

## 'Not proud of... my disgusting acts'

The 17-year-old who painted Stouffville last fall has said he's sorry.

A letter of apology to the community from the youth, who admitted responsibility for a spree of graffiti in court last month, was read by Mayor Wayne Emmerson at a town council meeting Tuesday. The boy cannot be identified.

Excerpts include:

"I am truly sorry for the disgusting acts I have committed against this town. I am now realizing that what I have done has caused a lot of grief, stress and fear in my home town, which is something I am not proud of."

"It should be known that acts of graffiti were never gang-related or intended for the sole purpose of damaging property. My graffiti was conceived from artistic desires and I now understand that this was completely the incorrect venue for my talent."

"I owe this town and my parents so much for allowing me the chance to clean up my graffiti, and hopefully make things better ... I hope to be able to give back to this community."

## Town wanted cash

From page 1.

He had to complete 20 hours of community service and write a letter of apology to the town.

Mayor Wayne Emmerson, who had complained the sentence should have paid for the cleanup, read the letter out loud during this week's meeting.

The cost to the town to clean up the graffiti was about \$10,000. The town requested financial restitution be a part of the youth's sanctions, but the request was denied by the judge.

# Councillors battle over ball park

From page 1.

"Staff are recommending that the total variance with a maximum of \$140,858 be submitted to the authorities of the Infrastructure Stimulus Fund Program, as a request for grant amendment. In lieu of the approval of additional costs, Staff recommend this variance be funded from the park trust," wrote Andrew McNeely, director of planning and building services for the town.

"We have a real mess down there," said Mr. Hargrave, whose ward includes the park. "Cost out all the elements, don't do it in piecemeal fashion and go over budget on every one of them."

The project consists of a covered grandstand extending from the first baseline to the third baseline at what's known as the main diamond.

The backstop has been designed so the lower row of screens, which are about 10 feet high, can be removed for events other than softball to assist in viewing.

The lower three-foot section of the backstop would be finished in red brick to add to the architectural image of the feature, according to Mr. McNeely's June 15 report to council. It cost about \$80,000 more than originally budgeted.

"(It will) elevate and promote the ball diamond as a 'signature facility'

**'If (Rob Hargrave) had attended more than 70 per cent of the council meetings and more of the public meetings, he could have realized there was a lot of discussion on this project'**

Clyde Smith  
town councillor

and ... reinforce its importance as a sports venue within Memorial Park," Mr. McNeely wrote.

Work not in the original plan includes the extension of the storm sewer and catch basins from the backstop through to the Memorial Park entry gates and the oversizing of the storm sewer to accommodate overland flows from Church Street to the north.

"Funding this scope of work in the present term will assist in the future reconstruction of Church Street to the north," Mr. McNeely wrote.

"I think we are in no position to move forward with this," said Mr. Hargrave, who also claimed the town was spending \$1 million without public input.

That statement was disputed by Mr. McNeely who said on Sept. 1, 2009, when council received and adopted the

preferred rehabilitation concept plan of Memorial Park's diamond No. 1, no residents attended the meeting.

He also noted meetings were held with the affected user groups.

Councillor Clyde Smith also took issue with Mr. Hargrave's accusation.

"If the councillor had attended more than 70 per cent of the council meetings and more of the public meetings, he could have realized there was a lot of discussion on this project," Mr. Smith said.

The motion to award the reconstruction of the ball diamond to Latitude 67, which is an affiliated company of S&F Excavating, the contractor for phases one and two of Bethesda Sports Park, was passed five to one. Mr. Hargrave was the only nay vote.

"I think it would be outrageous to walk away from (\$550,000) in government grants," Mr. Smith said.

Added Councillor Ken Ferdinands: "I don't believe that funding will ever be available again. I think we take the money."

Construction will begin early next month.

"If we delay much beyond this council meeting, we run into a time line problem," Mr. McNeely said, noting in order to be eligible for the funding, the project must be substantially complete by March 2011.

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## FOCUS on Business

### EGGXPERTS

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Eggxperts specializes in Eggs Benedict, pancake dishes and tasty bacon, sausage and eggs, as well as omelets, sandwiches and salads. But Bernadine has thrown a few curves at the traditional breakfast fare, adding several varieties of berries, fruits, cheeses and vegetables to wake up any taste bud.

"It's the most important meal of the whole day and studies show that people who eat breakfast perform better," says Bernadine. "But I wanted to balance the traditional breakfast of eggs and sausage with healthy ingredients like fruit and vegetables."

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