Editor's Mail

Thank you

Dear Jim:

On behalf of the Canadian Cancer Society, I wish to say thank you to the people of Stouffville for supporting our April fund-raising campaign. Donations from both the business and residential community were most generous. I'm pleased to report total receipts at $16,100.00.

Appreciation is also extended to our many canvassers for their voluntary assistance and to local stores for displaying our posters. Thanks to you too, for the ongoing publicity provided by The Tribune.

Sincerely,
Sally A. Sandiford,
Campaign Chairperson.

Drive blind

Dear Mr Thomas:

I wish to add my support to the recent letter from John MacInnis of R.R. 2, Stouffville under the heading: "Drive With Lights On."

What Mr MacInnis said is true—motorists continue to tempt fate by driving 'blind' on fogbound roads. Not only do they endanger themselves and their passengers but those of us who use some commonsense.

Recently, while travelling north on McCowan Road, the fog was so thick you couldn't see ten feet ahead of the car. Yet I met at least four vehicles southbound without lights. Each driver should have been stopped and charged.

The sooner a law is passed requiring motorists to use lights at ALL times, the better it'll be for all of us.

Sincerely,
Freda Blair,
R.R. 2, Stouffville

The Tribune

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Editorials

Fear of the unknown

Are we a caring community? Most of us like to think so; we often pride ourselves in this fact.

Yet, when the chips are down, narrow-minded, selfish and independent attitudes often surface. Such was the case with respect to Horizon House, a home for people with special needs at 347 North Street, Stouffville.

We visited Horizon House, (York II), Saturday. We were impressed—with what we saw and what we heard. It's truly a caring, sharing home away from home for six very special people.

While fear of the unknown can often twist one's thinking, feelings of resentment, even hostility, go much deeper than this. It rears its ugly head continually as Town Planning Committee members are well aware.

We trust all home-owners, neighbors to the house at 347 North Street, extended right hands of fellowship, Saturday. Changes in attitudes towards people with 'special needs' are long overdue—in Whitchurch-Stouffville, as anywhere else.

Proud project

Stouffville, the town of churches hosted another congregation celebration, Sunday.

A service of dedication at Stouffville Pentecostal Church, acknowledged completion of an addition to the sanctuary plus other facilities. Members and adherents have every reason to be proud. It's a beautiful and practical project.

Despite the magnitude of the present undertaking, this 'church with a vision' isn't about to rest on its laurels. On Sunday, the Building Committee chairman announced plans to acquire additional land and proceed, (some time in the future), with yet another building program; truly a challenge for a congregation who, only a few short years ago, had no church 'home' at all.

Don't push

Blue Spruce Estates is a high-class residential development in the community of Vandorf.

Home-owners are anxious to protect their investments. They stand opposed to anything that could lower the value of their properties.

To us, their arguments make sense; to a point. We'd suggest, however, that the ratepayers' association shouldn't push its luck too far. Otherwise, members could lose everthing they're about to gain.

As we understand it, the developer of Phase Two of this subdivision has made concessions, major concessions, costing him many thousands of dollars.

Rather than hold out for an agreement compareable to regulations contained in Phase One, the association should agree to compromise. For, if an appeal is placed before a hearing of the Ontario Municipal Board, present owners will risk losing these concessions and more. The gamble is far too great.

ROAMING AROUND

Ludwig must be smiling

BY JIM THOMAS

Any association between myself and Ludwig Van Beethoven, (1770-1827), is purely accidental.

In the area of both skills and interests, we're worlds apart.

I come from the other end of the musical spectrum. Country and western's my love; Hank Snow and Johnny Cash, my heroes.

It's not that I don't appreciate what Beethoven, Mozart and Bach have to offer. It's just that having never made a study of their work, I don't readily understand their kind of genius.

But I'm changing, if ever so slightly. For example, instead of being 'hooked' on CFGM, I now divide my radio listening time three ways. This includes CFRB's Starlight Serenade and CJCL's Music of Your Life. They all share my in-car itinerary.

But don't get me wrong, Hank, Johnny, Waylon and the rest will always be a part of my country sound obsession.

Still, there's room for the rest. I try to be flexible. And flexible I was, Saturday night. I attended a concert hosted by the Toronto Symphony Orchestra in Roy Thomson Hall. It was Beethoven's 6th.

No, I didn't mortgage the house to buy the tickets. They were a gift, a deed of generosity I truly appreciate.

While the program is a story in itself, seeing the interior of this memorial to a media magnate, was exciting also. It's beautiful, subdued, but beautiful.

Although warned in advance, (by my wife), not to portray the image of a country bumpkin, I gave myself away long before entering Lord Thomson's haloed hall. I stood and stared; at a part of the city I seldom see, Toronto by night. It's another world.

On the inside, I expected to be integrated with a bunch of 'stuffed shirts' who would neither stir nor speak except when some ingrate, (like myself), stepped on their toes. Quite the contrary. Most seemed human. Several even sneezed during Garrick Ohlsson's Piano Concerto in G Major.

Our reserved seats were perfectly situated, almost in the centre of the main auditorium. For someone apprehensive of heights, I felt completely at ease; no fear of plummeting downwards into some unsuspecting lady's lap.

Although I didn't do a head-count, the orchestra numbered around sixty-five; about two-thirds men. Why the imbalance, no one seemed to know. Nor could they explain why the women appeared relegated to the rear rows. There has to be a reason.

Regardless, the music that emerged was spectacular; the violins, the violas, the flutes and the oboes all in perfect precision; and the conductor in complete control.

The guest pianist played entirely by memory. He was accorded resounding applause, and rightly so. So also was the conductor. Three times he returned on stage to the accolades of the audience.

While obviously out of my element, I was sorry when it was over. Yes, it all ended too soon. I could have listened through at least another hour.

If Ludwig Van Beethoven was looking down on Lord Thomson Hall, Saturday evening, he was surely smiling. "A-ha," I could hear him saying, "another convert." And he would have been right in thinking so. For I enjoyed everything I saw and heard. And that, coming from a dyed-in-the-wool fan of Johnny Cash, is a powerful admission. But however flexible, I must remain faithful to the finer things of life, a fact that should cause the brilliant Ludwig to do a half turn in his grave.

Editor's Mail

Frustrating experience

Dear Editor:

Ordinarily, Board of Education politics is one big yawn. With the operation so far removed from our town, it's difficult to know what, if anything, is going on.

I was very interested, however, in reading that Daphne Goldman is going after the lone trustee position in Whitchurch-Stouffville.

I fully expected she would let her name stand for office, but I felt it would be Town Council rather than School Board.

While, as your paper reported, she's interested in activities in the classroom, I'm afraid much of her time, (if elected) will be spent at meetings with the rest of the bureaucrats in Aurora. I'm afraid also, she'll become very frustrated with the 'politics' of education and wish she'd never made the commitment.

Sincerely,
Freda Lyons,
Stouffer Street
Stouffville

Patience

Dear Editor:

Some members of Council, as well as your newspaper, have expounded on the fact Whitchurch-Stouffville's new chief administrative officer is being paid $45,000 a year for his services.

While it's fine to latch onto figures, particularly money figures, to make a point, in my opinion it matters not if he earns $45,000 or $5,000, it's still taxpayers' money wasted if the position isn't warranted.

That was the question facing Council. Obviously, three felt it wasn't and four felt it was. Majority rules.

Forty-five thousand dollars sounds like a lot of money to most of us. However, most of us aren't qualified to handle such a post. Therein lies the difference.

I know for a fact some C.A.O.'s make up to $60,000 a year, and a worth every cent. If Mr. Lundman is successful in coaxing one industry into Whitchurch-Stouffville, for example, he'll cover his salary several times over.

Sincerely,
Arnold Harvie,
R.R. 1, Gormley.

Area man honored by City of Scarborough

May 24 was Scarborough Recreation Recognition Night at the Malvern Community Centre. Honored as 'Individual of the Year' was Lionel Purcell, (right), formerly of Scarborough and now a resident of McCowan Road, R.R. 2, Markham. Extending congratulations to Mr Purcell is Mayor Gus Harris while Mrs Purcell looks on.

—Peter Mykusz