

Sun-Tribune

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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 and to edit for clarity and space.

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OPINION

**Stouffville
Sun-Tribune**

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Editorial

Same old council, new to-do list

Four more years. You, the voters of Whitchurch-Stouffville, returned all members of town council to office with a mandate last week: Keep doing what you're doing, councillors and mayor.

You like the way things are being done here. The direction suits enough of you just fine.

You like the several additions to the local stock of facilities. And you don't mind paying your share, along with the development community, for ice rinks, an art centre, parks, better streets and an operation centre from which to service all of them.

The much-ballyhooed town debt doesn't scare you. It's the price of doing business in a growing town. It's part of a smart-spending plan by the current, and future, council.

They build when the time was right, when they could jump on grant money from the provincial and federal governments.

You agreed with it all in your local polling booth last week. Those who didn't vote can't complain.

The building boom of town facilities is close to complete, for now.

So, what's on the horizon through 2014?

There could be plenty:

- A new centre for our growing community of senior citizens should be on the top of council's list. The Silver Jubilee Club, the former post office at Main and Market streets, is hard to access and small. It's all but a disgrace. Our seniors, many who built this town, deserve more.

- A youth centre can be investigated, but we have our doubts. The town poured plenty of money and staff time into various editions of a centre in the Stouffville Arena lounge. Success was limited, at best. As with the seniors, please talk to potential users about their wants and needs. It's one thing for middle-age candidates for council to say we need and want a youth centre. It's quite another for the young people of this town to use one.

- A curling club would be a welcomed addition to the recreation scene, if we can afford it. It should be built in Stouffville, as its proponents have told council. It could be used by residents of all ages during more hours of the day than a skating/hockey rink. Is it fair to ask curlers to ante up for the project when the users of the Clippers Sports Complex didn't and fundraising was minimal when the indoor pool was built.

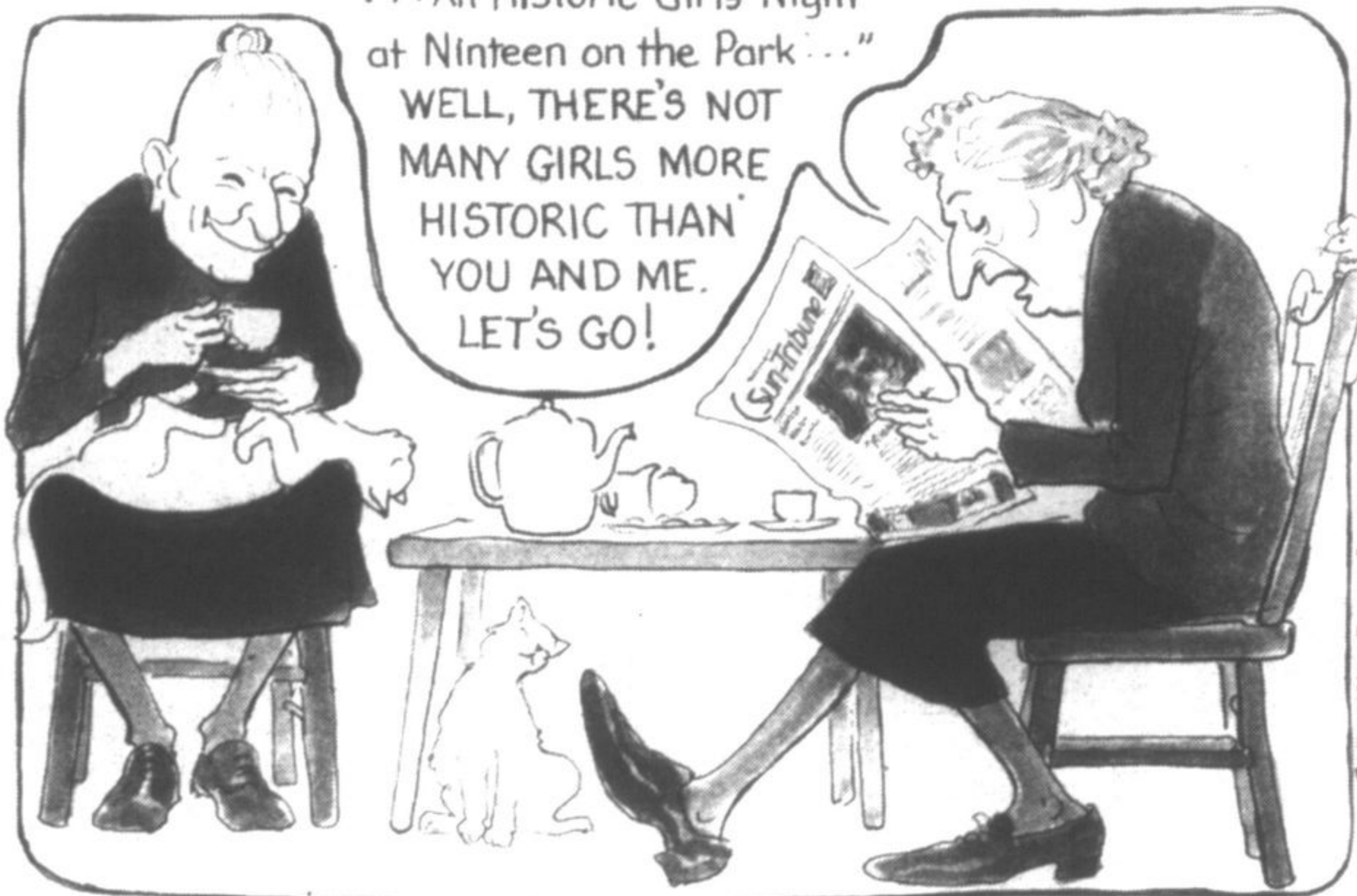
That's up to your council.

WHAT IS THIS ABOUT? "GIRLS NIGHT..."

... An Historic Girls Night

at Ninteen on the Park ..."

WELL, THERE'S NOT
MANY GIRLS MORE
HISTORIC THAN
YOU AND ME.
LET'S GO!



Letters to the Editor

'One angry resident' turned away election day

Re: How to get more voters to polls, editorial, Oct. 28.

I can tell you how to get more voters out to the polls.

On election day, my husband and I went to EastRidge Evangelical Missionary Church, our designated polling station, to exercise our vote.

I was denied a vote, regardless of having my passport, birth certificate and voter card.

My health card —or anything else with my address on it—doesn't have my picture on it.

Our utility bills are paid directly from the bank and they are in my husband's name.

Also, I no longer have a valid driver's licence, having given up driving due to poor health.

I was born in Toronto in 1926 and have always lived in Ontario, the last five years in Stouffville.

To say the least I am one angry resident, having been denied my vote for first time ever.

ELVA WARWICK
STOUFFVILLE

War Amps, kind citizens help recover lost keys

On Oct. 23, my mother, who lives in Toronto, was visiting Aurora with my young niece and nephew. They popped into No Frills at Murray and Henderson drives in the early afternoon to do some shopping before heading home.

At some point, my mother must have dropped her key chain, which had every key she owned, including her house and car keys.

HAVE YOUR SAY

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

Luckily, she could hop into a cab with the kids and came over to my house. Thank goodness I was home.

I immediately made phone calls to various stores in the Aurora Shopping Centre and had a woman offer to go over to No Frills and other stores on my behalf and ask if keys had been turned in.

Of course, my mother was very upset over the entire ordeal. We headed to the parking lot and searched everywhere with no luck.

She ended up having to leave the car in the lot. I left my name and phone number with various stores in case the keys turned up.

She had left spare house and car keys with a family member, so was able to get in her home and pick up the car the next day.

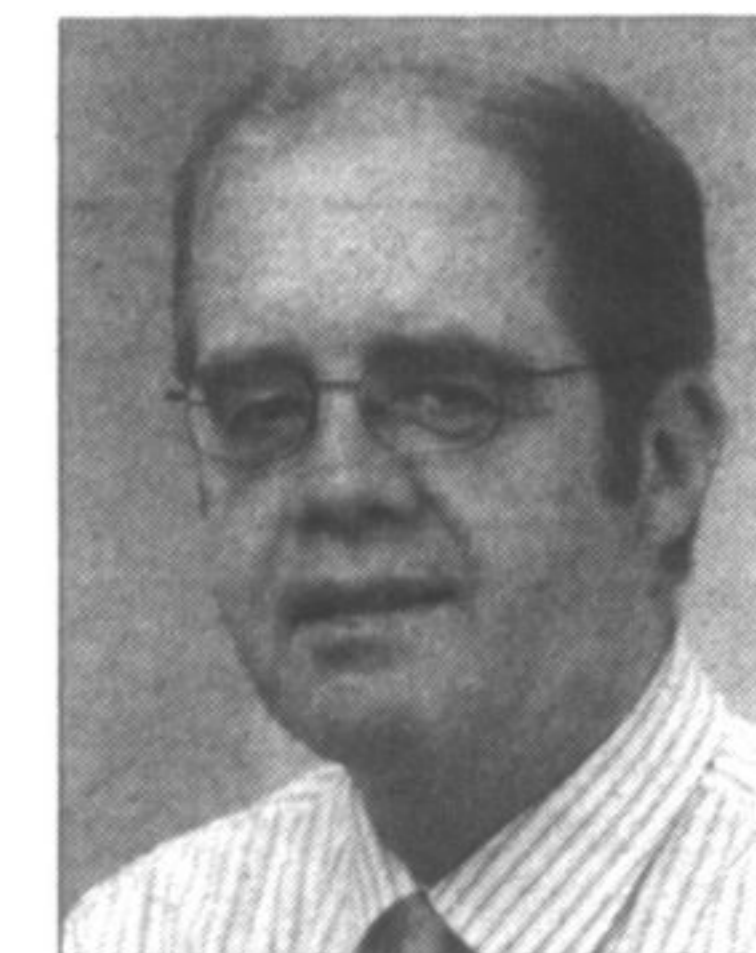
Happy ending: Four days later I received a call from my mother saying the lost keys were mailed back to her.

Thank goodness for the War Amps key tags we receive each year in the mail.

And my whole-hearted thank you to the kind citizen who dropped the found keys in the mailbox for us.

You made a big difference and saved a lot of time and hassle for my 70-year-old mother. The entire family thanks you very much, whoever you are.

JACKIE CAMERON
AURORA



Off The Top

with Jim Mason

New game well played in Stouffville

Forget the World Series, Monday Night Football or the Spirit's Jr. A Sunday matinee.

It was the biggest game in town last week.

They played it as I walked into church. Same thing when I reached for the hot sauce at No Frills. And don't get started on the doughnut shops, breakfast grills and pizzerias of Main Street.

It's called "What If?" and it's played while looking at the Oct. 25 municipal election results in the rear-view mirror.

"If Doofus hadn't run in (pick race), the vote wouldn't have been split and Numby would have been elected," they say.

Please play along. You fill in the names of the candidates and the ward. It works in pretty much any three-person race.

And we had three of them to watch and dissect last week.

At Famous Sam's restaurant in Gormley, the unofficial heartbeat of Ward 3, they're probably asking themselves over cheeseburgers if they'd voted in the other direction — or voted period — how they were or could have been kingmaker. A recount request by runner-up Hugo T. Kroon, who lost by 25 votes to Clyde Smith, will be considered by council tomorrow.

But the name that was most mentioned was Justin Altmann, who finished second in the mayoral race this time and runner-up in Ward 2 in 2006.

The theme was that the young guy had plenty to offer and ran a pretty slick campaign. The problem was his lack of in-office experience. Voters often have to elect a councillor or school trustee with zero experience. But mayor, the leader of town council, the voice and face of our municipality?

What if, indeed.

Jim Mason is editor of The Sun-Tribune.