

Stouffville Sun-Tribune

THURSDAY, JAN. 10, 2008 ■ SERVING THE COMMUNITY OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE ■ 24 PAGES/\$1 INCLUDING GST



3 Third time is no charm for credit union robbery suspect

Opinion 6
 Coming Up 14
 Sports 18
 Classified 20



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

WINTER THAW

Trees stand in of water at Bushwood Golf Club on Reesor Road just south of Stouffville on Tuesday. All that snow that fell in December turned to water early this week, thanks to record-breaking temperatures across the GTA. Temperatures are to remain above zero through the weekend.

Attendance down at Stouffville event, but show must go on for philanthropist

Dinner for 700 is the norm for Clements

BY ALYSHIA HIGGINS

Helping others may be difficult for some, but for Norm Clements, it's all in a days work.

Get his voice mail and it asks you to do a good deed for someone else that day.

The Uxbridge resident has spent many years giving back to others in the community, and nationwide.

"I don't deserve a lot of credit," Mr. Clements said. "I get my payback from all the people I see who've been touched."

Mr. Clements is the founder of the National Sports chain, the Jennifer Ashleigh Children's Charity and the annual Stouffville Christmas Day Dinner at EastRidge Church.

Since its inception about 13 years ago, the dinner has been serving members of the community who are not necessarily poor, but who have no one to spend Christmas with.

"It really bothered me that Christmas was becoming about how many presents were under the

tree and how many gifts people got," he said. "Stouffville is a fairly prosperous community, but a lot of people still have no where to go on Christmas day."

He decided to take action and set up a community dinner, including a traditional turkey meal and entertainment, for anyone who would be spending Christmas alone or did not have access to such a meal.

"The first year was overwhelming with volunteers. We probably had over 200," he said. "Every year

its grown in the success of it in that people really enjoy coming and volunteering."

The dinner was held at the Stouffville Country Market, which he owns, but has now been moved to East Ridge Church, next door.

More than 700 meals were served at the 2006 event.

"We have half a dozen people who have been with us since it started. We have great volunteers who come to help," he said. "We

cook about 50 turkeys, 15 hams and 400 pounds of potatoes."

For dessert this year, Mr Clements has asked members of the new Northern Gate community to bake pies.

Mr Clements says the best part of helping out with the dinner is the volunteers.

"I get to see people who don't get to give back like this during the

See CHRISTMAS, page 9.

410-AUTO
 SPECIALIZING IN
 Volkswagen • Audi
 Porsche • European
 Asian & Hybrid
 138 Sandford Dr., Unit 5
 905-642-2886
 1-877-410-AUTO
 www.410auto.ca

Dr. Sheldon Lazier | Dr. Waseema Ali | Dr. Dan Kobric
 Leon Kofman DD
STOUFFVILLE Family Dentistry
 DENTURIST
 FREE CONSULTATION
 (905) 642.7474
 www.smileclinic.ca
 6212 Main Street, Just East of the Train Station

The smile specialists

Garnet Gemstones for January
Barthau Jewellers
 6312 Main St.
 Stouffville
 905-640-4646