Commercial Street concerns councillor

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this year because 24 parking stalls behind the old town hall at 19 Civic Ave. won't be available due to the building's renovation into an arts and culture centre. After that's complete, 19 of the spots will be removed entirely.

The estimated cost of this first phase is \$170,000.

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More parking spots will be created in the park in a second phase of construction after the tennis courts and bowling green are relocated. Preliminary plans show future tennis courts and bowling green to the south of the Lebovic Leisure Centre.

Once both phases are done, there will be 66 parking spots behind the old town hall and in the north end of the park.

The new parking areas will be divided by a central travel corridor for parking for

a bazaar, farmers market or art in the park display while the other area provides parking for people visiting downtown shops and services.

More parking could also be created on Commercial Street, which is north of Main Street between Church and Mill streets.

After a meeting about parking and other issues on Commercial Street almost fizzled due to lack of attendance in March, the town decided to spend another couple of months trying to contact property owners. If the owners agree, their parking lots could be reconfigured to create more parking.

That way, everyone will have access to the back of their stores and have more parking, Mayor Wayne Emmerson said.

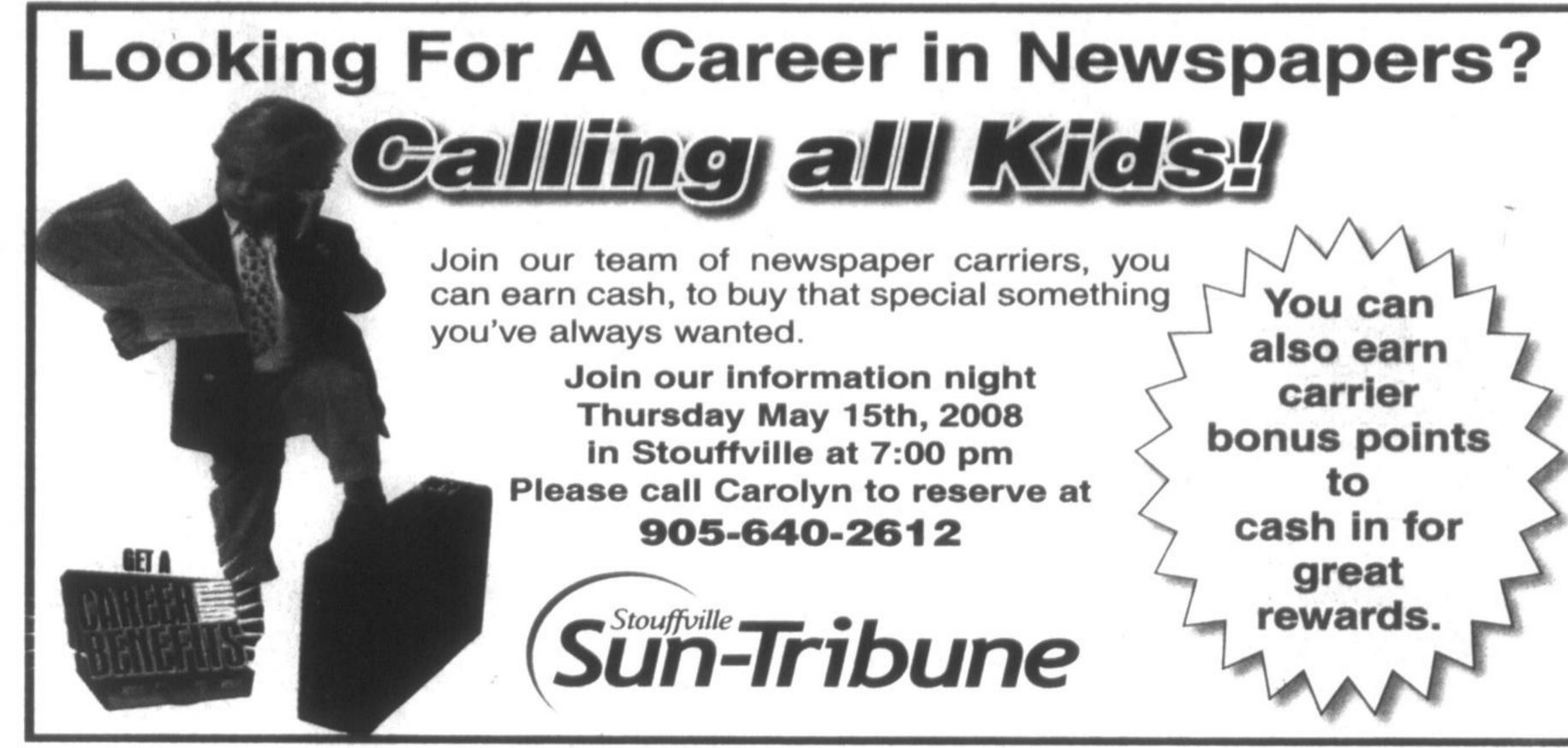
Another 10 to 14 parking spaces could be created, said Councillor Richard Bartley, who has also been advocating to have the area cleaned up.

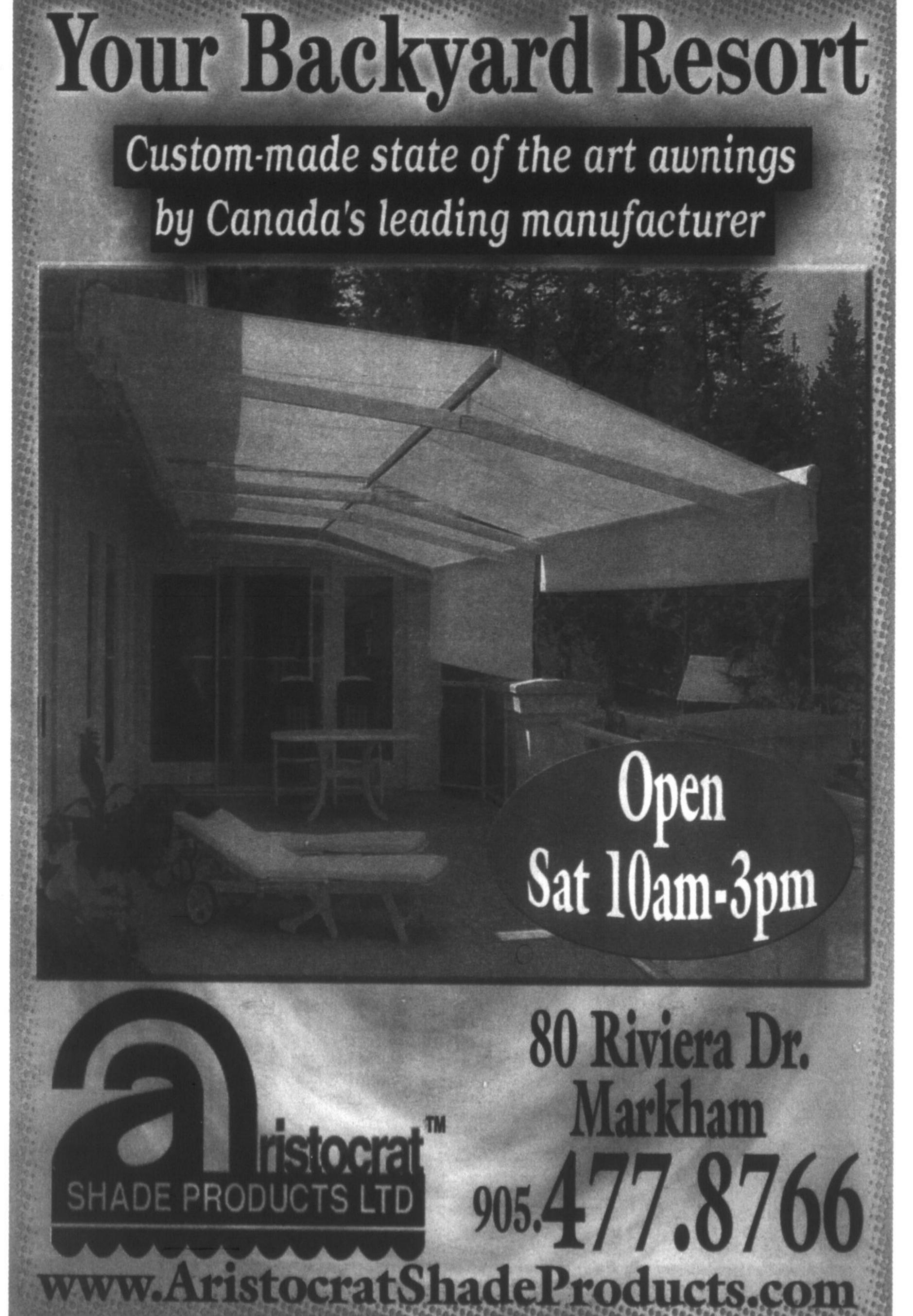
He wants to see the street properly lit and have two centralized garbage containers in this area so refuse is no longer strewn over the street.

He has been in contact with some of the business and property owners in the area about improving parking.

The improvements would make Commercial Street a "better part of the downtown", said Mr. Bartley, who represents the area.

Since not all merchants own the buildings they're in, Mr. Emmerson is encouraging local businesses to contact their landlords so they can meet with the town.







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