

Stouffville Tribune

A Metroland community newspaper
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OPINION

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Roy Green

Honestly, I don't make this stuff up, it's actually true

Random items culled recently from the news. I'm not making these up. Honest.

— Enza Anderson, the drag queen who is running for mayor in Toronto, wears a dress and complains people don't take him seriously. Why not, you ask? "Because I wear a dress," says Enza.

— The Lord's Prayer contains 56 words, the 10 Commandments 349, the preamble of the American Constitution 52. The European Economic Community regulation laying down rules for granting export refunds on eggs contains 1698 words.

— In the category of no-brainer, two separate studies published recently reveal that athletes who get hit in the head can suffer long-term brain damage.

— Already missing Survivor? Have no fear — The American cable channel Court TV will premiere a new "reality" series, Confessions, that features actual videotaped confessions of murderers, rapists and other offenders.

But they're not just doing it for ratings. Oh, no. The company's CEO says "This is in keeping with Court TV's stated mission to cover all aspects of the criminal justice system."

100 LOVE REFERENCES

— A new book, *The Erotic Thesaurus*, carries more than 1,300 slang terms for male genitalia, 300 references for female genitalia and more than 400 for breasts. But there are only 100 references for love.

— A recent Era-Banner headline claimed "Report irks doctors, nurses". Irk is a headline word, used only by editors who find themselves short of space. In real life, people get angry, furious or p.o.d. — never irked.

— Hoping to compete with CTV's new Canadian version of *Who Wants To Be A Millionaire*, the CBC will air *Who Wants To Loan Us A Million in September*. (OK, I made that one up.)

And finally, this item found on the Internet:

— Pure democracy: You have two cows. Your neighbours decide who gets the milk.

American democracy: The government promises to give you two cows. After the election, the president is impeached for dealing in cow futures. The press dubs the affair "Cowgate." The cow sues you for breach of contract.

European democracy: You have two cows. At first, the government regulates what you can feed them and when can milk them. Then, it pays you not to milk them. After that, it shoots one, milks the other and pours the milk down the drain. Then, it requires you to fill out forms accounting for the missing cows.

LETTERS

Lights, camera, action are irritating to Unionville residents

Twice this year, Hughson Park in Unionville has been occupied by film crews. According to Debbie Reeves of the Town of Markham, application was made and granted.

Our usually quiet, residential area and especially my corner lot home is surrounded by 17 vehicles, trucks and horse boxes.

Is this another case of not in our back yard? You bet it is. This tiny little park is all we have left of the overdeveloped land around us. It is also the only place we have to walk our dogs and for our children to safely play.

This kind of activity is totally inappropriate for this small residential area. A better location would be Bruce's Mill Conservation area where an abundance of space exists for such filming and crew.

Thank you, but no thank you. Next time our neighbourhood may not react so well.

HILARY THURSFIELD
UNIONVILLE

Residents helped raise money for world famine relief

As president of World Vision Canada, I would like to thank the 30-hour famine participants and organizers in Markham for their valuable contribution to the most successful Canadian 30-hour famine ever.

The annual event has exceeded this year's goal of \$3.5 million. To date, more than \$3.8 million is being used to help needy children in developing countries.

This year, Markham students joined more than 150,000 young Canadians who registered for the national event April 7 and 8. By going without solid food for 30 hours and organizing local events, students raised money and increased awareness of global poverty.

Participants in your community raised \$10,421.20. This money will be used to help food programs in Rwanda, Kenya and Sudan, street kids in Cambodia and Romania and relief efforts in Iraq. Breakfast programs and projects for street youth in Canada also receive funding.

We look forward to another successful year

in 2001 as we continue to help those in greatest need. Next year's 30-hour famine is scheduled for April 6 and 7. Join the fight against hunger and register for next year's event by calling 1-888-8-FAMINE or visiting www.worldvision.ca/famine

On behalf of the children whose futures are brighter because of your efforts, I want to thank Markham and surrounding areas. The students can be proud of their efforts.

DAVE TOYCE, PRESIDENT
WORLD VISION CANADA

Markham should elect a fresh face

Would Jim Jones get off the pot and stop waffling?

First, he's seen at a Tom Long Alliance leadership event, then he dashes out in the hopes nobody will see him; he gets kicked out of the Tory caucus for not showing enough loyalty to the PC party. Now he has to decide which party he'll represent?

It's not fair to his constituents. We are voting for a voice to speak on our behalf, not for a politician whose only concern is the betterment of his career.

Come to think of it, what work has he done? Seems pretty useless to me.

Bottom line, Jones is acting in the most self-serving and selfish way. It is time for Markham to elect a fresh new face, and put the old inconsistent politicians to rest.

V. BISHARA
MARKHAM

Mike's not to blame for mould

Poor Mike Harris gets blamed for everything. I am sure if there was a spelling mistake in the Magna Carta, he would get the blame.

Tony Genco's letter to the editor (July 29, 2000) puts the blame for the mould in the Newmarket courthouse and our school portables on Mike when all he did was find it. Did it ever occur to Genco there is a possibility the mould could have been caused by a design or construction defect and, furthermore, that construction could have been tendered by a Liberal or NDP government?

Genco, I suggest you check the 'sell before' date before you step to your soapbox.

RICHARD COMPTON
UNIONVILLE

Driver's a miserable coward

To the person who sideswiped my wife's car on Baymark Drive on Aug. 17 and then fled the scene, I have a few questions for you to consider. Is this the way you operate in life — doing things without taking responsibility?

Does it make you feel good that you got away, while I have to pay a \$500 deductible? Are you relieved the police didn't catch you when you might have been speeding, drinking or driving inattentively?

Most of all, do you feel good about yourself when all you really are is a miserable coward?

IAN WAINBERG
THORNHILL

LETTERS POLICY

Stouffville Tribune welcomes your letters. All submissions must be less than 400 words and must include a daytime telephone number, name and address. The newspaper reserves the right to publish or not publish and to edit for clarity and space.

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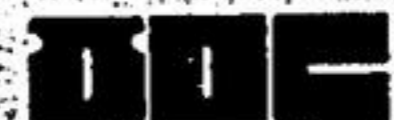
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