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7 Tammy Sutton-Brown caps a dream year of basketball with a selection to the Olympic squad.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

EVENT: Ride for Sight
WHEN: June 16 to 18
WHERE: Collingwood, 1-800-461-3331



9 This musical moose, known as Moozart, is bound for Toronto's Roy Thomson Hall.

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Council to consider leash-free dog park

Dog run parks found in several other areas

BY JOAN RANSBERRY
Staff Writer

Whitchurch-Stouffville is about to become a dog-friendly community.

A leash-free dog run will be set up at the end of Hoover Drive at the storm-management pond facility if council agrees.

The 15 members of the Association of Dog Owners residents who've volunteered to enforce the dog park rules — will be recognized today by Whitchurch-Stouffville council.

Now, unleashed dogs are not permitted to run free in parks including at the baseball diamonds at Memorial Park in downtown Stouffville. The law carries a maximum fine of \$130.

Despite the law, dogs are running free at ball diamonds and too many dog owners are ignoring the town's stoop and scoop laws, Councillor Cliff Dunkeld said.

Leash-free parks are not a new concept, town clerk Michelle Kennedy stressed. They have been operating in the United States for many years. Similar leash-free parks exist in Burlington, Mississauga, Oakville, Ottawa, Toronto and Montreal.

Dog-friendly areas are popular because they produce a safe place for dogs to exercise and socialize with other dogs and

See MEMBERS, page 4

Putting for show



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Linda Oakes of Sleepy Hollow Golf and Country Club in Whitchurch-Stouffville reacts as she putts just short on the 18th in the Ontario Ladies Golf Association Scarborough district championships at the Mandarin Golf and Country Club yesterday.

Location of tainted soil a mystery

Maple park will be re-tested in light of Walkerton fears

BY PATRICK CASEY
Staff Writer

Ground testing should continue at Maples Melville Park, even though contaminated soil was removed from it more than two years ago, according to Councillor Mario Ferri.

In December 1997, Vaughan officials ordered contractor P. Gabriele & Sons Ltd. to remove 150 cubic metres of soil during construction of the park after independent studies revealed the dirt was emitting a slight petroleum odour.

The earth also contained pieces of concrete, clay, silt and traces of a reddish, green and brown moist fill.

"I was quite surprised when I first heard of it and I know that staff conducted tests that I was satisfied with at the time," Ferri said yesterday. "But given the situation in Walkerton, you have to look at everything."

The park is situated between two elementary schools on Melville Avenue, east of Jane Street and north of Major Mackenzie Drive.

The city spent \$4,000 for a geo-environmental consultant to test the earth after receiving an anonymous telephone call on Dec. 15, 1997 relating that contaminated soil had been dumped and buried in the park.

Although the city had the soil removed, officials don't know where it came from and have no idea where it was sent.

Now Ferri wants city officials to re-test the park and he wants to be in attendance when they do it.

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