

Stouffville Sun-Tribune

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STOUFFVILLE MOTHER'S DAY IN-BLOOM DELUXE HANGING BASKETS

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Double play: 2nd fastball team slides into town

BY MICHAEL HAYAKAWA
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When the first pitch is thrown out to start the Oshawa City and District Fastball League this season, there will be more than just one team in Stouffville.

While the Stouffville Menos play their traditional home games at Memorial Park Thursday evenings, another local entry will do the same during the same 8:30 p.m. time slot at a nearby location.

The Stouffville Jones Pools team will make their league debut and play their home contests on the new Bethesda Park ball diamonds.

Launching the drive to form the Jones Pools entry was Paul Koert, a Stouffville native and renowned lefthanded hurler who played with the national men's team along with several high level United States-based International Softball Congress entries.

Koert, 31, said his interest in forming the team stemmed from his return to Stouffville after residing the last few years in Brooklin.

"I'm just trying to revive fast-ball in Stouffville," he said. "I have a lot of friends who I played

See **MARKHAM'S**, page 24.

TALENT TIME



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Leif Johnson sings his own creation, Change the World, during Stouffville Has Talent auditions at Latham Hall Monday. The finals of the youth week talent search are tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. at the Lebovic Centre for Arts and Entertainment - Nineteen on the Park. Admission is free.

THURSDAY FOCUS

'Not many of us left': veterans

Stouffville friends off to weekend Second World War ceremonies

BY SANDRA BOLAN
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Jim Rae wanted to be an aero engine mechanic when he enlisted in the Canadian Air Force, but the military had enough of them, so he became an air frame mechanic.

Cyril Back, who was born in Canada but moved to Britain at three-and-a-half years of age with his family, was drafted into the British Royal Air Force and wanted to be a pilot. But he was too light, even after six months of trying to gain weight.

The British military, however, still wanted Mr. Back. He became a member of the tactical air force mobile headquarters unit as well as a member of an air sea squadron.

Council thanking veterans at inaugural municipal event next month/page 18.

The two men never met during the Second World War, but the pair became fast friends during their weekly bridge games at the Silver Jubilee Club for seniors in Stouffville. The pair will be attending the 65th anniversary of VE Day on Saturday in Hamilton together.

"There are not many of us left," Mr. Back, 88, said.

"I think (these types of celebrations are) very important to the veterans, I really do," Mr. Rae said. "They bring back a lot of memories

See **FRIENDS**, page 18.

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