

# Plenty of election action in Stouffville

Some people appear confused by how close provincial and municipal elections are this year. For example, one Stouffville resident inquired quite innocently if I thought Tory MPP Frank Klees would make a good mayor.

**HOUSES DIVIDED:** Have you noticed how many residential properties in Whitchurch-Stouffville have two election signs supporting different parties? I assume, to keep peace in the family, one is for the husband and the other for his wife.

**HEAD START:** Mayoralty candidate Steve Plakes, a resident of Pine Orchard, is obviously making inroads among voters in urban Stouffville, being first off the mark when the election gun sounded. The Ward 1 representative is spending a lot of time in town, meeting and greeting people at every turn. There's one plank in the Plakes platform with which I disagree. It's his desire to establish a youth centre. It didn't work before and it won't work again. While rural Whitchurch may have a need, in Stouffville our churches serve this purpose and serve it well.

**PERFECT TIMING:** I'm not saying the projects were planned for an election year, but road and sidewalk improvements on Baker Avenue in Stouffville, won't do Ward 5 candidate Harry Bowes any harm. Nor will the new sidewalk on the south side of Millard Street, down to St. Brigid School. If Mr. Bowes could only persuade someone to apply a coat of paint to that age-old, ugly flood control dam on the north side of Millard, I'd be happy.



## Roaming Around

with Jim Thomas

**TOP HONOURS:** Congratulations to Kristina White, daughter of John and Dianne White of Stouffville. She received a silver medal from the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects following completion of an honours Bachelor of Landscape Architecture degree from the University of Guelph. In addition, Kristina finished first in a national student design competition sponsored by the American Society of Landscape Architects. Kristina, a graduate of Stouffville District Secondary School, will be honoured when the association hosts its annual convention in New Orleans next month.

**BEAUTIFUL SITE:** Stouffville United Church will soon have its own miniature version of the biblical garden of Eden. The project, initiated by organist/choir director Wanda Stride, is on the north-east corner of the property. While many helping hands were involved, much credit goes to Lloyd Jennings, Clare Palmer and Trevor Watson. An on-site service of thanksgiving is planned for Sunday, Oct. 5 at 7 p.m.

**STUDENT AWARD:** The 11th annual Student Music Scholarship Concert, sponsored by St. James Presbyterian Church, will be held Friday, Nov. 7 at Stouffville District Secondary School. In recent years, the accomplishments of one, even two students have been recognized. The choice of candidates is yours. E-mail me at thomas-jim@rogers.com.

**MANY HANDS:** Many hands make light work. So it was at the ground-breaking ceremony Sept. 14 on the site of a new \$5 million Stouffville Missionary Church. Participants included Pastor Lou Geense, Mayor Wayne Emmerson, pastoral team chair Hugh Dodd, Dawn Rouse, Larry Cogar and John Gilham. First phase of construction is expected to begin this week.

**LARGE CROWD:** Stouffville has a tiger by the tail, a giant tiger. A store by the same name, Giant Tiger, opened its doors Sept. 13 to almost 4,000 shoppers. And still they come.

**TOWN JEWEL:** The Stouffville GO station has often been described as a town jewel. Today, we have another. It's the Village Square, a community centre built specifically for residents of Eastern Gate. Official opening of this beautiful building was Sept. 13. A jewel indeed.

**SHARP CONTRAST:** New F-150 trucks were unveiled last week at Houston Ford. In sharp contrast, but still beautiful to behold, is a 1956 Thunderbird and a 1949 Ford pickup, currently adorning the Houston showroom and both owned by Bill Brown of Stouffville.

**IN THE HOLE:** A deficit budget of \$1.4 million has placed York Region police salaries in line with those of Toronto's finest. The increase means a first-class constable will now earn \$64,592 a year or, in layman's terms, an additional three stops daily for a Tim Hortons doughnut.

**NOT FORGOTTEN:** Musically, what Clarion Baker did for Whitchurch-Stouffville was not forgotten. The O'Neill funeral chapel was packed to capacity Friday as friends, some from afar, gathered to pay their respects to a very talented, yet very humble man. Clarion died Sept. 11 at age 83.

Jim Thomas is a Stouffville resident who has written for area newspapers for more than 50 years.

SMOKE! SMOKE! SMOKE!

Beat the temptation. CALL THE CANADIAN CANCER SOCIETY'S TOLL FREE SMOKERS' HELPLINE 1-877-513-5333

Funded in part by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care

This message brought to you as a community service of Economist & Sun/Tribune

642-5111 852-6711

Durham Steam Cleaning

LOOSE RUGS BROADLOOM UPHOLSTERY 3M Scotchguard

Main Office  
195 Main St. South  
Newmarket

**Criminal Law  
Family Law**

**WARREN  
SKINNER**

Barrister & Solicitor

*In Practice Since 1986*

**Stouffville Office Hours  
Now Available**  
905-895-4571  
905-830-2367  
24 hour mobile

STOUFFVILLE  
COMMUNITY POLICING CENTRE

The Stouffville Community Policing Centre would like to thank all involved in making the Community Safety Open House a success on September 10, 2003

- Stouffville Community Policing Centre Volunteers
- York Regional Police
- Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville
- York Region Public Health
- M.A.D.D.
- Victim Services of York Region
- Tynk's Express Cafe
- Chas. Richards & Sons
- Magnum Copy Centre
- Penn Design
- Balloon Experts

**York Downs Garden Centre**

9719 Kennedy Rd., Unionville  
905-887-5176  
(Between 10th Ave. and Major Mackenzie Rd.)

**Fall Ready Up**

3 Day Event: Friday, Sept. 26 to Sun. Sept. 28

- 40% Off all houseplants
- 40% Off Concrete Statuary
- 40% Off Pottery
- 30% Off Nursery Stock
- 30% Off Garden Furniture & Accessories
- 20% Off Hardware
- 20% Off Fall Bulbs
- 20% Off Flowers

Order up! TWO