

Teen charged after boy sexually assaulted

A Stouffville teen was charged after police investigated a sex assault complaint involving a young boy.

York Regional Police reports said the victim is a four-and-a-half-year-old local boy.

The alleged sexual assault took place on April 6, the same day that police were notified.

Police reports said the victim was forced to perform a sexual act on an older boy.

A 14-year-old male was arrested two days later and charged with sexual assault, invitation to sex-

POLICE
ual touching and sexual interference. Meanwhile, the police sexual assault unit is investigating another reported case in Stouffville. A 15-year-old boy is listed as the victim of a March 16 sexual assault, but no arrest has been made. This assault was reported to police last Friday.

Gallery's future decided tonight at public meeting

JOAN RANSBERRY
Staff Reporter

Latcham Gallery's future is being determined tonight.

While Whitchurch-Stouffville Council and a Latcham Gallery committee meet tonight to iron out an agreement designed to keep the gallery open, the local library board is also discussing the usage of Latcham Gallery space.

The issue is listed on the library board agenda.

Its meeting, which is open to the public, gets under way at 7:30 p.m.

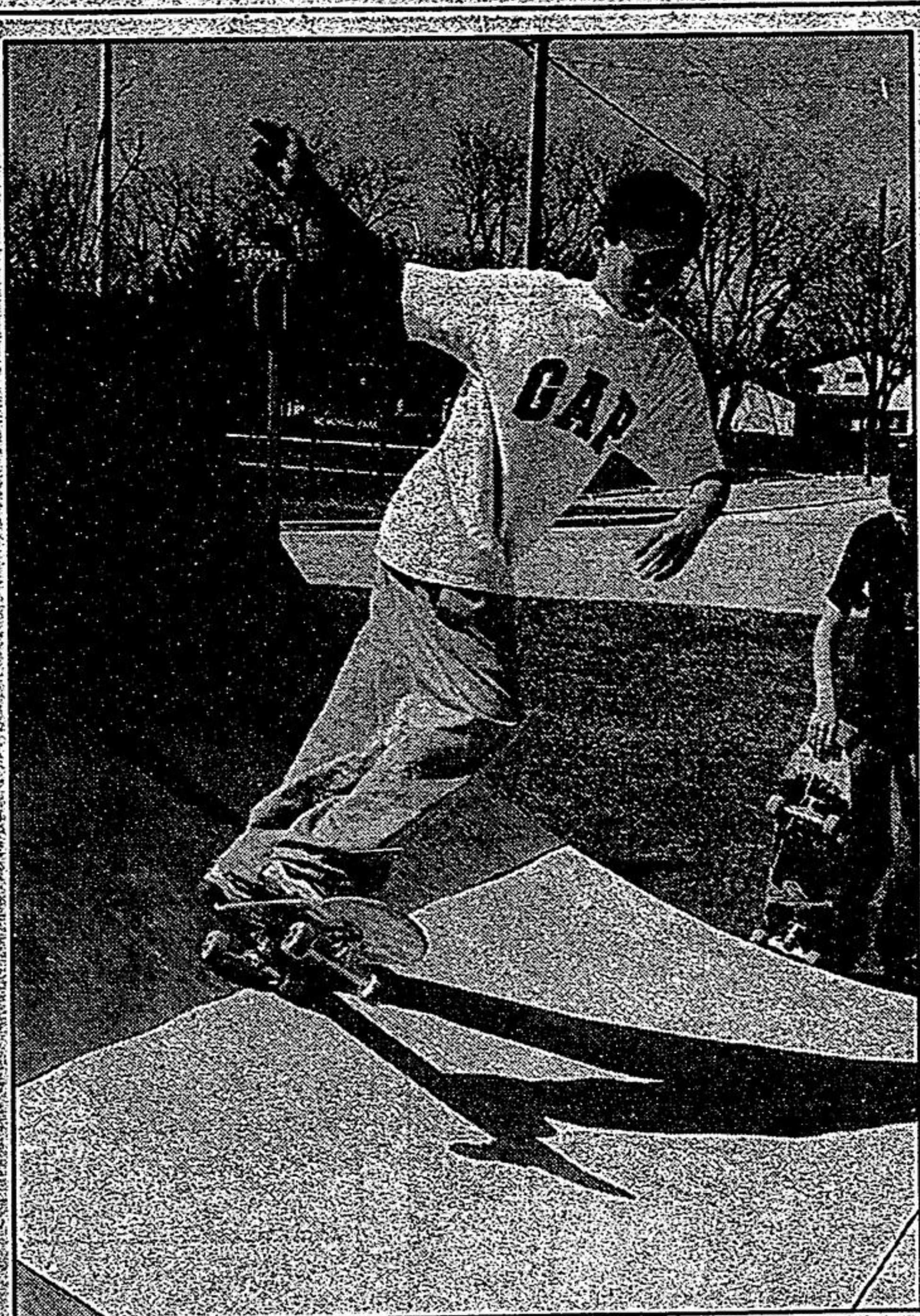
A month ago, the Whitchurch-Stouffville

Library board voted to close Latcham Gallery without notice or public consultation. The closure shocked hundreds of Stouffville residents. As soon as the doors on the 19-year-old gallery were shut, a committee was struck to save the facility.

The Latcham committee's business plan includes council giving \$37,500 to the facility.

As well, it's recommended that Latcham Gallery be set up as an independent, complete with its own governing board and, finally, that it continue to operate at its present location, adjacent to the library.

Also on the library board agenda is the library design project which deals with the proposed library expansion.



FREE RIDE: Luke Anderson practices his moves at the skateboard ramp at Stouffville Memorial Park on the weekend as friend Jonathon Hill waits his turn.

Photo by CHERYL JOHNSON

Can you help CAS kids?

York Region Children's Aid Society (YRCAS) is looking for special people for special children. Find out how you can make a positive difference in the lives of children between the ages of 9 and 14 years through sharing

your parenting skills, your experience and your caring by becoming a foster parent.

YRCAS has a legal responsibility to protect children from abuse, neglect and abandonment. Call 731-3150 ext. 271.

York task force may consider trash incineration

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posting Corp., a subsidiary of Markham's Miller Waste, is also in the running.

Landon discounted concerns residents will refuse to have a composting plant in urban areas.

"You can determine quickly that composting facilities aren't smelly. They're environmentally sound. The bigger concern is truck traffic," he said.

"I understand the sensibility of the public to dumps, but this is not a dump."

Most of York's blue box recyclables are now processed at Miller's plant in Markham, under a contract that lasts another 28 months.

Each municipality now hires its own contractor to collect garbage, although the region is responsible for disposing it.

With the Keele Valley dump slated to close within a few years, the

region hasn't determined what will happen in the future with waste that can't be recycled or turned into fertilizer.

Although Landon said the task force is still prepared to look at incineration, other officials suggest there would be a public outcry.

A more probable scenario will see York and surrounding regions, including Toronto, dumping their trash in an abandoned mine near Kirkland Lake in Northern Ontario.

The region intends to launch its new garbage collection system Jan. 1, 2000, although Landon admitted that may be an ambitious target.

The new system is part of an aggressive campaign to reduce the amount of garbage going to the dump by 50 per cent.

At the moment, almost three-quarters of our trash ends up in the dump.

Boards top \$100K club

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\$100,000 mark — 17 employees earn \$100,000 or more.

This year, York Region's separate school board added six more people to its \$100,000 club, for a total of nine.

An additional four employees at the Region of York also saw their salaries bumped to just over \$100,000 last year.

Aurora escapes the public glare because it is exempt under the provincial legislation.

The town receives less than \$1 million in

provincial grants. Instead of declaring any employees in this range, the town will only provide a range for their top employee, chief administrative officer Marc Neeb, between \$92,067 and \$108,807.

Whitchurch-Stouffville staff also escapes the "list" with its top employee, chief administrative officer Merlin Dewing, earning just shy of \$100,000 a year.

Georgina, East Gwillimbury and Newmarket also do not have any employees earning six figures.

— Jennifer Brown, Metroland Staff



PICKING UP STICKS: Enjoying the beautiful Easter weekend weather with a street hockey game are from left, David Gregory, Jamie Gregory, Dennis O'Shaughnessy in goal, Josh Czerwinski, and behind Josh, Patrick McEachen.

Photo by CHERYL JOHNSON