

Chamber of Commerce

# New-look core sparks interest

STOUFFVILLE — The plan to revitalize Stouffville's Main Street was the main topic of discussion at the Chamber of Commerce election meeting Monday.

Juris Berzins, an urban design consultant, asked the local merchants to work with him in improving the appearance of their stores. He will suggest minor changes to any property owner on Main Street interested in participating in the improvement plan.

Mr. Berzins will submit a guideline to the Town by the end of the summer, that will include his suggestions for private buildings and public places and the ideas he receives from property owners.

The Town can use the guideline to approach the provincial government for a grant to undertake the beautification.

Businesses that have already been contacted or will be in the near future include, Linda's Hair-styles, Pine Tree Restaurant, Savex Drug Mart, IGA, Bunny's Flowers, Stouffville Bakery and Farquharson Real Estate.

combining streetscape improvements such as benches, street lamps and floral arrangements, with upgrading of private buildings to create the new look.

Elections to the Chamber of Commerce executive saw the installation of Ken Sandiford as President; Graydon Card - Vice President; Doug Weddel - Treasurer and Donna Fawns - Recording Secretary.

Also voted to the executive board were: Sue Meyers, Gary Bouwmeister, Joe Libera, Brian Meharg, Bob Doerner, Jim Mason and Larry Rogalski.

Ged Stonehouse is the Immediate Past-President after 2½ years in the top position.

President-elect Ken Sandiford said he's looking forward to an exciting and productive year ahead.



Four guys with good reasons to smile

Yes, these guys have good reason to smile. This Music Mania quartet (left to right) Don McNair, Brian Meharg, Reid Andrews and Jack Watson are "watching the girls go by". The 26th edition of Music Mania goes on stage Thursday at Stouffville Dist. Secondary School and continues Friday and Saturday.

—Jim Thomas

## Corrects omission

Dear Editor:

As a parent of one of the participants in Ice Revue '86, I appreciated your photos and your Roaming Around column related to this event.

When one is closely associated with such a show, it's naturally 'one of a kind'; nothing can compare. It's interesting to view it from another side and place oneself in the shoes of an 'outsider' so to speak.

I don't envy you your job of being 'expected' to attend each and every function whether you want to or not. Regardless, I'm glad you were there and I'm pleased you actually enjoyed yourself.

But did you enjoy the cold? I didn't, in fact, I've been fighting a cold ever since.

If one of the service clubs in town is looking for a project, I've a suggestion—install heaters in our new arena!

Sincerely,  
Sheila Gamble,  
R.R. 1, Gormley

# Hear tough talk on drugs

STOUFFVILLE — Grade 6 students at Orchard Park Public School were told about drugs and alcohol last week as Jim Demers of Youth Alcohol and Drug Awareness (YADA), presented a week-long program focussed on the negative aspects of both.

According to Mr. Demers, cocaine has replaced marijuana as the most prevalent drug in Grades 9 and 10 while alcohol appeals more to Grade 11 and 12 students.

In an interview at the school, he said, "some grade schools in York Region have serious problems, although it's not wide-spread."

The purpose behind YADA is to "de-mystify" drugs, Mr. Demers said.

The program is designed to "get the facts on drugs out in the open and leave them there," the brochure explains.

"The pressures of adolescence,

family communication, learning to deal with feeling and the making and keeping of friends are all explored, as background for resisting negative peer pressure and developing a drug free lifestyle."

During the last two days of the workshops, students prepared a program for their parents. With rhythm and motion, the children practiced telling their parents who uses drugs, why, how, when and where.

To keep the rehearsal going, Mr. Demers told the students, "It's not easy for your parents to accept this information, so you have to make it as painless as possible."

With "Rex", a fictional character the children helped create, Mr. Demers explained that anyone might be a drug user, for one of an infinite number of reasons. Responding to the question:

where, in public, might marijuana be smoked, the students answered "a Blue Jay game," "Canada's Wonderland," and "Maple Leaf Gardens." Mr. Demers said, "If you've been to any one of these places, you know what marijuana smells like."

During the Thursday workshop, Mr. Demers showed the children samples of drugs. He classified them in two categories—soft and hard.

Soft drugs are "mood altering," he told the class, while hard drugs are "mind altering."

The first of the soft drugs discussed were the inhalants. Hair spray, glue, turpentine, nail polish and Pam were among the many in this group. The next was marijuana, followed by hash, hash oil, amphetamines and barbituates.

The hard drugs started with LSD (lysergic acid diethylamide),

a powerful hallucinogen. The next mentioned was cocaine, followed by heroin and PCP (a horse tranquilizer).

With each drug he introduced, Mr. Demers explained the possible side effects, such as flashbacks from LSD, they cause. He also explained how drug peddlars get victims to try dope for the first time.

In the section on drinking Mr. Demers explained what the three types of alcohol are—wood and rubbing alcohol and liquor. He explained the only way to get sober is to wait. A rule of thumb he explained was to wait one hour for each drink consumed. With the help of one student, he demonstrated how alcohol affects the brain and, after too much, the motor system.

Mr. Demers said, "the focus of the program is to prompt students to talk openly about drugs in their homes."

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