

Town Businesses, Individuals Band Together To Fence In Boyd's Rink

By Bruce Stapley

Thanks to a group of supportive Stouffville business people and private citizens, the sign saying "Permanently Closed" might come off Ian Boyd's Buttermakers Pond rink this winter.

The enclosed outdoor rink was closed last February due to vandalism. "Skaters ignored signs to stay off when the ice conditions were poor, damaging the rink," said Mr. Boyd, who built the facility behind his Ringwood Dr. Boyd's Source for Sports retail store property in 2000. "The rink lights were turned on in the middle of the night. The wires to the lights were cut and wired directly to a plug off the back of the store." At one point Mr. Boyd was even challenged by a man from Toronto one morning after flooding the rink. "I asked him to get off the ice as it was not frozen yet and he asked 'Who is going to make me get off?' I just don't need the hassle."

But Mr. Boyd has suggested he'd be willing to reopen the facility if a fence with locking gate was built around it. "That means I'd be able to close the rink for service if the ice is poor. It would be open most of the time."

Enter Stouffville businessman Rick Callaghan. The Stouffville resident and long time hockey coach has offered to help out, committing himself to raising enough money to have the fence erected. "We need an outdoor rink like that here in Stouffville," said Mr. Callaghan. "A lot of people use it. I coach kids and we have always used that rink for practices. Other coaches have used it too. Ian has bent over backwards for this rink."

Mr. Callaghan has been canvassing local business people and private individuals to collect the \$7,500 needed to erect the fence. He has raised over \$4,000 and is confident he can come up with the remainder. "Ideally, if we could get about \$250 from

each business we could do it. So many people have used the rink."

Contributors so far have included Card's TV and Appliances, Barthau Jewellers, N & A Automotive Services, Advanced Automotive, Betz Pools, Gemini Store Fixtures, the Kuman Educational Institute of Canada, East Side Mario's, 410 Auto, Al's Automotive Service, McGregor Allsop Ltd., Giles Chevrolet and Stouffville Fish and Chips. "There have also been several anonymous private contributors," said Mr. Callaghan.

Mr. Boyd is delighted at the prospect of seeing the facility opened up once again. "I like putting the ice in, for my own kids and for other kids. It gives the kids something to do."

But having used a combination of raised funds and his own money to build the rink originally, he said he wasn't about to go knocking on doors once again. "I've done my part. I don't want to put any more

this
**SPORTING
LIFE**

money into it, and I'm not going to go out and solicit funds again."

"It would cost \$150,000 to build a facility like that now," suggested Mr. Boyd. "There have been as many as 800 to 1,000 kids a week using the rink in the winter, including moms, little girls, and grandfathers."

Mr. Boyd said last year was the first time he'd had any trouble in the five years the rink had been in existence. He suggested that the fence, along with some vigilance on the part of the Stouffville community at large, could help guarantee that the rink would stay open. "We just need the people using it and others in the community to keep a watch on it. It only takes a few seconds to drive by and look at it."



The Whitchurch-Stouffville
Chamber of Commerce
wishes all town residents and
businesses a Merry Christmas
and a
Prosperous New Year.

We ask that you shop at our local
businesses this Holiday Season and
throughout the Year.

6176 MAIN ST., STOUFFVILLE

905-642-4227

WWW.WHITCHURCHSTOUFFVILLE.CA

EMAIL: CHAMBER@WHITCHURCHSTOUFFVILLE.CA



Rick Callaghan
and Ian Boyd
hope to have the
Buttermakers Pond
rink open again
this winter.

Ballantrae's Auto Care Centre Frank's Wexford Service Centres Limited

• Serving the Motoring Public Since 1971 •

*Wishing You A Very Merry Christmas
a Festive Holiday Season!*

fence

HGK

Playbooks

WINTER SPECIAL

Lube, Oil, Filter, Tire Rotation, Top Up All
Fluids, Battery & Charging System Analysis

\$29.95

(Most Vehicles, 5W30 or 10W30 Conventional Oil)

WIX FILTERS

EXIDE

Parolator

THE SPECIALIST

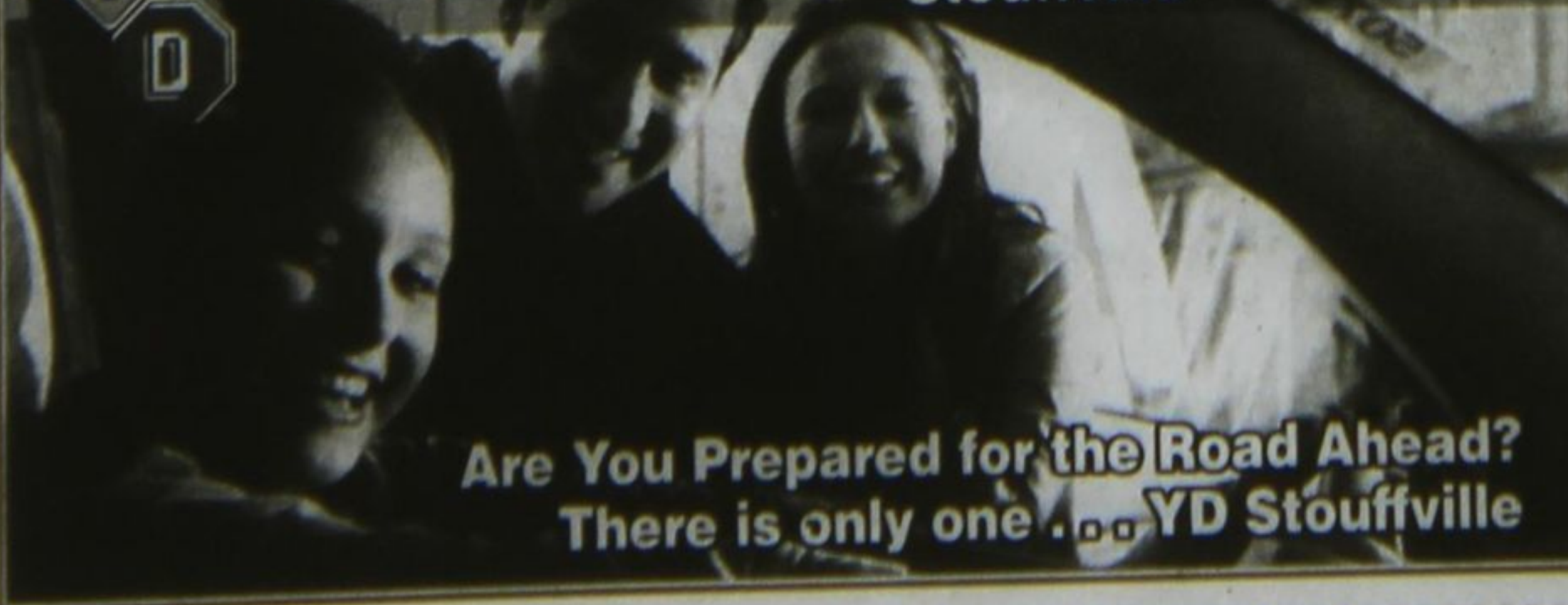
We Alignments ~ Brakes
Also Tune Ups ~ Exhaust
Do: Complete Tire Centre

15118 Highway 48 • Ballantrae

Just South of the
Aurora Side Road

905-640-1140

YOUNG DRIVERS® Stouffville



Are You Prepared for the Road Ahead?
There is only one ... YD Stouffville

NEXT COURSE START:

December 27th -

Wednesday to Saturday
9 am - 4 pm

Stouffville 905-640-1229

email: stouffville@youngdrivers.com