

Community

Gary Simmonds says farewell

By KATE GILDERDALE
Correspondent

When Gary Simmonds moves from Stouffville to Bracebridge later this month, he will do so with mixed feelings and an abiding appreciation of the town he has lived in for 16 years.

"I'd like to thank the residents for the business they've given me over the last four and a half years," said the owner of Stouffville Picture Framing Studio on Library Lane.

He has been surprised and pleased by the number of people who have expressed disappointment at his departure, and stressed that he will be returning on a regular basis.

"The reaction has been way more than I anticipated and it's really great to know people feel that strongly. We (he and his wife, Judy) knew we were eventually going to move up north and I wanted to do it while I still had the energy to work up there."

Simmonds credits James Bessey for introducing him to the local artistic community, which has brought him 15 clients including John Roberts and, of course, Bessey himself.

"Since I opened this place I have never felt that I was going to work - it's been more like a hobby - I come in here and have fun."

Working with artists allows Simmonds to give full rein to his consid-

erable creative talents, which can be seen in many of the pieces on display in his studio.

"I've always wanted to have a reputation for creativity, rather than being regarded as just a framer," he said.

"I think Gary has been a real asset to the community," said Bessey. "He's a good person and a good businessman and he's going to be missed by his many friends and customers. I'd say he was the most professional picture framer I've had the pleasure to work with."

Simmonds' continued visits to

Stouffville may represent more than a simple desire to keep in touch with old friends, said Bessey's wife June. "I think it has something to do with orange pecan muffins," she explained. "I keep baking them and he keeps eating them."

Gary and Judy Simmonds will open their new business, Bracebridge Picture Framing Studio, this summer and visitors from their old home town will always be welcome.

The current studio will be taken over April 28 by Stouffville resident Pam Wright, who has been working with Simmonds since November.

Separate board passes budget

Catholic school supporters are going to pay three per cent more this year in York Region.

The separate board passed its 1997 budget this week, although its higher mill rate, adding \$74 to the tax bills of average homes assessed at \$30,000, was settled in February.

The \$269.9 million balance sheet includes \$5 million to pay off the board's deficit, but it still leaves \$4.9 million the next set of

trustees must pay next year.

The board will manage to buy \$600,000 worth of computer equipment and support as well as continue its optional but popular junior kindergarten program.

"We must continue to be mindful that this board still carries a significant deficit, but we have positioned ourselves well financially," chair Tina Molinari said in a statement.

-Mike Adler

The Old Town Hall 96 Main St. N.

THE OLD TOWN HALL
The new owners would like to sincerely thank the residents and merchants of Main Street, Markham, for their patience while we prepare for our new tenants.

Fortunately, for Greek food lovers everywhere, Venus in Markham, will be open during renovations and easily accessible through their back entrance.



TENDER WS-97-04

Sealed Tenders in the envelope provided, clearly marked as to contents, will be received by the Clerk's Department, 19 Civic Avenue, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 7Z6, until 3:00 p.m. local time:

THURSDAY MAY 1, 1997

for the ROOF REPLACEMENT OF FIRE HALL #1

Tender documents may be obtained from the Clerk's Department at the above-mentioned address between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. local time, Monday to Friday. If further information is required, please contact John Crawley at (905) 640-6527, Ext. 24.

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

TENDER WS-97-05

Sealed Tenders, in the envelope provided, clearly marked as to contents, will be received by the Clerk's Department, 19 Civic Avenue, Stouffville, Ontario L4A 7Z6, until 3:00 p.m. local time:

THURSDAY MAY 8, 1997

for the ROOF REPLACEMENT, ROOF RESTORATION, ROOF MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS

Tender Documents may be obtained from the Clerk's Department at the above-mentioned address between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. local time, Monday to Friday. If further information is required, please contact John Crawley at (905) 640-6527, Ext. 24.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE & WORKSHOP COMMUNITY OF STOUFFVILLE DRAFT SECONDARY PLAN

THE COUNCIL OF THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE will hold a PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE AND WORKSHOP on Wednesday, April 23, 1997 at Summitview Public School, 6551 Main Street, Stouffville, to provide for detailed review of the draft Secondary Plan for the Community of Stouffville. The Open House will be held from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., followed by the Public Workshop from 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

The draft Secondary Plan establishes the community vision, principles and objectives as well as general policies and specific strategies with respect to community character, the natural environment, servicing, land use and transportation, for the developed area of the Community of Stouffville and the adjacent lands.

The Open House will provide the opportunity for the public to discuss the draft plan with the Planning Consultant and Town Planners. The Public Workshop will commence with an outline of the plan by the study team. Those attending will work in small groups and will be guided through a detailed review of the Draft Secondary Plan.

This workshop is another in a series of community activities which are being held during the Secondary Plan preparation process.

ANY PERSON may attend the public workshop and/or make written submissions on the draft Secondary Plan. A copy of the draft Secondary Plan, including maps, is available for inspection at the Town Office and the Stouffville Public Library, during regular business hours.

For further information, please contact Mr. Tom Parry, Director of Engineering / Planning, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville at 640-1900 or 895-2423.

DATED AT THE TOWN OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE, THIS 16th day of APRIL, 1997.

Michele Kennedy, Municipal Clerk
Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville
19 Civic Avenue
P.O. Box 419
Stouffville, Ontario L4A 7Z6