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20 Boston Marathon runner Kim Kavluk refuses to stop running at the age of 43

ARTS & CULTURE CALENDAR

EVENT: Heritage Railway summer runs
WHEN: Wednesday, August 5, 10:30 a.m.
WHERE: Stouffville train station to Uxbridge



18 Don't miss Oliver Jones at Markham's first jazz festival Aug. 21.

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TO REACH US: (905) 640-2100

POLITICS: Stouffville's new slogan not music to some ears

Premier to attend council

Gravel pits the topic at Sept. 9 town meeting

BY JOAN RANSBERRY
STAFF WRITER

Ontario Premier Mike Harris, two cabinet ministers and an MPP are being invited to Stouffville in early September to discuss gravel pits.

On Tuesday, Mayor Wayne Emmerson said the premier, Natural Resources Minister John Snobelen, Environment Minister Norm Sterling and local MPP Julia Munro will attend a Sept. 9 council meeting. The province wants to assume more responsibility when it comes to controlling gravel pits and attending a local meeting is a good place to start, said Emmerson.

SERIOUS MATTER

Stouffville has a large number of aggregate operations, and the handling of a pit, especially a defunct pit, is a very serious matter, Emmerson pointed out.

At the September meeting, council will consider introducing a bylaw to prohibit dumping fill on lands zoned rural extraction.

Jim Sabiston, owner of a now defunct gravel pit on Bloomington Sideroad, has applied to the town for permission to dump clean fill on his property.

A few months ago, Sabiston was charged under the Environmental Protection Act. Charges include operating and depositing on a waste disposal site without a certificate of approval from the MNR.

Court action was initiated after an 18-month investigation by the ministry, and after area residents complained of heavy truck traffic. The town then shut down the operation.

Town slogan causes rift

BY JOAN RANSBERRY
STAFF WRITER

A slogan war has broken out in Whitchurch-Stouffville.

Members of the Music Town, Ontario committee were furious to learn Whitchurch-Stouffville council was seriously considering adopting 'Country Close to the City' as its official slogan. Members also objected to the

town advertising the slogan on all signs leading into the community. Committee member Jim Thomas made a heartfelt appeal to have Music Town, Ontario the official slogan instead.

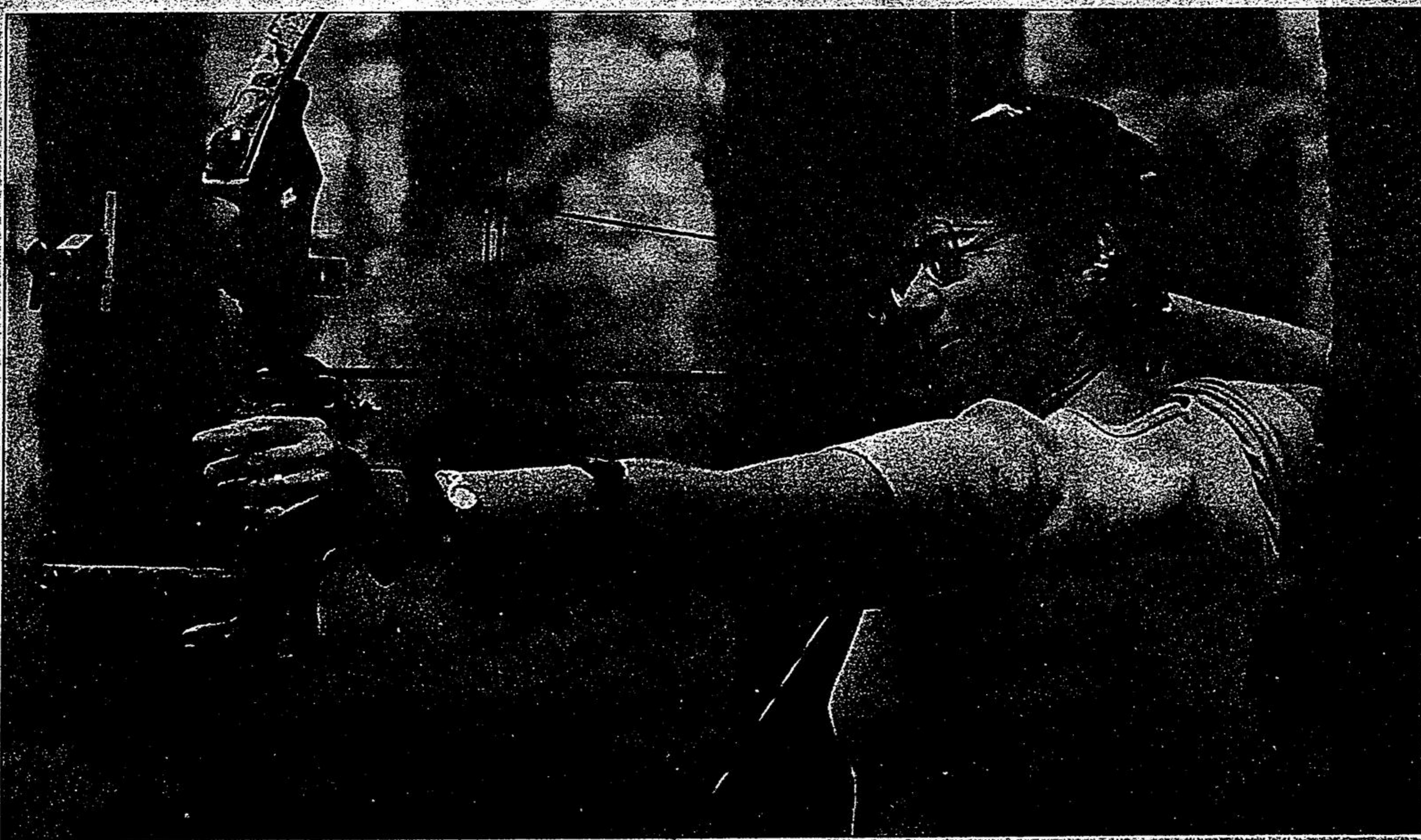
Thomas reminded council that Whitchurch-Stouffville has been tagged Music Town, Ontario since 1961.

"Music is Whitchurch-

Stouffville's heritage both vocally and instrumentally, dating back to our first village band in 1887," said Thomas. He added, "The Music Town, Ontario symbol has been widely publicized by the local media and endorsed by a cross section of our people. The Music Town slogan is a positive symbol, one that will last into the next millennium and beyond."

Despite the appeal, council agreed on 'Country Close to the City.'

The local business community, including the economic development committee and the chamber of commerce, all endorsed the 'Country Close to the City' slogan. As well, it's now on letterhead used to promote the town.



STAFF PHOTO/SIGERD WITTEVEEN

TAKING AIM

Stephanie Brown of North Gower, Ont., takes aim at a target last Saturday while participating in the York County bowmen sixth annual Canadian classic archery competition in Stouffville.

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