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Town

Politicians to study regional fire department

By JOAN RANSBERRY
Staff Reporter

Should we carry on with individual municipal fire departments or opt for a region-wide fire department?

That's the question being asked across York Region and in municipalities, including Whitchurch-Stouffville.

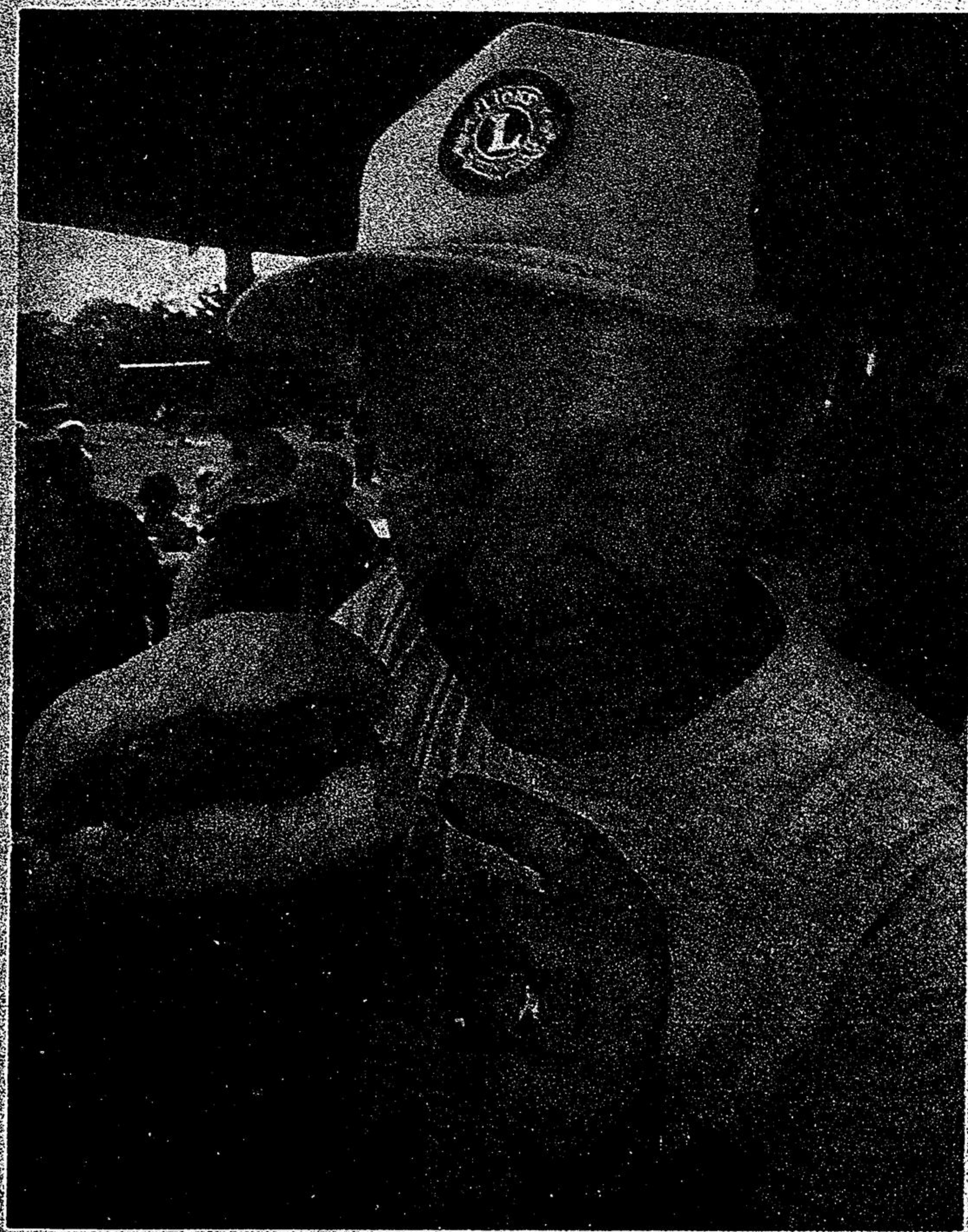
Whitchurch-Stouffville fire chief Bill Brown told local council Tuesday that he supports the call for a review of fire services.

"Let's go ahead with a survey and look at it," said Brown. "But, let's not implement until the final impact, including the financial impact on all the communities is known. Let's look at the benefits. Let's look at all the pros and cons."

Politicians across Ontario have often pointed out that since many police departments are regionalized, the same should be considered for fire departments.

Whitchurch-Stouffville council threw its support to a Newmarket proposal to study the concept but not, at this time, support regionalizing fire services.

Happy Canada Day!



It's festival time

Mel Gornik, chair of the Stouffville Lions Beef Barbecue, served up a tasty surprise ("barbecued strawberries", wink, wink) at Thursday's kick-off of the Strawberry Festival.

Photo/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Strawberry Festival promises fun for all

The Strawberry Festival once again promises something for everyone. From kiddie rides to musical entertainment to sporting events, the festival is Stouffville's showcase event.

Here are some of the new events for this year.

Mike Feher Orchestra-Swing Band will be performing in Memorial Park from 7:30 p.m. to dusk today.

The 15-piece ensemble's repertoire includes many favorite numbers from the era of swing and big band music.

The Baha'is will bring the

sweet sound of music to the Memorial Park stage on Friday at 7 p.m. and will also present a children's concert in the pavilion area on Saturday at 4 p.m.

There will be a beach volleyball tournament, the basketball shoot-out and the in-line skate scavenger hunt, all of which take place Saturday.

People of all ages can test their skills at Saturday's giant life-size chess game and challenge, participate in the fun family pet contest or enjoy a pony carriage ride in Franklin Park.

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