

# Strawberry Festival turns 21

More than 30,000 expected to enjoy five-day extravaganza

BY HANNELORE VOLPE  
Staff Writer

The Strawberry Festival, a five-day extravaganza which turns 21 this year, comes to Stouffville next Wednesday.

This year close to 30,000 visitors are expected.

The first event is the music festival at Stouffville United Church Wednesday at 8 p.m.

On Thursday, hundreds of people will come to the picnic shelter in Memorial Park for the Stouffville Lions annual roast beef and strawberry shortcake dinner beginning at 4:30 p.m.

At the opening ceremonies afterwards the Citizen of the Year and Sport Person of the Year will be announced. From 7 to 10 p.m. the Jest for Lafts comedy show takes to the stage in the Franklin Park marquee. Admission is \$15 per person.

The fireworks display on Canada Day will have a different format this year. The pyrotechnics will be like backyard fireworks, lower to the ground than in previous years, with entertainers such as fire eaters on three stages in ball diamond 2 in Memorial Park to round out the half-hour show.

The Black Board Blues Band performs earlier in the evening.

On Saturday, Main Street will turn into a pedestrian mall

with dozens of vendors lining the street from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

There will be strawberries for sale from Reesor's Farm Market. The Strawberry Festival Committee, Stouffville United Church's strawberries and ice cream stand and The Red Berry Cafe in Latcham Hall.

A new attraction, The Zero Gravity Circus troupe, entertains at 12:30 p.m. and 3:50 p.m. in the marquee. The show features circus-style performances by acrobats, jugglers, fire-eaters and others along with special effects, black light, live music and light and laser shows. The baby contest is in Latcham Hall while the spelling bee is at the Kumon Centre on Library Lane.

### LOCAL BANDS PLAY

Three local bands, The Buzz, The Slime Dogs and The Groove, perform rock and roll favourites from the 1960s to the present at the Clock Tower Garden Tavern.

The Buzz features Paul Burton on bass and vocals, Terry Nepirly and Matt Douris on guitar and vocals and keyboardist Greg Phillips and drummer Bobby Ashmore.

Bass player Paul Pykala and his guitarist brother Eric lend the vocals to The Groove along with songwriter and lead guitarist Tom Pullin.

The Slime Dogs with bass player Grant Ivens and his wife Jo on vocals and keyboard, Mike Mangov on guitar and vocals, Stevie Mangov on drums and guitarist Fernando Moleirinho could be joined by Bubba on the harp.

The younger Ivens, eight-year-old Laura and four-year-old Alana, will join the band to sing, dance and play the tambourine. The band invites visitors to try their hand at the conga drums.

There will be entertainment throughout the day at the Franklin Park marquee.

The Freckles Contest, judged by local entrepreneur Sandra Stronach, takes place at Latcham Hall from 12:30 to 1 p.m. Mrs. Stronach entered several freckle contests at the Canadian National Exhibition when she was a child.

Children can head over to the Franklin Park marquee on Saturday to take a turn with a remote-control NASCAR car.

The Whitchurch-Stouffville Soccer Club is holding a Beat the Keeper soccer skills competition in Thicketwood Bowl.

Sunday is the last day of the festival with a morning outdoor ecumenical church service followed by a strawberry social.

For more information, visit [www.strawberryfestival.ca](http://www.strawberryfestival.ca)



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Ashlea Bannon (left) and Jaime Ricciardi paint posts at Memorial Park in Stouffville in preparation for next week's Strawberry Festival. The students were hired by the town for the summer.

## Angus Glen Golf Club

proudly presents

# Canada's World Record Golf Event!

Most golfers to play medal round - on foot - in a day! Guinness World Record set in St. Andrews, Scotland, 2003 with 491 golfers.

### July 11th, 2005 Sun-up to Sun-down

Play one of GTA's most prestigious golf courses FOR FREE!  
...While raising funds for a great cause!  
(\*minimum \$250 in pledges per player. Ask friends, family, colleagues!)

## Great Prizes & Incentives!

- Hole-In-One - MINI Cooper S Convertible • Club Interwest Membership
- Most Pledges - Resort Golf Packages
- "Celebrity Drive" Contest - Win the "Mercy MINI" for a month! (Closest to our Celebrity Sweet Spot wins... Good or Bad!)

Plus Many More!

**"Register by July 1st to enter our \$1000 Early Bird Prize!"**

Register by email at [info@mercygolf.com](mailto:info@mercygolf.com); by phone at 705-733-0170 or 905-887-5157 or online at [www.mercygolf.com](http://www.mercygolf.com)

Help Mercy Ships provide long term medical care, relief, aid & long term change in developing countries.

Thank You to Our Sponsors & Supporters

**LIVING ROOM**

A place in Markham for people ages 16 and up to:

- Meet friends
- Use a computer
- See movies
- Learn to cook
- Receive supportive counselling
- Find out about local services

**A safe, open and fun environment**

The Living Room is a program of the Canadian Mental Health Association, York Region.





Call 905-201-0432

CANADIAN MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION  
ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE POUR LA SANTÉ MENTALE

A member agency of United Way of York Region

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

## DOES YOUR RENTAL PROPERTY NEED MAJOR REPAIRS?

### REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

**Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program (RRAP)**


Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) is providing an opportunity for landlords in Ontario under the Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program (RRAP).

Limited funds are available in 2005 to repair or rehabilitate a rental or roominghouse property to a minimum level of health and safety or to convert non-residential properties into affordable rental or roominghouse accommodations.

**Homeowners and private entrepreneurs owning existing family residential properties in Ontario may also apply for RRAP funding to create secondary suites or garden suites for low-income seniors and disabled adults.**

Landlords must submit applications by **4:30 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time, July 29, 2005.** Applications received after this time will not be considered. To obtain an application package, visit [www.cmhc.ca/ontario](http://www.cmhc.ca/ontario), or call 1-800-704-6488 or e-mail [rrap\\_ontario@cmhc-schl.gc.ca](mailto:rrap_ontario@cmhc-schl.gc.ca)

Please note: Application submission does not guarantee financial assistance. Funding is available for "Off Reserve" properties only. Work started before loan approval is not eligible for funding.



**Canada**

HOME TO CANADIANS