

SUN-TRIBUNE PEOPLE

WHAT WILL YOU HAVE, STOUFFVILLE?



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Main Street Bistro chef/owner George Kyriakides takes orders from Stouffville Rotary Club charter members Carol Watson (left), Ruth Boynton, and Ken Prentice as they check out the restaurant's offerings for A Taste of Spring. The seventh annual Rotary fundraiser, featuring food and drink from area businesses, will be held Monday at Sleepy Hollow Country Club. Tickets are \$40 from 905-642-9507, 905-640-8719 or 905-640-1333.

Musselman's Lake residents bothered by non-stop noise, trespassing

Town can't ban ATVs, lawyer says

BY HANNELORE VOLPE
Staff Writer

Banning all-terrain vehicles and dirt bikes in Whitchurch-Stouffville can't be done.

That's the conclusion of town staff who looked into the matter after a Musselman's Lake resident came to council in October to talk about large numbers of ATV riders trespassing on private property in the area.

A ban would be beyond the town's legal authority, the town solicitor advised staff. That means the vehicles can't be banned outright on private property or highways not under the town's jurisdiction.

For several years, dozens of ATV riders would descend on the property in the Musselman's Lake area, particularly on the weekends, sometimes unloading large trailers filled with numerous bikes.

Lake resident Mark Harper told council the vehicles could often be heard all hours of the day and night and suggested the town look into a ban.

The problem became so severe the owners fenced the property, but the fence was cut on a regular basis and no trespassing signs were removed.

Eventually, word of York Region Police handing out fines to trespassers got around and the problem has substantially lessened.

The property continues to be monitored by police and bylaw officers. In addition, the owner has put up sturdier no-trespassing signs that have now stayed put.

ATVs and off-road vehicles are not allowed in any York Regional Forests or on conservation lands.

The Lake Simcoe Conservation Authority advised the town ATVs and off-road vehicles are not allowed in any York Regional Forests or on conservation lands in

the region.

However, you can drive an ATV on your own property. In fact, many farmers own ATVs, said Nelson Hawkins, owner of the ATC Corral on Stouffville's Main Street.

He suggested ATV drivers ask property owners for permission to ride on their land.

"If you are on someone else's property without permission, you are trespassing," he said.

Anyone buying an ATV from the ATC Corral receives information contacting the nearest ATV club.

He also provides a list of places where the all-terrain vehicles can be ridden, many within an hour's drive of Stouffville.

Whitchurch-Stouffville News Digest

Visit yorkregion.com for more on these and other stories

SDSS students second in national Red Cross contest

Three Grade 9 students are being honoured today at Stouffville District Secondary School for winning national honours in the war on bullying.

Lauren Graham, Annalise Mathers and Carly Sulman placed second in a national Canadian Red Cross contest for students to create a public service announcement on bullying prevention.

This inaugural contest received submissions from across Canada from youth who used their creativity to show how bullying can be stopped by standing up to it.

The students' announcement will be shown across Canada during training sessions for the RespectED: Violence & Abuse Prevention Program.

See Saturday's Sun-Tribune and yorkregion.com this weekend for more

20 teams hitting the ice at Paddy Madigan fundraiser

More than 300 people are playing hockey in a tournament at the Stouffville Arena this weekend and not one will care if they win.

In fact, scores won't even be kept at the inaugural Paddy Madigan shinny tournament, hosted by the Stouffville Amateur Hockey League.

All 20 mixed teams play two games and attend a reception Saturday night. An auction for golf for four will be held.

All funds raised will go to the family of Mr. Madigan, a former SAHL president and referee who died suddenly in February.

For more information, go to sahl.ca

SOUND OFF

Have something to say about these or other stories?

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