

Stouffville Tribune

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OPINION



Roy Green

New '90s shows look a lot like the old ones

If they're bringing the Addams Family back to television, the Beav shouldn't be far behind.

The new TV season is under way and it's amazing how many of the so-called new shows are a lot like the old shows.

In the case of the new version of the Addams family, they are the old shows. So, when will Leave It To Beaver return?

It was 41 years ago today, Oct. 4, 1957, that the Cleaver family — Hugh Beaumont as Ward, Tony Dow as Wally, Barbara Billingsley as June and ... starring Jerry Mathers as the Beaver ... premiered on ABC-TV.

I think it's only a matter of time before they return, along with Eddie ("you look beautiful today, Mrs. Cleaver") Haskell, Lumpy Rutherford, Larry Mondello and all the other smiling folks in the fictional town of Mayfield.

Of course, the new Leave It To Beaver will be updated to reflect a more '90s outlook. It won't be enough to have episodes about Larry talking the Beav into playing hooky.

We'll also learn why June Cleaver always did the housework dressed in pearls, a fashion-plate dress and high heels. She's having an affair with Eddie Haskell.

In the new version, the Beav's best friends will be the strange kids from next door, Pugsley and Wednesday, who, it soon becomes apparent, have a problem with parental abuse.

Larry Mondello will surface for only one episode — the Halloween show, where he'll be dressed as Count Dracula and Buffy the Vampire Slayer will run a stake through his heart.

We'll also learn why June Cleaver always did the housework dressed in pearls, a fashion-plate dress and high heels. She's having an affair with Eddie Haskell.

And that mystery about what Ward Cleaver does for a living will finally be cleared up. He's been unemployed for years and spends most of his time in drug rehab.

The final episode of the first season will centre on the preparations for Wally's marriage — to Lumpy Rutherford.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Proud to have Gaelic name in the family

Re: Roy Green's *Names can be a nightmare for children* column in the Sept. 26 Tribune

I was extremely disappointed to read in the Stouffville Tribune a column with references that border on racism toward Irish and Celtic people. As a father of a beautiful daughter with the equally beautiful name of Siobhan (pronounced Sh-yon for people like columnist Roy Green), I take great exception to the ridicule of Gaelic names.

While in the past, it has been government policy in Great Britain and church policy in parts of Cape Breton to try and wipe out the Gaelic culture, I would have thought that in the enlightened 90s this intolerance would be seen as highly offensive, particularly during the week that Nelson Mandela visited our neck of the woods.

I take great pride in telling acquaintances of mine across the ocean and in the U.S. how Canada allows people to maintain their own cultures while still becoming new part of our great nation.

It troubles me greatly that when names or customs don't fit the Anglo-Saxon mould of the likes of Mr. Green, they feel the need to ridicule.

A reader of the column can only assume that since Gaelic names and spelling disturb Mr. Green, then so to would Spanish, Italian, Hindu, African.

My daughter Siobhan, while having to explain the spelling and pronunciation from time to time, does not suffer any ill effects of having a Gaelic name, it only adds to her pride of where she has come from, and as she reaches her teens, it's a name many find neat.

As part of an interesting cultural experience, Mr. Green, I would love to meet you and give you a warm Glasgow handshake.

DAVID BAXTER
STOUFFVILLE

Seniors fed up with added costs of living

As seniors in our mid-70s on low incomes, we find it hard enough to survive with all these added expenditures.

We have lived at Musselmann's Lake for 27 years, our health is good and we've been drinking and using our well water until now.

Now it is supposed to be mandatory to be hooked up by certain dates. We received letters threatening us to be hooked up by July 1, and we complied at a cost of \$3,000 and more, now the town claims to use the water will cost of \$550 yearly or \$45 a month. We cannot blame the 288 who have not converted — staff was suggesting they pay \$360 yearly as a fine.

One councillor suggested adding it our taxes. In that case, we are paying \$200 more than those who have not hooked up, plus the price of the meter and inspection and having to pay for the installation of water service.

Now the town is proposing charging for \$1 a bag for garbage pick-up. Soon we will not be able to buy food which would help us reduce our garbage.

Maybe the other solution is to move out, and into a new penthouse on the fourth floor which our taxes have made possible.

GEORGE AND HELEN DODD
STOUFFVILLE

Views ON THE News

A FORUM FOR PUBLIC OPINION

Q: Stouffville council heard last week from Georgina officials about its \$1-a-bag trash plan. Georgina says the user-pay system has dramatically reduced waste to the landfill. Would you be in favour of paying \$1 a bag for garbage in Stouffville?

Yes, I would be happy to produce the trash and would be willing to pay for the trash to go wherever it goes. \$1 a bag is very reasonable.

ESTHER POWELL

Yes, I would. I look after children here and I sort out bags as best I can. The guy who picks up the bags is very courteous and helpful — it's almost like a tip. I hate seeing the guys out there in the terrible weather.

CARRIE GARRETT

It would be a good idea as long as the money collected is spent in the right places, but if it's to give the politicians raises, then no.

PETE KAKALETRI

As long as those running the program do it right, meaning using the money collected to actually pay for services rendered. But if it's just another tax grab ploy, then forget it.

J. THOMPSON

No. They already get money for garbage collection. They should use that more wisely. We pay enough in taxes already.

JANE FARLEY

I wouldn't mind so much for two reasons. Number one, if they thoroughly outline how, where and why the money raised will be used so we're sure it's being used properly. Second, if it helps to actually make people think more about recycling and composting.

CHRIS THOMAS

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Toronto has installed controversial red-light cameras as part of a pilot project to deter red-light runners across the city. Would you be in favour of such a project here in York Region?

Submit contributions to
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