

Part of non-voting 61%? You should lose rights

The elections over and the dust has settled. As one of 7,628 souls who cared enough to mark an X, my comments follow.

Privilege cards

Whitchurch-Stouffville had 19,611 eligible voters. Out of this number, only 39 per cent exercised their franchise. Disgraceful!

In the next go-around, I would suggest each and every person, on registering, should receive a numbered approval card. In the four years to follow, he or she should be required to produce this affidavit before addressing meetings of council.

Then and only then would people be more inclined to appreciate a privilege so few currently acknowledge.

Computer era

Since the powers that be who improvise the election act will, in all likelihood, not incorporate the above, I believe the time is fast approaching when most people will vote via the Internet.

In Durham Region, mail-in ballots were introduced for a first time, with considerable success. The computer is a next step.

The system could prove so convenient, comfort-prone couch potatoes might exceed 50-per cent participation.

Back to normal

A tip-of-the-hat to all 23 Whitchurch-Stouffville candidates. Almost all election signs that tarnished our town's landscape were removed in short order. Green boulevard grass is again visible.

Perhaps threats of fines prompted faster action.

A lot to learn

Why, I ask, would any mayoralty candidate consider himself/herself such an authority on municipal law that he/she would endeavour to start at the top?

To my way of thinking, there were only two legitimate contenders for the chief magistrate's post: Wayne Emmerson and Sue Sherban. The rest ran on fumes.

Foreign field

Let's give credit where credit is due. Fred Robbins, a resident in Ward 4, displays more interest in municipal politics than most taxpayers in town.

But why, I ask, would Mr. Robbins pull up stakes in his ward and contest a seat in Ward 1? Not only was he entering the municipality's hinterland, but he was competing against the best of the best.



Roaming Around

with Jim Thomas

It must have been obvious, even to him, he didn't stand a chance.

Justin who?

We've all heard of Justin Trudeau, even Justin Timberlake. But Justin Altmann?

This freshman candidate came out of the woodwork to sweep nine of 13 polls in Ward 2, undoubtedly throwing a scare into incumbent Phil Bannon.

Mr. Altmann garnered 903 votes to 1,090 for Mr. Bannon.

Whatever his secret, Mr. Altmann obviously impressed a lot of people.

Build-up slow-down

Mayor-elect Wayne Emmerson has promised a slow-down in build-up over the next four years. With his knowledge and experience, he should know there's a committee waiting in the wings called the Ontario Municipal Board who'll eventually make these decisions, not council.

Mr. Emmerson also admits he doesn't like the proposed plan for the old town hall. Neither do I. Accommodation is inadequate and parking is at a premium. Bring on a bulldozer!

Mayors for youth

Here's hoping Mrs. Sherban continues to head up her youth foundation, an excellent form of fundraising.

At the same time, I trust mayor-elect Emmerson will re-introduce his Program for Youth, an equally outstanding fundraising program.

Towering nameplate

I'm not sure who deserves the credit, but the Whitchurch-Stouffville signature atop the Bethesda Road water tower is an advantageous form of publicity.

Either the painter was standing on 60-foot stilts or used a paintbrush with an extended handle.

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

STUFFED PORK TENDERLOINS

These are the dinner of choice for many. We begin with pork tenderloins which we've trimmed nicely, and then we stuff them with a bread mixture full of fancy dried fruit. The result? Not only do they present well, they taste even better.
Reg. \$9.95/lb.

25% OFF THIS WEEK

APPLE ALLSPICE SAUSAGES

We make these with our fresh coarse ground pork, a bit of brown sugar, apple cider, salt, pepper and some allspice. It's a great dinner sausage either grilled or baked.
Reg. \$3.99/lb.

25% OFF THIS WEEK

WHAT'S HAPPENIN' OUTSIDE!

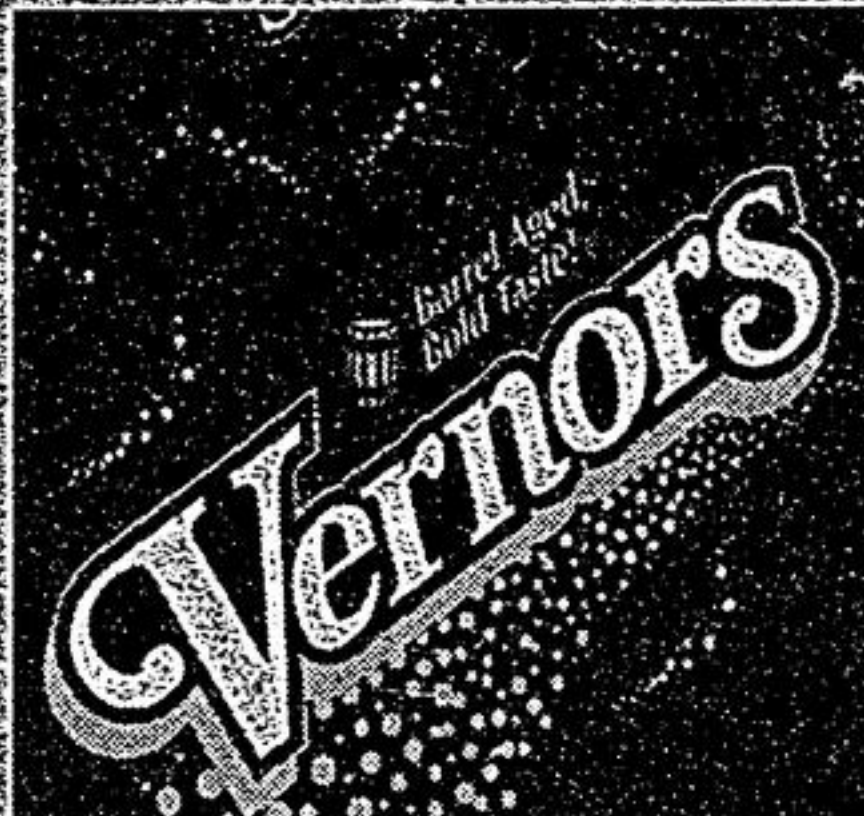
The front sidewalk is awash with greenery and festive arrangements that look amazing. You'll find lots of trim and accents as well to make your front-step turns into seasonal centre pieces.

If you're like the sharks on the 'Shark Week' programs, and you've been circling, it's time to bite. The weather looks great for the next few days and it would be good to get your decorating done.

DOREEN'S FRUIT CAKE!

If you are new to the area, you may wonder who Doreen is — and what about fruitcake? Doreen is my mother-in-law, who has worked in our store for the past 18 years — a charter member, so-to-speak. It took a while to convince her all those years ago to make her amazing fruit cake available in the necessary quantity to sell in the store — and she eventually did. The dark cake is now ready — the batches that we are now cutting were made in January of this year — close to a year old. If you could watch her at work on these, you'd fully understand the meaning of 'doting' — it's quite a sight and I'm sure that this is the only place you'd see it. The result of all that motherly doting?

Amazing fruit cake, the genuine article, in both light and dark!



GIFT BASKETS

If you are new to our store, it won't take you long to realize that we're in the basket business. Although I've never really counted them, there must be thousands to choose from. During the festive Season we make them up with food goodies to fit any budget or taste (including wine, if you'd like). You can pick what you would like and we'll make it up as well — or it can be boxed — as you wish! See Robert or Evan if you have a special request. We offer good value!

WHAT'S COOKIN' AT THE DELI!

For our Ready-To-Go counter we'll be making a couple of neat items. One is an adult Mac & Cheese dinner, made with Swiss cheese, Mozzarella, Oyster Mushrooms, Sun-Dried Tomatoes and Sautéed chicken breasts. The second dish will be eggplant 'Timbales', which is New Zealandese for parcels of baked eggplant containing roast vegetables, basil tomato sauce and Boccconcini cheese — a delicious little parcel of goodness.

AND — We will be making two types of Brie this week. One will be topped with maple-roasted almonds and wrapped with Phyllo pastry and the other will be topped with cranberry chutney and wrapped in puff pastry.

WE'RE IN A PICKLE!

We announced that our dills would be ready November 1st, and we had them out on sale, but it's still too early. If you bought some return them to us, and we'll refund you. They're just not ready yet.
Sorry about this!

LASAGNA! WEEK

We make three types of lasagna for our frozen entrée section, and all three will be on sale this week. The types are: meat lasagna with lots of meat sauce, ricotta, onions, mozzarella and parmesan, (fresh noodles); Next is our vegetable lasagna, made with tomato cream sauce, onions, fresh noodles, lots of oven-roasted vegetables and lots of cheese, and thirdly, our chicken lasagna, made with fresh noodles too, plus mushrooms, shallots, white wine and, as always, lots of cheese!

You'll need to follow the directions on the package! A great meal.

Reg. \$14.95 and \$15.95 Serves 3-4

25% OFF THIS WEEK

LEEK AND POTATO SOUP

We start with potatoes and leeks which are cooked in stock, seasoned with Pernod and white wine and then pureed.

It's great served either warm or cool (maybe warm today) and, as a twist, crumble a bit of stilton into it, as they used to do, so long ago, at Fenton's!

Reg. \$5.99 Serves 3-4

25% OFF THIS WEEK

WHAT'S BAKING! THIS WEEK!

We're thinking raspberries this week — and chocolate too.

We'll be making.....

RASPBERRY-CHOCOLATE MOUSSE CAKE, made with alternate layers of our triple chocolate cake and fresh raspberry mousse, glazed with luxurious chocolate and garnished with raspberries. Two sizes Reg. \$22⁹⁵ & \$29⁹⁵

RASPBERRY-CHOCOLATE CHUNK MUFFINS, one of our amazing muffins with chocolate chunks and fresh raspberries — all that you need for breakfast as far as I can see Reg. \$1⁹⁹ ea.

RASPBERRY-CHOCOLATE ECLAIRS, these are our chocolate-dipped eclairs, filled with framboise cream and garnished with fresh berries. Reg. \$2⁹⁹ ea.

RASPBERRY-CHOCOLATE LOAF, our triple chocolate loaf loaded with plenty of raspberries — the perfect coffee (or tea) cake Reg. \$5⁵⁰

All these items will be priced this week at

25% OFF WHILE THEY LAST

SPECIALS IN EFFECT UNTIL CLOSING SUNDAY NOVEMBER 26TH

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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