

Scouting around

Joey Thorne (top) of the First Stouffville Scouts, Jeffrey Thorne and Luke Dawson (right) of the Stouffville Beavers took part in the annual South Lake Simcoe Boy Scout Apple Day fundraising drive on Saturday.



Photo/LORI EMMERSON

Stouffvillites must bag leaves

Residents who are hard at work raking leaves this autumn will have to bag them up and wait for one of two fall leaf collection weeks starting the end of this month. Public works director Paul

Whitehouse said this week that the town won't be utilizing its newly-purchased leaf vacuum unless the leaves are blocking drainage or which "hamper safety."

Whitehouse said leaf vacuuming has been cut back this year due to budget restraints and is urging residents to mulch their yard waste as an environment friendly alternative.

If people want to have their leaves hauled off, however, the town has set aside the week of Oct. 25 to 29 and again during the week of Nov. 15 to 19 where residents can pack up their yard waste in clear plastic bags.

Bags must be at the curb by 7 a.m. on the designated pick up weeks.

- Tracy Kibble

Top scholars announced

York Region Board of Education has announced Stouffville District Secondary School's top three Ontario Scholars this week as part of its OAC honor graduation program.

Trevor Bardell with 91.3 per cent; Megan Morrison with 91 per cent and Megan Butcher with 84.7 per cent are three of nearly 1,000 graduates across York Region who will receive this high honor.

The 19 York Region secondary schools offering OAC courses have produced 991 Ontario Scholars this year, an increase of 163 Ontario Scholars in York Region's public secondary schools over 1992.

An Ontario Scholar is a student who obtains a total of at least 480 marks in any six approved honor graduation courses (OAC) for an overall OAC average of 80 per cent or higher.

The top regional student is from Richmond Hill High School with a 98.3 per cent average.

Government duplication costly: Town

(From page 1)

tech computers should record which agency wants its documents in both languages and which ones require only English documents.

"I thought that's what computers were for," she said.

Ward 1 councillor Ivanka Bradley agreed, and suggested the town send a resolution to other York Region councils and

"bombard" the province with objections to receiving two copies of every document it sends out. "If we don't keep chipping away we're never going to change this policy," the

mayor added.

Senior media relations officers for Ontario's francophone affairs, Denis Bertrand told *The Tribune* that legislation doesn't force documents to be sent out in both languages.

Bertrand said the French Language Act does state that 22 designated provincial areas which have a high number of French-speaking residents, must receive literature in both languages.

But Whitchurch-Stouffville is

not one of them, he admitted.

Why did the health ministry then send its report on Long Term Care in both English and French?

"I don't know. I can't answer that. It must have been confused in the mailing...you'd have to ask the health ministry," Bertrand said.

When asked how much it cost each year to duplicate the reports, three provincial civil servants couldn't answer the question.



Photo/LORI EMMERSON

A nice gift

Ida Barkey decides on a puppet for her great grandson at the Parkview Village craft sale Saturday.

Vandorf residents demand involvement

TRACY KIBBLE
Staff Reporter

Residents of Vandorf say they aren't "anti-development," but insist it's their right to be involved in any plans to establish industrial growth in their small communities.

"There is nothing wrong with development. We can't stop that and we don't want to. What we want is planned, controlled development and we should be given the basic right for input," said Pride and Preston Lake ratepayer group president, Chuck Cundari.

In light of the residents' consistent demands for involvement, which have been known to the town for at least two years, Stouffville politicians agreed last week to include the residents in the process to map out boundaries of a secondary plan for the Vandorf/Preston Lake areas.

Residents reiterated their stand at last week's planning meeting regarding a proposal to place a 34-acre industrial park in Vandorf.

Ratepayer groups from both areas packed the chambers last Tuesday to tell politicians they want a full-fledged secondary plan for the entire area to ensure healthy planning.

But the Vandorf West Business Park Group, which wants to develop 34 acres of rural lands, has stated their project has merit and won't affect surrounding lands.

The investors group says they have already spent more than \$150,000 on studies to prove plans for industrial growth and a subsequent reduced study area won't cause detrimental effects to surrounding lands.

Ward 1 councillor Ivanka Bradley said she's in favor of the "larger (secondary plan) scenario" because it "provides vision."

"Planning provides a big portion of community life and to deviate from the long-term scenario is counter productive," Bradley told *The Tribune*.

Bradley, who said her constituents are not "anti-development" and who realize the town needs to build a commercial core, said last week's meeting was "positive" because residents are now ensured involvement in the process.

"We can now start to work together," she said.

And Cundari said it doesn't make sense to map out a smaller official plan amendment and rezoning just because developers offer to pay.

"Our main concern is a lack of visionary planning without looking at the larger, logical boundary area. (Councillors) say 'Well, the developers will pay — so let's do it,' and that's wrong, Cundari said.

Although York Region supports a reduced study area — calling the larger plan inappropriate — town staff recommended council wait until a full-fledged environmental study for both areas is undertaken and industrial plans be held in abeyance until its completion.

Officials agreed to set up stage-by-stage meetings, including ratepayer group heads, to establish where the boundaries should be placed.

"They've finally realized the people want input," Cundari said.

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