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Record turnout to plan future

TRACY KIBBLE
Staff Reporter

Stouffvillites proved this week that they are anything but apathetic.

Local residents deserve a collective pat on the back after a standing-room-only crowd filled Latcham Hall Tuesday night - setting a record for participa-

tion in helping to form York Region's vision for the future. About 120 local farmers, teachers, businessmen, bankers, homemakers, develop-

ers, volunteers, politicians (including York chairman Eldred King,) and public sector workers voiced their views to York-hired Intersol Consultants

about how Stouffville and York Region should look and what it should offer in the year 2021.

Unlike our apathetic Newmarket neighbors - whose June 9 Davis Drive public session was met with only 12 residents - Stouffvillites came out in force to show they care about their community's future.

Consultant Brian Strom was overwhelmed at the turnout - the largest by far from Newmarket, East Gwillimbury and Richmond Hill combined.

(Please see 'Education' page 2)

Black bear cub on move, seen by 20 residents

A one-year-old black bear cub was "on the move" through rural Whitchurch-Stouffville this week, announced the Natural Resources Ministry (MNR.)

Ministry officials say the 200-pound cub was first spotted in the Keswick area on Monday and was then seen in the Hwy 404 and Bloomington Sideroad in Whitchurch-Stouffville on Wednesday.

By Thursday, he had continued his southwesterly trek and was spotted again in Aurora and then near Major Mackenzie Drive in King City.

Information officer Daniel Boileau said the ministry has received 20 phone calls from

(Please see 'Bear' page 3)

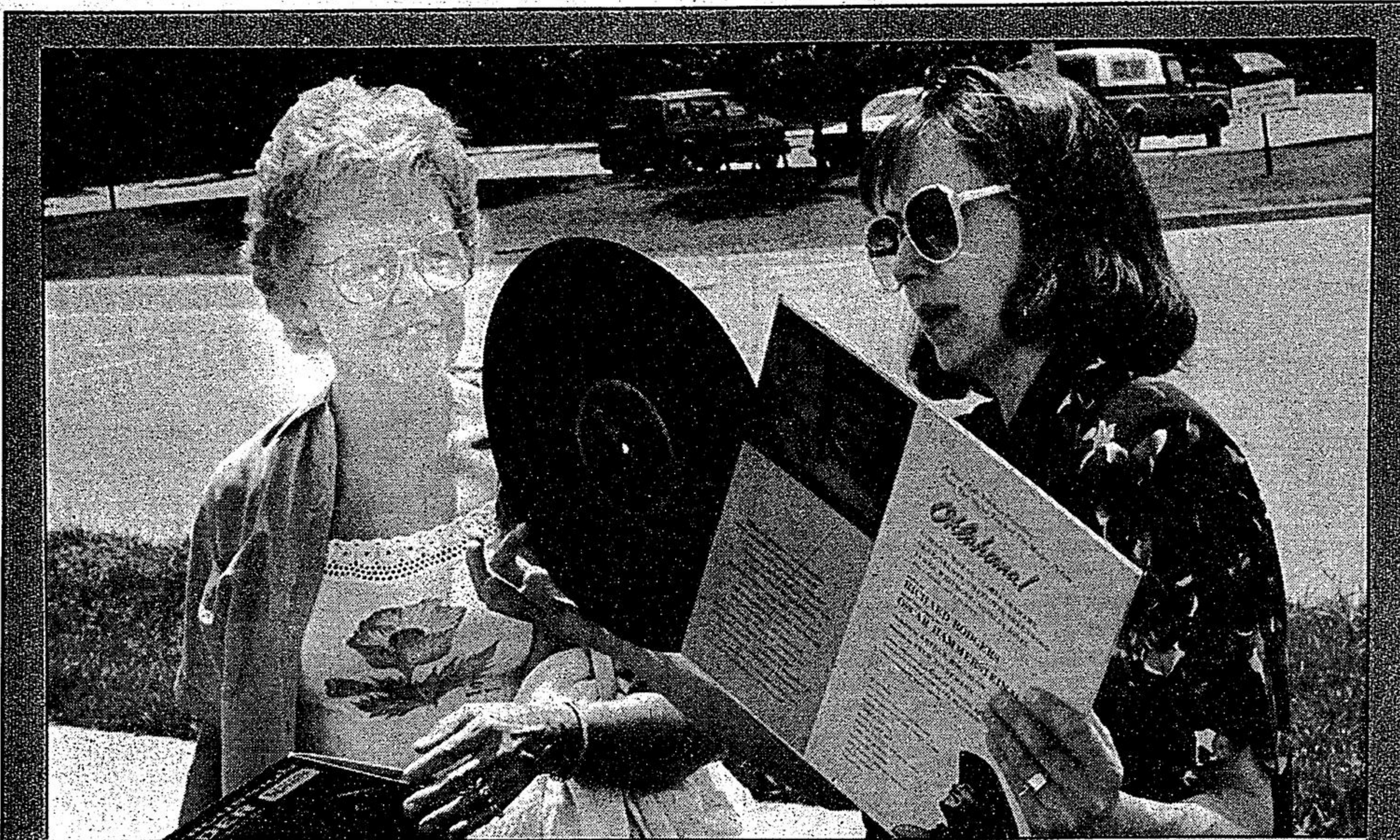


Photo: Lori Emler

Rare find

Michelle Green, right, of the Dance Centre, searches for new music for her students with her mother, Bernice Presly, of Saskatoon at the Spring Fling garage sale held by the Anglican Church at Stouffville Place Mall last weekend.

Community

Country life stinks for Stouffville couple

TRACY KIBBLE
Staff Reporter

The Tompkins had lived a virtual paradise for 17 years.

They, like most hard-working homeowners, take pride in their investment and long to enjoy the simple pleasures of life - sizzling burgers on the barbecue, watching their grandchildren splash playfully about in the tiny backyard pool, relaxing with a book on their sun-drenched, breezy deck.

But life as Doris and Robert Tompkins once knew it wouldn't be the same again after new neighbors bought the westerly two-acre rural-residential lot

next door in 1991.

And with them they brought horses, and the horses brought manure, and flies - millions of big, black flies.

For two-and-a-half years now the Tompkins have been fighting to end what they call the nightmare of living beside the washroom of eight horses who idle in an over-crowded, one-acre, grassless paddock, which is situated just 50 feet from Tompkin's property line.

Doris says her patio isn't used much anymore because of the stench of manure and the accompanying flies that make it unbearable to enjoy.

She points to a sun-soaked white stucco wall where the wind is blocked and the summer heat grows intense. But it looks black today, as thousands of flies make it their sunbathing station for the afternoon.

Despite many visits to the property from Stouffville building department staff, York Region health officials and members of the local horse organization, Whitchurch Horse Owners Association (WHOA), nothing has been done.

WHOA president and horse expert Ruth Love said Tompkin's neighbors do appear to be crowding hors-

(Please see page 3)

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