

Winter Carnival A Family Affair

On Feb. 9 from 1 to 4 p.m., the Winter Carnival at Musselman's Lake celebrates its 10th anniversary with a wonderful afternoon of outdoor activities, indoor entertainment and all-round family fun.

Ward 2 councillor Phil Bannon, who has been organizing Whitchurch-Stouffville's biggest winter party since it began in 2004, emphasized that this is a celebration for the whole community, not just residents of Ballantrae and Musselman's Lake.

"We're going to have hay rides through Shadow Lake, pony rides, a petting zoo, ATV rides, an ice sculpture competition, hockey competitions and all sorts of gifts and prizes," he said. "We want to encourage people to bring their skates so that they can skate on the lake."

Entertainment in the Cedar Beach Pavilion includes performances by local dance studios, music by the air cadets squadron band, and the irrepressible antics of perennial favourite and master of ceremonies, Doo Doo the Clown. Free face painting and balloon hats will be part of the fun.

Tables will be set up in the pavilion to showcase community services including Whitchurch-Stouffville Library, Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum, Stouffville Community Policing Centre and the Department of Leisure Services. "The museum and library put on some really interactive shows and we try to make sure we promote as many departments as we can," said Mr. Bannon. The Policing Centre

will provide free safety identity kits for children.

And no one goes hungry at the carnival, with free hot dogs, hot chocolate and beaver tails prepared by the Ballantrae Scouts. "Over the years we were asking for donations of loonies and toonies, with all money raised donated to the Ballantrae Beavers and Scouts, which raised thousands of dollars for them. This year, because it's the 10th anniversary, everything is free."

Putting on an event of this scale would be impossible without strong community support, Mr. Bannon noted. "I would really like to thank (Cedar Beach Park owners) Janet Davies and Kyle Jenkin. They come in, turn on the heat and water and set up for us. It's just amazing that they would do that

every year for the past 10 years."

He also pointed out that Mike Feld of Most Excellent Productions is an integral part of the event's success. "He has generously donated his equipment and experience every year since the start. I'd also like to thank Musselman's Lake Residents' Association (MLRA), who help out as part of the committee. They donate their time to come out and support us - it's a great association."

Come out and join the party on Feb. 9. For more information visit www.philbannon.ca or click on the MLRA's site at www.musselmanslake.ca.



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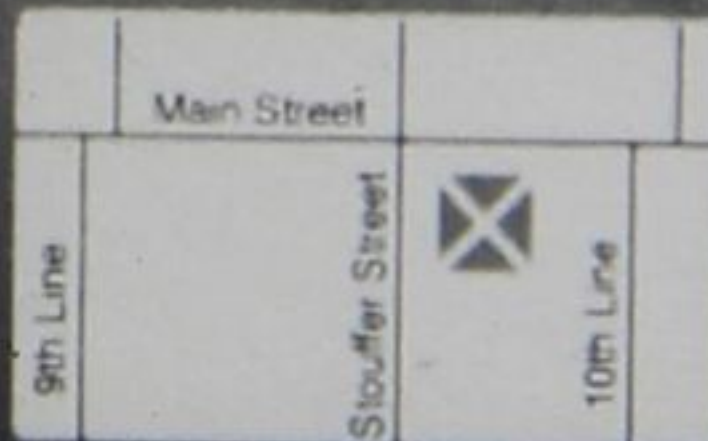
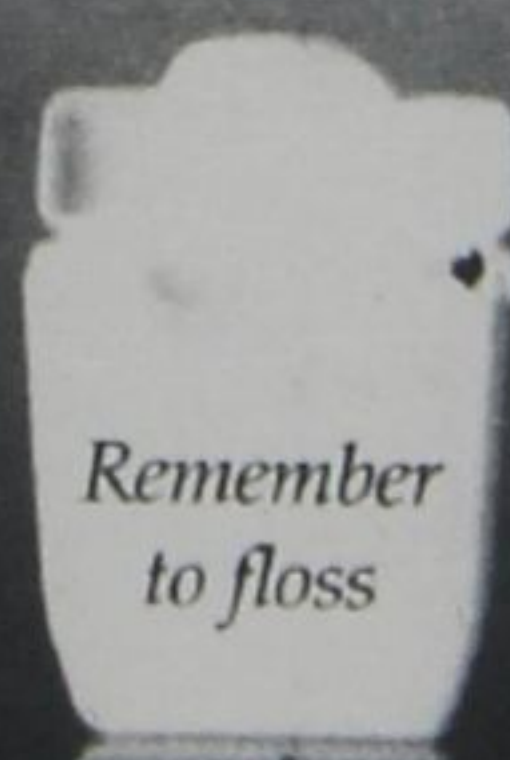
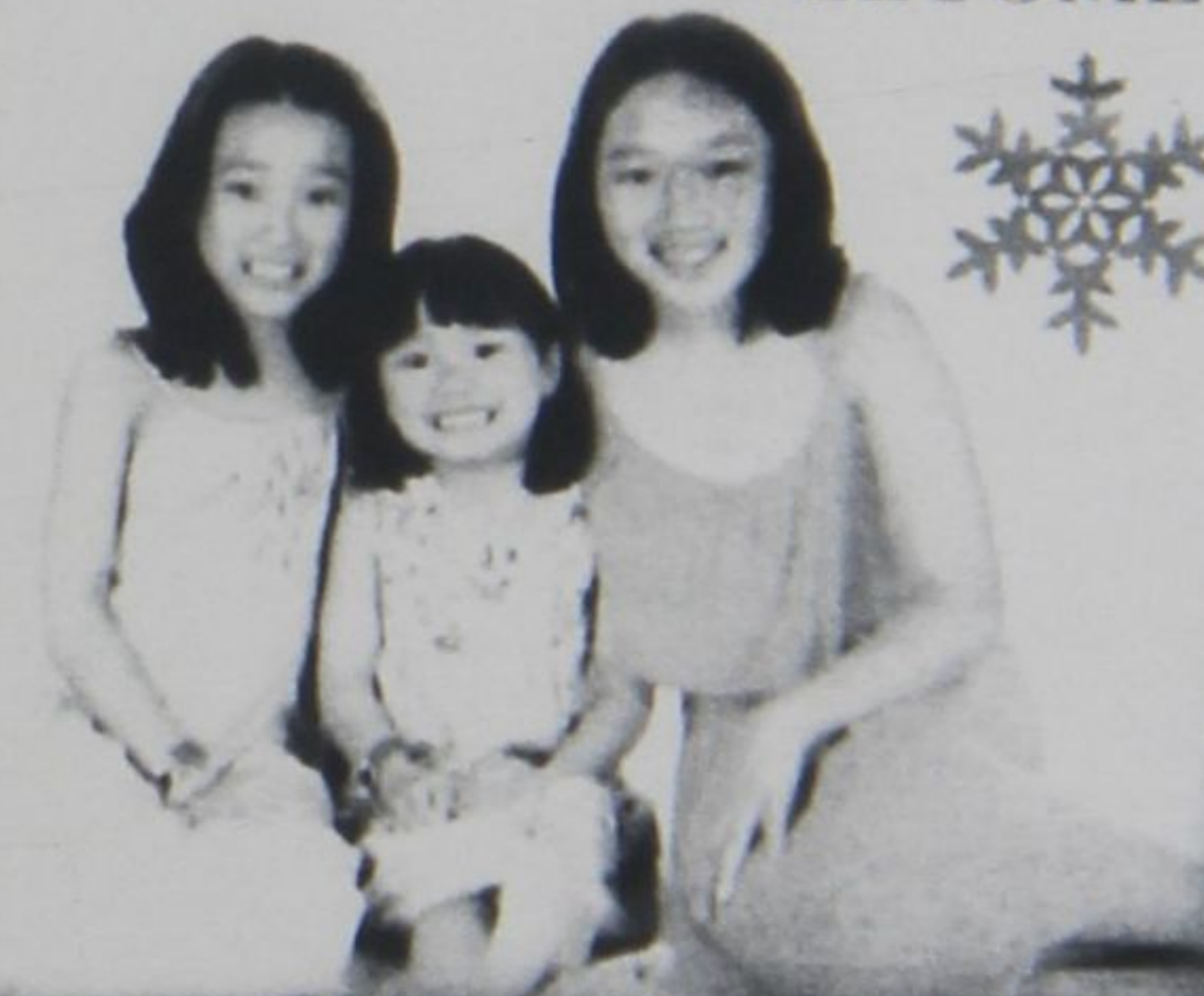
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