

# Stouffville Sun-Tribune

THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 2007 ■ SERVING THE COMMUNITY OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE ■ 32 PAGES/\$1 INCLUDING GST



**3** First-ever Relay For Life night raises \$60,000 for Cancer Society

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## ME FIRST, I'M THE OLDEST



DAVID BROOKS PHOTO

Baby trumpeter swans compete for their mother's attention about four hours after hatching last week at Pause Awhile Equestrian Centre on McCowan Road. Six of seven babies survived. The Lemonville centre has been home to a breeding pair of trumpeters for seven years. The Stouffville Reservoir and Island Lake have also been home to trumpeters.

### TOWN HALL, CIVIC SQUARE, BALL DIAMONDS FIRST ON MEMORIAL PARK TO-DO LIST

# \$11.4 M parks' plan, road approved

BY HANNELORE VOLPE  
 Staff Writer

Take a good look at Memorial Park during next week's Strawberry Festival. Whitchurch-Stouffville. It's about to be re-modelled.

Stouffville's downtown park is set for the largest transformation in its history after council's near unanimous decision Tuesday evening.

With the exception of Councillor Rob Hargrave, council approved moving ahead with the

Memorial Park and Bethesda Park master plans.

While tax dollars will pay for a portion of the \$11.4-million price tag, the majority of the cost will be covered from other sources. The cost of Bethesda Park (around \$4.7 million) and about half of Memorial Park's \$6.7-million renovation bill will be paid for by development charges received from builders.

The remainder of the costs are to be funded by a combination of

park trust funds, the town's capital reserves, possible government grants, corporate donations and community fundraising.

The projects are anticipated to be complete in 2014 or 2015.

The first changes you'll notice are the renovation of the old town hall into a multi-purpose arts and culture centre and the revamping of Civic Square, complete with a water feature. Both of these projects, part of the plan for neighbouring Memorial Park, are

expected to start next year.

A parks service building should also go up next year next to the Lebovic Leisure Centre.

The year 2008 is also when Memorial Park will undergo its first changes, with the removal of the ball diamonds, south of Thicketwood Boulevard, the outdoor pool, recycling depot and skate park.

Concerns were raised about whether the new pool would indeed be a pool or just a splash

pad. The town is still open to residents' suggestions, Mayor Wayne Emmerson said, noting a decision has not been made on how the pool will look.

"There shouldn't be a summer without an outdoor pool," said Elizabeth Tracey, a Stouffville resident who ran unsuccessfully in the last municipal election.

Councillor Hargrave was concerned facilities not be taken out of

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