped and fallen into the pool, where he was found face down in about a foot of icy water.

The child was located after a 30 minute search by neighbours, firemen and police. Efforts to revive him, both on the scene and at Scarborough Centennial Hospital, failed.

The pool's fence is about six feet high, with an eye-latch hook on the gate. It met the ground tightly in all places except for a drainage ditch that sloped back from the gate. The gap caused by fall-away of land is believed to be the space under which the boy crawled.

Pool owner Ken Schell, of 76 Fairview Avenue, testified that he had gone over a copy of the town's fencing bylaws, and believed that he had met the requirements. The fence had been erected by a previous owner of the home, who had had the pool installed.

Willis Wideman, one of Stouffville's two bylaw inspectors, testified that the pool satisfied all the town's requirements.

Although Stouffville has several fencing regulations, Mr. Wideman explained that he uses his discretion in making sure that the fences are safe, often stretching the spirit of the rules (See NEW STANDARDS Pg.3)



Over 100 professional hockey players were at the recently held golf tournament at Sleepy Hollow, which was held for the Participation House in Markham. At the tournament even the referees, who are overshadowed by the players, drew a big crowd of autograph seekers. Ron Wicks, above, a referee in the National Hockey League for a number of years, is shown patiently signing his name for the youngsters. For more pictures see page 11. —Keith Bolender

## West end subdivision plans rejected by board

STOUFFVILLE — Planning board again rejected a proposal to build a large subdivision in the west end of town.

Milton Hess and G. Courey presented a plan to build 700 units of housing.

The company owns almost 100 acres on the south side of Stouffville Rd. behind the Canadian Tire Store.

Proposed was the building of 159 single family houses, 86 semi-detached homes, 28 link houses, 78 units of town houses, and 372 apartment units, as well as a 46 acre industrial area.

The proposal would have housed in excess of 2,200 people, more than 33 people per gross acre.

Planning Chairman Eldred King explained why the town would not consider such an extensive plan. "Why should your client be permitted 30 persons per acre? when the Official Plan calls for 13 per acre?" he asked. Mr. King explained that the town was looking for something that would fit in with the Official Plan. "This is something way beyond plans for the area," he said.

The Temson representative pointed out that there was a pressing need for the kind of

accommodation that the company planned to build, but this did not seem to impress the councillors.

"We're not going to correct all the problems of humanity by cramming everybody on a 30 foot lot," was Mr. Kings response.

He was backed by Councillor Bill Kamps who said that people move out of Toronto to get away from crowding. "They want a country atmosphere," concluded Mr. Kamps, "your plan calls for moving a piece of Toronto to Stouffville."

Mr. King then pointed out that the development was totally premature since the official plan has not yet been finalized.

MARKHAM — Carl Keffer, of R.R. 1 Markham, is to say the least a little upset over the handling of the tenders for proposed renovation of the Box Grove public school, which will be turned into a community centre.

In last week's Markham Economist and Sun a story on the project appeared. It pointed out that the Box Grove Community Centre Board, in contravention of town policy, had only accepted invited bids on the tenders for renovations. It is town policy to have public tenders for bids over \$10,000. The renovations run in the \$50-\$60,000 price range.

Mayor Tony Roman said he personally didn't agree with the way the project was handled but he felt the Board acted in good faith.

However, Mr. Keffer had a different opinion. He contacted The Tribune last week and offered his opinions on the matter.

Mr. Keffer, who has done contract work on a number of town jobs and has been in the construction business for 20 years, commented on the part of the Markham story that said the bids were accepted without having complete set of plans or specifications.

In the story Board chairman Paul Raffensperger said members were anxious for work to start and that there was nothing unusual in accepting

bids on an incomplete set of plans.

Mr. Keffer, who was asked to submit a bid but turned it down said he had asked to see the tender plans but was refused because the board ruled that the plans were not complete. "How could they have contract prices without complete plans or specifications," Mr. Keffer asked.

Mr. Keffer claimed that the three bids handed in were by well known people that have board connections.

He felt the job should have been put out to public tenders because of the town's policy and also that companies are looking for work and bidding at cost to keep the firm going.

"I can't figure it out, why they wouldn't put it up for public tenders, it should have been," he said.

Mr. Keffer claimed that because the plans had not been specified the cost could increase and there could also be extra costs tacked on later.

In fact, after the bid was awarded a \$5,000 increase was added on for extra costs.

Mr. Keffer also voiced the opinion that there are other examples of work of poor quality that have cost the town a lot of money.

"The changing room at the Milne dam is one example. It cost the town \$22,000 to build it and it has already cost then an additional \$14 to \$15,000 four

years later to do repairs on it because it heaved and cracked in the winter months."

He also alleged that they will be heating the changing room in the winter months because of frost effects. Mr. Keffer claims that all his criticism and points can easily be proved and he is willing to do so at any time.

"I can and will prove it," Mr. Keffer commented.

He charged that no master plan had been provided for contractors on the community centre project to follow. He further claimed that the finalized plan fell short of requirements under the Ontario Building Code.

## Town book on sale

Jean Barkey's book on the history of Stouffville - called Stouffville Review, will go on sale next Tuesday, June 28 at numerous locations throughout the town.

The book, selling for \$14.95, is available at John Lord's book store; George

Ross studio; Morgan Jewellers, Deer Park Inn, the florist shop and the licence bureau.

It will also be sold on the July 1st Homecoming Weekend at the centennial committee booths in the park. For story on the book and Mrs. Barkey, see page 2.



Kathrina Tingley of Toronto, and Stan Burstein of Kansas City, yowl away for the North American Wolf Howling Championship at the Wolf

League picnic held at the Horton Tree Farm recently. Ms. Tingley was declared the better howler. For some real wolves, see page 15.

## Homecoming registration at old P.O.

STOUFFVILLE — The Silver Jubilee Club will have an information booth and registration for the Centennial program on Monday, June 27 through to Thursday, June 30, 9:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.

The volunteers will have souvenir programs, name tags, souvenirs and an accommodation list.

On July 1, the information booth will move down into the park.

To help out Stouffville residents who have moved out of town and are returning for the celebrations, the Jubilee club will be referred to as the old post office, as it once was. All town residents are requested to register early. Only those who sign up before the Homecoming Weekend will get the complimentary souvenir program.