

The Tribune

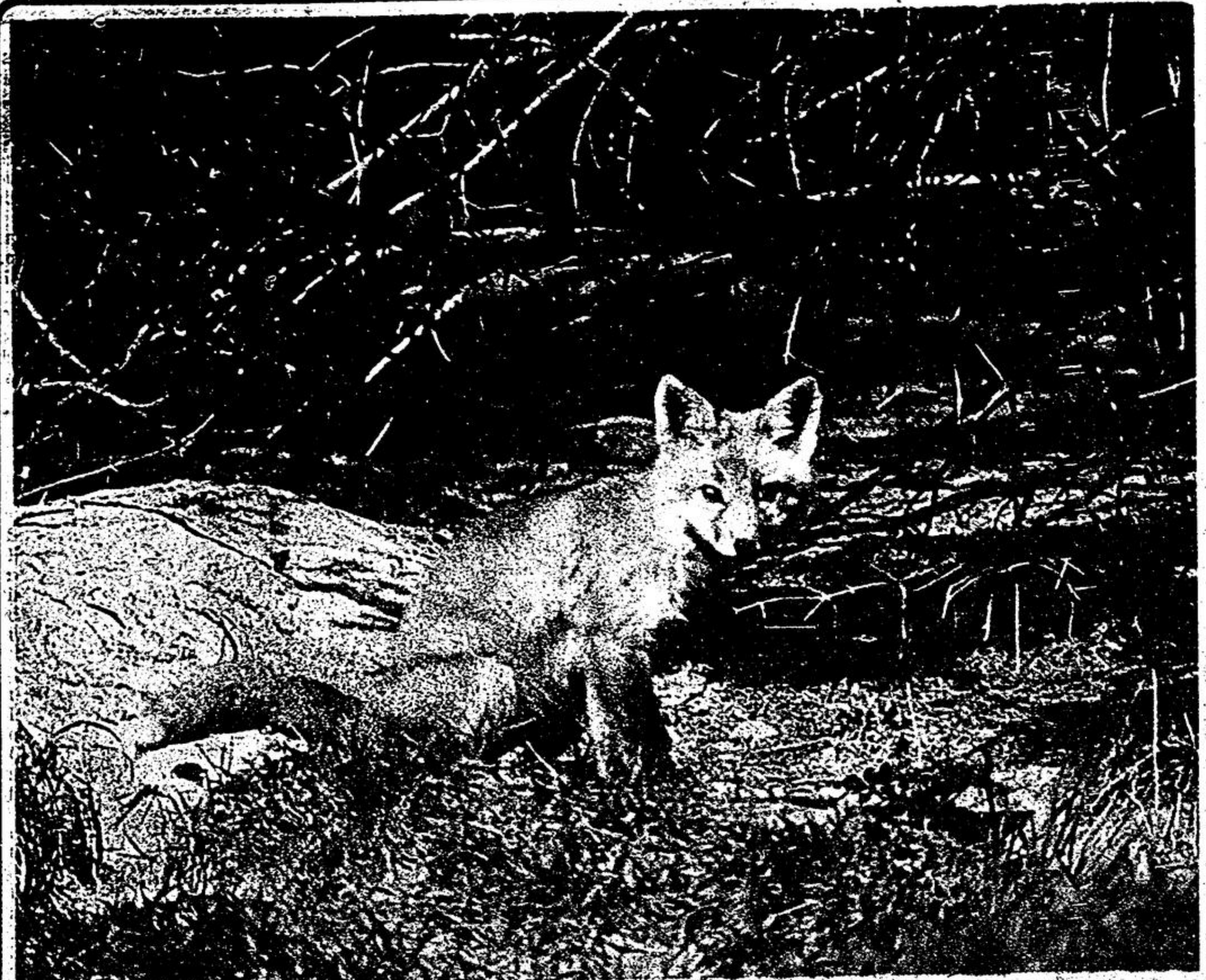
An Inland Community Newspaper

VOL. 93, NO. 49

WHITCHURCH—STOUFFVILLE, APRIL 2, 1981

25 CENTS

20 PAGES



Photographers hidden camera 'catches' shy fox

Few people ever see a red fox this close let alone have time to take its picture. Betty Pegg of RR 2, Claremont, spotted 'Reddy' in a field and promptly 'shot him' with her camera from the road. It's only one of many wildlife photos Betty's taken over the years.

Town fire fighting force accorded high priority

STOUFFVILLE — A modernization plan is in the works that, if carried through, will make Whitchurch-Stouffville's fire-fighting force as up to date as any in the Region.

Given top priority in Chief Walter Smith's 1981 budget is a new pumper, estimated to cost close to \$100,000. Also being considered, but not until 1982, is a new ladder truck or Telesquirt, similar to the one purchased recently by Markham and used in combating the blaze in the Adams' house here last December.

not expected until 1982 but provisions will be made to cover the cost, should it come in '81, he stated.

Mayor Eldred King said Chief Smith had advocated a Telesquirt as far back as two years ago. If Council approves the purchase, the expense would have to be debentured, he said. As for renovations to the station, he estimated the cost at \$130,000, a portion of which would be debentured and the remainder taken from lot fees.

Purchase of a new pumper, will set the stage for the creation of a fire sub-station in the area of Ballantrae-Musselman's Lake. At a meeting of Council, last week, Ward 2 member Tom Wood stressed the need for a start on something permanent in that community. Rented accommodation is likely at the start.

reduce its fire coverage area. At present, that municipality provides protection down to St. John's Sideroad, between Concessions 5 and 6.

Mayor King said Council had been awaiting the outcome of the proposed Schickedanz housing and industrial development at Ballantrae, but the project had "run into problems".

If the proposed fire service goes as planned, the project could become a reality early in 1982, Council revealed.

Pesky squirrels

'Tap' sap lines

BETHESDA — To most townfolk, squirrels are irritating creatures.

However, to maple syrup producers like Ray and Nel Atkinson, they're a nuisance.

They bite through the plastic hose, Ray explained, forcing continuous inspection of the line and replacement of damaged sections.

Ray doesn't think they're

after the sap so much as "just something to do". Unfortunately, he never sees them doing it or he'd be tempted to take steps to stop them. Last Saturday, for example, he only spotted one of the bushy-tailed rodents and he maintained a safe distance.

About twelve years ago, Ray began installing plastic tubing and he's been adding

some ever since. Over a four-week period, the Atkinson hard maple bush will produce about 200 gallons of syrup. Prices across the province range from \$19 to \$24 a gallon.

Ray says he tries to keep the cost to customers down because many who buy from him now, also bought from his father. The Atkinson property dates back through four generations, his grandfather, Richard; his father, Clarence and now his two sons, Terry and Kevin. The boys are a tremendous help, he says, with twelve-year-old Terry able to do all the jobs required.

Because it's a family operation, Ray hasn't the overhead faced by some producers. "If it wasn't for my wife and the boys, it would never pay", he admits.

The season began earlier than usual this year, near the end of February. When the buds begin to show, it's time to stop. The syrup goes off flavor.

Sugar bush tours are arranged with visitors young and old coming from as far distant as Scarborough, North York and Keswick. "Many of the city kids have never been on a farm," said Nel, "they really enjoy the wagon rides". The fee is 75 cents a child with a minimum of \$30 a group.

Tax increase?

STOUFFVILLE — A 1981 tax increase for Town purposes is a certainty, Mayor Eldred King told The Tribune this week, but by how much, is still unknown.

This year's budget won't be finalized until the end of April but as things stand now, the hike could be about \$20 to the average home-owner, the mayor said.

All budgets from individual boards are in but none has been discussed in detail.

The rate of inflation has to be considered, Mayor King said. However, apart from this, there will be added costs connected with road improvements, particularly around Musselman's Lake, sidewalk construction, parks and recreation.

Driver hurt

STOUFFVILLE — A Stouffville motorist was injured and property damage estimated at \$2,000 when two cars collided, Sunday, at the intersection of

Hwy. 7 and McCowan Road. Admitted to Scarborough Centenary Hospital with head lacerations was John White, 44, of 99 Booth Drive, Stouffville.

Recreation Complex? Arena's future concerns Board

STOUFFVILLE — The first phase of a recreation complex will be considered when the Arena Board meets, April 8, with an area engineering firm, to discuss the future of the present rink.

"The building's okay," Mayor Eldred King told The Tribune, "but the plant won't last forever". The Town, he said, had included "some type of recreation complex" in its 1982 capital cost forecast.

While the Arena Board will be placing recommendations before Council, Mayor King said he feels a new ice surface is a No. 1 priority with squash courts next in line. He said an indoor pool had not been mentioned.

"We should be moving on something," he agreed. If sufficient interest is generated, Mayor King feels the project can become a co-operative venture involving the municipality and the public.

Councillor Bill Kamps, a member of the Arena Board along with Mayor King, claims a brand new facility is required. "I can't see putting good money into an old building. You still

end up with an old building," he said.

"As far as I'm concerned, this is the only way to go," he continued. Councillor Kamps would like courts for squash or racket ball plus a second storey auditorium for meetings and dances. "I see it as a start to a recreation complex," he said.

The Ward 4 member wants the facility to be such that it can be used all year round. He also wants to be able to add on as funds become available. He described the pipes beneath the flooring as "like Irish lace".

"The manager (Don Lewis),

nearly has a hemorrhage every time he finds a leak".

Councillor Kamps sees no need for an indoor pool. "It would never pay," he said. He likened the present pool to "a bottomless pit". "You wouldn't believe the money we pour into it," he stated. Too many people have their own backyard pools to make it practical," he said.

However, he's optimistic concerning a new arena. "We need a project and I feel the people are ready. Some have been screaming for years and now they're going to get it— hopefully," he concluded.

Storm struck six years ago

STOUFFVILLE — Remember April 5, 1975? It was an event most people would like to forget. Nor do they want to be reminded of it again, April 5, 1981.

Six years ago, the area was hit by the worst spring

snowstorm on record. Hundreds of commuters were stranded, spending the night wherever possible. School buses picked up pupils early on the Thursday and were cancelled on Friday.

Winds of thirty miles per hour piled up huge drifts. Some homes at Ringwood were all but buried.

"If you were a skier, a polar bear or a penguin, you were in clover," commented an officer from the O.P.P. at Oak Ridges.

Mrs. Fred Greenfield of Markham keeps a diary on such things and brought the event to The Tribune's attention. She retained a clipping from that edition of the Toronto Star that described conditions in Metro. The snow's depth, on the level, was measured at 9.4 inches.

That was six years ago this Sunday. Keep your fingers crossed.

Prepare for Carnival '81

STOUFFVILLE — It only happens every other year so this makes the Stouffville Figure Skating Club Carnival all the more exciting.

On Friday, April 10 (at 8 p.m.) and Saturday, April 11 (two and 8 p.m.), more than 150 participants, from pre-schoolers to seniors, will display their talents.

The show's first half is entitled "Tom Sawyer"; the second half, "Miss Piggy Visits The Caravan". Tickets at \$3 adults and \$1.50 children, are available at Wilkes Clothes Shop, Morgans Jewellers and Ceramics 100. At the Saturday afternoon performance, admission for senior citizens is \$1.50.

The carnival chairperson is Agnes Faggiani. The producers are Jean Barclay and Barb Summerfeldt and the directors are professionals, Linda Belec, Michael Bradley and David Barnard. The master of ceremonies will be Gary Baston.

Other pros involved with the Stouffville club are Jack Belec, Jean Barclay, Marlene Boyd, Peter Mellon and Kevin Robertson.

Several solo numbers will be featured. These skaters include Cindy Wilson, Julie Faggiani, Kathy Woodhead, Cheryl Simpson, Linda Butler, Ruth Thorne, Mary-Catherine McDermott and Kevin Robertson.

Marching band comes to town

STOUFFVILLE — An accordion marching band is being organized in Stouffville. The first practice is Thursday (to-night), from 7 to 9:30 p.m., in the auditorium at Orchard Park School. The instructor is John Kernohan of Richmond Hill.

With a nucleus of twenty persons already enrolled, the leader is hopeful of expanding this number to at least forty, including flag bearers. There is no restriction as to age and instruments are provided at no cost. Members may take them home if they wish.

The marching unit will operate under the name of Stouffville Maple Leaf Accordion Band. Side drums, bass drums and cymbals are also used. They could participate in as many as thirty parades a year. An overseas trip to Ireland and Scotland is planned for 1983.

"We intend to be entirely self-supporting," Mr. Kernohan said. Following a few practice sessions, they hope to visit local churches, nursing homes and participate in the Canada Week parade.



Terry Atkinson, 12 (right), and brother Kevin, 10, demonstrate the old-fashioned way of gathering sap in the sugar bush on their parents Bethesda farm in Whitchurch-Stouffville.

—Jim Thomas.

Champion

STOUFFVILLE — Seventeen year old Deanne Howard, RR 3, Stouffville, recently returned from an international equestrienne competition that she enthusiastically describes as "incredible".

Aboard her beautiful thoroughbred "Warlock", Deanne won the grand championship in Jr. Jumper Class at Tucson, Arizona, scoring a first, a third and a fourth.

In Phoenix, Arizona, she captured two seconds, a third, a fourth and a seventh.

Deanne participated in the "Parade of Champions" at Tucson, arriving home, Monday, with many awards. She was accompanied by her trainer, Kim Kirton of Inglewood, Ont.