

COMING UP

Events in Whitchurch-Stouffville

EDITOR'S PICK

Plenty of material for Bon Jovi tribute act

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All along the Vegas strip, people can see live shows by Cher, Tina Turner, Dolly Parton, Elton John and yes, even Elvis.

None of these performers is the real thing, but you wouldn't know it.

Stouffville is no Vegas, but on Jan. 23, Bon Jovi Forever will take the stage at Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 459 for a live performance.

"In Canada, we're tagged as the premium tribute band to Bon Jovi," said Shamus Black, the band's bassist and background vocalist.

Bon Jovi Forever started seven years ago after audience members remarked how much lead singer Baz Littlelock sounded like Jon Bon Jovi.

With 16 albums worth of material and numerous looks for Mr. Littlelock to choose from, including the spandex and tousled mane of the 1980s, Bon Jovi Forever opted

to pay tribute to the band's more modern look, while still belting out all of the hits.

"Bon Jovi is basically a corporate chameleon," Mr. Black said. "Bon Jovi has wavered a whole bunch. He's delved into country and done so many different things. He's manipulated his audience into listening to varied types of music."

STOUFFVILLE LEGION

Although one would expect the biggest audience reactions to come from tunes on the *Slippery When Wet* and *New Jersey* albums, that isn't always the case.

"We've been fortunate the country stuff he's chosen to do ... goes over quite well and we're actually getting our best responses from that stuff, which is a bit surprising," Mr. Black said.

So what makes a good tribute artist?

"The look is 50 per cent of it," Mr. Black said. "If you look like somebody, you're halfway there."

You can learn how to sing like them or move like them."

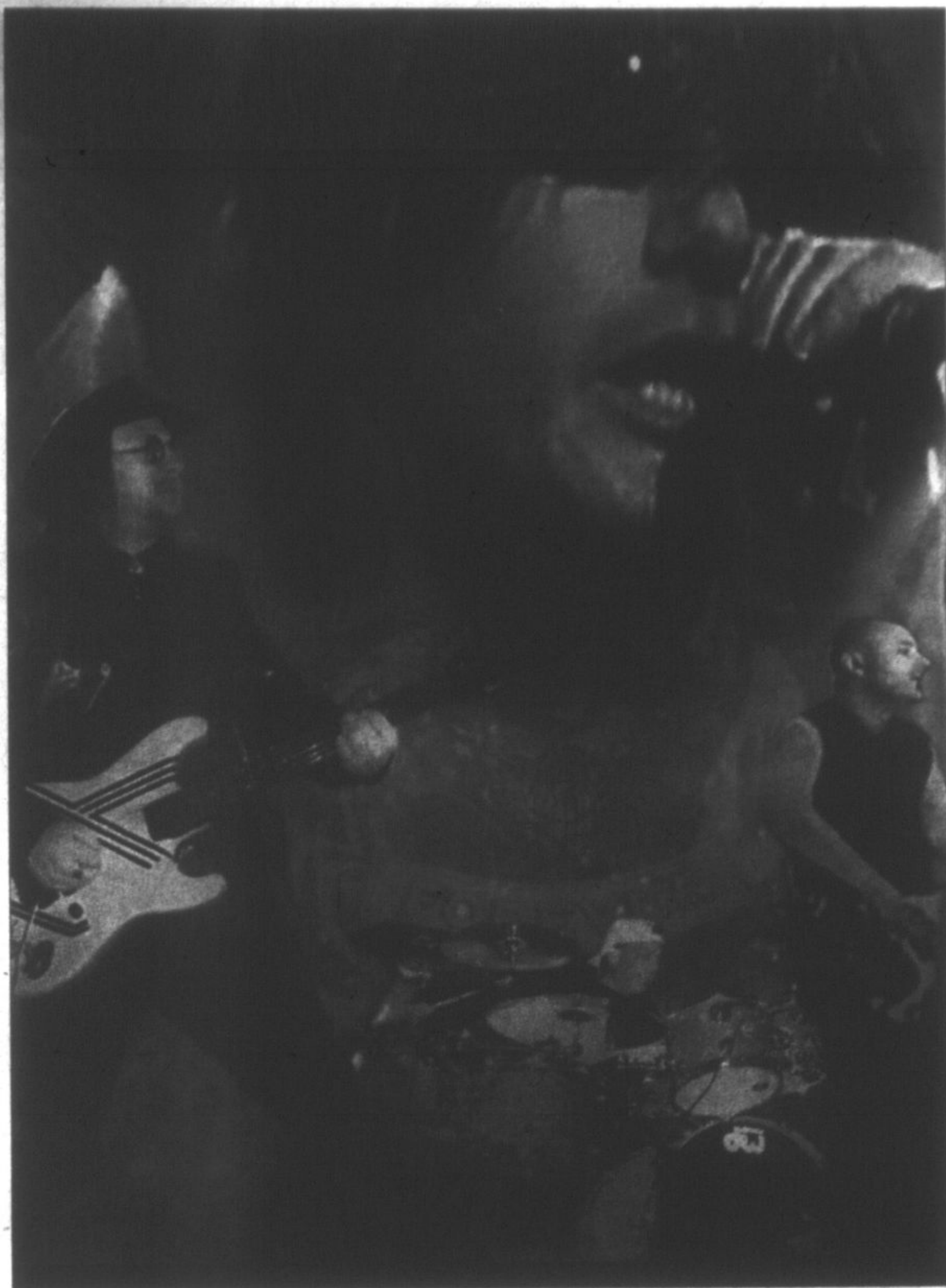
Then there's the catalogue of songs.

"You want to have a vast number of songs to choose from that are hits," Mr. Black said.

For awhile, it looked like Stouffville was going to be the place for tribute artists this month as Night Fever (Bee Gees) and Abbamania were both scheduled to perform at the Lebovic Centre for Arts and Entertainment - Nineteen on the Park.

However, the performances have been cancelled by the promoter, according to Steven Foster, cultural facility and programming co-ordinator for the performing arts centre.

Bon Jovi Forever will be at the Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 459, 12278 Ninth Line, on Jan. 23. Tickets are \$10 and the show starts at 9 p.m.



Bon Jovi Forever plays the Royal Canadian Legion in Stouffville on Jan. 23. They've been touring with the New Jersey band's songs for seven years.

grand re-opening
McDonald's
in Stouffville
January 4th-10th, 2010



- 4pm to 8pm
- Monday Upsize your Extra Value Meal for free
- Tuesday 2 can dine for \$8.98
- Wednesday Upsize your Extra Value Meal for free
- Thursday \$1 soft drinks, any size
- Friday Free pie with your Extra Value Meal

- All Day
- Saturday \$1.99 Happy Meals
- Sunday \$1.99 Happy Meals

- Sunday, January 10th
- 11am to 1pm Face painting
- 1pm Official Ribbon Cutting and Cheque Presentation
- Meet Ronald McDonald in person!

.10 cents from every coffee purchased all week will be donated to the Whitchurch-Stouffville Food Bank

Bring in a non-perishable item this week to support your food bank.

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