

# Stouffville Tribune

A Metroland community newspaper  
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## Views ON THE News

A FORUM FOR PUBLIC OPINION

**Q:** Were you surprised by the revelations of corruption in the International Olympic Committee selection process, and do you think Toronto should continue its bid for the 2008 summer Games?

I was surprised when it first came out. They hid it so well. Toronto should still go for it. It would be nice to have it here in Canada. Maybe we can be the start of a clean campaign.

TROY DOS SANTOS

I wasn't too surprised, but this shouldn't prevent Toronto from trying to get the Olympics. Just because you have a few lunatics in there, doesn't mean everybody should go hide.

SEETA RAMCHARAN

I wasn't surprised by it. Yes, they should continue with a Toronto bid, because it should be here. We're the best.

ANNE POELSTRA

I'm surprised they hadn't been caught earlier. I think it will help our bid and they should definitely go for it.

BJORN GUDEHUS

I'm glad they went after them. It's about time and (IOC president) Juan Samaranch definitely has to go. I think Toronto should go for it.

IGEL MILITZER

I wasn't surprised at all. Toronto should go for the Olympics, 100 per cent.

VITO LAMANNA

I think I'm a bit naive maybe, but I was surprised by the scandal. I think it would be good economically to bring the Olympics here, but I don't like all the political stuff.

ANDREA STEVENS

### THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Maple Leaf Gardens will host its final NHL game Saturday, Feb. 13. Do you have any special memories of an event at the landmark arena?

Submit contributions to  
Views on the News, fax: (905) 640-5477  
E-mail: thetrib@istar.ca

# OPINION



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### SDSS tech program gives students a head start

The question most frequently asked by secondary school students as they approach graduation is, "What will I do when I finish school?"

A growing number of students are finding meaningful, self-fulfilling and high-paying careers in the field of technology.

I know a good number of these students personally and can assure you their quality of life far surpasses the students who finished school and simply got a job.

An excellent place to get your career in technology started is in the technical shops at Stouffville District Secondary School.

A broad range of courses are offered which can lead directly into employment; an interesting hobby or post-secondary education at a community college.

Regardless of your career plans, you will find your experience in the Stouffville technical education program a rewarding one.

HARRY BOWES  
COMMUNITY MEMBER, S.D.S.S.

### Mom proud of generosity

I was devastated when I read the *Stouffville Tribune* article about the Jackson/Mullings tragedy.

But what really picked up my spirits was when my nine-year-old daughter read about the trust fund and said, "Mommy, can I give \$20?"

I was so inspired by her thoughtfulness. It makes me so proud of her and

proud of myself as her parent.

This money was a birthday present to her, and what better gift than to help out someone in a time of need.

It was also her idea to write her own letter.

My heart goes out to Angelina, and hope she will find the strength to get her through this time of despair.

CHRISTINE EMPRINGHAM  
MUSSELMAN'S LAKE

Sammy's letter:

Dear Angelina and Kennedy,

Sorry to hear about your tragedy. My name is Sammy and I am nine years old.

I have lived in Stouffville for all my life and it is a wonderful town.

I would like to give this to you in person, because I would like to meet you and your new son, but I know this is a very difficult time for you, so you can let me know if you would rather not.

I will understand. Maybe at another time.

If there is anything I can help you both with, please call me.

SAMMY EMPRINGHAM

### Cartoon refreshes memory

It's snow joke time.

In the cartoon of Tuesday, Jan. 19 in the *Stouffville Tribune*, it reminded me of the time when I was 18 years old.

I was hauling logs from a bush west and north of Ballantrae to Stouffville. I was driving Levi Forsyth's team of dapple grey Percherons on sleighs, and that winter the snow in the bush was so deep all I could see was the tips of the horses' ears.

BERNARD BURNELL  
STOUFFVILLE



Roy Green

## We're just 300 synthetic genes away from another politician

**T**ucked away at the bottom of my daily paper one day this week was a story about the possibility of scientists creating whole new species — new forms of life — from scratch.

The convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Science was told that synthetic bacteria could be stitched together to create artificial chromosomes to form the nucleus of never-before-seen creatures.

"The artificial life forms created could be tailored to clean up environmental pollution, deliver drugs, or — on the darker side — to wage biological war," the story stated.

### GET FITTED FOR YOUR GAS MASKS

Given what we know about mankind today, which of those three alternatives do you think will be the first priority when they begin warming up the bunsen-burners?

Get out the gas masks, Martha.

The story stated scientists no longer need a stormy, lightning-filled night and an assistant named Igor to build a new Frankenstein.

In fact, all it takes is 300 synthetic genes, compared to the 80,000 to 100,000 genes that make up your average human.

There was, of course, the expected warning about the need for public debate about the ethics of the venture before anyone begins making low-life genes.

### LOW-BULBS NOTHING NEW

"We have not decided to go ahead and do the experiment yet. We want to make sure the positive implications outweigh the negative ones," one scientist said.

Yeah, sure.

I don't care what they say, it's obvious somebody's been churning out 300-gene low-bulbs for a number of years now.

You see them every day — giving you the finger on the highway, yacking it up in theatres, shouting incoherently at one protest or another on the nightly news.

And the frightening thing is, more and more of them seem to be going into politics.

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