

Council

Ballantrae parkland ideal for town's first soccer fields

The new eight-acre park, slated for Ballantrae, would be just the ticket for a soccer field, a councillor has suggested. Ward 4 Councillor Cliff Dunkeld would like to see Whitchurch-Stouffville's soccer players make use of the park located on Aurora Road on lands abutting the Ballantrae Community Centre.


"There are about 600 soccer players, but no town-owned soccer fields," stressed Dunkeld.

At the present time, soccer is played on land abutting the Stouffville Recreation centre.

The lands are owned by the board of education.

Local soccer club officials are more than pleased that this park is being considered for soccer. Joseph Caldeira, president of the Stouffville Soccer Club, said the Ballantrae lands "suit" the game. "We need it. Our club is growing. In fact, soccer is the fastest growing sport in Canada if not North America," said Caldeira. Of Stouffville's soccer players, 500 are children. The parkland is near a proposed development made up of an 18-hole golf course and about 1,000 homes. Council will discuss the park lands soon.

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Golf tourney set for May

The Whitchurch-Stouffville Chamber of Commerce will be hosting their annual golf tournament on Thursday, May 29 at the Maples of Ballantrae.

Shotgun start is 1 p.m. The cost is just \$125.

For more information or sponsorship details, call the chamber at 642-4227.

Hook-ups to water system underway

By JOAN RANSBERRY
Staff Reporter

Hooking up to the town's new communal water system is underway now.

A total of 850 homeowners in Musselman's Lake and Ballantrae have received letters from the town outlining connection procedures. "We've had people in to apply. Obviously those who need it the most come in first," said Tom Parry, the town's engineer. Water hook-up is not an option. Under a bylaw, residents must be connected to the system before the end of 1997, Parry stressed.

On a 50-foot lot, the average individual cost to the property owner will be about \$1,000. This includes a \$250 meter and a \$30 new-account fee.

Also, residents are being reminded that existing wells must be abandoned.

"Many of the wells in the shallow and second aquifer have shown increasing bacterial and nitrate contamination," said Parry.

The town "strongly urges residents to properly abandon their wells" to eliminate the contaminated wells and to prevent further deterioration of the groundwater by allowing contaminants to enter through improperly constructed and poorly maintained well, Parry added.

York Region is helping property owners get rid of the private wells. At a cost of \$170, property owners can arrange to have York Region do the work.

Meanwhile, watermain contractor Clearway Construction is chlorinating, disinfecting and flushing the distribution system so that connections can be made.

York Region will pick up the cost of the system's well and tower, slicing \$2.1 million off the original \$8-million price tag.

The region's well tower should be operating by the summer, stressed Parry.

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