

# Stouffville Tribune

A Metroland community newspaper  
6244 Main St., Stouffville, Ont. L4A 1E2

**Publisher** — Ian Proudfoot  
**General Manager** — Alvin Brouwer

<b>Editor-in-chief</b> Brenda Larson	<b>Advertising Director</b> Debra Weller	<b>Business Manager</b> Margaret Fleming
<b>Regional Editor</b> Brian Kirlik	<b>Classified Manager</b> Stacey Allen	<b>Office Manager</b> Vivian O'Neil
<b>Editor</b> Tracy Kibble	<b>Distribution Director</b> Barry Goodyear	<b>Operations Manager</b> Pamela Nichols

## Views ON THE News

A FORUM FOR PUBLIC OPINION

Welcome to Views on the News, your chance to comment on the stories affecting life in York Region.

We went to the streets of Whitchurch-Stouffville to find out how residents would respond to the question below.

**Q:** A charity casino has been approved for Cookstown with proceeds to be shared by the province, the town and Simcoe County charities. York charities are hoping local councils will reconsider their opposition to local casinos that would have shared profits with them. Should charity casinos be allowed in York?

And you replied:

No, because you can never be sure charities are getting their fair share. It would be too convenient to go all the time. With Casinorama you have to drive two hours to get there so you're not as inclined to go all the time. It's too easy to spend money and lose it.

JENI BARKER, STOUFFVILLE

I don't have a problem with this. If you are going to have casinos, at least the community will benefit from it. People are going to gamble anyway, so it might as well be here so we can benefit from the proceeds, as opposed to driving to another place anyway.

DOUG GARBELL, MARKHAM

No, I believe they should be able to come up with more resourceful ways to contribute to charities. Ways that will also contribute to family unity, instead of detracting from it.

LINDA STAFFORD, STOUFFVILLE

It's a fine idea. I don't understand what the big problem with casinos is. If you're having fun losing money, what's the big deal as long as it's going to a good cause? If it's going to a fat cat in Las Vegas, well no one wants that.

BRAD KIDD, MARKHAM

I question the need for casinos due to the fact that I believe they may cause harm to those who might become addicted to gambling.

VALERIE TREMBLAY, STOUFFVILLE

## THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

The Toronto board of health is considering a bylaw that would require owners of cats to license and register their pets in a bid to control stray cats. The Town of Newmarket already requires cats to wear a collar, microchip or identification tag. Should cats, in effect, be treated like dogs?

Submit contributions to

Views on the News, fax: (905) 640-5477

E-mail: thetrib@istar.ca

# OPINION



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Tribune thanked for great school coverage

I would like to thank you and your staff for the excellent photo coverage you have given to our local schools during this past school year. School is an important part of our children's lives and I commend you for helping to promote the positive and exciting activities taking place within our Stouffville schools. Your paper plays an important role in keeping residents informed of school events.

CAROLYN REESOR  
STOUFFVILLE

### Youngsters learning nothing about civility

As a Stouffville resident, I would like to bring to the attention of my fellow home owners a problem that has been worrying me for the past couple of years.

Every day, my lawn and/or driveway are littered with discarded soft drink bottles and cans, candy and gum wrappers, french fry bags, styrofoam coffee containers, gum wrappers.

Every few days, I gather it up and put it in garbage bags — only to have it replaced again within a day or two.

Now, I know that the offenders are mostly school children, walking by on their way to or from school.

But logic tells me that to blame it all on the youngsters would be a mistake. I'm afraid the blame lies with their

parents, who seem somehow to have allowed their children to reach school age (and beyond) without teaching them something as simple as having some respect for their surroundings — to say nothing of other people's property.

Surely, the young parents of our community, just starting their families, have time to teach their children the basics of common courtesy and some sense of pride in their community, just enough to keep it from becoming dirty, rundown and unpleasant to live in.

ALEX BARRIS  
STOUFFVILLE

### This year's fireworks display a letdown

An excellent Strawberry Festival except for the Fireworks Display.

I expected to see a Fireworks display not a Pink Floyd concert.

The best part of the display was the cheer that went up from the hill at the Thicketwood Bowl when one side of the screen came down, and people thought we wouldn't have to endure any more.

When leaving the park early I thought at least I will beat the crowd out, some benefit for trying to amuse a group of pre-schoolers during the long delay in the start of the Display. Well the crowd of people leaving early showed we were not alone in our opinion of the display. Next year put Fireworks in the Fireworks display.

JOHN AND HELEN WILSON  
STOUFFVILLE



Roy Green

## Stark warnings on cigarette packs aren't working

Maybe you saw the story this week about the skull-and-crossbones symbol being printed on cigarette packages in Canada.

"We're gathering the evidence to find out what would make effective health warning messages and the skull and crossbones is one of the options we're looking at," said Dr. Murray Kaiserman, co-ordinator of research at the health department office of tobacco control.

Health officials are upset that the stark warnings currently on cigarette packages — such as "Smoking can kill you" — aren't having the desired effect. People are still smoking. In droves.

Obviously, goes the thinking up at the office of tobacco control, if they could only come up with an effective health warning message, the world would stop smoking.

Making me wonder how many tax dollars are we spending every year on the office of tobacco control.

## But that won't stop these asses from plastering the skull and crossbones on cigarette packages.

And making me realize that, when it comes to some doctors, it's good doctors don't make house calls anymore.

But that won't stop these asses from plastering the skull and crossbones on cigarette packages.

And, eventually, we'll be reading another story from the office of tobacco control, something like "In fact, we discovered that some youngsters were attracted to cigarette packages because of the distinctive logo, which they linked to the romantic notion of sea-going pirates," said Dr. George Dingbat.

Messages don't work. Doc.

In fact, I seem to recall a story about a British company that enjoyed wonderful success a few years ago when it offered a brand of cigarettes called Cancer Sticks.

The novelty appealed to fatalists, I guess.

I'd like to send a message to the smoke nazis in the office of tobacco control: resign, you dimwits.

But then, we already know people don't always get the message.

## Stouffville Tribune

Serving the community since 1888.

Phone: (905) 640-2100 • Classified: 1-800-743-3353 • Distribution: (905) 640-2100 • E-mail: thetrib@istar.ca  
Fax: (905) 640-5477

Subscription rates by mail: 1 year - \$69.55 (Tuesday only), Canadian Publications Mail Agreement Number: 1247

The Stouffville Tribune, published every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, is one of the Metroland Publishing and Distributing Ltd. group of newspapers, which includes the Ajax/Pickering News Advertiser, Alliston Herald/Courier, Barrie Advance, Barry's Bay This Week, Bolton Enterprise, Brampton Guardian, Burlington Shopping News, Burlington Post, City Parent, Collingwood/Hasaga Connection, East York Mirror, Erin Advocate/Country Routes, Etobicoke Guardian, Flamborough Post, Georgetown Independent/Action Free Press, Kingston This Week, Lindsay This Week, Markham Economist & Sun, Midland/Penetang/Shene Mirror, Milton Canadian Champion, Milton Shopping News, Mississauga News, Newmarket Aurora, Georgina Era-Banner, Northumberland News, North York Mirror, Oakville Beaver, Oakville Shopping News, Orillia Today, Oshawa/Whitby/Clarington/Port Perry This Week, Peterborough This Week, Richmond Hill/Thornhill/Vaughan Liberal, Scarborough Mirror, Today's Seniors, Uxbridge Tribune and City of York Guardian.

