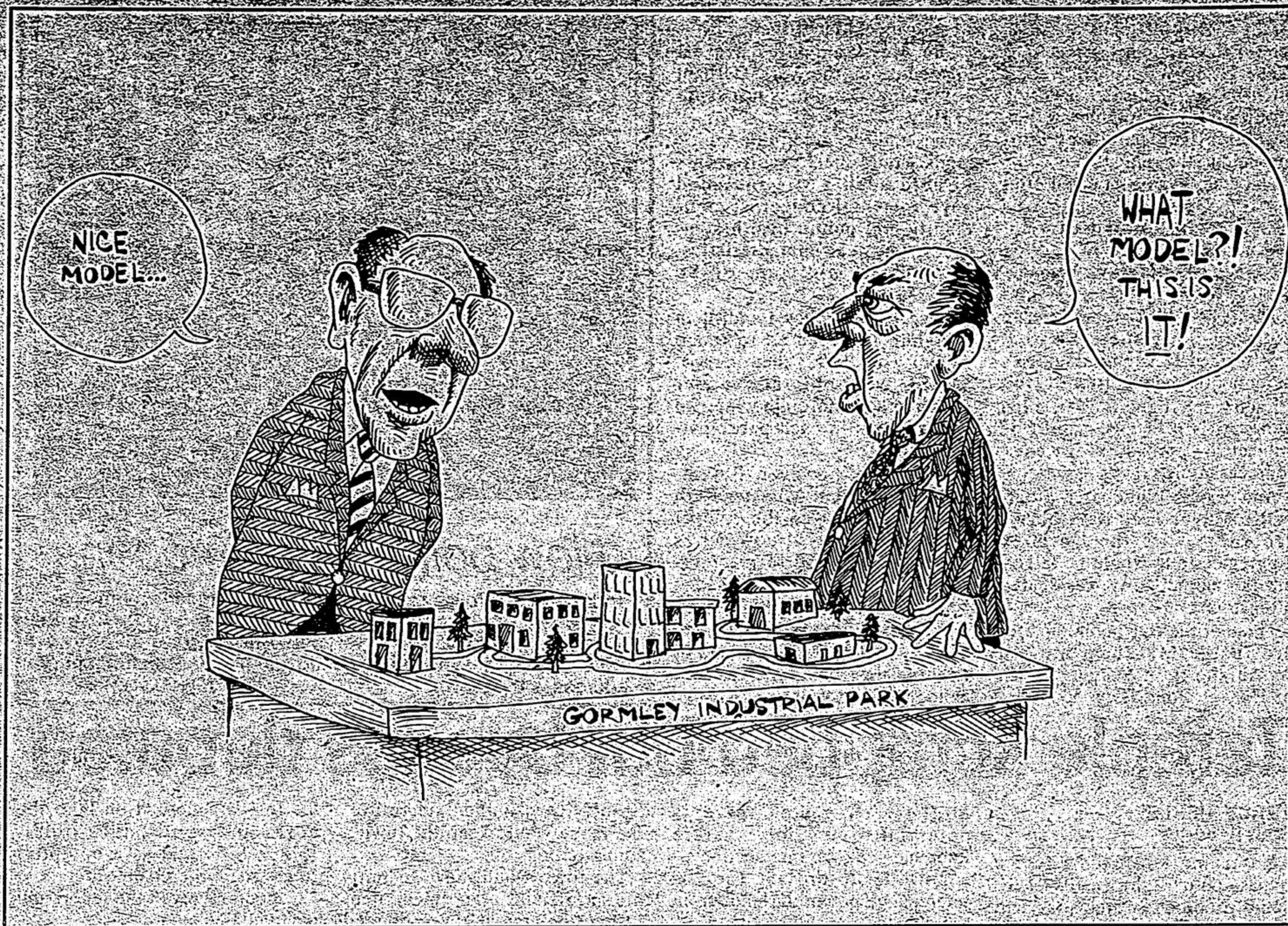


# Comment Page



## Landfill secrecy

After painfully irrelevant debate, York politicians last week decided to release information on contingency landfill sites chosen in the region.

Politicians were fearful of releasing the information, since the sites are now considered "obsolete" in light of changes at the provincial level of government.

True, the NDP government changed the role of the Solid Waste Interim Steering Committee (SWISC) when it came to power last fall.

The SWISC group was made up of area regions who agreed to provide the previous provincial government with contingency landfill sites to confront the garbage crisis.

But it's clear that the public has a right to know if such sites are in their communities.

True, the sites chosen will not be developed at this time, but just as the SWISC program was set aside by the NDP, it could easily be revived if another government is elected.

And nobody believes the waste management crisis we still face is going to be quickly fixed.

The public paid for this study to determine which sites were chosen. It must be made aware of its results.

# A pause for Canadians in the Gulf

Despite Canada's involvement in war, let's continue to pray for peace in the Persian Gulf.

Uxbridge and Stouffville area families are hoping for the safety of Canadian and American relatives in the Gulf, yet remain stoic in their support.

Canada, in its first conflict since the Korean War, is now playing a different role.

But the "peace at any price" appeals we've heard beg the question: What price is any price?

We continue to hope for the best, while preparing for the worst.

□ □ □

Canada Post should have a complaint line to deal with complaints about its complaint line.

That would be just fine for Norval Hodgson, who spent the



at random

steve houston

most part of a couple of days recently trying to get some action from Canada Post officials when he couldn't retrieve his mail.

It seems Mr. Hodgson needs a little muscle to retrieve official correspondence these days because Old Man Winter has a firm grip on the door to his Supermailbox.

Not that he, like most people, is eager to open the slot and be greeted with bills, but it's the principle of the thing.

Canada Post, which was widely criticized for its introduction of

the "Supermailbox" in recent years, is hard to get a hold of when it comes to complaints.

Mr. Hodgson mentioned to me last week that numerous phone calls to the complaint line ended with nothing but a busy signal.

Calls from the Tribune office achieved similar results. Cynic that I am, I have to wonder if Canada Post is having a good laugh at our expense, toting up the number of calls to a line that doesn't really exist.

Either that, or there truly is a busy signal while one or two

overworked operators attempt to handle thousands of calls each day.

The GST hotline pales in comparison.

Meanwhile, Mr. Hodgson and countless other residents like him must carry with them a propane torch when they go to retrieve their mail.

If you feel like hearing busy signals, the toll-free number is 1-800-268-8445.

Is this a great country, or what?

□ □ □

On the fashion front, I received a call last week regarding a front-page Tribune Weekender photo that depicted a model's rather unusual fashion outfit.

It was shown at a Goodwood Christian Women's Club event last week as part of a show highlighting the work of designer Judi

Von Zuben.

To be sure, the outfit shown in the photo wasn't something you'd see worn by women while out shopping in downtown Stouffville.

But, as was pointed out to me, it was hardly reflective of the type of show that was organized for the women in the Christian Women's Club.

Ms. Von Zuben is well known in the area for her woven fashions which were the core of the show.

They are appropriate for most seasons and aren't as, for want of a better phrase, far out.

But it truly was an interesting outfit, and quickly caught the eye of both our photographer, Steve Somerville, and myself, hence its selection for the front page.

So there.

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### Editor's mail

# A road to economic recovery

Dear Editor,  
 Until recently, I thought the condition of the Claremont-Stouffville Road was simply the result of an inefficient roads department somewhere, but after discussion and reflection, I have come to realize the error of my ways.

It is, I now understand, an integral part of a well-conceived plan for economic recovery.

First, it benefits local merchants and services. Everyone who has journeyed on that road knows that it is impossible to drink coffee while travelling.

Therefore, rather than bring it from home you must purchase it from one of the local shops; obviously an economic bonus.

If it is your first time, or if you are stubborn and try to take coffee with you, then the dry cleaners reap the benefits of your attempt.

Because of the great number of potholes, the vehicle repair industry has never been better.

And due to the fact that in several places the road is narrow and slopes sharply toward the ditch, tow trucks are able to keep busy, especially when it's slippery.

I understand as well that the tourist industry will gain when the road is declared a national site as the worst in Canada.

Secondly, we must drive slowly on this road. This represents a considerable saving in fuel consumption which translates not only into more money in our pockets but also less damage to the environment.

Thirdly, and perhaps most importantly, the road, kept as it is, saves a great number of tax dollars and shows considerable foresight.

It is not necessary to send out repair crews because no one notices a new hole here and there.

However, (and this was revealed to me this past weekend) there is the chance that somewhere in the future the road will be torn up to make room for an airport.

I have always admired this kind of thinking. There is no point in repairing something if it is going to eventually be torn down. It is like thinking that there is no reason to take a bath when everyone knows you're only going to get dirty again.

I urge whoever is in charge of this wonderful road not to be swayed by petty complaints, but keep the road as it is, or worse.

Yours (more or less) truly,  
 Glen Eagle,  
 Claremont