

Why preserve downtown eyesore?

Some people may see something weird and wonderful about the age-old Co-op building beside the GO train tracks in downtown Stouffville, but I see only something weird, not wonderful, in wanting to preserve this structure.

It's an eyesore and a death trap.

AMAZING! This one-word descriptive, while suitable, falls short of appropriately portraying the on-stage production of Music Man, presented May 27, 28 and 29 by the Stouffville-based York Durham Academy of the Performing Arts at the Vaughan City Playhouse.

The entire cast, under the direction of Wayne Hill, was brilliant, including the talented Christie McMullen, the equally talented Chris Whiteford and the precocious mayor of River City, Peter Markle. But let me not forget remarkable 10-year-old Ryan Wynne in the role of Winthrop.

The band, directed by Vince Gassi was, also excellent. I could go on, naming each and every individual. However, space will not permit this degree of elaboration.

But let me say this: Whitchurch-Stouffville is indeed fortunate to have YDAPA, but indeed unfortunate not to have a site where YDAPA can perform. Maybe some day!

YDAPA will host its 2005 grand finale June 17 at East Ridge Evangelical Missionary Church in Stouffville. Doors will open at 6 p.m., with concert and presentations at 7:30. The evening will include the year's show highlights, a children's choir, concert band and academy soloists. Admission is \$5.

MUSIC AWARD: Congratulations to Laurie D'Alessandro, of Stouffville, this year's recipient of the 2005 Music Town, Ontario award. The presentation will take place at the 14th annual Music Festival, June 29 at 8 p.m., in Stouffville United Church, part of the Strawberry Festival weekend.

Laurie, mother of three, is an accomplished pianist, having participated in Music Mania; the Bach to Blues Company as well as serving as orchestra leader with the York Durham Academy of the Performing Arts.

She's involved in the Musical Discoveries Program at the Stouffville library, an instrumental music program at Stouffville's St. Brigid Catholic School and York Region's Music Alive Program. She holds an advanced certificate in early childhood music education.

In addition to teaching piano, Laurie is an accomplished guitarist.

GERMAN CHOIR: The German Harmonie Choir along with soloist Susan



Roaming Around

with Jim Thomas

Brown and the Men of Note Chorus, will participate in the annual Music Festival, June 29 at Stouffville United Church. Proceeds from free-will donations will go to the Student Music Scholarship Fund. Contributions will also be received for the Whitchurch-Stouffville Food Bank.

RETURN OF TIM, HEATHER: On a return visit to Stouffville's Tim Hortons last week, I was attracted to two positives.

First, the interior has been totally refurbished with new tables, new chairs, new lighting, new just about everything. Further, employee traffic behind the counter, has been greatly improved.

Another affirmative was the homecoming, of Heather King following major surgery. Her radiant smile was sorely missed.

FLYING HIGH: In case you aren't aware, June 1 through July 1 is Canadian Flag Month in Whitchurch-Stouffville. The proclamation was made official at the May 10 meeting of council. No, bylaw enforcement officer Keith Saunders won't be issuing summonses to those not flying our national emblem, but wouldn't it be nice if everyone displayed a little patriotic fervour and flew our flag without persuasion?

ALL ELVIS: Stouffville will be all shook up this weekend when hundreds of Elvis fans and Elvis tribute artists come to town. The kick-off party is 8 p.m. Friday in Latcham Hall, with more of the same on Saturday in Stouffville Memorial Park. Admission Friday is \$15; free on Saturday. The event is hosted by the Stouffville Business Improvement Area.

SOUNDS GOOD: The York-Durham Aphasia Centre will benefit from a musical garden party Sunday at 2 p.m., hosted by Stouffville's Bach to Blues Company at Christian Blind Mission International. Tickets, \$10 for adults and \$5 for children, are available by calling 905-640-3455.

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

WHAT'S HAPPENIN' OUTSIDE!

It's **LUPIN** week again this week, the sequel. We've got a further shipment of big ones and medium sized as well. What a show!

Hibiscus are bountiful just now, but mostly red is available. Some standards of extra-large stature are yet available and they look amazing.

The fourth shipment of mandevillas arrive today with, I am told, a couple of yellow ones mixed in. These are a really impressive climbing annual that's sun-loving and very pretty.

The geranium deal is winding up — if you need some you'd best pick them up soon.

Canna Lilies are now in but of limited supply. They're large and beginning to show bloom. We've received the second shipment of bouganvillia, including some standards which are just starting to bloom.

A further shipment of patio pots and fibre-basket hangers has now arrived, another will come on Saturday.

— and lastly, the final shipment of sunshine ferns (Kimberly type) has arrived. They're not as big as the originals — but take heart, they grow very fast.

— and very lastly, we have a lot of 4" potted small stuff to make your own arrangements. What a neat time of the year!

MANGOES!

This is the time of year for Haden mangoes, which in my opinion, are the best variety. They don't have that bright blush colour as the other varieties do — but then we don't eat the skin anyway. We bought some size 6 mangoes to feature this week. "6" means that they're so big that only 6 fit in a standard mango box. We wanted to sell them at the 'magic' price of 99¢ each — but we just couldn't get the right cost. My compromise is that I bought the right mangoes and we'll sell them at our cost, which is..... **1.29** EACH

BLACK FOREST HAMS!

Our Deli feature will be our homemade Black Forest Hams. When people who are new to our store try our ham, they're invariably amazed at the texture — and the **FLAVOUR**. We don't use the artificial processing aids that larger manufacturers do. **1/3** OFF THIS WEEK

Very delicious ham!
Reg. \$1.99 / 100 g

OUR CAJUN SAUSAGES

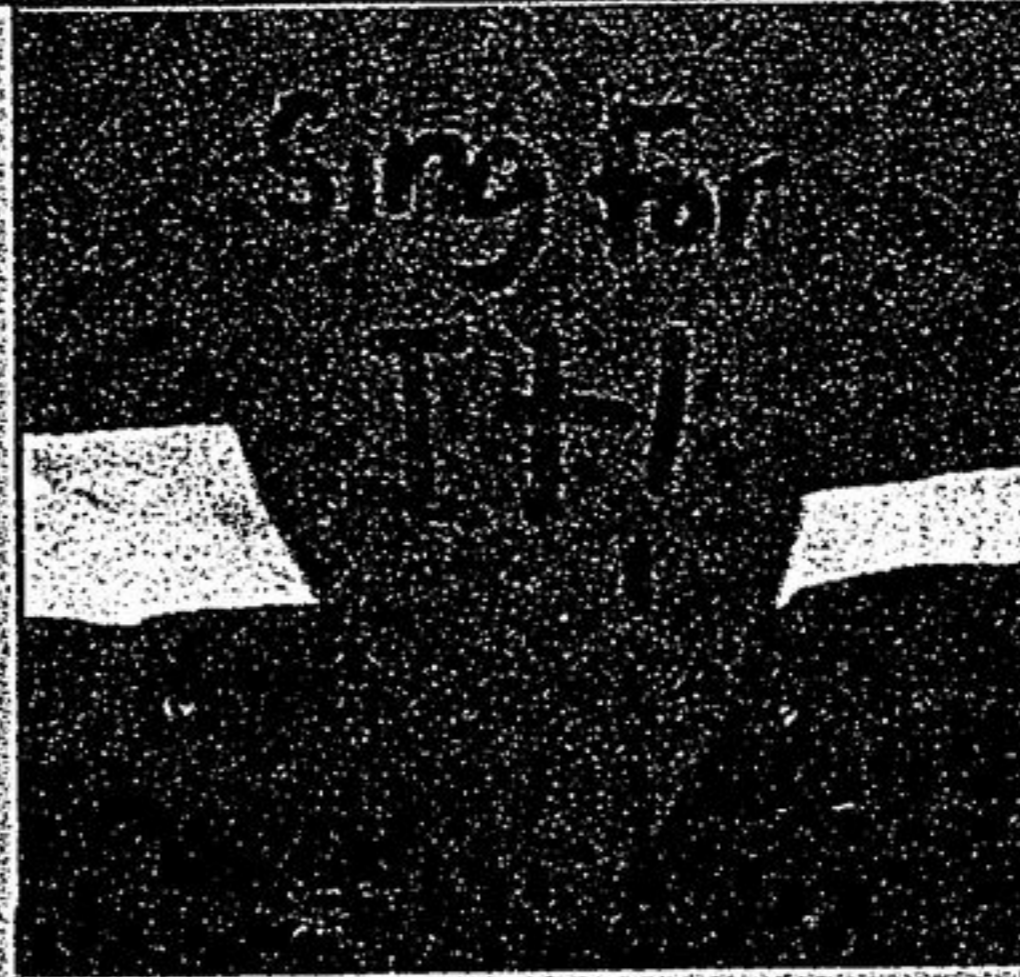
I like these sausages a lot. Although they have a bit of heat, they have a lot of flavour and character. Great BarBQed! **25% OFF THIS WEEK**
Reg. \$3.99/lb

ONION SOUP

To make this, we sauté lots of onions (I mean lots) in butter and olive oil. We then cook them slowly to a very sweet, caramelized consistency, deglaze the pan (it's huge) with Guinness and brandy and add the stock and seasonings. We then continue the slow cooking until the end of the day. It's really good! **25% OFF THIS WEEK**
Serves 3-4
Reg. \$5.49 cont.

WHAT'S FOR DINNER?

This week our dinner entrée is Chicken Supreme. It is, according to my mother-in-law Doreen: "Lovely, big chunks of chicken breast in a smooth, velvety, white cream sauce with mushrooms. The chicken breasts are poached in white wine." **25% OFF THIS WEEK**
Pretty good dinner!
Serves 3-4
Reg. \$16.95 ea.



SING FOR IT!

This is a C.D. which features the Holy Trinity School Primary Choir. The project has been put together by Joan Hargrave, (my little girl's teacher) with all the net proceeds going to Princess Margaret Hospital End Breast Cancer Weekend. I attended a performance of this music and I must say that a lot of heart, spirit, energy — and yes, primary enthusiasm went into this. The C.D.s are available at our store for \$15.00 each. If you buy it only for the music, you'll be uplifted for sure. If you buy it to support the cure, you'll be uplifting others as well.



Holy Trinity School Primary Choir

WHAT'S BAKING THIS WEEK!

We'll be baking copious amounts of goodies, including.....

LEMON CURD FLANS - These have a shortbread bottom filled with our homemade (of course) lemon curd which has been doted upon for hours. It's simple and elegant!... **\$17.95**

TRIPLE LEMON MOUSSE CAKE - This has layers of lemon mousse, lemon and a light lemon cake filled with white chocolate. It's light and refreshing... **\$20.95**

POPPYSEED LEMON MUFFINS - These are very lemony to start with but as a bonus they're filled with a dollop of lemon curd... **\$1.29**

All of these items will be on sale at..... **1/3 OFF THIS WEEK**

MARINATED BONELESS CHICKEN BREASTS

In our store we sell only air-chilled chicken. They have an edge in flavour because they run loose and eat what they want. They are processed in a more time consuming (and expensive manner) in order that this flavour advantage is maintained.

So what do you get when you start with the best chicken and then add one of our superlative homemade marinades? ... A thrill from the grill!

Available in Teriyaki, Hyatt, Texan B.B.Q., and Zesty Lemon. **25% OFF THIS WEEK**
Reg. \$10.95/lb.

VILLAGE GROCER
QUALITY FOODS

SPECIALS IN-EFFECT UNTIL CLOSING SUNDAY JUNE 5TH

Hours: Mon. 11:00-7:00 ~ Tues.-Thurs. 9:00-7:00 ~ Fri. 9:00-8:00

Sat. 9:00-6:00 ~ Sun. 10:00-5:00

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