Stouffville. n-Iribune

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COMING UP

Movies, dogs 26th festival

Strawberry schedule opens with bang

> **BY SANDRA BOLAN** sbolan@yrmg.com

The 26th annual Whitchurch-Stouffville Strawberry Festival officially opens two weeks from today with some changes to the agenda.

The People's Parade has moved from Saturday to Canada Day.

"It's a beautiful precursor to the kick-off of festival," said Kristina Toomey, the festival's event co-ordinator.

The July 1 schedule also includes the popular Canada Day cake and fireworks in Memorial Park.

Look for the official Strawberry Festival guide with Saturday's Sun-Tribune.

The Downtown Stouffville Farmers' Market will operate all three official days of the festival - July 1 to 3 - and crafters will join them on Park Drive Friday and Saturday.

Saturday's Main Street market will have the same look as other years, with vendors set up in the north and south curb lanes of Main Street between Park Drive

See RIDE, page 25.

STRONG TO THE FINISH



Tyler Ribi of Stouffville's Summitview Public School finishes second in a 100m race at the York Region public elementary schools track and field championships at the Connell-Franklin Track next to the Stouffville Arena on Tuesday.

Town would lake park

Residents like price, but many prefer spot on water

> BY SANDRA BOLAN sbolan@yrmg.com

Musselman's Lake is getting a park, but will anyone use it?

On Tuesday night, council endorsed the purchase of about 155 acres from the James Coultice Estate property, otherwise known as Wagon Wheel Ranch.

But because the proposed five-acre portion of the property being proposed for the park is off Ninth Line southeast of the lake and secluded, many residents believe the town is creating a space that is dangerous to get to by foot and a potential hot spot for undesirable activity.

"You're taking your life in your hands sometimes with traffic," said area resident Bob James of walking along Ninth Line.

"We need to get regional traffic off this road if we're going to make it a success," said Musselman's Lake resident and former local councillor Mark Carroll. "I think we need to take Ninth Line and make it a community road."

That is not going to happen anytime soon according to Mayor Wayne Emmerson.

"I think it's better the region look after it," he said.

Although some residents opposed the park's location, no one could argue against its purchase price - \$2.

Four of 13 residents who spoke at the meeting supported the site.

See LAKESIDE, page 10.

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