

Stouffville Says

By Joan Ransberry

Should Canada increase spending for poverty in Africa?

— Asked at Jug Head's Cafe in Stouffville.

Nan-c BRANDON



Canada should definitely help more. There's not enough we can do for the people of Africa. I wish I could adopt some of their children and bring them over here.

Julie MACLEOD



Yes, but it should be in proportion to the population. Since England has 60 million people, England should be expected to give more than Canada.

Debbie SWIRE

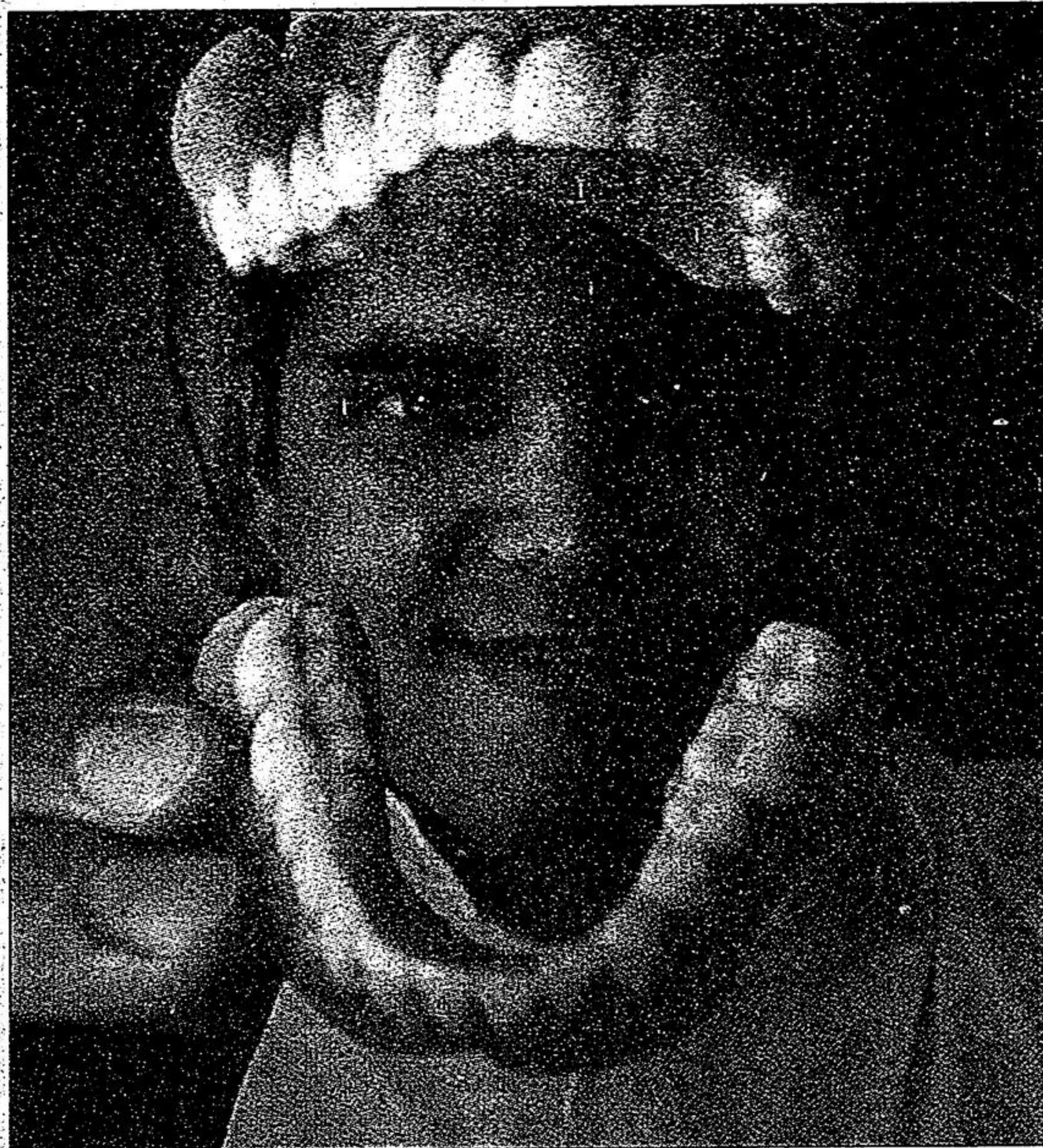


Canada's giving should be increased. The children in Africa need more than they're getting. They're certainly worse off than our children.

Ken WELLS



We probably should. But, I don't know if it will solve the problem. There's no work for the people. If we give this week, what are they going to do next week?



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Michael Deegan, owner of the Stouffville Denture Clinic, holds some of his work at his Main Street offices. He was presented with the 2005 young entrepreneur of the year award by the Whitchurch-Stouffville Chamber of Commerce.

Teeth run in award winner's family

The third in a series of articles on winners of the Whitchurch-Stouffville Chamber of Commerce's 2005 business awards.

BY JOAN RANSBERRY
Staff Writer

A Stouffville businessman gives people a reason to smile.

Michael Deegan, owner of the Stouffville Denture Clinic, is following a family tradition.

"My father and my uncle are denturists and my grandfather was one," he said.

While only 26 years old, Mr. Deegan has two businesses, the clinic in downtown Stouffville on Main Street and a similar enterprise in Ajax. He's available at the Stouffville clinic Tuesdays and Thursdays, while he's in Ajax Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Good teeth are a critical part of life, Mr. Deegan stressed.

"Teeth are just as important as feet," Mr. Deegan said. "Chewing should be viewed as important as walking."

Before opening his business five years ago, Mr. Deegan completed a three-year course in denturism at George Brown College in Toronto. He's not only a member of the Denturists Association of Ontario, he's on the board of directors. He's also a board member of the Whitchurch-Stouffville Cham-

Business

ber of Commerce.

The key to success is hard work, Mr. Deegan said.

"There's opportunity here in Stouffville, providing you're willing to work," Mr. Deegan said. "I think I've demonstrated that I am a successful small town business owner."

Mr. Deegan's business know-how was recently recognized when he was presented with the 2005 young entrepreneur of the year award by the chamber.

Mr. Deegan shared the stage with four other award winners, including Schickedanz Bros. Ltd. for receiving the Business of the Year award, Tom Clarkson of Clarkson Auctions for winning the Business Entrepreneur award, Christian Blind Mission for receiving the Corporate Citizen of the Year award, while law firm Button, Armstrong and Ness was presented with a heritage award.

The clinic is an asset to the local business community, chamber president Helene Johnson said.

"We need this service in Stouffville," Mrs. Johnson said. "Michael even makes house

calls. That's a rarity in this day and age."

Mr. Deegan gets a great deal of satisfaction out of working directly with the public.

"I like people and I like working with my hands," he said.

While clients don't need a referral, much of the clinic's business comes from dentists.

"Most denture repairs can be done in one day," Mr. Deegan said.

"If the denture requires a repair, it may be indicative of underlying problems, including age of the denture, worn teeth or poor fit. We have the professional knowledge to best explain, prevent and correct denture breakage."

The importance of a thorough consultation and examination prior to any treatment cannot be emphasized enough.

"A dentist is equipped to provide the most cost and time effective denture treatment," Mr. Deegan said.

A nice smile is linked to self confidence, he said. "By maintaining or replacing a denture, it is possible to improve aesthetics, health and even self confidence," he said.

For more information about the Stouffville Denture Clinic, call 905-642-4867 or e-mail dentureclinic@rogers.com

Briefly

New Egyptian church opens doors for festival

Stouffville's newest church is opening its doors to the community for a four-day festival beginning tonight.

Although it's the fourth annual festival for St. Bishoy's Coptic Orthodox Church to celebrate the saint's feast day, it is the first time the event is being held in Stouffville.

The congregation of around 200 families moved into the building vacated by the Stouffville Missionary Church last fall. The church is led by Fr. Tadros and Fr. Jeremiah.

The four-day festival opens from 7 to 10:30 p.m. Thursday. There will be an official ribbon cutting by Mayor Sue Sherban. The festival continues on Friday from 6 to 10:30 p.m., Saturday from 11 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

"We are hoping that quite a lot of Whitchurch-Stouffville people come to the festival," Yvonne Tadros said.

The festival features traditional Egyptian foods such as shish kabob, felafels, baklava and Arabic coffee. People can have their photographs taken wearing traditional Egyptian garb. There will also be henna tattoos, face painting and children's activities.

Along with Coptic church icons and books, there will be Egyptian crafts and cotton clothing. There will also be a showcase of businesses from the Egyptian community in the Greater Toronto Area.

Presentations on Coptic icons take place on Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. At the top of each hour on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, deacons will talk about church costumes and icons. At 15 minutes past each hour, there will be a film on the Coptic church.

The first Coptic (Egyptian) church was founded in Canada in 1968. Now there are 25 congregations across the country, with about 80,000 members.

Services at St. Bishoy's are conducted in English, Arabic and Coptic, an ancient Egyptian language.

The church is at 6500 Main St.

Quoteworthy

'I get choked up. My heart's still there.'

Lillian Carr, on the closing of Melville United Church. See Jim Thomas' column on page 7.

Contacting Us

Have a news tip? Please:

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Our annual mouth guard clinic will be held during the month of August.

A custom made sports mouth guard offers the best possible protection. Call us today to book your mouth guard appointment. All profits will be donated to the Markham Stouffville Hospital. We are open on Saturdays by appointment and have evening hours for your convenience.

New patients welcome.

The Dental Centre covers all aspects of dentistry.

