

# Stouffville Sun-Tribune

THURSDAY, AUG. 26, 2004 ■ SERVING THE COMMUNITY OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE ■ 32 PAGES/\$1 INCLUDING GST



**6** Canadian sport needs money, ex-Olympian tells Jim Mason

Briefly ..... 3  
 Calendar ..... 8  
 Sports ..... 12  
 Classified ..... 16

## Photo radar about safety, not money: police board

BY MARTIN DERBYSHIRE  
*Staff Writer*

The head of the York's police services board is looking forward to the day photo radar is used on the region's roads, but a former York cop who fights traffic tickets says the devices are just a cash grab.

The region, the police services board and a majority of York Region's municipalities have long supported bringing back photo radar, police services board chairperson David Barrow said.

"People are not driving the speed limit, on regional roads or residential streets. It's one of the biggest calls we get, both councillors and police," the Richmond Hill regional councillor said. "So we're very interested in any kind of device that will get people to pay attention to the rules and laws on local streets."

The fight for photo radar was joined this week by the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, which formally asked the province for the right to use the devices in cities and towns across the province.

In response, Premier Dalton McGuinty, who gave the green light to red light cameras earlier this month, reportedly said he was open to the idea, as long it proved to improve safety and is not just used as a new form of revenue for municipalities.

David Matheson, founder and owner of XCopper Legal Services, which helps drivers fight traffic tickets, speeding tickets and drunk driving offences, said photo radar is all about collecting money.

"It's a cash grab and I don't think anybody seriously thinks it's not," he said. "It defies all common sense to

See PHOTO, page 5.



Catching air

Connor Miller, 9, makes a jump at the Over the Edge Skate Park in Stouffville Memorial Park last week.

STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

## TAX HIKES FROM GROWTH FEARED BY COUNCILLORS

# Parkview must pay fees for new home

BY HANNELORE VOLPE  
*Staff Writer*

Plans for the new, \$17-million Parkview Home for the Aged suffered a financial setback Tuesday when Whitchurch-Stouffville council decided not to waive more than \$324,000 in municipal development charges.

Organizers are hoping to open the 128-bed long-term care facility, on the Ninth Line next to the Parkview Village seniors apartments, in 2006.

Waiving the charges would have led York Region to follow suit, with its charges amounting to around \$228,000.

The discussions preceded council passing a new development charges bylaw.

### BREAK FOR OSPCA

The Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals headquarters in northern Whitchurch-Stouffville, however, did receive an exemption of around \$25,000 Tuesday as councillors upheld a 1999 decision.

Having to come up with more than a half million dollars "is a real blow," Joanna Reesor McDowell said in an interview after the meeting. She is the director of resource development for Parkview Home.

Relief from local development charges was factored into the fundraising process, she noted. Parkview has raised \$1.8 million toward its \$3 million goal from more than 800 local individuals and groups.

Originally the municipal charges

See COUNCILLORS, page 8.

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