

Stouffville Tribune

A Metroland community newspaper
9 Heritage Rd., Markham, Ont. L3P 1M3

Publisher: Ian Proudfoot

General Manager: Alvin Brouwer

Editor in Chief: Brenda Larson

Director of Advertising: Debra Weller

Deputy Editor

Debora Kelly

Editor

Jim Mason

Production Manager

Pam Nichols

Distribution Manager

Barry Black

Online Publishing

Manager

Margaret Fleming

Classified Manager

Ann Campbell

Retail Sales Manager

Stephen Mathieu

Inside Sales Manager

Stacey Allen

Business Manager

Robert Lazurko

Office Manager

Vivian O'Neil

OPINION

TELEPHONE

(905) 294-2200 / (416) 798-7624

FAX: (905) 294-1538

EMAIL: newsroom@econsun.com



Roy Green

York politicians want to juggle, while students share space

Some idle questions:

- Vaughan's acting Mayor Michael Di Biase says his city is under-represented at York Regional Council and would like to add two more Vaughan seats at the region. Realizing, of course, that no one is going to approve more politicians, he suggests a trade-off by having the city re-align its wards and reduce Vaughan council by two members.

That would certainly help solve the under-representation at the regional level, but don't you think the people in those newly merged wards might just feel, well, under-represented?

- Until construction on the new Sir William Mulock Secondary School is finished, its 450 students are going to school at Newmarket High on a shift system with NHS students.

"For all intents and purposes, there are two separate schools operating in the same building," said the new school's principal.

Apart from hallways being crowded, one student said both schools have done a superb job accommodating the additional students without major disruptions.

Am I the only one who thinks, given the demographics of an ever-maturing population, this idea could be given a long, hard look before boards construct any more schools or add any more mouldy portables?

- A group trying to restore the ruins of the first Catholic church in Upper Canada, St. Raphael's near Cornwall, is angry because the provincial and federal governments have refused to pay any of the \$500,000 cost.

The church was the centre of the Catholic Church in Ontario and in its heyday claimed more than 6,000 parishioners, including Ontario's first premier John S. Macdonald.

Before asking for taxpayers' money, wouldn't it have been a good idea to ask the Catholic church — which has a few dollars, I'm told — if it would like to help?

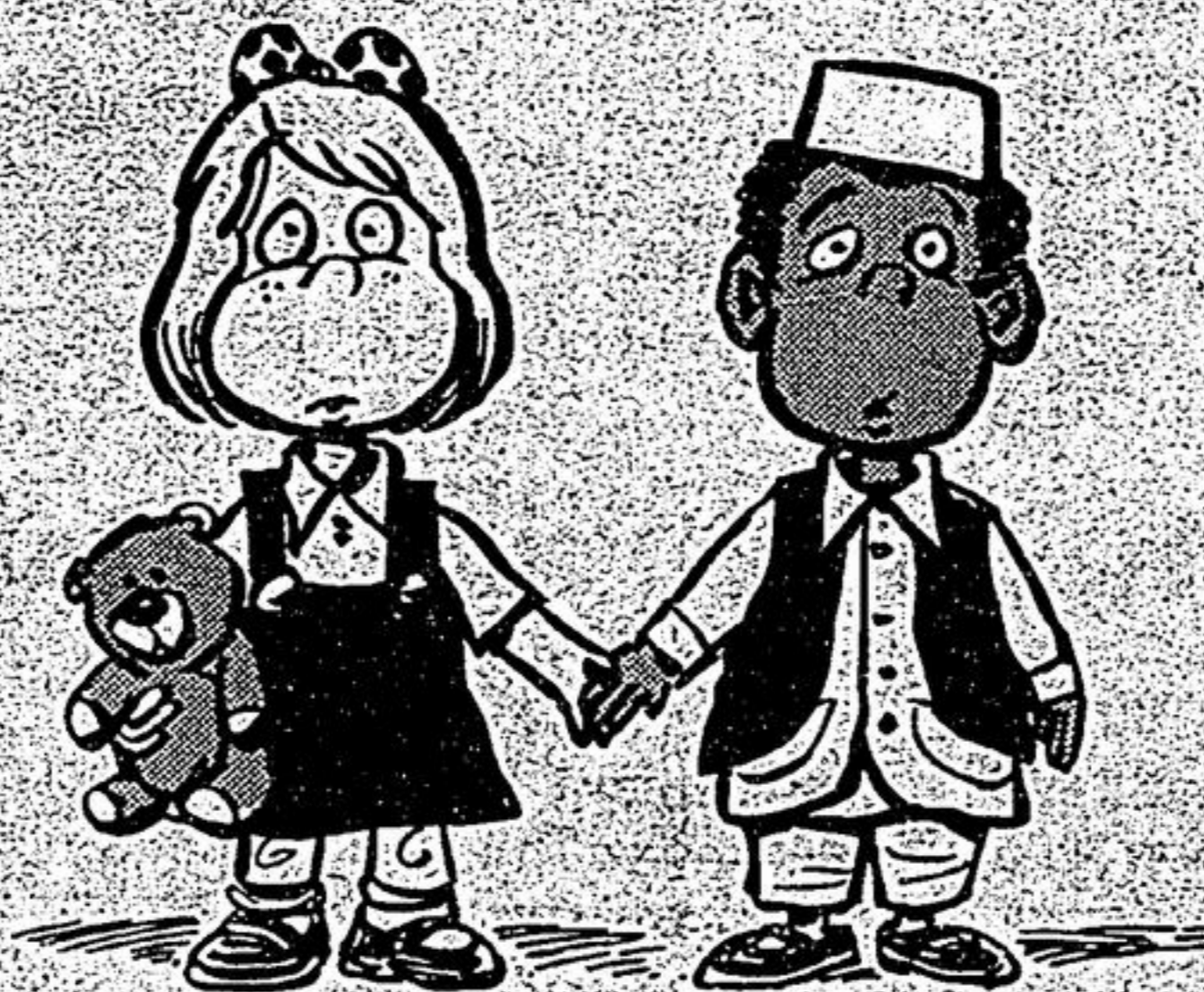
- And speaking of money, Air Canada is lobbying the federal government for \$4 billion to match dollar-for-dollar a bailout of U.S. airlines, facing empty skies after the events of Sept. 11.

As one columnist noted this week, "Though the airline had none of its planes hijacked, suffered no loss of property, was grounded for a shorter period and has laid off none of its workforce, it considers itself just as badly hurt as its American counterparts, who have already shed 65,000 employees in anticipation of a massive decline in air travel."

Why should the government give Air Canada \$4 billion when the airline has admitted its actual loss due to the grounding is closer to \$100 million?

Just asking

WHAT'S A TERRORIST?



NEAVE '01

LETTERS

Alternative materials could distance teachers from parents

Re: York teachers support alternative lifestyle teaching materials, Sept. 8

Reasonable people support a tolerant society and understand the need for a better understanding of different lifestyles. A great deal, then, revolves around how this material will be designed and presented.

To the extent that the Elementary Teachers Federation of Ontario decides to normalize the abnormal, to naturalize the unnatural, to that extent it will be distancing itself from the majority of parents in Ontario.

The federation need not be surprised if the result is an even greater exodus to home schooling and other sectarian facilities.

R. BLAKE TUFFORD
STOUFFVILLE

Put faith in God, not machines and political leaders

Our country needs to realize there are people who do the will of God and there are those who go the wrong way.

When are we going to stop such evil crimes from happening to innocent people? Humanity is never safe when we put faith in machines and political leaders. The answer is faith and service to God.

There will always be tragedy when you leave life to the will of humanity. My prayers are with all families in the U.S.A.

DEB RUMBLE
MARKHAM

'Gross profanity,' vandalism at Unionville Public appalling

I was appalled at the vandalism that occurred at my children's school, Unionville Public, over the summer. A fire was deliberately set that destroyed a picnic table and our children's playground slide.

Eighteen windows were broken. The vents on the portable building were removed and gross profanity was written all over the outside.

We all take great pride in our school but there are those who obviously do not.

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.

Write: Letters to the Editor,
9 Heritage Rd.,
Markham, Ont. L3P 1M3
Email: letters@econsun.com

If anyone knows who did these irresponsible and wasteful acts, please report it to our school or local police.

Repairing these damages costs us all and the funds could be used more beneficially for our kids.

SHELLEE PERKINS
UNIONVILLE

School board's language courses should be open to all students

An open letter to York Region District School Board director of education Bill Hogarth.

When the international languages elementary program flyer was sent home from school, my first thought was, "What a wonderful opportunity to have my child learn a second language."

When I observed Cantonese was being offered, I was even more excited, as it is obvious this is going to be one of the major languages of communication and business in the future.

So, off we went, full of anticipation and excitement on registration night. However, to my disappointment and amazement, my child and I were the only Caucasians registering at this location.

Now, this would still be all right except all the direction, information and communication being disseminated was completely in Cantonese. I find this disheartening.

When a child displays signs of being interested in learning another language, I think board officials should be more receptive.

Stouffville Tribune

Serving the community since 1888



Canadian Circulations
Audit Board Member



Ontario Press Council

Canadian Publications Mail Product Sales Agreement #1403419
Subscription rates by mail: 1 year - \$69.55 (Thursdays only)

Stouffville Tribune, published every Thursday and Saturday, is one of the Metroland Printing, 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/Wasaga Connection, East York Mirror, Erin Advocate/Country Routes, Etobicoke Guardian, Flamborough Post, Georgetown Independent/Action Free Press, Kingston This Week, Lindsay This Week, Midland/Penatanguishene 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, Stouffville Tribune, Today's Seniors, Uxbridge Tribune and City of York Guardian.

Phone: (905) 294-2200
Fax: (905) 294-1538

Classified:
1-800-743-3353

Distribution
(905) 294-8244

distribution@econsun.com