

Bob Hunter Park gets provincial cash

BY SERENA WILLOUGHBY
Staff Writer

The province will give \$100,000 for Bob Hunter Memorial Park, Markham's last, best forest.

The money allocated by the Municipal Affairs and Housing ministry will be given to the town which is expected to work with the Rouge Park Alliance in developing a management plan for the park.

The land, adjacent to Rouge Park in Markham, is 500 environmentally sensitive acres on the western edge of the Rouge Valley.

The park also protects two cold-water stream valleys feeding the Little Rouge Creek.

It is bordered to the north by Hwy. 407, to the south by Steeles Avenue, to the east by Little Rouge Creek and to the west by a CPR line.

The area is home to the hooded warbler, a nationally threatened species, as well as more than 380 plant species and 91 bird species.

Bob Hunter Park will be

built on land already protected by the Greenbelt Act and adds to the almost 10,000 acres protected by Rouge Park.

Named after the environmentalist and co-founder of Greenpeace, the park was initiated after consultations with the Markham, York Region, Rouge Park and the Hunter family.

Mr. Hunter was president of Greenpeace from 1973 to 1977 and is credited with launching the modern environmental movement.

He spearheaded campaigns to protest nuclear testing and commercial whaling and is credited with promoting a broader understanding of environmental issues.

His work also included a career as a journalist, working for the Winnipeg Tribune and the Vancouver Sun in the 1960s and most recently as City TV's ecology specialist from 1988 to 2005.

Mr. Hunter died May 2, 2005 at age 63.

Emotional show hits Stouffville

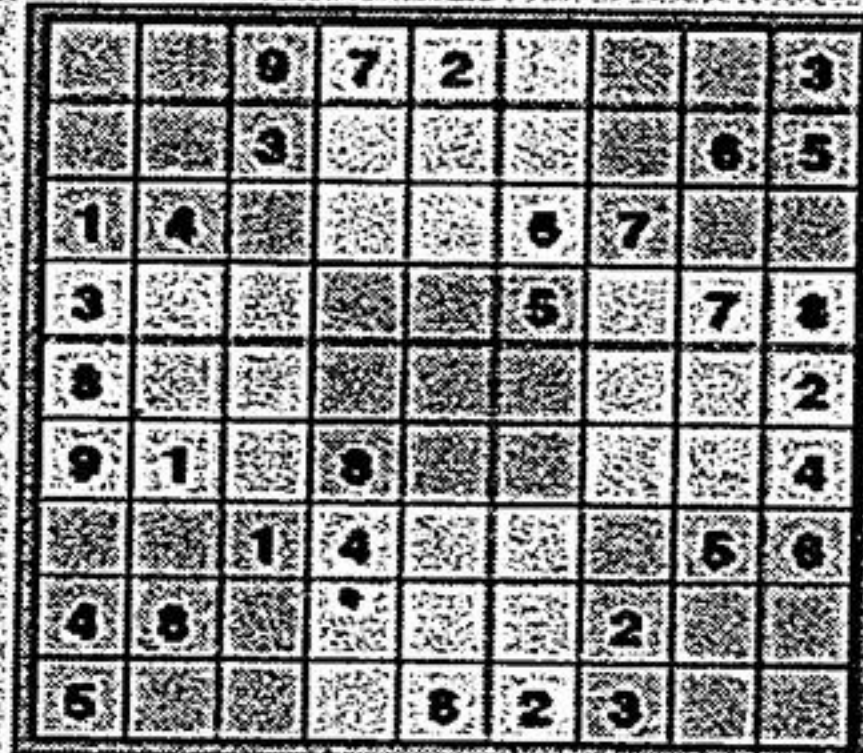
Music Mania, Stouffville's annual community variety show, takes to the stage at Stouffville District Secondary School April 27 to 29 at 8 p.m.
Called 'I Second That

Emotion, the show features music, singing, dancing, skits and blacklight.

Tickets are available from downtown Stouffville merchants and are \$15 for adults and \$6 for children 12 and under.

The show has been an annual spring tradition since 1960.

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