

# Comment Page

## Editorials

### Main St. has no room for vandals

Increased visibility on Main St. of York Regional Police and more vigorous surveillance by area merchants is needed to discourage vandalism in the rejuvenated business core.

Last Friday's acts of vandalism which resulted in a mock hold-up at Thomas's by one adolescent aren't being taken lightly.

Such occurrences aren't commonplace in the business core, but merchants must make it clear to those involved that such behavior will not be tolerated.

Indeed, it is a rite of passage for teens to congregate, trade stories and share dares. For this they cannot be blamed. But out-and-out vandalism is a destruc-

tive force that both demoralizes its victims and, in the case of Main St., negates the hundreds of thousands of dollars of work that has been completed.

Aside from the fact the incident has been described as isolated — and it probably is — the mock hold-up staged by one of the teens was downright foolish.

The results of the incident could have been tragic, had a police cruiser passed by as the scene unfolded.

The coming months promise much for the dedicated Main St. merchants who work hard to succeed. It shouldn't be marred by occasions such as the one experienced last Friday.

### SDSS track project a community effort

Stouffville District Secondary School moved a large step closer to securing money for a running track on school property Monday night.

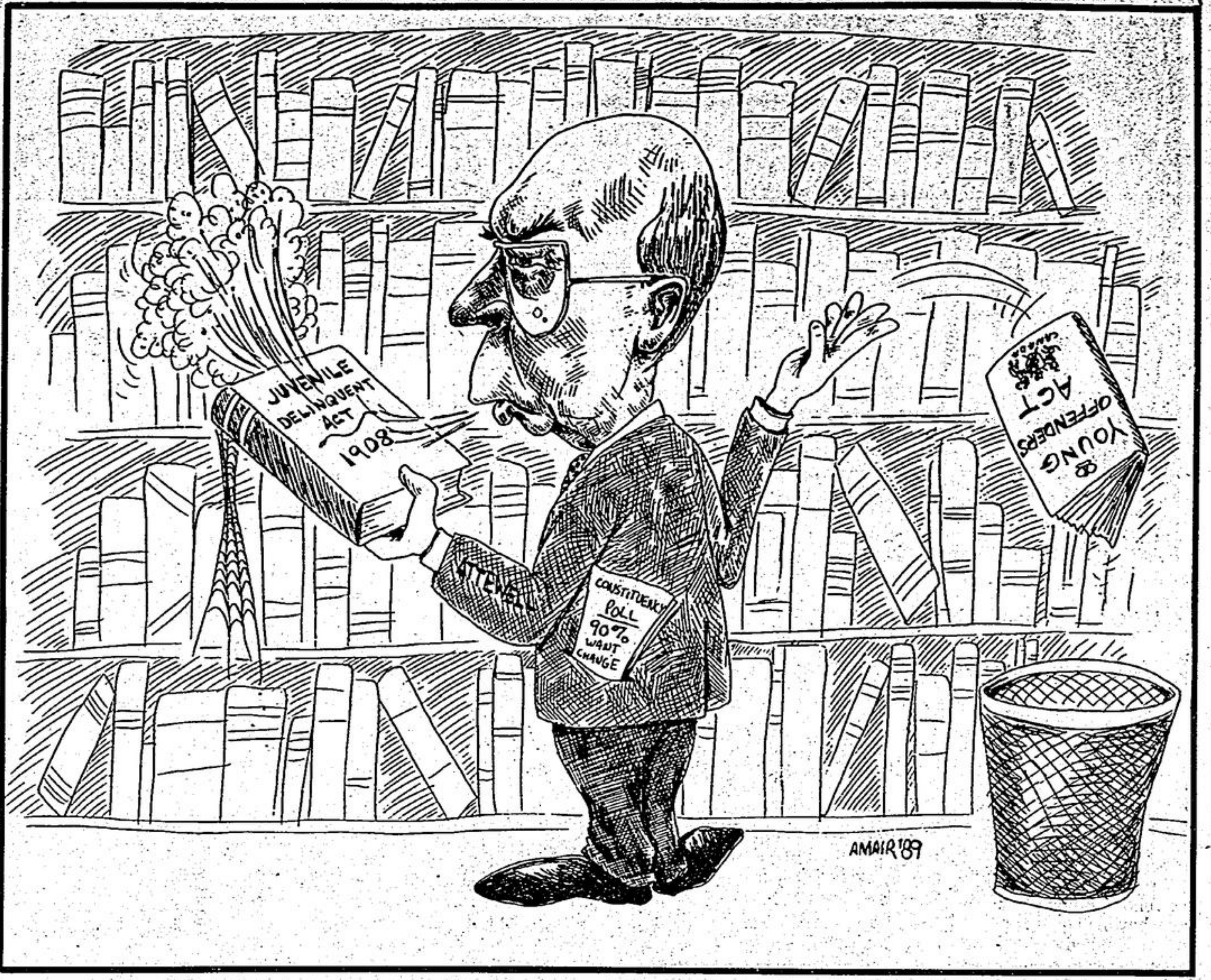
That's due in large part to the efforts of SDSS Student Council President Julian Franklin, whose brave and well-prepared presentation before school board officials moved them to recommend financial aid for the project.

A school board committee has

recommended that a maximum of \$125,000 be set aside for a track. The move, if approved by the school board, will see the board match each dollar raised in the Stouffville community. It all but ensures the project.

Now it's up to the town of Whitchurch-Stouffville, local business and service groups to help see the project through. And nobody is worried about that.

It seems Stouffville community spirit has triumphed again.



**The Tribune**  
ESTABLISHED 1888

STEPHEN HOUSTON PATRICIA PAPPAS DEBORAH WELLER JENNIFER HUTT  
Editor Publisher Advertising Manager Distribution Manager

RETAIL ADVERTISING: Susan Berry (Manager Charles Canning)  
REAL ESTATE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING: Joan Marshman (Real Estate Manager Dorothy Young)  
DISTRIBUTION: Sandy Kiteley, Arlene Maddock  
BUSINESS OFFICE: Manager Chris Bertram, Doreen Deacon

NATIONAL SALES REPRESENTATIVE: Metroland Corporate Sales 493-1300

640-2100 649-2292



at random  
steve houston

## A case for living in Stouffville

Won't somebody help my wife and I come to some sort of an agreement?

Since being appointed editor of the Stouffville Tribune two weeks ago, we've undergone some lightning fast changes at the 'ol' Houston household in Scarborough.

Although my wife, Cheryl, positively bubbles about the new position I have here at the Trib, the thought of leaving the city is a frightening prospect for her.

She's a born and bred city slicker who, up until last week, wasn't even sure where Stouffville was. Mind you, it took her two years to discover where my last place of employment really was, even though Markham is just above Steeles Ave.

Even that discovery came quite by accident when, driving east along the 401 one wintry day, she spotted the name Markham on a map of Ontario

and shrieked, sending me across two lanes of traffic.

Since my new posting here in Stouffville we have wavered between quiet, intelligent discussions of the future and potentially violent confrontations in which I, fearing for my life, took back everything I said.

The source of our argument is whether we can afford to move to Stouffville.

I guess some background is in order: Cheryl and I were married last September and, as a struggling young couple, were quite beside ourselves when we landed an apartment in a Scarborough co-operative housing development.

The rent there is \$509 monthly and we face a \$10 a month increase beginning in June. As such, we save a fair amount of our pennies for what was originally to be a down payment on a house. Nowadays,

the money will probably be put towards something more realistic, like catchy denim outfits or a Chia pet.

Anyway, as editor of the Tribune, I explained to Cheryl that it was important for me to live in the community in which I work. She countered with a comparative list of housing prices and potential rental units that were quite shocking.

And the picture painted is a bleak one. She works from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Tele-Direct in the heart of Scarborough and, lacking any rail service to that destination, says we would need a second car.

Add to that an additional \$300 to \$400 per month for an apartment (which, I understand, is also near-impossible to obtain) and the accompanying gas, maintenance and insurance bills, and our dream withers.

There goes our catchy denim outfits.

I guess we're part of that crowd that's been caught by skyrocketing real estate prices in a time when career paths are being forged and more substantial paycheques are coming in.

Trouble is, the required down payments to make a mortgage even remotely manageable are rising faster than our combined take-home pay.

And I'll bet there are many young couples out there who thought they had saved just enough, only to receive a sympathetic pat on the back and quiet chuckle from their local bank manager.

Despite it all — the uncertainty of the future, housing costs, high interest rates, the federal budget — I'm an optimistic sort.

I usually believe things will work out and often they do. But I also have to be realistic.

Anyway, who wants a community newspaper sort who shows up at photo functions in an automotive hazard and fall-apart shoes?

I don't fault Cheryl for her stance. She's the one who grabs my string and brings me down to earth when I mentally wander. And she's more of a realist. Besides, she has much bigger biceps.

But by golly, I want to live in Stouffville. And it seems there's only one logical solution to my dilemma. I think Cheryl would look good in a late model Ford.

### Editor's Mail

### Diabetes campaign for '89 is underway

Dear Editor:

The Canadian Diabetes Association (CDA), Ontario Division has officially kicked off its 18th Annual Sweepstake Fundraising Raffle.

Every year at this time, the CDA holds a province-wide sweepstakes raffle to raise funds for special programs that make living with this disease a little easier. Proceeds from Sweepstakes '89 will go towards supporting our "Camping for Kids" program and special services for youth, seniors, and native people.

Right now, volunteers from the Markham-Stouffville branch of the CDA are busy selling sweepstakes tickets. Won't you join them in the fight to protect the highest quality of life for people with diabetes?

Your \$2 gives you a chance to win from a prize package valued at over \$50,000 and to be a real winner in the eyes of so many Ontarians who depend on sweepstakes programs for a brighter, healthier tomorrow.

Anyone needing information on

the sweepstakes or the Canadian Diabetes Association, please contact me at 640-1689.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Marion Gray  
CDA Sweepstake

### Sign of the times?

Dear Editor:

Someone removed the bright orange rural route caution sign from the roof of my car on the evening of Wednesday, May 10.

This is a safety feature for me as a rural route driver delivering mail. It warns gravel trucks and other traffic that I make frequent stops and drive slow.

If the person who removed it could find it, in their heart to return my sign, just drop it off at the Stouffville Post Office and no questions will be asked.

I cannot get another one as Canada Post has discontinued making them.

Sincerely,  
Christine Geehan  
Mail Courier  
R.R. 2 Stouffville



### Making progress

Members of the Stouffville chapter of the Canadian Progress Club celebrated 10 years of successful fundraising last Wednesday at a celebratory dinner held at Stouffville's Deer Park Inn. The club, which has raised some \$220,000 for various projects in its history, enjoyed a night of laughs and good-natured fun at the event.

Getting ready to cut the anniversary cake are (from left) Rose Wiseman, Helen Singleton, Progress Club National President Roy Urbach, Past-president Bud Wiseman and President Jack Singleton.

### Music Mania support great

Dear Editor:

On behalf of the United Church Couples' Club, we would like to thank everyone in the community who supported Music Mania '89.

Throughout its 29 years, Music Mania has received tremendous newspaper coverage, marvellous support from our merchants, clubs, organizations, high school staff and custodians; and loyalty and enthusiasm from our audiences.

For this we are very grateful and will try to keep on entertaining you.

Music Mania provides an excellent opportunity for making friends and becoming involved in the community, and newcomers are always welcome.

Again, "thank you" to The Tribune and thank you Whitchurch-Stouffville!

Sincerely,  
Helen and Don Huxtable  
President