

More editor's mail

# Brougham church closing is called a 'sad occasion'

Dear Editor:

Regarding the April 26 article on the closing of St. John's Church, Brougham.

The closing of this historic building has been a sad occasion for each church in the Claremont-Brougham Pastoral Charge, but your news item did nothing to comfort or help those of the congregation who are hurting from the events which led up to the final services of St. John's Church.

No purpose was served in this article by scattering the blame

for this action onto the federal government, United Church Presbytery and the Claremont United congregation.

The St. John's congregation at the time of closing was very small, and meeting all their operating expenses, plus their 20 per cent share of pastoral charge expenses, was no longer possible.

The "caller" who spoke to the Tribune should not have said Claremont had not extended a welcome to the St. John's congregation to join them. On many occasions in the past, St. John's

worshippers were invited to join Claremont for special services, but usually declined.

A welcome has been extended to the St. John's congregation to become part of our church family and until the members of St. John's indicate otherwise, their membership is now in the new pastoral charge at Claremont United Church.

We are a busy, active, caring fellowship growing spiritually as well as in numbers under the pastoral care of Rev. Louise Barrie.

As in all loving families, there is always room for more and we welcome with joy all who join with us in the worship of our Lord and Savior, particularly those from our sister church who are feeling so lost and alone right now.

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Marina Rodgers  
Pickering

## Jim's gone, Daphne's back

Dear Editor:

I noticed with interest a large heading "Retraction" in your May 10 issue of the Tribune. However, I noticed a vague clarification but no retraction — possibly our dictionaries and our definitions vary.

In the same edition I was pleased to read an excellent article by Kate Gilderdale about Jim Thomas. She expressed in words what would have been my thoughts.

Although Jim and I had many disagreements I believe that Jim was the most investigative and thorough newspaperman that Whitchurch-Stouffville and Markham have ever seen. Both communities will miss him and are the poorer for his retirement.

Jim has gone from the Stouffville Tribune but Daphne has returned. What a shame!

Harry Bowes  
Stouffville

# Changes needed to help disabled

Dear Editor:

May I say a few words out of a concern for persons who, because of physical impairment, have diffi-

## \$350 raised in daffodil drive

Dear Editor:

Thanks so much for the community events you have put in the newspaper for Claremont Village — especially of the Canadian Cancer Society and the daffodil sales last month.

The Claremont Guides and Brownies, Claremont Corner Store and the Greenwood General Store raised \$350 selling daffodils for the fight against cancer. Many thanks to them and to the public who bought daffodils.

Rosemarie Timms  
Daffodil Chairperson  
and President of the North  
Pickering Canadian Cancer Society

ficulty with different levels while walking?

Many people with ambulatory problems, especially persons who must use wheelchairs, find stairways; steps up or down; sidewalk or street curbs as barriers in letting them go where they want to go. Sometimes these barriers are insurmountable.

We are all, no doubt, most grateful to our Town for the new interlocking brick sidewalks and the sloped surfaces from sidewalk to street.

There are, however, still many buildings and some places in town which are inaccessible to many town citizens, especially those who must use wheelchairs.

Any place of business or any building which is not wheelchair accessible says quite emphatically that disabled persons are not welcome, or are seen as unimportant.

A casual inspection will reveal there are still many barriers in our town which present difficulties to persons with ambulatory impairments.

I wish to go on record as encouraging our Council and all business and public building operators to make whatever changes are necessary to provide easy access for persons with ambulatory difficulties.

J.M. Nighswander  
Parkview Executive  
Administrator

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