

Letters

Facts speak for themselves in pool/ice pad debate

Dear Editor,

Recently I have been attending all of the council meetings regarding the community's requests and needs for a more complete recreational facility.

In brief, I wish to summarize in the hope of educating everyone in this community who deserve to be part of a viable long-term vision.

Indoor pool - They took the original extravagant model that is on council's library and they revised this plan with an architect. They then presented, on enlarged, bristol board for all to see, a very basic pool that meets the Olympic Canada Board requirements, thus enabling us to hold sporting events by the Olympic teams in our town.

In addition to the basic pool, they also added a mom and tot pool, three changerooms (men, women, family) with shower facilities, as well as a couple of squash/racquetball courts. In addition, they still left the original electrical/equipment supply rooms. They did all of this and have estimated a cost of \$1.9 million.

They had researched their facts and had found that in previous surveys paid for by the town, 58 per cent of Whitchurch-Stouffville expressed a need and desire for a pool. They had health and welfare research showing the community benefits to an indoor pool and its link to a healthier lifestyle community. They also presented facts from a nationwide study that shows swimming is the number one physical fitness activity shared by the widest range of participants based on age, sex, abilities and disabilities, as well as therapeutic uses.

All of this was done at their own financial expense and dedication to the well-being of the community as a whole, by trying to cover the initial findings of previous and present surveys of our community. They are still awaiting direction from council.

The ice pad committee, who have been working on their idea for almost two years, presented a 45-minute discussion to council recently. They also have a "non-Cadillac model" of their ice pad. However, their figures to erect this structure have now increased to \$1.3 million. They have

approached all of the service clubs in town and have developed a working financial arrangement of profit-sharing through fundraising. They have a couple of financial commitments to their venture and they are also waiting council's direction.

But (a big but), in order for them to put the ice pad in its assigned area, they will have to eliminate a couple of our present recreational facilities. Yes, the less than two-year-old basketball court will have to go. So, also, will the sand pit and volleyball area. The even bigger "but" is that the seven-foot easement line required for a soccer field will have to be made into a two-foot easement in order to erect the ice pad. That means that any child playing soccer will now have a solid block wall two-feet from the boundary of the fieldline. I'm sure that this could very well be a major public concern for safety. If someone is seriously injured or even worse, killed because of a collision with the ice pad wall, who will be held responsible and accountable?

All of this, and before we have even reached the cherry on the cake - which is that the ice pad people feel that, although our present ice pad is still running at a deficit, in the first year of operation they should be able to show a profit, defying all of Mrs. Marlene McKee-Wetheral's 12 years of experience and financial expertise in the first four years of operation expense sheets. Well, I'd like to reiterate Councillor Ed Lyons' skepticism and Councillor Margot Marshall's head shaking "good luck", especially since we still run the ice pad at a deficit even 10 years after it was built. I for one hope when council meets this week, they really take a good look at our community as a whole. When 1,300 ice pad users, which represents 7.2 per cent of the 18,000 population want an ice pad for \$1.3 million and to do so will have to eliminate basketball, volleyball and soccer. Then 10,440, which represents 58 per cent of the 18,000 population would prefer an indoor pool for \$1.9 million, which will also include two extra squash/racquetball courts and will not infringe on any of the facilities already in place. I sincerely feel that the facts the figures speak for themselves. Let's get a community spirit and a

real vision that will help those who live here and pay for these ventures. As Ken May said, an indoor pool and a more complete and versatile recreational facility is the best way to keep property values up and keep our community a real entity of its own. I for one do not want to become a community known as North Markham.

K. Riberdy
Stouffville

TRAILER HITCHES

FREE OIL
CHANGE WITH
PURCHASE



✓ LOW PRICES
✓ PROFESSIONALLY
INSTALLED.

PRONTO

STOUFFVILLE
138 Sandford Dr., Unit 2
905-642-0646

MARKHAM
535549 Ont. Ltd.
6080 Hwy. 7
905-294-9476

Regional forest clean up netted lots of debris

Dear Editor,

On April 29 more than 50 dedicated people participated in the sixth annual Green-up/Clean-up project in and around the York Region forests between Davis Dr., Aurora Side Rd., McCowan and Hwy 48.

We were pleased to note that there was a little less garbage than previous years, however, we did fill a large container with the usual: cans, bottles, paper, household garbage, tires, building materials and furniture.

L. Munt, forest co-ordinator, M. Henry and M. Jort from the region and K. Reese from the Ministry of Natural Resources donated their time and used the front-end loader and dump truck supplied by the region to remove building materi-

als and other heavy debris.

So far we have been concentrating on the above area, but would like to extend this project to other forest tracts in York Region.

If anyone is interested in joining us next year, please call me at 473-3045.

I would like to thank the members of the Ontario Trail Riders Association, North East Whitchurch-Stouffville Ratepayers Association, friends, neighbors and everybody who helped, for their efforts in cleaning our precious forests.

Christel von Richter,
Co-ordinator,
Ontario Trail Riders
Association

United Way of York Region hosts fashion show May 28

United Way of York Region will be holding a lunch and fashion show on Sunday, May 28 at Paparazzi Restaurant and Nightclub in Richmond Hill.

An outstanding collection of fashions will be shown. Women's fashions will be from Peppertree Klassics in Markham and men's from Gregga's located in the Embassy Suites. Hair will be by Back Stage Hair Design. Along with the show, there will be door prizes and a raffle.

The main beneficiaries of the

event will of course be the many organizations of the United Way of York Region.

More than 35 social agencies in York Region benefit from the assistance given by the United Way.

Tickets are \$35 and include lunch, wine and the show.

The activities will start at 12:30 p.m. Paparazzi is located at 270 West Beaver Creek Rd., three blocks west of Hwy 404, north off Hwy 7. For tickets call 474-9974 ext. 223 or 294-5140.

FREE
*60 Hassock with
Chesterfield

**THIS WEEK ONLY
Help! Help!**

**We Are Overstocked with
New Chesterfields Coming in**

**At TOROMARK FURNITURE our Famous
LOW PRICES guarantee you Savings of
\$100-\$200 against any other Sale Prices on
Canadian-Made chesterfields.**

**YOU SHOULD ONLY BUY CANADIAN
Sklar - Supertest - King Koil - Concordian
and many more.**

**Plus Canadian-Made Sofas - Bedsofas -
Sectionals and Children's Furniture.**

WE OFFER YOU

- No Taxes • 6 Monthly Payments at No Extra Charge
- Free Delivery to Your Home or Cottage

**Before You Buy See
TOROMARK FURNITURE and SAVE**

Toromark Furniture - Hwy. #7 just east of Hwy. 48
in IGA Plaza

(905) 294-2581 or (905) 477-2055

SAVE AT TOROMARK SAVE AT TOROMARK SAVE AT TOROMARK

OPEN
Daily 9 - 7:30
Tues. & Sat.
9 - 6
Sun. 10 - 3