

Stouffville Sun-Tribune

THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 2007 ■ SERVING THE COMMUNITY OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE ■ 24 PAGES/\$1 INCLUDING GST



3 Stouffville Christian School getting new house of learning

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Puck stops here



METROLAND PHOTO/RON HOWDEN

Stouffville Spirit netminder Trevor O'Neill thwarts Matt Caranci of the Collingwood Blues during the Spirit's 3-1 win in Collingwood Tuesday. The Spirit goalie was named game MVP by his teammates. The Spirit leads the Provincial Jr. A Hockey League North Conference semifinal 2-0. Game 3 will be played tonight at 7:30 at the Stouffville Arena. For more information, see the story on page 18.

Latcham Gallery, radio station interested in old town hall complex

Council says yes to arts, culture centre

BY HANNELORE VOLPE
Staff Writer

The word "YES" on a sign held up by Councillor Rob Hargrave reflected the mood of Whitchurch-Stouffville council, which voted Tuesday night to go ahead with an arts, culture and entertainment centre into the old town hall at 19 Civic Ave.

The vote allows an architect to be hired to come up with a design and costs for the building behind the Clock Tower. The findings will likely be presented to council in late May.

The estimated cost of the project is \$2.64 million. The municipal share of around \$1.5 million will come from the town's hydro

reserves, development charges and park trust.

And two potential tenants have already come forward. The Latcham Gallery and Whistle Radio are eyeing the building as a home base for their operations.

This was one of the few times in the past decade that a council meeting centring on the old building didn't feature raucous behaviour.

Two-time mayoral candidate Randy Mole, however, received the most enthusiastic but polite applause when he called the centre "a small intimate setting allows the timid to be bold, the young to be curious, the old to be strong."

He vowed to give \$5,000 to the centre, assuming it goes ahead, and challenged others to make donations.

Relief was palpable on the faces of some people, including Sara Marsala, who operates Tempest in a Teapot, a tea and gift shop, after the decision to go ahead was reached.

"We have to stop thinking of ourselves as a small town," Mrs. Marsala said. "People are sophisticated and cosmopolitan and this location will serve their purpose."

The move sends a strong message that Stouffville is willing to preserve and

STATIONS CLOSED
OR ON LIMITED SUPPLY

Drivers snap up gas while they can

BY HANNELORE VOLPE
Staff Writer

Whitchurch-Stouffville drivers are on the prowl for that suddenly precious commodity, gasoline.

And no one is quite sure how long the shortage will continue.

Motorists have their say on fuel shortage/page 3.

In Stouffville, drivers can only drive past some gas stations, such as Canadian Tire and Olco, because they've been closed for several days.

At Olco, at Ninth Line and Main Street, a sign had been attached to the pumps saying, "Due to changes in the gas industry, we are no longer serving fuel."

Others have run low on premium gas or have had dry spells. A block west, the gas station at the Mac's Milk convenience store had no fuel for more than three days, dealer Raz Ghougamanian said.

After receiving a shipment at midnight, however, business was brisk on Tuesday. The gas is supplied by Imperial Oil.

"Everybody's out of gas," Mr. Ghougamanian said, eyeing the vehicles lined up at the pumps.

See GALLERY, page 7.

See TOWN, page 15.

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