

EDITORIAL

ADVERTISING
905-640-2612

Classified: 1-800-743-3353
Fax: 905-640-8778

DISTRIBUTION
905-640-2612

EDITORIAL Editor

Jim Mason
jmason@yrmg.com

ADVERTISING Retail Manager

Mike Banville
mbanville@yrmg.com

Classified Manager

Bonnie Rondeau
brondeau@yrmg.com

DISTRIBUTION Circulation Supervisor

Carrie MacFarlane
cmacfarlane@yrmg.com

Stouffville Manager

Carolyn Norman
cnorman@yrmg.com

PRODUCTION Manager

Sherry Day
sday@yrmg.com

INTERACTIVE MEDIA Marketing & Advertising Manager

Dauna Andrews
dandrews@yrmg.com

York Region Media Group community newspapers

The Sun-Tribune, published every Thursday and Saturday, is a division of the Metroland Media Group Ltd., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Torstar Corporation. Metroland is comprised of 100 community publications across Ontario. The York Region Newspaper Group also includes The Liberal, serving Richmond Hill and Thornhill, Vaughan Citizen, The Era-Banner (Newmarket/Aurora), Markham Economist & Sun, Georgina Advocate, York Region Business Times, North of the City, yorkregion.com and York Region Printing.

LETTERS POLICY

The Sun-Tribune welcomes your letters. All submissions must be less than 400 words and must include a daytime telephone number, name and address. The Sun-Tribune reserves the right to publish or not publish and to edit for clarity and space.

Letters to the Editor, The Sun-Tribune
6290 Main St.
Stouffville, ON
L4A 1G7

jmason@yrmg.com



OPINION

6290 Main St.
Stouffville, ON, L4A 1G7
www.yorkregion.com

PUBLISHER Ian Proudfoot

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Debora Kelly

BUSINESS MANAGER
Robert Lazaruko

DIRECTOR, OPERATIONS
Barry Black

DIRECTOR, ADVERTISING, DISTRIBUTION
Nicole Fletcher

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Last chance for council

Re: Long-awaited lake park belongs on beach, council, column by Deborah Waddington, Feb. 20.

The issue of a park at Musselman's Lake has been simmering since the town announced plans and held meetings last year.

At that time, town staff did not include a lakeside park (specifically the old Glendale Beach) in its list of recommended sites. Since then, the only update I can get is staff are in negotiations with the four owners of the potential sites.

Whitchurch-Stouffville is graced with several lakes but, as far as I know, the shoreline of all of them is in private hands. Certainly Musselman's Lake is surrounded by "No Access to Lake" and "No Trespassing" signs. The old Glendale Beach is one of the most beautiful vistas overlooking the lake and comes complete with a vacant parking area and access to the Ninth Line. It even looks inviting on Google street view.

I'm sure town staff are dili-

gently pursuing value for money in their negotiations with land owners, some of whom may be quite interested in unloading properties. But the town already has an abundance of public forests and open spaces. What it doesn't have is anything like the unique property at Glendale.

I heard at one town meeting there were potential liability problems with an unsupervised beach. I would refer anyone with such concerns to Sunset Beach Park on Lake Wilcox in Richmond Hill where the same concerns have been addressed.

The opportunity to turn the last empty property on our lake into a public place for all to enjoy before someone realizes it is a prime location for high-end residences (see also Lake Wilcox) should not be wasted.

I hope it's not too late for council to look beyond the usual trade-offs and lowest-cost alternatives towards a park that could be a centrepiece of the whole town.

DARYL RUTT

MUSSELMAN'S LAKE



Three Stouffville Guys, one excellent Olympic trip

Call us Three Stouffville Guys and our Vancouver host, all sharing the experience that was the 2010 Olympic Games.

My son, Glen Newmarch, Graydon Card Jr. and I are all from Stouffville. We joined host Martin Vine during the Vancouver portion of our trek.

It was three weeks to remember for so many special reasons.

Glen travelled 13 hours in his recreational van from Didsbury, Alta., to meet me in Langley, B.C. After a one-day visit with Martin, we drove by Glen's van 20 miles north of Whistler to meet Graydon. We stayed at Graydon's home in "The Meadows".

Graydon and Glen know the area after spending a couple of years skiing and working in and around Whistler in the 1980s.

We spent three days skiing together, two in solid sunshine. There was time to meet old ski friends while enjoying wobbly-pops at day's end.

Whistler was preparing for the Olympics.

Glen and I had tickets for four venues around Whistler: ski jumping, men's luge, cross country skiing and combined downhill/slalom skiing.

Our first Olympic experience as a fan was ski jumping. A gorgeous sunny day, thousands of spectators,



Stan Newmarch

about 60 competitors and a large viewing screen. At the end of each jump, the two VANOC announcers replayed the scene on the screen and explained the different styles and timing marks of each competitor. So many enthused fans were prompted by the VANOC cheerers.

We were amongst the 200 to 250 family members of the athletes. We were impressed by the excitement of all the fans. All were happy to be in Whistler and enjoy the first day of Olympic competition.

The jumps averaged 100 metres. The VANOC staff were adept at encouraging all visitors to cheer and holler for each competitor. This assured an enthusiastic and engaging response for the competitors.

A full day, including breakfast and

bus travel, lasted about eight to 10 hours. Actual competition time, four to six hours.

On the second day, we enjoyed luge. The luge was too quick for amateur photographers. The only times possible for still pictures were at the start and finish.

On the third day, it was time to take in cross-country skiing. We sat in the sun, again amongst the families of athletes. It was an amazing setting for this event, with the distance to see the participants on trails from afar — the tall trees indicating the trail positions as far as 200 metres away — as they climbed the grades and one-ski pushed around the bends.

The fourth event, combined downhill and slalom, was cancelled because of excessive overnight snow and the lack of time to groom prior to the intended start. We learned of this when we arrived by bus at the bottom of the hill. Save a climb.

Those fans in the know would have consulted early morning TV at about 5 a.m. We missed that. We spent another enjoyable sunny day touring the Whistler area, watching live TV event shows, doing some shopping, touring the local museum and spending time with friends from Ontario.

Graydon and a friend would later make good use of the tickets. Glen and I were to be in Vancouver the next day.

What a blessing the new road between Whistler and Vancouver is. Thanks, VANOC.

We wanted to see all of the city during the day and watch TV coverage in the evenings.

We met Martin in Langley, a suburb on the far west side. He drove and directed us to the overhead Sky Train system.

Because of potential earthquakes, Vancouver's public traffic system of fast street cars was built over the city a change for us in lieu of going underground to a subway. Sky Train is just as plentiful and fast.

We saw 22 musicians perform a tribute to Neil Young in an opera house, with Elvis Costello directing. No TV required this night.

We visited Canada Centre, China Town, the Olympic flame and rings, historic centre, Waterfront Terminus, Granville Island, False Creek and many original buildings.

The crowded streets of happy people were an indication of the popularity of the Olympics.

Our VANOC trip was complete after three weeks of fun.

I made it back to Stouffville in time to see our men's hockey team win gold. Mission accomplished.

Stan Newmarch is a 44-year Stouffville resident, ardent skier and outdoor sports fan.