

Stouffville Says

By Joan Ransberry

Is Canada better off now than a decade ago, before Jean Chretien became prime minister?

— Asked in Stouffville

Marie ADAMS



As a Canadian, my happiness does not depend on Chretien or anyone else.

Joyce TURMAN



The country will benefit from a change. I am looking forward to seeing what Paul Martin can do.

June BESSEY



Canada is better off in some ways and not better off in others. That can be said of anyone leading a country.

Lionel SANDILAND



I don't believe the country has moved on as it should have. It's been at a standstill since Chretien got in for the second term.



STAFF PHOTO/BILL ROBERTS

Welcome aboard

Veteran Whitchurch-Stouffville Councillor Harry Bowes (left) congratulates newly elected Councillor Rob Hargrave at a Whitchurch-Stouffville Chamber of Commerce luncheon at Amaretto Restaurant Monday. The new council will be sworn in Dec. 2.

Bigger business base on mayor's wish list

BY JOAN RANSBERRY
Staff Writer

A committee designed to attract industry to Whitchurch-Stouffville, is about to be struck, mayor-elect Sue Sherban told a business audience Monday.

The newly-elected mayor and members of council were guests at a luncheon held at Amaretto Restaurant.

Hosted by the Whitchurch-Stouffville Chamber of Commerce, about 60 members of the local business community mingled with members of the new council, which was elected last week. The new council will be sworn in at its inaugural meeting Dec. 2.

Ward 5 Councillor Harry Bowes is the only councillor from the former council to return. Councillors Ken Ferdinands (Ward 1), Phil Bannon (Ward 2), Clyde Smith (Ward 3), Susanne Hilton (Ward 4) and Rob Hargrave (Ward 6) all attended the luncheon.

Emphasizing the importance of business and the role it plays in a community, Mrs. Sherban said the new committee will include members of the local business community. Applications for the new committee will be taken soon, she said.

"We have a very intelligent business community here. I'm sure they will work it out."

Whitchurch-Stouffville's economic development office needs a strong boost, while the town needs to concentrate on attracting more job-creating industry, Mrs. Sherban told the group.

Once the new committee is in place in January, it will estab-

lish what types of industry will be encouraged to come to town, Mrs. Sherban added.

While the new mayor did not specify what types of industry she'd prefer to see set up in Whitchurch-Stouffville, she did stress that there is a potential for "tourist type" industries to come here. "We have a very intelligent business community here. I'm sure they will work it out," she said.

In the past six years, there has been a great deal of focus on residential development in the town, Mrs. Sherban said. Now is the time to shift direction and "focus on industrial" development, she said.

At present the local tax base is made up of 11 per cent from business and 89 per cent from residential, the mayor-elect pointed out. "At the end of my three-year term, I want to see the business (segment) increased to 15 per cent," she said.

Briefly

Hockey game benefits residents in need

Whitchurch-Stouffville continues to reach out to Luke Anderson.

A fundraising event Nov. 7 at Markham fairgrounds raised enough money to purchase a wheelchair van for the 25-year-old former Stouffville resident. More than 700 people attended the dance and auction, Sandra Schell-Kennedy, one of the event organizers, said.

Mr. Anderson, an engineer, sustained a serious spinal cord injury in a mountain bike accident in British Columbia 13 months ago.

"The event exceeded the fundraising groups' expectations," Mrs. Schell-Kennedy said. "The initial goal was to help meet Luke's transportation requirements as well as other needs. We've met the goal. We are able to get him a wheelchair van. We are overwhelmed at the community's generosity."

After a seven-month stay in Toronto Rehabilitation Institute-Lyndhurst Centre, Mr. Anderson is now residing in an assisted-living apartment in Toronto.

Another fundraiser will be held Dec. 29, beginning at 7 p.m. at the Stouffville Arena. The Stouffville Amateur Hockey League will form an all-star team, made up of players from each of its four divisions. The team will play the Stouffville Spirit. Proceeds from the game go to Mr. Anderson and cancer victim Janis Lovett of Stouffville.

Musicians needed for list

The Whitchurch-Stouffville arts and culture committee is on the hunt for local musicians.

The town-run committee is in the process of assembling a data base of vocalists and instrumentalists who can be called upon to perform at town events, weddings and other celebrations. To add your name to the listing, call 905-640-3965 by Dec. 4.

Quoteworthy

"He also had a fiery temper, but everyone loved him, fans and players too."

Teammate Bill Dummett, on Bob McNeil. See story on page 19.

Contacting Us

Have a news tip? Please:

- phone us at 905-640-2612
- e-mail us at jmason@yrrg.com
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