

EDITORIAL

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LETTERS POLICY

The Sun-Tribune welcomes your letters. All submissions must be less than 400 words and must include a daytime telephone number, name and address. The Sun-Tribune reserves the right to publish or not publish and to edit for clarity and space.

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OPINION

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Children show adults how democracy works

Call it children against the machine.

Thicketwood Park is being covered with children's art work. This is not tagging gone wild.

But it is a sign of children who are in fear that their playground is being destroyed.

The east berm of the park is being dug up and trucked away. No more fun times on the hill. No more sledding. Children painting "GO AWAY" on their posters.

I love Stouffville. Is this true or is this just an example of lame-ass public relations from the mayor's office?

There are no bulletins posted about the new look for the park, a rumoured replacement toboggan hill and not a single picture.

Why?

Because the town seems

HAVE YOUR SAY, WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE

► What do you think of these issues or others? E-mail letters to the editor to jmason@yrmg.com

to believe we are sheep. Well adults, the children are angry and they are showing us democracy in action.

Come see the art at the corner of Park Drive and Burkholder Street before the town tears it down.

When you soon vote for mayor again, remember there is more than one name on the ballot.

Mayor Wayne Emerson needs to meet with the children and explain what is going on.

RON BOYD
STOUFFVILLE



What's your excuse for not having a will?

A childhood friend shocked me when she cheerily confessed she and her husband have no will.

We were having dinner together while she and her husband were in Toronto for a convention and her confession came after telling me even one of her grown daughters was urging her to get a will done.

Not wanting to preach or upset her as we were celebrating her birthday, I gently asked why a proud mother and doting grandmother had not yet sorted out such important protection for her family.

She had no defence, no real reason — one of those things they hadn't gotten around to, apparently.

I just pointed out that just as she wouldn't drive a car without insurance or wouldn't leave her family home vulnerable to floods or breakins, she and her husband should make it a priority to sort out a will.

She lives in another province, so hopefully won't know I've publicly embarrassed her, but really, it's tempting fate to go without a will.

As soon as we had our first child, my husband and I had a will drawn up, mostly to protect her if something should happen to both of us.



Marney Beck

We wanted to make sure we sorted out guardians who would care for her and financial security if the worst were to happen.

A few years after our son was born and after my mother died, I was sadly reminded of the necessity of having a will and power of attorney paperwork for property and health.

My mother suffered from debilitating MS and it gave her some measure of comfort to have a living will, knowing her own instructions about her care in her final days could be decided while she could provide input and tell my brother and I what her wishes were.

My husband and I had our will updated once and I'm sure it's time for another revision now that both my

children are "adults" in the eyes of the law.

If you're like my friend and have no will, you have even less of an excuse with free legal advice available this month.

The last week of April is Will Week in York Region, with lawyers and provincial officials working together through the York Region Community Foundation to provide advice on wills and estates.

Notice I said "free" and "lawyers" in the same paragraph.

Seven sessions in seven communities will be presented to encourage people to have an up-to-date will and powers of attorney documents for health and property decisions.

Lawyers will tell you why it is important to have a current will, power of attorney and health care directives and the best way to gain peace of mind and know that your wishes will be recognized.

Why not mark the Whitchurch-Stouffville date on your calendar?

- Wednesday, April 28, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Lebovic Centre for Arts and Entertainment — Nineteen on the Park.

Stouffville lawyer Paul Crowe and Risa Stone from the Office of the Public Guardian and Trustee will be in attendance.

To find other dates and locations, visit www.yrcf.ca or to register for one of the sessions, call 1-888-940-7899.

While I'm on the theme of free legal advice, another group of lawyers is presenting free seminars on collaborative divorce.

The York Collaborative Practice is a group of lawyers, financial professionals and mental health practitioners based in Markham who are committed to assisting separating couples to resolve their family law disputes a better way. They help negotiate settlement options while preserving family dignity, privacy and finances.

Notice I said 'free' and 'lawyers' in the same paragraph.

If you'd like to know more, there are two free sessions in this area.

- Wednesday, April 21 at 7 p.m. at Angus Glen library branch in Markham, 3990 Major Mackenzie Dr.

- Thursday, April 22 at 7 p.m. at Bathurst Clark library branch at 900 Clark Ave W. in Thornhill.

For more, visit www.yorkcollaborativepractice.com or call 905-943-2986.

Marney Beck is a York Region Media Group editor