

# Stouffville Sun-Tribune

THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 2009 ■ SERVING THE COMMUNITY OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE ■ 24 PAGES/\$1 INCLUDING GST

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## Curlers ready to rock house

2010 now unlikely for Stouffville club

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Local curlers are ready to rock the house, but they are still waiting for the town to provide a list of available land on which they can build the facility.

However, they may not have to wait much longer.

"We're going to get back to them with sites shortly," said Rob Raycroft, Whitchurch-Stouffville's manager of facilities and parks. "If there is a spot we can help them with, we certainly will."

It is curling club tradition that members pay for the construction and maintenance of the facility through annual dues, while the municipality owns the land.

"One of the issues becomes it (has to be) self-supporting once it's built," according to Al Hachey, a curler and curling club committee member.

It's been just over a year since Mayor Wayne Emmerson called an open house to determine if there was sufficient interest by residents to build a curling club in town.

There are more than 300 Whitchurch-Stouffville residents currently curling outside of

town including in Unionville, Uxbridge and Newmarket, according to Mr. Hachey.

There are also the 300-plus residents who signed their names to a list last year stating they would like to see a curling club in Whitchurch-Stouffville.

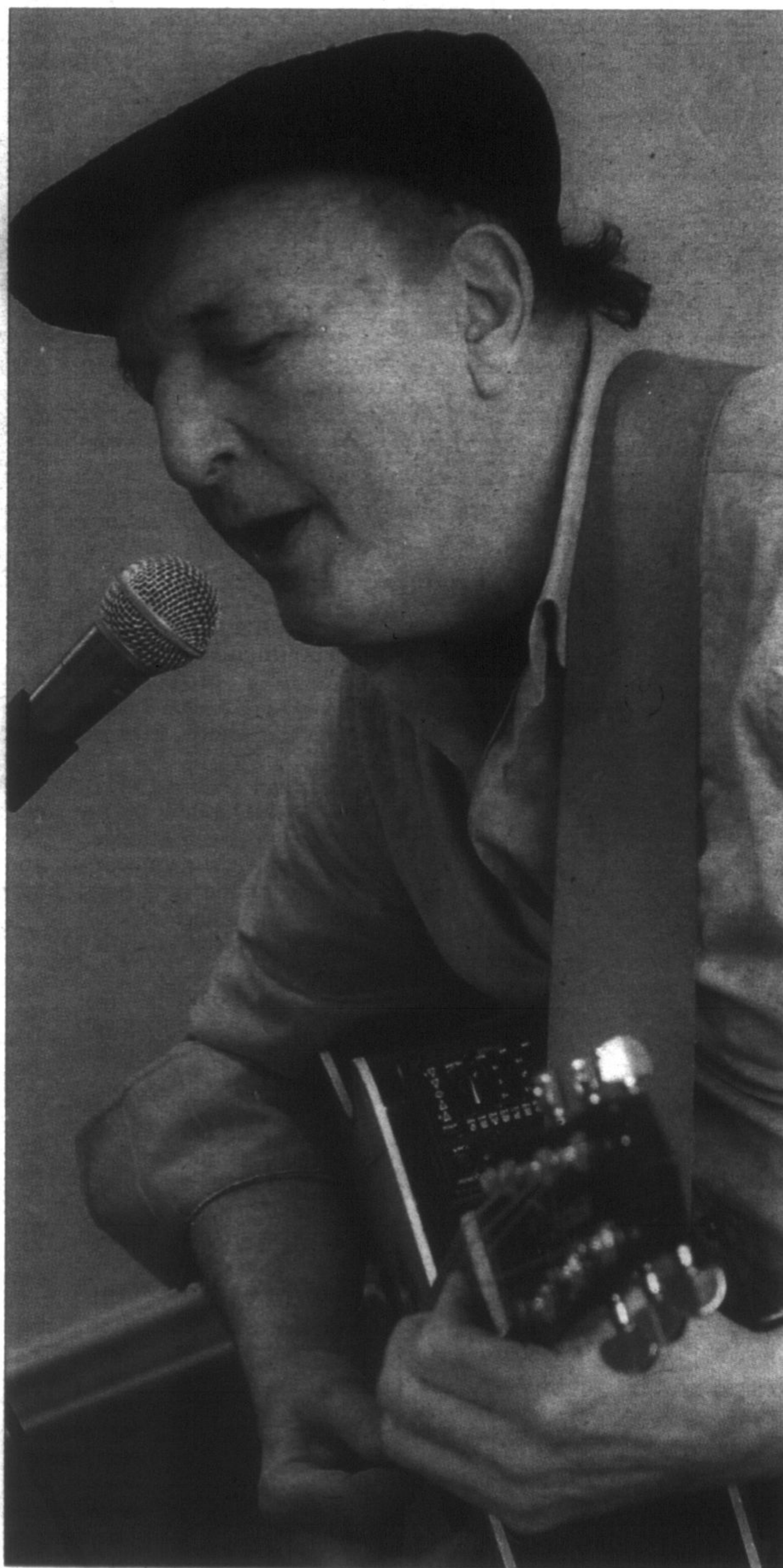
"But that doesn't say they would be curlers," Mr. Hachey said. "(However,) there's a feeling it would go well."

When the concept for the club was first brought forward, the committee wanted to not only attract avid and recreational curlers, but also new ones.

"Our goal, when we started, if and when the facility could be built, we would engage the elementary and high schools to make it grow," Mr. Hachey said. "I think our big drive is going to get the non-traditional curlers in — we've got to start them young."

Following last year's open house, the curling committee was working towards a potential 2010 project start date.

"I don't think 2010 is possible, but I don't know," Mr. Hachey said. "The concern right now is that this is a bad economic time. But on the other hand, there may be money from the government because they're interested in getting infrastructure built."



## Green Day

Stouffville residents were wearing the green and celebrating St. Patrick's Day Tuesday. Boris Mischenko (left) provides the musical lead for a St. Patrick's Day sing-a-long and social for seniors, including Jean Hammond (below), at the Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Library. Local taverns also provided Irish entertainment and green beer for patrons Tuesday.



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