

COMING UP: Mayor, Legion hosting levees

Full menu on schedule New Year's Eve, Day

BY SANDRA BOLAN
sbolan@yrmg.com

If your musical stylings are Sinatra, Martin, Sammy Davis and Tom Jones, then the Stakeout Dining Room and Lounge is where you want to be New Year's Eve as area crooner Brian Roman will be performing.

The Stakeout will have two sittings, one at 5 p.m., the other at 9 p.m. Both sittings have an a la carte menu. Reservations are required. Call 905-642-5557.

Due to construction in Memorial Park, the Mayor's annual New Year's Eve festivities are cancelled this year. The event is expected to resume next year.

Also serving up a special meal that evening will be NYS Steak Co. For \$65 people can enjoy venison consomme, surf and turf as well as chocolate mousse.

The full menu is available at www.nys-steakco.com/menu/NEWYEARSmenu.htm. Reservations are required. Call 905-640-0937. The restaurant is at 5892 Main St.

Another restaurant providing a unique menu is The Cornerhouse on Main.

There will be two seatings available. The 6 p.m. sitting consists of a four-course dinner, while the 8:30 p.m. sitting includes a five-course dinner with bubbly for your midnight celebration.

The cost is \$75 per person or \$150 per couple. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 905-640-8494.

Holding their annual New Year's Eve dance is the Stouffville Royal Canadian Legion Branch 459, 12278 Ninth Line.

The party starts at 8 p.m. with music provided by B.R. Sound and video.

There will also be a buffet and party favours.

Tickets are \$50 a couple and available by calling 905-640-1714.

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Why not start off the new year by meeting up with old friends and making some new ones at a levee?

For about a quarter of a century, the Stouffville Legion has been hosting a New Year's Day Levee and this Jan. 1 is no exception.

"It's for people to come out and say hello to each other, wish them a Happy New Year and enjoy themselves," said David McQuaker, past president of the branch. "It's giving back to the community."

The levee is free and runs from noon to 6 p.m., with entertainment from 2 to 5 p.m.

The Mayor's New Year's Day Levee will take place from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Stouffville Arena, 12483 Ninth Line.

Bring your skates and glide alongside the mayor and town councillors.

The first known levees were held in the 1600s by King Henry XIV, who would receive his male subjects in his bed chamber just after arising.

It was in Canada the levees became associated with New Year's Day because that is when fur traders would pay their respects to the master of the fort, their government representative.

This custom was adopted by Canada's governor general and lieutenant governors.

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The levees, for the most part, remain solely a Canadian tradition.

However, the event has become much more informal and an opportunity for representatives of the monarch, military and municipal governments to exchange New Year's greetings and best wishes, renew old acquaintances, meet new friends and reflect upon the year that was.



SUN-TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

Popular crooner Brian Roman plays the Stakeout restaurant again New Year's Eve.

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