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# Comment & Opinions

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## EDITORIAL

### CAS pretty much a useless entity

The Children's Aid Society is pretty much a useless entity which is losing more and more credibility each day. The most recent example of this is the case of a Keswick baby who died while in the care of a Mount Albert woman.

This woman was on file with the York Region CAS for three months before his death. The police made monthly visits to her home for domestic violence calls.

Instead of acting on complaints that this was an unstable household, the CAS sat on paperwork, knowing this woman was running an informal daycare service.

The CAS even determined children were at risk being in this house because of the potential violent spousal altercations and never once pulled the plug on this daycare venture.

Time and time again, it is proven that CAS social workers take action against parents or caregivers when none is warranted and ignore serious life-threatening situations when supervision is critical.

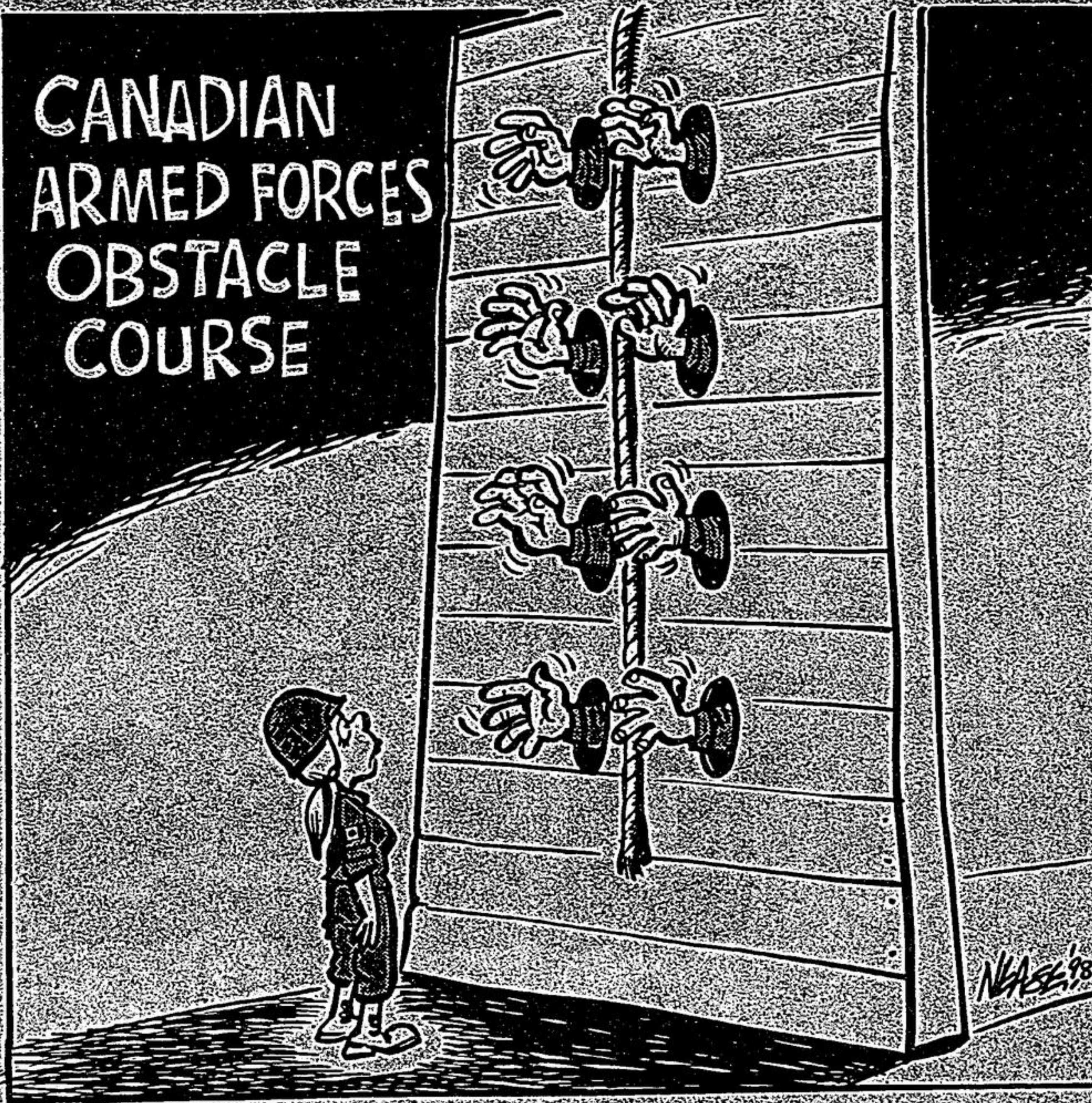
Is the CAS not supposed to protect children? To ensure children are not harmed, abused or neglected?

Not consistently enough, it seems.

Who made CAS social workers judge and jury to decide to put a complaint on a 'waiting list'?

The family of the boy is suing the CAS for its negligence in this matter, and so they should.

### CANADIAN ARMED FORCES OBSTACLE COURSE



## Cartoon humiliating for family unit

Dear Editor,

There's a fine line between humour and humiliation and I believe your cartoonist, Steve Nease, moreover your editor, has taken a quantum leap from the usual middle-of-the-road artistry usually printed in *The Tribune*, to the far left of anything resembling amusement when it comes to the sad comment on children bearing and using fire arms against their peers and their parents. I refer to the illustration on page 6 of your May 28 issue.

And to suggest in some simplis-

### LETTERS

tic way that working parents with their noses buried in financial news media, and their finger on the pulse of cellular phones and television remote control devices are somehow flatlined to Little Johnny's comings and goings, is ludicrous.

It pinpoints a narrow scope of the family unit demographic as well as the underlying psychology of youth, which I believe your car-

toonist and your editor would do well to steer clear of, since they have both shown so little respect or understanding of this crisis at large.

We need more information on the disintegrating sociological framework that houses our children, not a whitewashing of the family unit as portrayed with

upscale, otherwise pre-occupied authority figures.

Your illustration may be trying to poke fun, but instead will strike a low blow for the delicate parent/child relationship which is not an exact science at the best of times.

Katherine Whitney

## Many people left out at Glad Park's opening

Dear Editor,

In 1997 the York Region Board of Education formed two committees: a users' committee and an area boundary committee to assist in planning and naming the new elementary school in Stouffville.

Unfortunately, the names of the members of these committees were not recognized at the official school opening on May 21. Members of these committees were the area Principal, superintendent of education Chris Collins, Wayne Hill representing the teaching profession, Marlane

Wetheral representing parks and recreation, Jean Bearden representing the community and parents, Donna Metcalfe, Patti Penny, Margaret Drudge and Susan Wannop in addition to board staff.

Unfortunately, recognition of their valuable donation was omitted at the official opening. It would like to acknowledge the valuable time and service which these people gave for the completion of Glad Park Elementary School.

Harry Bowes  
Former Trustee

## Kinsmen say thanks

Dear Editor,

On behalf of the Stouffville Kinsmen Club, I would like to thank everyone who purchased their fireworks from the Kinsmen this past weekend. Every year the selling of fireworks is our biggest fundraiser and this year was the best yet.

With your support the Kinsmen Club will be able to continue to support The

Stouffville Foodbank, Markham/Stouffville Family Life Centre, and Cystic Fibrosis to name but a few.

A special thank you goes out to Melair Transport who donated the use of one of their transport trailers and the A&P plaza for allowing us to sell fireworks on the property.

Steve Sutter Fireworks Chairman  
Kinsmen Club of Stouffville

## Vote 'yes' for pool

Dear Editor,

Calling all pool supporters. An indoor pool has been discussed for over 30 years. Let's do it.

On Monday, June 29 council will have the financial figures before them, and a vote will be taken. Is your councillor going to say "Yes" or "No"?

Do not let this opportunity to have an indoor pool be washed away.

Our children need this pool to learn how to swim and save lives. Our youth need the jobs and leadership opportunities. Whitchurch-Stouffville needs this public facility that contributes to a healthy community.

Canada is full of lakes and rivers. Let's prepare our children and grandchildren to safely enjoy this gift. One life saved is worth the cost. At \$21 per household per year

for the operating cost we can afford a complete aquatic facility.

Our daughter learned to swim and instruct at Uxbridge and Markham, taught lessons and one morning saved a drowning child. By teaching swimming she earned money to help her through university, and she learned how to teach.

Thankfully, Georgina has an indoor pool where our granddaughter will learn how to swim. She will socialize with her friends in a positive setting.

Whitchurch-Stouffville needs an indoor pool. Phone, fax or talk to your councillor today. Leave a message at the town office, 640-1900. Plan to attend the council meeting Monday, June 29, and have your voice count for an indoor pool.

Lovanna Sanders  
Stouffville

### STOUFFVILLE TRIBUNE WEEKENDER

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The Tribune welcomes your letters to the editor. Please keep letters to no more than 300 words. Note that letters may be edited for space, libel, spelling, grammar.

While we endeavor to print as many letters as possible, we regret that not all letters may be printed.