

Stouffville Sun-Tribune

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5 Students put books first, raising funds to stock school library

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500 acres protected in new Rouge park

Area named after Greenpeace founder

BY SIMONE JOSEPH
 Staff Writer

The provincial government has named 500 acres of land in the Rouge Valley a protected park, but local environmentalists believe the government needs to protect more land in the area.

"This is a giant step forward but we need more giant steps," said Glenn de Baeremaeker, president of Save the Rouge Valley and a Toronto councillor for Scarborough-Centre.

The park is being named in honour of Bob Hunter, who died in May. He was co-founder of Greenpeace and became a popular broadcaster who covered environmental issues for CITY-TV. He was recognized by Time Magazine as one of the Eco-heroes of the 20th century.

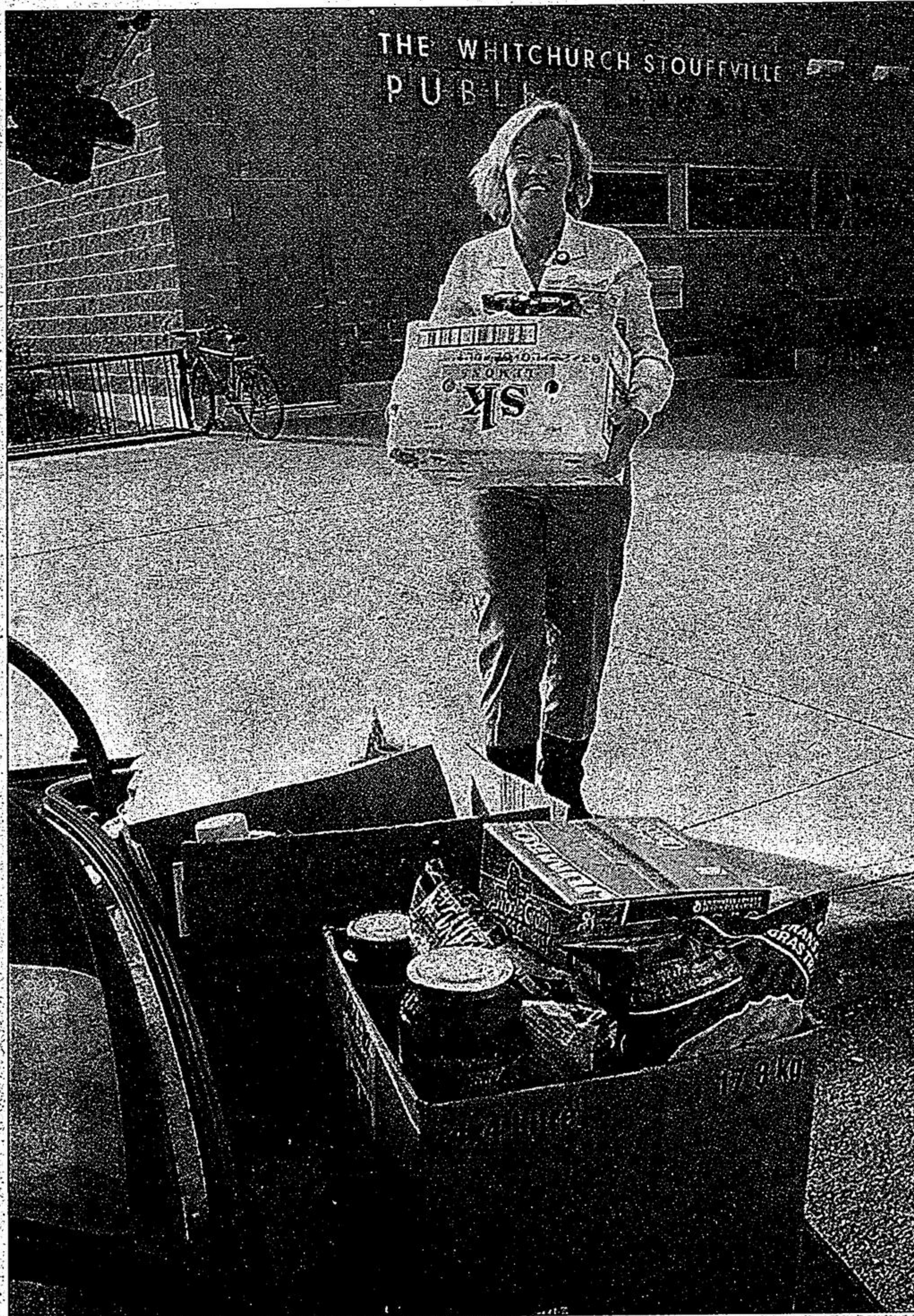
Setting aside the 500 acres of land in the Rouge Valley ensures this Markham land is protected, according to provincial and municipal politicians.

"This will help further protect the Rouge Valley and serve to honour a great environmentalist while at the same time providing an opportunity to experience nature close to home," Markham MPP Tony Wong said.

The Rouge Valley is known for

See HUNTER, page 13.

Library dues pay off



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Library CEO Carolyn Nordheimer loads her trunk with goods headed for the Stouffville Food Bank. The food was collected from library patrons who paid off overdue book fines with food donations.

Shut off your engines, or else

Drivers face \$150 fine if caught idling vehicles

BY JOAN RANSBERRY
 Staff Writer

Markham's new anti-idling law is now in place.

After observing a vehicle idling for more than three minutes, Markham's bylaw enforcement officers can now issue a \$150 ticket.

Markham has posted signs throughout the community about the law and encouraging voluntary compliance. Warnings may also be issued to individuals or firms whose vehicles are found idling.

While Markham's bylaw officers have issued written and verbal warnings to motorists caught violating the new law, no tickets have been handed out yet, town staff reported.

Air quality issues are becoming increasingly important to the overall health of the environment and our community, Mayor Don Cousens said.

"Environmental management is one of the town's priorities. By controlling unnecessary idling, we are helping everyone take a step toward reducing pollution," the mayor said.

Eva Ligeti, a spokesperson for Clean Air Partnership, pointed out Markham is joining the growing number of Ontario communities introducing anti-idling bylaws.

"These communities are taking the lead to

See IDLING, page 13.

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