

Editor's Mail

A natural

Dear Editor:

As a long-time Tribune subscriber, I appreciate very much your keeping us up to date on the progress of Lawnie Wallace, a resident of the Ballantrae community.

While no talent scout, I knew from the first time I heard Lawnie that her future in music was already established. She's a natural, equal, in some respects better, than many stars appearing on today's TV Nashville Network.

With a career in music virtually assured, it's my hope that 'little' Lawnie never changes as a person. This will be difficult, but with the help of her parents and her trust in the good Lord, I'm sure she can do it.

If it's possible for your newspaper to find out exactly when Lawnie will be singing at the CNE, I'd surely like to be there.

Sincerely,
Cathy Melenson,
Ballantrae

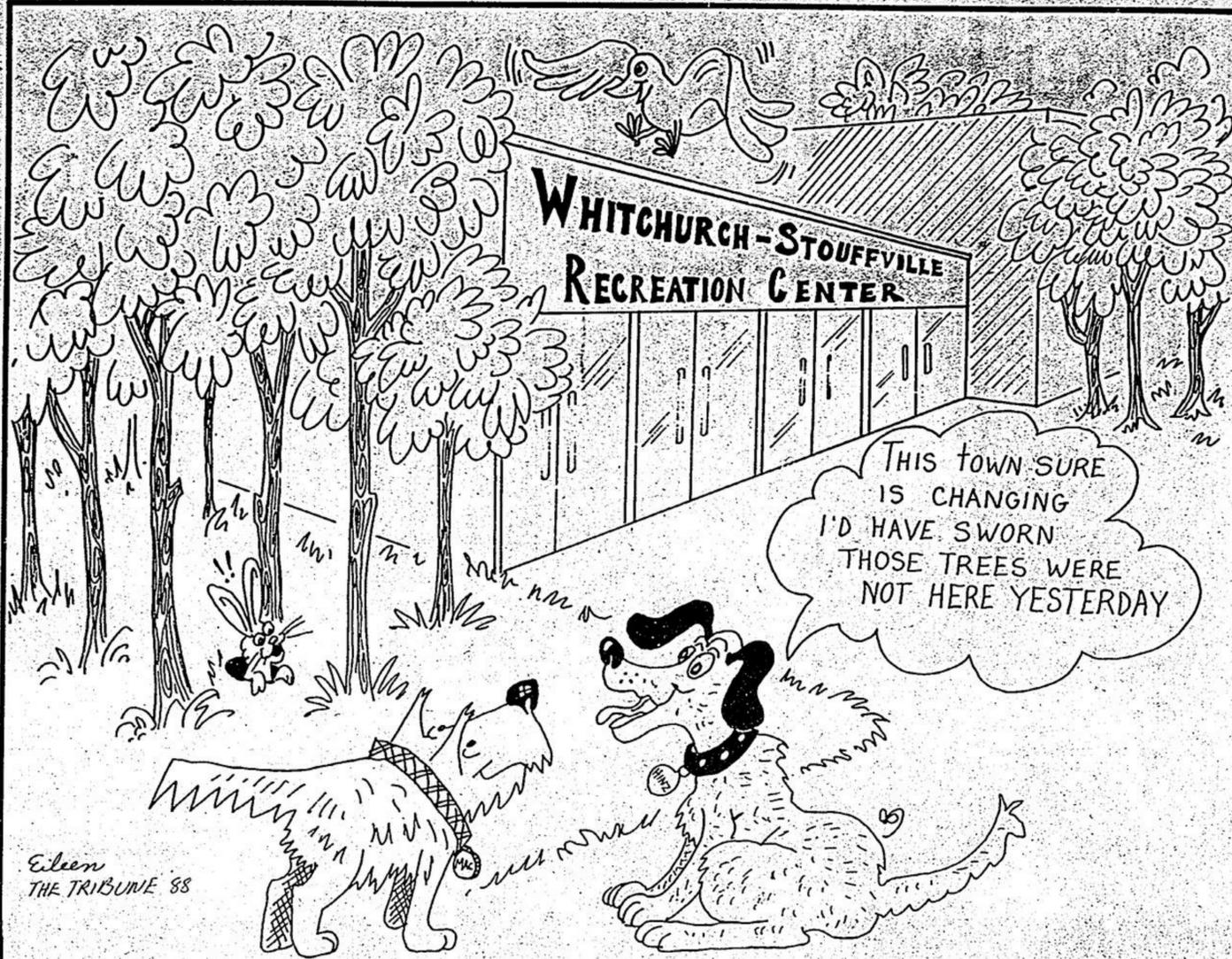
Thanks

Dear Editor:

On behalf of the Stouffville Lions Club, I wish to thank the following organizations and merchants for contributing to the success of the beef barbecue in the Park - Stouffville Co-op; Assinck Bros.; Applewood Farms; A&P Store; Stouffville Works Department; Strawberry Festival Committee; Neil Patrick Motors; Mel Emmerson and Lion and Lioness members.

I especially wish to thank those people who braved the cold wind while waiting to be served. Next year, we'll endeavor to reduce the long lineups and serve you faster.

Sincerely,
Bill Hodges,
Committee Chairman



NEWS ITEM: Guelph University donates 162 trees to Whitchurch-Stouffville

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ROAMING AROUND
Life in the big city
BY JIM THOMAS

It's a great place to visit but I wouldn't want to live there.

The reference is to Toronto. How often have you heard Whitchurch-Stouffvilleites make this comment?

I have, even said it myself, unfairly so. For it's too all-encompassing a descriptive. Worse still, I'm prejudiced. Born and bred country boys always are. The two environments are worlds apart.

Still, as cities go, Toronto's a great place. Where would hundreds of us townsfolk be without it?

In most respects, we're lucky to live so close.

While we attempt to keep 'those city slickers' at arms' length, (some even resent there coming here on Saturdays), we're never reluctant to claim and enjoy the benefits - jobs, entertainment, dine-out spots and the like. Thank heaven through our Flea Market and Bruce's Mill, we give something in return.

As stressed, it's wrong to paint an entire city with the same brush; any city. Toronto's no exception. It has its good parts and its bad. On Friday, I visited two entirely different districts. I found them both intriguing.

The first was the Sun Life Tower at 150 King Street West.

It's oft been said that urban folk can spot we country bumpkins a city block away. Country cousins are those people standing on street corners staring straight up!

Count me among that crowd. I do it continually; a dead give-away.

And that's what I was doing Friday; standing and staring. Until some chap with a knap-sack on his back tapped me on the shoulder.

"What do you see that's so interesting?" he asked, obviously afraid he was missing something.

"I'm trying to decide how high is up," I answered, shading my eyes against the sun.

"Oh," he reponded and moved on.

I posed this question to the receptionist on the Tower's ground floor.

"How high is up?" I asked.

"Twenty-five floors," she replied.

She pointed to an elevator but issued no parachute. My ears felt strange as we hit the thin air.

Folks whose daily routine catapults them into the ozone layer, obviously take such high atmospheric positions for granted. Not me. Every day would be an adventure. I'd even pay my employer for the experience.

Searching for words to describe the view, I found breathtaking fit best. It took my breath away.

Straight down, cars, trucks and buses looked like toys. People resembled ants.

What do you think? my host enquired.

"It's beautiful," I replied.

It was also kind of scary. The 'whiffs' kept entering my mind. What if a fire occurred on the 15th? What if a jet crashed into the 20th? "It can't happen today," I kept telling myself.

And it didn't.

But it could. Somehow I felt better with my feet on solid ground. Still, it was an experience, one I won't soon forget.

From there, I ventured out of the sublime into the ridiculous. Our chosen rendezvous was the corner of Yonge and Dundas. I arrived 45 minutes early; ample opportunity to observe the 'scenery'.

The 'heart' of Toronto beats at this location; it's the crossroads of inner-city humanity.

Each person has a story to tell - the senior selling roses at \$2 a bunch; the sidewalk preacher predicting our day of doom; a caterer offering cold drinks and hot dogs; a shoe-shine boy applying his trade; a daytime prostitute applying her trade; a cripple selling pencils; a blind man selling pens. And me, just a country bumpkin with nothing better to do. Only waiting and watching.

But oh the contrast. From cloud height to ground level in a matter of minutes.

Yes, it takes all kinds to make a city. Some love it. Some hate it. Some live in it. Some exist in it. Some criticize it. Some tolerate it. I enjoyed it, then endured it, then left it.

Our backyard maple never looked so good.

Editorials

Better mall security

An Ironwood Crescent, Stouffville couple endured a frightening experience, last week, when their six-year-old son went missing in a large York Region mall.

He was gone more than half-an-hour, a time period that undoubtedly seemed like ten hours to the worried mom and dad.

The father is of the opinion search procedures were inadequate; that parental feelings were virtually ignored and the seriousness of the situation was taken too lightly.

He requested the assistance of this newspaper in an effort to find out what search procedures are employed at other malls. He also approached the York Regional Police Department to learn what, if any search programs are in place in shopping centres.

In our opinion, there's room for improvement.

We do not consider a two-person security staff as adequate.

We feel in some instances, security staff are too young and improperly trained.

We suggest when a missing child report is received, police should be informed immediately.

We feel personnel should be posted at all exit doors in case the child wanders out on the street.

We claim an emergency coding system should be in place and announced throughout the mall over the public address system.

We feel all plaza personnel, including cashiers, should know what the search program entails and the role they should play.

We suggest a child-sitting service should be available in all malls, (for a fee), and the availability of this service should be announced and posted.

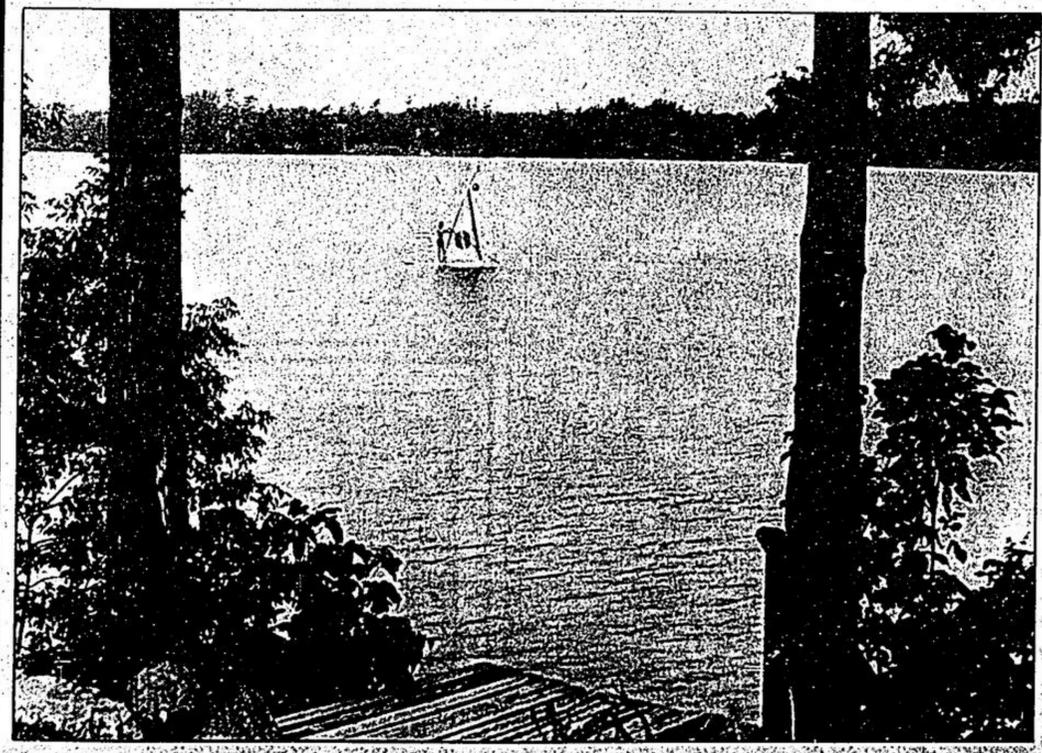
Distraught parents, (mothers in particular), should be properly cared for with first-aid available if required.

A missing child report should not be regarded as a nuisance. It's a hazard of the modern mall. Each must be treated as an emergency.

For a Stouffville couple, this was a traumatic experience that ended on a positive note. The father wants to pur-

sue it this way - positive solutions to an apparent problem. Sgt. Rod Sine of the Community Services Bureau, York Regional Police, has pledged his support.

So have we. We trust all mall general managers will give this matter their fullest co-operation. Responsibility's a two-way street.



Life is easy on Musselman's Lake

Musselman's Lake has become a sailboaters' paradise. The lake's size makes it ideal for this type of recreation. There's usually sufficient wind yet the operator is never far from shore. This particular 'captain' was experiencing problems but he managed to right his craft and continue on his way.

Editor's Mail
Pets?

Dear Editor:
Recently, I had occasion to visit Parkview Home here in Stouffville.

As I was leaving, I noticed a man with a dog in the lobby. He was talking to one of the Seniors. Several were stroking the pet.

Does this practice meet Home health requirements?

Andrew James,
Millard Street,
Stouffville

Winner

Dear Editor:

I for one am pleased to see Jim Sanders is seeking re-election in Ward 6, Whitchurch-Stouffville. I regard him as a steady influence on our Council.

I would suggest that if the indoor pool vs. town hall expansion was the lone issue in the forthcoming election, Mr. Sanders would win hands-down regardless of what ward he contested.

Sincerely,
(Mrs.) Shirley Crane,
Bramble Crescent,
Stouffville