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905-895-6517**

**M-F 10:00AM - 9:00 PM
SAT: 9:30AM - 6:00 PM
SUN: 11:00AM - 5:00 PM**

OPINION

No picnic rejigging Memorial Park

The redevelopment of Stouffville Memorial Park hasn't been a picnic.

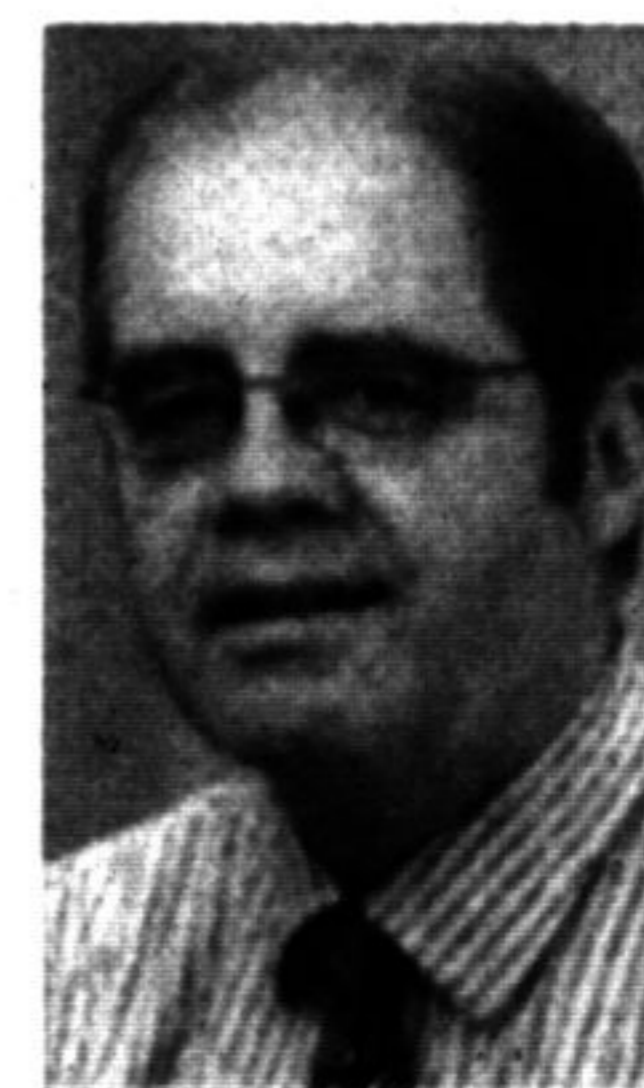
The controversial ride seemed to start with little kids protesting the loss of their beloved toboggan hill by posting hand-painted posters on a fence.

And as impressive as the softball, and soccer, fields are at beautiful Bethesda Park, there's still bemoaning over the loss of two diamonds in the heart of the community. Replacing them with a road didn't go over well, either.

This summer, the town started closing the roadway through the park during weekends. Writers of letters to the editor disagreed over the need for the additional safety measure.

But what may have been most interesting was the photographic evidence sent in with one of the letters, showing nary a soul using the park at multiple times of a sun-filled July weekend.

To be fair, the project isn't complete.



Off The Top

with Jim Mason

But I don't think that was what the town has in mind when it promoted "passive and quieter" recreation at the new-look park.

Then again, I don't think either of those adjectives will be in vogue at the park this weekend.

Starting tomorrow, the inaugural Stouffville Community Ribfest comes to town.

And are we the last place in Ontario to get a ribfest?

Think rockin' country bands, carnivals rides, hot-

air balloons, a car show and thousands of pounds of meat sizzling in the summer sun.

Hopefully, the neighbourhood hasn't been lulled into a fall sense of passiveness, at least since the booming Canada Day fireworks extravaganza.

The controversial ride seemed to start with little kids protesting the loss of their beloved toboggan hill ...

It wasn't that many years ago that the park was a weekly beehive of activity, with seemingly non-stop softball and lawn bowling tournaments, amongst other activities.

Like it or not, that's all changed, Stouffville.

Jim Mason is editor of The Sun-Tribune. Follow him on Twitter @stouffeditor

Whitchurch-Stouffville
Antique & Classic Car Show
40th Annual
Sunday, August 11, 2013
11:00 am - 4:00 pm
(Rain Date: Sunday Aug. 18)



100's of Antique & Classic Cars
Prizes, Live Music by ZedHead
Children's Activities, Magic and Games
BBQ with Burgers, Fresh Corn on the Cob and much more!

Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum and Community Centre
14732 Woodbine Avenue.

For more information,
please call 905-727-8954
or go to www.townofws.com

Admission:

Exhibitors Free | \$7.00 per person | \$17.00 per family (4 people)
Children under 7 years are free

24 hours a day,
7 days a week

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Heart disease and stroke claim more than 79,000 lives each year in Canada.

This message brought to you as a community service of The Stouffville Sun Tribune