



SUN-TRIBUNE FILE PHOTOS

Mayoral candidate Justin Altmann made political waves, first with his truck, which the town deemed a billboard, and then by finishing second to four-term incumbent Wayne Emmerson.



Stouffville's Carolyn Greer-Barber caught Olympic fever in Whistler.

## Marion Deacon, Harry Bowes mourned during year

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-patches to home. Andrew Lock travelled to Haiti with David Lock to aid the victims.

Today, the second floor of the home is almost complete and they plan on adding 12 more girls as soon as they can to the orphanage.

"All of the children are well and growing like weeds. They are enjoying life in homes and are also enjoying school," according to David Lock.

### Stouffville had Game

Although the Winter Olympics took place on the other side of the country, there were a handful of Stouffville residents participating - as volunteers.

Carolyn Greer-Barber helped manage Whistler's alpine ski hills.

"I never anticipated this position I got. It's really something," she said. "I would have handed out Kleenex if they asked me to, clean bathrooms. ... I would have done anything."

Also helping out during the games was Ruth Patterson, who was a venue protocol and language services assistant at the Richmond Oval.

"The whole ideal of why the Olympics started was to celebrate excellence and bring people together ... it can really be achieved," she said. "It's a great recipe for world peace. If you get everybody doing sports, they won't have time to fight."

An athlete who won a medal Feb. 18 received an official Olympic bouquet made by Kim Everson of

### Main Street's Stouffville Florist.

"Of my florist career, it was the great honour," she said. "They were strict on their bouquets. ... I felt like I was right back at school. The pressure was insane."

### Death rocks Gormley

Gormley resident Marion Deacon was found inside her home with no vital signs by Whitchurch-Stouffville Fire and Emergency Services personnel, who, along with York Region Police, were called to her home around 8 a.m. March 7.

She was transported to the hospital, where she was pronounced dead.

The post-mortem examination determined Ms Deacon, 46, a mother of three daughters, died of multiple blunt force injuries to her head.

Her boyfriend, Paul Kenyon, 43, has been charged with second-degree murder. His case remains before the courts in Newmarket.

### Lived to see his school

A former Sun-Tribune Citizen of the Year - Harry Bowes - died in August.

A pharmacist by trade, Mr. Bowes, 87, spent 31 years in local politics.

After his retirement in 2006, Mr. Bowes continued to work with local schools and community organizations.

A school in northeast Stouffville opened in 2008 bearing his name.

"It was an honour he deserved, an honour he was very proud of," said Markham trustee Bill Crothers.

### MD moves to Markham

After 12 years of helping patients at the Stouffville Medical Centre, Dr. Jane Philpott moved her practice to Markham so she could head up a family medicine teaching unit at Markham Stouffville Hospital.

The Health For All Clinic is associated with the University of Toronto's department of family and community medicine and located beside Markham Stouffville Hospital.

"About half my time (will be) spent in clinical care with patients, the other half of my time (will be) spent in administration and teaching," said Dr. Philpott, who founded the Give a Day to AIDS movement.

The clinic opened in November and is staffed with a full family health team.

"We'll actually have the ability to roster up to 10,000 patients who currently don't have a family doctor," she said.

### Bylaw enforcer retires

In May, after spending 23 years rounding up loose dogs, keeping properties from being over-run by weeds and garbage and ensuring residents park only when and where they are supposed to, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville senior bylaw officer Keith Saunders retired.

Throughout his tenure, Mr. Saunders, 65, advocated for co-operation, not confrontation.

"All we're looking for is compliance," he said. "What you have to do is balance between the people who are complaining and the people who are breaking the law."

### Future mayor?

Whitchurch-Stouffville has a young politician in the making.

John Pehar, 16, wanted more stop signs in a specific part of town and after some lobbying of his councillor, Mr. Pehar got his wish.

Mr. Pehar lobbied for a four-way stop at the intersection of Manitoba Street and Park Drive. There were stop signs on the north and south-bound intersections of Park Drive.

"I have observed that both drivers and pedestrians tend to treat this as a four-way stop. Consequently, drivers who stop on the north and south approaches tend to expect that drivers approaching from the east or west will also be stopping," wrote Mr. Pehar in a letter to his councillor, Richard Bartley, requesting the additional stop signs.

The Saint Brother Andre high school student, upon the advice of Mr. Bartley, circulated a petition and received 29 signatures.

"I was just impressed with the way this 16-year-old boy was concerned about his neighbours and how he conducted himself start to finish," Mr. Bartley said.

A bylaw was passed in May and the additional stop signs went up a couple of weeks later.

"The political process can be made to work if we are prepared to roll up our sleeves and do some work and not just sit back and complain," Mr. Pehar said.

### Traditional birth

Erin Sanchez kept a family tradition alive when she delivered her son Grayson in the back of an ambulance

on Tenth Line across from EastRidge Evangelical Missionary Church. The 33-year-old was delivered by her father in the family vehicle on the side of the road.

Mrs. Sanchez felt her first contractions Aug. 31. Her husband John brought their daughter Madeline, 2, to her grandparents' home and within that time, her contractions went from 15 minutes apart to a more intense eight minutes apart.

Just as everyone, including the midwife, was planning to make their way to Markham Stouffville Hospital, her water broke.

The ambulance was called and they were barely out of their subdivision in the northeast part of town, when Grayson arrived. He weighed in at seven pounds, 15 ounces and was 100-per-cent healthy.

Grayson's birth was vastly different from Madeline's, who had her mother in labour for 18 hours.

### Breakfast blues

All Jim Lytle wanted to do was take his children out for breakfast.

However, the family ended up getting kicked out of the now-closed Main Course restaurant because they were accompanied by one of his children's guide dogs.

When the family and guide dog Bella entered the Main Course, Mr. Lytle said the waitress had no problem with the dog and seated them.

However, a few minutes later, the waitress returned to the family's table to inform them another employee requested they leave the restaurant because of Bella.

The family quietly left and headed over to Famous Sam's in Gormley where Bella is always welcomed.