

# Stouffville Sun-Tribune

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**10** Stouffville mouthguard incident  
wake-up call for all athletes

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## RESIDENTS CHALLENGED TO SHOP DOWNTOWN

*'We can't do it all'  
mayor tells luncheon*

BY SANDRA BOLAN  
Staff Writer

The town has done all it can to help revitalize Stouffville's downtown, including turning the old town hall into a performing arts centre, but now it is up to the businesses and residents to step up to the plate, according to Whitchurch-Stouffville Mayor Wayne Emmerson.

"We can't do it all," Mr. Emmerson said at the annual Mayor's Luncheon hosted by the Whitchurch-Stouffville Chamber of Commerce Wednesday.

Stouffville BIA manager Ruth LeBlanc couldn't agree more, noting that during every election the downtown becomes a hot-button issue for voters.

"You wanted it, you claimed it was so important ... well, support it," Ms LeBlanc said in an interview.

Stouffville, once a quaint small town where everyone lived, worked and shopped locally, is slowly turning into a commuter town where people work and shop elsewhere.

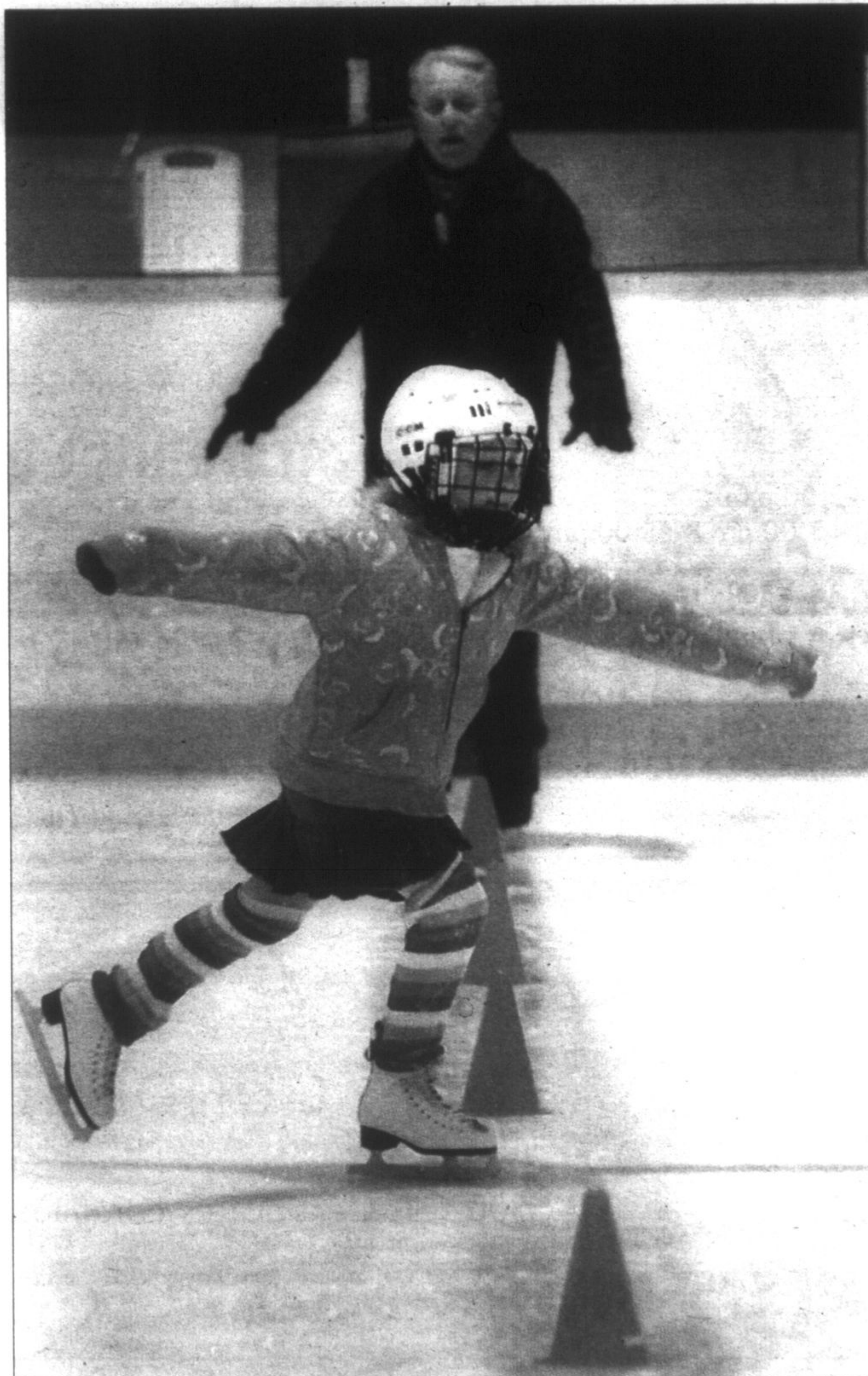
"It's time residents come and show their support," Ms LeBlanc said.

But for many residents who choose to shop everywhere else but downtown Stouffville, the claim is they do so because of poor hours and lack of selection.

"The more people that shop

See **EATERIES**, page 9.

## FIGURING IT OUT



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Mikayla Zarlenga follows the instructions of Stouffville Skating Club coach Hans Ahlgren during practice at the Stouffville Arena Tuesday. For more on the club, go to [stouffvilleskate.com](http://stouffvilleskate.com)

## Bowlers homeless, no sign of doctors

*Months after centre closed,  
kids have left sport: ex-owner*

BY SANDRA BOLAN  
Staff Writer

It's been nine months since the last bowler rolled a strike down the lane at the Stouffville Bowling Centre.

The building that once housed Main Street's five-pin institution for more than 50 years was to be transformed from a six-lane bowling alley into a state-of-the-art, two level multi-doctor medical office.

Today, that portion of the building stands empty with wires hanging down from the torn-apart ceiling, beams are strewn about, garbage blocks the front door and all evidence of the former lanes' existence is gone, except for the lone trophy perched atop the front desk. "They've ripped everything out," said John White, former proprietor of the Stouffville Bowling Centre.

Mr. White, who leased the centre for 11 years, was forced to close up shop last May so the building's owner, Magnetic Realty Investments' Jack Chang, could begin renovating.

Since all of the bowling equipment was customized for the location and Mr. White opted to not relocate the bowling alley, he decided to leave all of the bowling equipment inside and intact, on the off-chance Mr. Chang would change his mind.

Last September, Mr. White was given permission to return inside the building to retrieve something he left behind. What he saw, broke his heart.

"They had ripped all the machinery out. At

See **TOWN**, page 7.

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