

Stouffville Says

By Hannelore Volpe

Which leader has impressed you most during the election campaign?

— Asked at Ikea at the 400 power centre.

Heather CAMPBELL



Dalton McGuinty. He stuck to the issues instead of resorting to personal attacks on the individual.

John NASH



I wasn't impressed by Ernie Eves linking the Holly Jones case to his campaign regarding keeping pedophiles out of neighbourhoods.

Sylvia HASAN

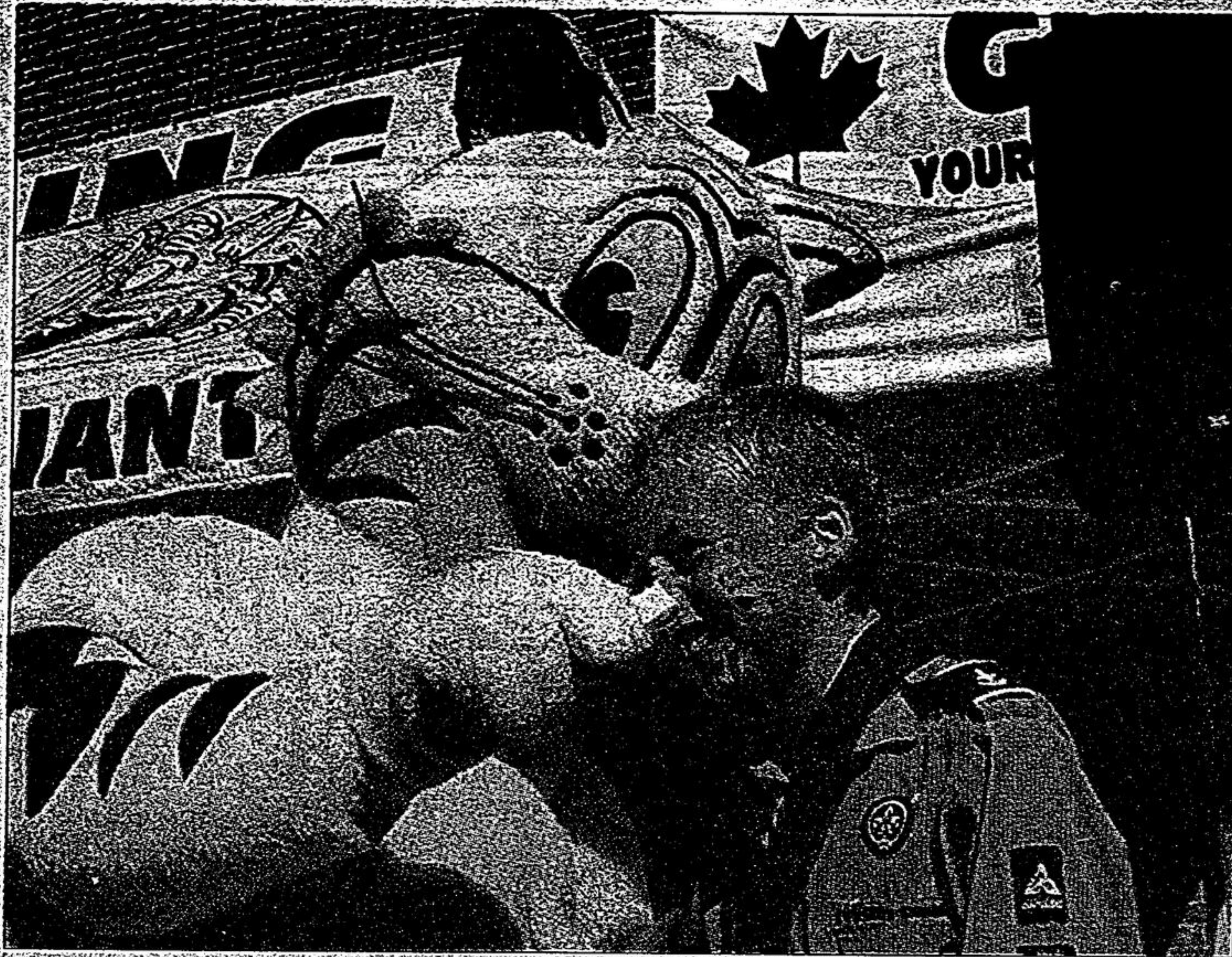


Ernie Eves. I like what he has in store for us such as no teachers strikes. I like the property tax rebate for seniors.

Collette BYRNE



I would say Dalton McGuinty because he is trying not to be nasty. I don't believe we have to be nasty to make a point.



STAFF PHOTO/JIM MASON

A little makeup goes a long way...

Giant Tiger mascot turns Joshua Gingras, 11, of the 1st Stouffville Scouts into a tiger during the recent grand opening of Stouffville's Giant Tiger outlet. The scouts, Stouffville Kinsmen and students from Stouffville District Secondary School staffed a barbecue at the opening that raised \$1,000 for the Parkview Home building fund. The store made donations to the Kinsmen and the scouts.

Noisy dirt bikers irk residents

BY HANNELORE VOLPE
Staff Writer

The piercing whine of dirt bikes zooming over hills and dales is keeping residents on Valley Road and adjacent streets in Musselman's Lake on edge.

Fed-up residents Patrick and Rita Saul came to plead their case before a recent Whitchurch-Stouffville council meeting.

The noise "is right in our back yard. It is so aggravating, we can't even sit on the deck," said Mrs. Saul. They have endured the situation for the past two years. "All the neighbours are tired of it," she added.

The dirt bikers now are mainly local children and teens, noted Keith Saunders, Whitchurch-Stouffville's senior bylaw enforcement officer. They ride on a 100-acre property on Ninth Line, owned by Mohammed Reda.

Previously, adult dirt bikers from Mississauga, Etobicoke, Toronto and other areas would bring giant trailers holding up to eight dirt bikes each to the site.

York Regional Police Councillor Mark Carroll and Mr. Saunders worked together for almost two years to dissuade them from coming back.

At first, the owner's fencing attempts and private property signs would sometimes last only three hours before the bikers were back with saws and pliers to take them down.

Residents have reported being awakened by the annoying racket of motorcycles as late as 1:30 a.m.

However, a continued increased police presence and extremely sturdy fences, with some added 2x4s put in by Mr. Saul for reinforcement, have kept most of the adult long-distance bikers away this summer.

Mr. Reda has given written permission for dirt bikers trespassing on his property to

be charged by police.

There is now Saturday and Sunday bylaw enforcement in the municipality and the property is one of the sites being watched, Mr. Saunders said. However, local youngsters continue to ride their bikes there.

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Mr. Saul asked town staff to put up proper fences on the property near his neighbourhood.

Mr. Carroll noted he had received a letter from the owner, who was willing to put up more signs.

Mr. Carroll put up some of the fences himself on the Ninth Line entrance used by the dirt bikers, but "they tear it down and drive over it," he said.

"We spent about 3-1/2 hours, putting these fence posts in."

Mayor Wayne Emmerson proposed he and Mr. Carroll meet with the owner and police on site to try and resolve the problem.

Briefly

Is your teacher tops?

Tell us why your teacher is one of the community's best. In a short letter, give details to support your submission. Once a month, York Region Newspaper Group editors will select a Teacher of the Month who will be eligible to win fabulous prizes, donated by local community-minded businesses that recognize the value of great teachers. October teacher nominations are now being accepted. Deadline is Oct. 15.

E-mail or mail your submissions today to editor Tracy Kibble at tkibble@yrng.com or fax them to 905-853-5379.

Debates planned

Residents have several chances next month to meet local candidates for the Nov. 10 municipal election.

The Whitchurch-Stouffville Chamber of Commerce is hosting two meetings for mayoral candidates. The Oct. 15 meeting is at the Ballantrae Community Centre on Aurora Road, west of Ninth Line.

On Oct. 30, all candidates for mayor meet at Latham Hall, Park Drive South in Stouffville. Both meetings start 7:30 p.m.

On Oct. 20, mayoral and council candidates have a chance to take part in a meeting billed as an election warm up at Stouffville District Secondary School from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

The event is co-sponsored by the Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Library and the Stouffville Sun-Tribune.

Jim Mason, editor of the Stouffville Sun/Tribune and Markham Economist & Sun, is moderator.

After candidates present their platforms, there will be a question and answer period open to the public. SDSS is at 183 Bramble Cr. off Ninth Line north of Main Street.

Quoteworthy

This is a prime example where a dog is needed.

Joanne Burnett, Stouffville mom, talks about her son's need for a guide dog. See story on page 10.

Contacting Us

Have a news tip? Please:

• phone us at

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• e-mail us at

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