

Stouffville Says

By Hannelore Volpe

What improvements would you like to see in Stouffville's parks?

— asked at Sobey's.

Ruth VOLK



I would like to see an outdoor theatre similar to the one in Aurora. It would give local musicians, especially young people, a place to perform throughout the summer.

Jim COWAN



In Memorial Park, everything should be in walking distance for children and young families. Bethesda Park could have the ball diamonds and lawn bowling greens.

Mike PENDERGRASS

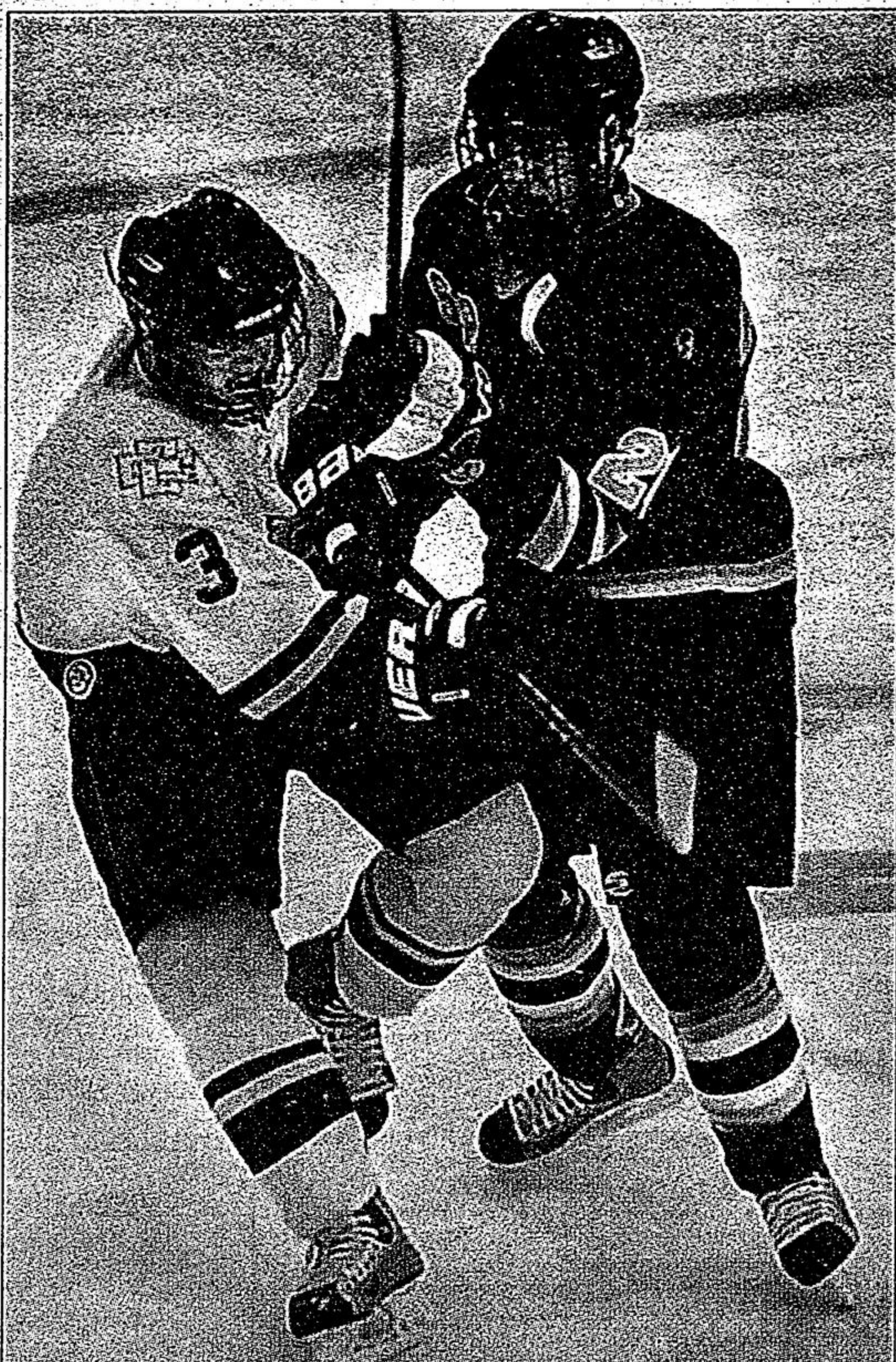


I like what is in Memorial Park now, although a wading pool would be nice. It could be used by the little kids to play hockey in the winter.

Bob HERBERT



A curling rink. The obvious benefit would be less travelling. A growing community like this could support such a facility.



STAFF PHOTO/TOM BARNETT

Spartans must win today at home

Stouffville District Secondary School's Alex Bruno (right) and Taylor Dinner of Aurora Cardinal Carter fight for the puck during senior boys' hockey playoffs at Bond Lake Arena. Cardinal Carter won the first game in the two-game series, 2-1. The Spartans must win today's game at Stouffville Arena, at 2 p.m. For more information, see story on page 22.

Briefly

McCowan Road reservoir will serve Markham

The large cranes that tower over the southeast corner of McCowan and Stouffville roads mark the spot where a large underground water reservoir is under construction.

It is to be connected to the Markham water system with a watermain that will eventually reach to an existing water reservoir site on McCowan Road south of the Markham Fairgrounds.

The new reservoir is to provide extra storage capacity for Markham. Tom Parry, Whitchurch-Stouffville's director of development services, said.

The height of the land at McCowan and Stouffville roads makes it an ideal location for the water reservoir which works on a gravity system, feeding the area as demand increases.

The reservoir and water system are anticipated to be in operation by the end of the year, Mr. Parry said.

Markham draws its water from Lake Ontario through the Toronto water system.

Maple Syrup Festival begins next month

The annual Maple Syrup Festival at Bruce's Mill Conservation Area will run from March 5 to April 3.

The event includes demonstrations, wagon rides and, of course, pancakes and maple syrup. Bruce's Mill is open Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on weekends from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Cost is \$7 for adults and \$5 for students and seniors. Parking is \$2.50 a vehicle.

Bruce's Mill is located on the south side of Stouffville Road, east of Warden Avenue. For more information, call 416-667-6299.

Quoteworthy

'It was Hitler's fault'

Gladys Back, Parkview Village resident tells CBC-TV show how she met her husband. See story on page 12.

Contacting Us

Have a news tip? Please:

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- e-mail us at jmason@yrng.com
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Town set to silence trains

BY JOAN RANSBERRY
Staff Writer

A move is on to silence the whistle at three Stouffville rail crossings.

Whitchurch-Stouffville council is expected to pass an anti-whistling bylaw Tuesday designed to silence GO trains at the crossings on Millard Street, Bethesda Road and the Tenth Line.

Tenth Line resident Lisa Hume is keeping a watchful eye on the issue. Armed with the signatures of her neighbours, Mrs. Hume plans to present Whitchurch-Stouffville council with a formal request calling on GO Transit to quiet its whistle on morning and evening trains at the three crossings.

"The mechanical arms, the bells and the lights are all

used at the crossings," Mrs. Hume said. "Why do we have to have the whistle?"

The trains are parked at the layover station on Bethesda Road near Mrs. Hume's home during the night.

'The town has received a flood of calls ... as soon as the whistles started, people started to call.'

"We hear the train whistle at 6, 6:30 and 7 a.m.," she said. "It wakes up the whole family. It scares the babies. The whistle blows three times in the evening as well. It is disturbing and it is unnecessary."

The train whistle has been

blowing since GO Transit's layover station opened Feb. 14.

Deputy Mayor Susanne Hilton will be backing the call for an anti-whistling bylaw. "I've supported this from the beginning," Mrs. Hilton said. "The town has received a flood of calls. People have expressed their concerns."

"As soon as the whistles started, people started to call."

Paul Whitehouse, the town's public works director, said safety issues have been addressed by GO Transit at the three crossings, paving the way for the whistle to be silenced.

"The train whistle will continue at Main Street," Mr. Whitehouse said. "There were too many (safety) issues at the Main Street crossing to turn the whistle off."



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FINAL Whitchurch-Stouffville Soccer Registration Day

For 2005 Outdoor Season For Children Born 2000 and Earlier

Saturday, February 26 at the Stouffville Arena on Ninth Line, 10am to 2pm

(Late registration will be available for any divisions with openings)

Sponsors, referees and coaches are needed

Plus men's and women's leagues for players aged 18 to 55