

Editor's Mail

Smokers' circle

Dear Editor:
Before I air my complaint, I wish to make it perfectly clear, I have no fault to find with Stouffville District Secondary School; the curriculum or staff.

I've had two daughters and two sons graduate through the system and all are happy in their chosen professions.

One thing used to bother me, however. That was the infamous smokers' circle that would congregate on Edward Street every morning. I, hopefully thought that was a thing of the past.

Unfortunately, history is repeating itself. A smokers' circle made up of a different group of students, is congregating again, this time away from school property but still on Edward Street.

Obviously, it's their way of objecting to the board's no-smoking policy.

Through your newspaper, I ask these teens to cease and desist. If they don't care about their health, surely they care about their school. It looks bad on them and the well-run institution they represent.

Sincerely,

(Mrs.) Joanne Caulfield,
Greenwood Road,
Stouffville



The Tribune
ESTABLISHED 1888

JAMES THOMAS Editor
PATRICIA PAPPAS Publisher
DEBORAH WELLER Advertising Manager
JENNIFER HUTT Distribution Manager

RETAIL ADVERTISING: Susan Berry (Manager Charles Carrington)
REAL ESTATE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING: Joan Marshman (Real Estate Manager Dorothy Young, Classified Manager Debra Weker)
DISTRIBUTION: Sandy Kitley, Arlene Maddock
BUSINESS OFFICE: Manager Chris Bertram, Doreen Deacon
NATIONAL SALES REPRESENTATIVE: Metroland Corporate Sales 493-1300

The Stouffville Tribune, published every Wednesday and Saturday at 54 Main St. Stouffville, Ont., is one of the Metroland Printing, Publishing & distributing group of suburban newspapers which includes: The Action Free Press, Ajax Pickering News Advertiser, Aurora Banner, Brampton Guardian, Burlington Post, Elmhurst Advertiser, Georgian, Georgetown Independent, Markham Economist & Sun, Milton champion, Mississauga News, Newmarket Era, Oakville Beaver, Oshawa Weekly The Week, Richmond Hill Thornhill, Vaughan, Liversal, Scarborough Mirror, York News Magazine, Willowdale Mirror, Metroland Printing, Publishing & Distributing is a division of Harlequin Enterprises Ltd. Single copies 50¢, subscribers \$20.00 per year in Canada, \$35.00 elsewhere. Member of Canadian Community Newspaper Association, Ontario Weekly Newspaper Association, Ontario Press Council and Suburban Newspaper of America. Second class mail registration number 0995.

640-2100 649-2292

ROAMING AROUND
I'm a recycling recruit
BY JIM THOMAS

When it comes to waste disposal, I've been one of Stouffville's worst offenders.

Words like pollution and contamination were just that — words.

No, I'm not about to justify my carelessness by saying others are no better. But the truth is, we've all been shoddy caretakers of God's green earth. Admit it! I do.

Strange as it may seem, I'm the last that should fall into this category. Rather than a follower, I should have been a leader. That's the role of a newspaper and a newspaper's editor.

I appreciate the fact the landfill issue of the 70s and 80s tended to turn many people off. Me too. I grew tired of reading about it and writing about it. I'm not about to readdress the subject.

However, I retain three vivid recollections.

The first was the night back in 1970 when the Stouffville Fire Department was called to a blaze at the dump site, (east of Hwy 48, north of the Bloomington Road).

What was burning?

Your guess is as good as mine, but rest assured, it wasn't something you'd want to see in the bottom of your coffee cup.

We all stood around and joked about "the dump going up in flames", not realizing the terrible truth.

In one way or another, the pools of pollution, burning out of control, came dangerously close to destroying our town.

Sometime later, Merlyn Baker, a former Whitchurch Twp. and Stouffville councillor came into The Tribune Office.

"Do you know, truckloads of liquid waste are still being poured into that site?" he asked in a voice tinged with irritation.

I replied, no I did not. Had I been absolutely honest, I'd have said, "no, do I care." For that's how most of us felt. After all, the property had been a catch basin for liquid waste for years. Unfortunately, (at that time), only Mr. Baker and Councillor Gordon Ratcliff had sense enough to appreciate the dangers that could result.

That's when Fran Sainsbury came on the scene. And this plucky, public-school-teacher-turned-real-estate-agent literally took on the Chicago-based garbage barons and the P.C. "blue machine" by herself.

Certainly, she had help. But Fran spearheaded the attack with a feminine fury unlike anything seen here before.

The end result was the eventual closing of the landfill site and the ouster of the P.C. Party from this Riding, even from Ontario.

"They, (the Conservatives), have dumped on us long enough," Fran said at the victory celebration, "now, we're returning the favor."

And how! The P.C.s are still recovering.

For all that, I and thousand-like me, have been slow to learn our lesson. We refuse to recycle, at least most of us do. Too much trouble we say. Instead, we ship tons and tons of recyclable materials to the Keele Street disposal site every week — at horrendous cost.

Who cares?

I care. For me, the seriousness of the situation's slowly sinking in. I trust the same holds true for you.

A partial solution to our environmental problems will soon be made easy. On Sat., Oct. 29, six thousand householders throughout the whole of Whitchurch-Stouffville will receive the much publicized "blue boxes". The blitz is headed by the Stouffville Recycling Group. Steve Payne (640-0006) is one of the principals.

Yes, I've joined the Blue Box Brigade. So have Jean and the kids, Suzie, (our pet beagle), can hardly wait. She, (the dog, not my wife), is tugging at her chain in anticipation.

It's been a long time in coming. On all things related to environmental improvement, we've been "dragging our feet". But there's a rainbow at the end of the sewer. The result's more priceless than a pot of gold.

I urge you to be part of this planet-saving project.

Better late than never.

Editorials
A volunteer project

Whitchurch-Stouffville has long been blessed by hand-outs.

Certainly, Stouffville has the contributions made by Dr. Sangster back in the 30s and by Arthur Latham in the 50s and 60s are still enjoyed today.

Considerable volunteer labor and materials went into the completing of the lounge at the Rec. Centre. And the Labovic Cultural Foundation will benefit the Town for years to come.

Others could be mentioned.

One needed project is still outstanding — a cinder track at the High School.

This work has been talked about for years. Unfortunately, it continues to be scratched from the Board's priority list despite the fact SDSS is one of the few schools in York Region minus such a facility.

With physical fitness so important to so many here, we view a track as a community rather than a school project. So

let's take it on with that thought in mind — use by the entire community.

Principal Peter Bright has pledged Student Council assistance. However, volunteer mechanical and physical aid will have to come from outside. A local service club could spearhead the project with Recreation Programmer Peter Arnott providing the leadership.

After what was accomplished at Orchard Park and Whitchurch-Highlands Schools, in the Stouffville Park and at Preston Lake, we see no reason why a proposed High School track wouldn't be equally successful.

Red Cross needed here

With amazing speed, the Canadian Red Cross was off the mark with regard to providing a communications link between Canada, the United States and storm-ravaged Jamaica and Mexico.

Relief assistance was also en route as soon as planes received clearance to land.

For the Red Cross, filling such needs is so automatic, the service is almost taken for granted.

It was Wednesday, (Sept. 14), that Olive Evans of the Red Cross Branch in Uxbridge contacted our newspaper. At that time, the extent of the devastation wasn't fully known. Still, the wheels were turning. An organized aid program was underway.

Mrs. Evans wonders why no Red Cross branch has been established in Whitchurch-Stouffville.

It's not for want of trying. Several years ago, an effort was made to set up an organization here, but it never got off the ground.

Perhaps now is the time to try again. While storms of Hurricane Gilbert's impact are, (fortunately) few and far between, less extensive assistance of a local nature is often needed. We should be prepared.

A Stouffville Branch of the Canadian Red Cross would provide assurance of immediate aid. Let's do it.



Stouffville auctioneer honored on 30th anniversary of career

Norm Faulkner, (centre), of Stouffville has served this community as a professional auctioneer for 30 years. On Sept. 11, he was honored at a gathering of family members, auctioneer friends and employees including (left to right) — Bill Simmons, Walter Atkinson, Phil Faulkner, and Bill Walker. Norm was presented with an engraved plaque containing the names of close associates over the past 30 years. In addition to auctioneering, Norm is the co-owner and operator of the very successful Stouffville Sales Barn and Flea Market, Hwy. 47. — Jim Thomas