

Signs of spring found around the house

Over the past few days, a lot of things have happened.

I have watched as the snow melted and disappeared to reveal the matted grass that has been hidden for months and months.

On Sunday the Big Guy and I even sat in lawnchairs basking in the sun enjoying the antics of the first geese of the season in the little pond behind our house. Just hours later Mother Nature hurled a cruel spring joke at us in the form of another snowfall - I didn't find it funny.

Since then, I have once again watched the snow melt



Rural
Route
Ruth

Ruth
LeBlanc

in our rural fields and cyclers come out in droves to ride around the lake. Now like a sick joke I have heard we can expect more snow.

Enough is enough!

It was last October that the first of the white stuff appeared.

Six long, boot wearing, car scraping, cranking up the thermostat months is just pushing my rural patience to its limits.

Spring is here nonetheless, no doubts about it. My own personal spring barometer, The Big Guy, is showing all the signs of Toolman dementia, a classic male illness which occurs only in the spring and early summer.

By this time, the mating season of men and tools is over and you have to use a cattle prod to get him to mow the lawn or paint a fence.

These are my glory days to get all those odd jobs done.

This burst of enthusiasm is short lived so I try to harness his energy in the right direction. I got very frightened last Sunday as I watched him scanning the yard with a gleam in his eyes that used to be reserved just for me - now its power tools that get that lustful look.

It must be in men's blood or maybe it is all that power they control at their fingertips. I have watched the Big Guy's walk change as he struts with his chainsaw in hand like a lumberjack looks for things to cut down - I swear they break things so they can fix them.

After 12 years in the same house with him suffering the same illness every spring there is not much left to dismantle, destroy, or trim down. That won't deter him though, and this worries me.

A couple of years ago our lovely snowball tree got sick with ugly little green bugs eating the tree alive. Spraying didn't help so we decided to trim off the worst branches, with his new power tool of course. Working inside the house I got involved and didn't go outside a couple of hours later to see how he was doing.

What I saw I could not believe. Gone was the ten-foot tall sprawling tree. Left was a stump with a couple of shoots growing out its sides. What happened next was kind of ugly as we dragged the remains of my favorite tree to the firepit for its cremation and discussed his technique.

Since then pruning has been an issue at our house. I know when I see him dreamily watching those longer limbs swaying that his mind is on one of his many trimming tools. Like a hairdresser out of control he is really scary with a saw in his hand. The lilac got trimmed within an inch of its life, leaving it a lop sided tree looking a little deranged. I keep telling him to tackle the cedars that surround our little half acre lot. That would keep him going for months, but that must not be enough of a challenge for the spring handyman!

One afternoon he came into the house sporting a section of his jeans flapping in the wind.

With a big grin he told me the chainsaw had slipped and cut his pants. Lucky to have the legs to walk into the house I could only look at him in wonder and shake my head. Spring will be the death of him. Got insurance, honey?

Total Family

IN-STORE
PHARMACY
AT ZEHRS



Low, low prices everyday! Watch for upcoming Spring Specials for allergy sufferers!

Instore Pharmacy Hours

Mon. - Fri. 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Saturday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Care!

DID YOU KNOW ABOUT OUR

Low Dispensing Fee?

Only **3.99**

(Most major drug plans accepted)

CALL 852-1206

WE GUARANTEE PERSONAL, PROFESSIONAL CONSULTATIONS.

WHILE-YOU-SHOP SERVICE

Zehrs Pharmacies DO NOT CHARGE the \$2 Co-op Fee per prescription for Seniors & Social Assistance recipients.

zehrs
FOOD PLUS
MARKETS

852-1212

Store Hours

Mon. - Fri. 8am - 9pm

Sat. 8am - 7pm, Sun. 9am - 6pm

SAMMY'S
Brewery & Grill

A Great Taste of Tex Mex Foods!

- Buck-A-Beer Wednesdays (7 oz. draft) 20¢ Wings
- Thursday Night Ladies' Night Drink Specials
- Friday Night DJ Dancing

6601 Main St. 104 Brock St.
Stouffville Uxbridge
642-7469 852-1242

TOWN OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE

TENDER CALL

Sealed tenders, for the following contract, placed in the envelopes provided, clearly marked as to contents, will be received by the Clerk's Department, Municipal Offices, 19 Civic Avenue, Stouffville, Ontario, L4A 7Z6, until:

THURSDAY, APRIL 24TH, 1997,
3:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME

CONTRACT WS-97-08 - GRADALL RENTAL

The work is for the supply and operation of a gradall unit suitable to mechanically excavate ditches and/or road bases for the term of this contract, as outlined in the tender.

=====
If information is required, please contact the Public Works Department, at (905) 640-1900 or (905) 895-2423.

The Corporation of Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville reserves the right to accept or reject any tender and also reserves the right to accept other than the lowest bidder.