

# Comment Page



## Who's wet over wells?

Vandorf area residents pulled out all their ammunition last week in their fight with Whitchurch-Stouffville Town Council over low water levels in their wells.

And though the concerns raised by residents are notable, residents were a little off the mark in directing their anger at town officials for the problems they face.

Instead of pointing fingers and demanding action from the town, the group should channel its efforts into fighting the developer — whom they bought their homes from in the first place.

Town officials — and the residents affected — could much better address a solution if both teams were on the same side. Council could flex its municipal muscle to have the developer rectify the well water flows, while residents could focus their energies on the same thing.

The town's first step in assuring a report on the issue is one well taken. It sounds like they're trying to sweep it under the rug, but it illustrates that Council is sympathetic to the cause.

No one deserves to be without water, but everyone should know who to bring the problem to. That way, residents will get more decisive action.

## Behind the scenes drama at Tribune

We did it!

After three months of hard planning, indigestion, more planning, and minor chest pains, the new Tribune is here.

And though the going was tough, we think we have a good newspaper here.

It's new, it's fresh and it's going to be at your door every Wednesday. We hope you like it.

But, given the fact that we have worked behind the scenes in recent months to bring you the new Tribune, I thought it would only be fair to give you a picture of the campaign behind the new-look campaign.



at random

steve houston

It went something like this: Our publisher called me to her office in Markham shortly after I started here as editor of the Tribune in May.

Stepping into her office was like walking into a dream sequence — sort of a Nightmare on Heritage Rd. The publisher, who sat at her desk a thousand yards away, fixed her eyes on me and said, "Come in."

I didn't scream. I didn't faint. I didn't move. I half expected her office door to creak shut — by itself — as I willed myself to walk the lonely stretch to her desk.

"We have some opportunities ahead of us," she said to me as I sat. "We're changing the format of the Tribune. We're going from a broadsheet to a tabloid format. It's going to be new, fresh, exciting. You have three days."

I screamed. I fainted. I fell off my chair.

When they brought me around, I could see the publisher talking quietly to the Editor-in-Chief beside her mammoth desk.

When I sat up, they both looked at me and motioned me to sit again.

"Okay," said the publisher. "We'll give you five days."

And the rest, as they say, is Tribune history. The actual planning period was more like three months, but my superiors were forgiving.

Okay, so I embellished the story a little. It's like one of those multi-million dollar Hollywood films that are "based on a true story."

They take a little licence, change a few locations and blow up several cars. The only

difference in my story is that there were no nauseating smooch scenes. And my car wasn't blown up, it just backfired.

Anyway, that's sort of what happened behind the scenes. Other things that have occurred in recent months while working on the new project, which now come to mind, include:

- A discussion with an area resident who was surprised to learn a new format for the Tribune was imminent. She said both she and her birds loved the Tribune. I didn't press

for any further comment.

- A discussion with my wife, who thought a new look for the Tribune was a fabulously exciting idea, but who also wondered if I was going to follow suit.

Despite all the work, and the pride we take in the achievement, I'm glad it's finally here. We have a new foundation in place, and we aim to carry on the time-honored traditions of the Tribune.

But one thing bothers me. Why would a bird want to read the Tribune?

### Editor's Mail

## Where is Kinsmen sign?

Dear Editor:

I am writing to ask where the Kinsmen sign went from the welcome sign in Stouffville.

I moved to Stouffville in the early '70s and left in 1984. I had four young boys of hockey league age when, as a single mother, I came to Stouffville.

At the time I was trying to get my life together and had little money.

When I went to enter my boys in hockey I realized I could not afford it. Someone sent me to the Kinsmen Club, which paid for all of my boys. I wasn't to tell anyone.

I still say thanks to those young men who helped me.

I phoned a Mr. Watson to inquire about the sign and he said he knew it was gone but it was not the first time it had happened.

He said "we don't need a sign to help people."

Sincerely,  
Julie Snelgrove  
Thornhill

## We love mail

The Tribune welcomes letters from readers on current topics. Letters should be 500 words or less and typed or neatly printed. They may be subject to editing for length at the discretion of the editor.

They must be submitted by noon Monday to appear in the Wednesday Tribune.

Letters may be submitted to the office at 54 Main St. W. Stouffville, P.O. Box 40, L4A 7Z4.

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