

Music Mania explores alternate locations

Forty-seven years and counting. However, a location for Music Mania 2008 remains uncertain. An announcement Saturday revealed other options will be considered, due to the uncertainty of access to the new Stouffville District Secondary school on Weldon Road this year.

Margaret Cunningham, the 2007 choir director, told a gathering after this year's run at the old high school several sites will be discussed when a committee meets next month. One is the Great Hall at Christ Anglican Church. Another is the gym at Glad Park Public School.

"Right now, SDSS is No. 1," she said.

Ms Cunningham admitted the 400-member troupe wouldn't require set-up accommodation until April but school access would be needed this fall "so we know what we're doing". It was initially feared no permit would be issued until January.

Bill Crothers, chairperson of the York Region District School Board, was quick to smooth troubled waters.

In new schools, a general policy recommends permit refusals - of up to six months following a building's opening, he said.

It allows time for deficiencies to be corrected and interior work to be completed. He noted, however, this wouldn't necessarily apply here.

"We all know how important Music Mania is to the community," the long-time Stouffville-area resident said, "I see no difficulty."

If work proceeds on schedule, public access would be permitted as early as November, he said.

Ms Cunningham expressed relief at the news, but said other options would still be considered.

Despite a somewhat uncertain forecast, engine No. 48 is already up and running, powered by an executive that includes show director Sharon Baxter, producer Jean Buchan and music director Vince Parry.

Several Music Mania members were honoured Saturday with long-service awards, including: David and Sharon Baxter, Larry Cougar and Greg Phillips, 10 years; Jane Barrow, Sandra Burke, Colleen Clarke, Maryanne Dionne, Steve Fronske, Jean Gainsbrook, Peter Guinane and Judy Patten, 15 years; David and Carolyn Duggan, 20 years; Reid and Heather Andrews; Wayne Lambert and Liz Lightfoot, 25 years; Bruce Burton and Donna Mitchinson, 30 years and Ivan Harris, 45 years.

The Karin Kain dance award was presented to Lisa Tammisito, the B-Sharp award to Ms Cunningham and the Super Trooper award to Mr. Baxter.



Roaming Around

with Jim Thomas

Sacred sounds on deck

The date was Aug. 5, 2006. The location, the Gormley farm of John and June Doner.

The occasion, a celebration, marking the 200th anniversary of the Doners' migration to Canada from Pennsylvania.

Wife Jean and I felt privileged to be among the more than 400 in attendance.

It was a glorious afternoon, a time to meet and greet folks we'd seen only yesterday or hadn't seen in years. It was an historical event where, for several hours, time stood still.

Amid an array of everything from refurbished Cockshutt tractors to an assembly line of succulent food, stood a huge tent, an indoor/outdoor podium where guests could express their thanks.

Then it happened. A group, calling themselves The Mudde Family, (pronounced Mew-da), from Innisfil, near Barrie, stepped forward.

Dennis and Nancy Mudde, accompanied by sons, Dennis Jr., 19; Ben, 17; Joseph, 16; Timothy, 10, and daughters, Emily, 14 and Sarah, 12, had been singing throughout southern Ontario for several years. They had ventured as far as Michigan, Indiana and Tennessee.

As if Mrs. Mudde hadn't been busy enough, she's still had time to home-school each child and help teach them to sing.

I tell you this because Sunday evening, they'll be singing in Stouffville. The location is St. James Presbyterian Church. The time is 7 p.m. It's the congregation's 37th annual Sacred Music Night.

Others taking part include the Stouffville Christian School choir, St. James' own Believers children's chorus and soloists Susan Brown and Jennifer Thunem.

Your singing will raise the roof. Their singing will lift your spirits.

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

OUR BEEF BURGERS

"THE" item to put you in a warm weather mood, and thrill your kids too! Our burgers are back for the season..... Why buy our burgers?

Not only do they come seasoned and ready to go, they're leaner than others and hardly shrink at all when you grill them. That means that when you start with a big burger (ours are 1/3 lb. each), you finish with a big burger. What do we make them with?.....

Since we sell only centre cuts of beef, we have only loin trimmings, like steak tails and prime rib trimmings. When these are gone, we use blade roasts — truly ground chuck.

What does everyone else use to make burgers?

Just ask them.....

Regular or Teriyaki

1/3 lb. size.

Reg. \$3.99 lb.

25% OFF THIS WEEK

IT'S BACK

We've made a batch of our bologna for this week. As well as some veal bologna. We use the good stuff to make this!

WHAT'S FOR DINNER!

From our frozen entree section we'll have our Chicken Parmesan. It's made with... "thin slices of boneless chicken breasts lightly breaded in herb-seasoned crumbs — fried till a golden brown — layered with a light tomato sauce with garlic, onions, oregano and basil, mozzarella cheese and topped with parmesan cheese"

Serves 3 - 4

Reg. \$14.95

25% OFF THIS WEEK

VEGETARIAN VEGETABLE SOUP

We're featuring this soup for this particular week because of its thinning qualities, given the probability of you reaching into your closet to find your summer clothes. It's not too often that something this good for you tastes as good as this does.

Reg. \$5.99

25% OFF THIS WEEK

CHORIZO SAUSAGES

These sausages are a Spanish version of spicy. We use coarse ground fresh pork and lots of spice. You'll need a beer with these.

I'm thinking.....

Reg. \$3.99 lb.

25% OFF THIS WEEK

FLORIDA GRAPEFRUITS

We got these by mistake. We normally buy a smaller size of grapefruit to run through our juicing machine — and these came mislabelled as the right size, but they weren't. So we tried one with a view of selling them in the store, and they were amazing — so we bought even more of the same lot so we can have a sale on them.

From Florida.

Size 32's

(Medium Large)

99¢ Ea.

THE CABBAGE ROLL SAGA CONTINUES...

After a flurry of emails from my good friend Patty Esaw, who assures me that he's not Transalvanian but "Assyrian"; he has provided his family recipe for them — and we have agreed to a cabbage roll joust of sorts at a future date on neutral turf. I will keep you posted.

Reg. \$5.49/100g

1/3 OFF THIS WEEK

WHAT'S HAPPENIN' OUTSIDE!

I'm not sure where to start here, but let's see.....

This is the last call for pansies: when they're gone, we're out. We've got geranium hangers in two sizes

some reiger begonias (which need shade), some scavola and bacopa (which love sun), some kalanchoe bowls and ovals (they love sun), lots of ivy, lots of Boston ferns, some climbing mandevilla (actually diplodemia to confuse the issue) lots of gerbera in 6" pots, red spikes, pink spikes and on Friday, slender green spikes. Today we get a shipment of medium Kimberly ferns (good for the sun), the first lot of hibiscus standards in red, pink or yellow.

I forgot to mention in its proper place that we have a few huge red spikes as well. More Rosemary pots have arrived, as well as my beautiful elf hydrangeas which I have in my garden. On Friday we will receive the first of my 6" geraniums which I love; if you've ever seen my garden you'd know that. — Exciting times!

\$12⁹⁵ & \$20⁰⁰

\$35⁰⁰

BLACKBERRIES

It's not often that these are as sweet as this — or at least the ones I had for breakfast. They'll spark up any bowl of bran or.....

from Mexico.

1⁹⁹ CONTAINER

WE'VE GONE FISHING!

Mike and Charlie have arranged a feature on Pacific Snapper for this week. This is a fish with a delicate, nutty sweet flavour; it's lean and has a medium-firm texture. At this time of the year it comes from either our West Coast or the American West Coast.

Price will be.....

— and we'll have recipes!

7⁹⁵ LB. THIS WEEK

WHAT'S BAKING! THIS WEEK!

If you are cream pie lover, this is your week. We'll be making.....

• BANANA CREAM PIES — we use fresh sliced bananas layered with fresh vanilla custard topped with a pile of real whipped cream in a flaky pastry crust **\$12⁹⁵ ea.**

• COCONUT CREAM PIES — made with creamy coconut custard in a flaky crust, topped with real whipped cream and toasted coconut **\$12⁹⁵ ea.**

• KEY LIME PIES — a tart but sweet key lime custard in a Graham crust garnished with fresh whipped cream and key limes also **\$12⁹⁵ ea.**

• CHOCOLATE CREAM PIES — with a smooth and rich chocolate filling, also in a Graham crust, topped with real whipped cream **\$14⁹⁵ ea.**

• STRAWBERRY CREAM PIES — made with fresh strawberry slices in a cooked filling, all piled into a Graham crust garnished with fresh cream and berries **\$14⁹⁵ ea.**

All these items will be featured at..... **25% OFF WHILE LAST**

P.S. — We've got lot's planned for Mother's Day.

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