

# Christ Church suppers foster community spirit

FOR FIFTH YEAR, ANGLICAN CHURCH OPENS ITS HALLS TO FEED STOUFFVILLE FAMILIES

BY JANET RICHARDS  
Special to The Tribune

Tomorrow night, you can get a free home-cooked meal in Stouffville.

This is the fifth year that Christ Church Anglican will open its kitchen to the community.

For four Wednesdays, volunteers will be serving hot, home-cooked meals to whoever comes through the doors between 5 and 7 p.m.

Organizer Carolyn Boyd, a member

of Christ Church for 17 years, came up with the idea because she felt there was a need to get seniors out of their homes.

"We thought people would benefit from time out of their homes," says Boyd, "especially after a long winter when many seniors travel or are unable to get out."

Even those who don't want a full meal are invited to come for a cup of tea and dessert and to visit with neighbours.

The open kitchen coincides with

Lent, the four weeks leading up to Easter.

"It is an opportunity to come out of ourselves a bit, too," says Boyd.

While mostly seniors attend, Boyd says there are also others, including young families who may not have time to sit down to a hot, home-cooked meal on a regular basis.

"It means, at least, the kids can get something to eat, even though dad or mom might not make it until later because of the GO train," says Boyd. She adds that the change in scheduling for the GO train has made the 5 to 7 p.m. time frame even more convenient.

About 45 people attend each evening of the open kitchen.

Boyd says it is difficult to know how much food to have on hand. Each year, she says, they have been stretched on one meal.

"It's like the story of the loaves and the fishes," Boyd says, "somehow there is always just enough."

Volunteers cook mainly casseroles and baked items that can be frozen and saved if there is too much. Leftover

items are given to the food bank and delivered to shut-ins in the community.

Along with the volunteers who prepare food, about 15 people help out during the meals, setting up tables and washing dishes.

This year, several high school students are helping out. Students in Grade 9 this year are affected by a new curriculum requiring community service or volunteer work. Students can cook or bake or come out and help at the church says Boyd.

"In the past, we have had help from Mike Boadway of Boadway's Meats and from the IGA," says Boyd.

Boyd also stresses that the open kitchen is not charity. While there are those in the community who may have a need and come out, there are also a number who come out just to socialize with friends and neighbours while enjoying a hot meal.

Christ Church Anglican is located at 254 Sunset Blvd. in Stouffville. Hot meals will be served from 5 to 7 p.m. on March 22, 29, April 5 and 12.

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## Stouffville could be added to Ontario's wine tour map

BY JOAN RANSBERRY  
Staff Writer

Another winery will be built in Stouffville, if local council backs a proposal from a resident.

At tonight's meeting, Whitchurch-Stouffville council will hear the details of an application for a winery.

Carol Diane Passafiume, owner of Applewood Farms Winery, wants to convert a small barn into a retail outlet and sell grape and fruit wines from her 83-acre property at 12442 McCowan Rd. Last month, Whitchurch-Stouffville

council backed an application allowing a full-scale winery to be built on Bethesda Road.

Winemaker Mario Testa can go ahead with his plans to build Willow Springs. Testa hopes to use at least 10 acres to grow grapes, while another 10 acres will grow other fruit trees. All will be used to make wine.

Agreeing to the business ventures puts Stouffville on the wine map. This community will now be included in an established southern Ontario wine tour held every summer.

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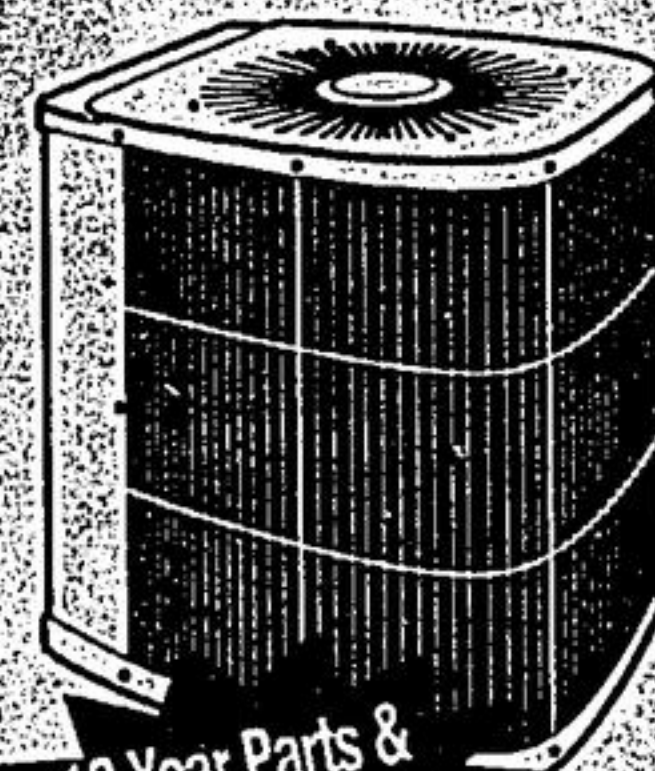
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