

Sun-Tribune

905-640-2612
Fax: 905-640-8778

EDITORIAL
ADVERTISING
905-640-2612
Classified: 1-800-743-3353
Fax: 905-640-8778

DISTRIBUTION
905-640-2612

EDITORIAL
Editor
Jim Mason
jmason@yrmg.com

ADVERTISING
Advertising Manager
Stephen Mathieu
smathieu@yrmg.com

Marketing Manager
Mike Banville
mbanville@yrmg.com

DISTRIBUTION
Circulation Manager
Carrie MacFarlane
cmcfarlane@yrmg.com

York Region Media
Group community
newspapers

The Sun-Tribune, published every Thursday and Saturday, is a division of the Metroland Media Group Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary of Torstar Corporation. The Metroland family of newspapers is comprised of more than 100 community publications across Ontario. The York Region Media Group includes The Liberal, serving Richmond Hill and Thornhill, Newmarket Era, Aurora Banner, Vaughan Citizen, Markham Economist & Sun, Stouffville Sun-Tribune, Georgina Advocate, Bradford West Gwillimbury Topic, Beingswell and yorkregion.com.

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.

Letters to the Editor,
The Sun-Tribune
6290 Main St.
Stouffville, ON
L4A 1G7
jmason@yrmg.com

Ontario
Press
Council

Canadian
Circulation
Audit Board
Member

OPINION

Stouffville
Sun-Tribune

6290 Main St.
Stouffville, ON L4A 1G7
www.yorkregion.com

PUBLISHER Ian Proudfoot

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Debra Kelly

BUSINESS
MANAGER
Robert Lazaruk

DIRECTOR,
PRODUCTION
Jackie Smart

DIRECTOR,
OPERATIONS
Barry Black

DIRECTOR,
ADVERTISING,
DISTRIBUTION
Nicole Fletcher

Editorial

Calandra made local connection

Meet the new boss, same as the old boss.

Whitchurch-Stouffville, Oak Ridges-Markham and Canada have spoken with the same voice.

All elected a Conservative majority government Monday.

That included the re-election of Tory MP Paul Calandra in a massive landslide.

What does it all mean?

The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville appeared to do well when it came to government grants during the last Parliament. It never hurts to have a member of the government representing your community, as well as living in it, when asking for money.

Many of the recession-killing incentives of that term are done, but the town is still awaiting word on its grant for the controversial water park planned for Stouffville Memorial Park.

Wait until the election is over, Mr. Calandra told The Sun-Tribune. That time is now.

Many a politician can go to school on what Paul Calandra did during his first term in office. We didn't agree with all his policies or those of his government and its leader.

But the local MP connected with residents like few other provincial or national politicians have, at least in this corner of Ontario.

He picked worthy local causes and organized community events, including a Christmas concert and an upcoming celebrity hockey game, to support them. He brought national politics down to a local level.

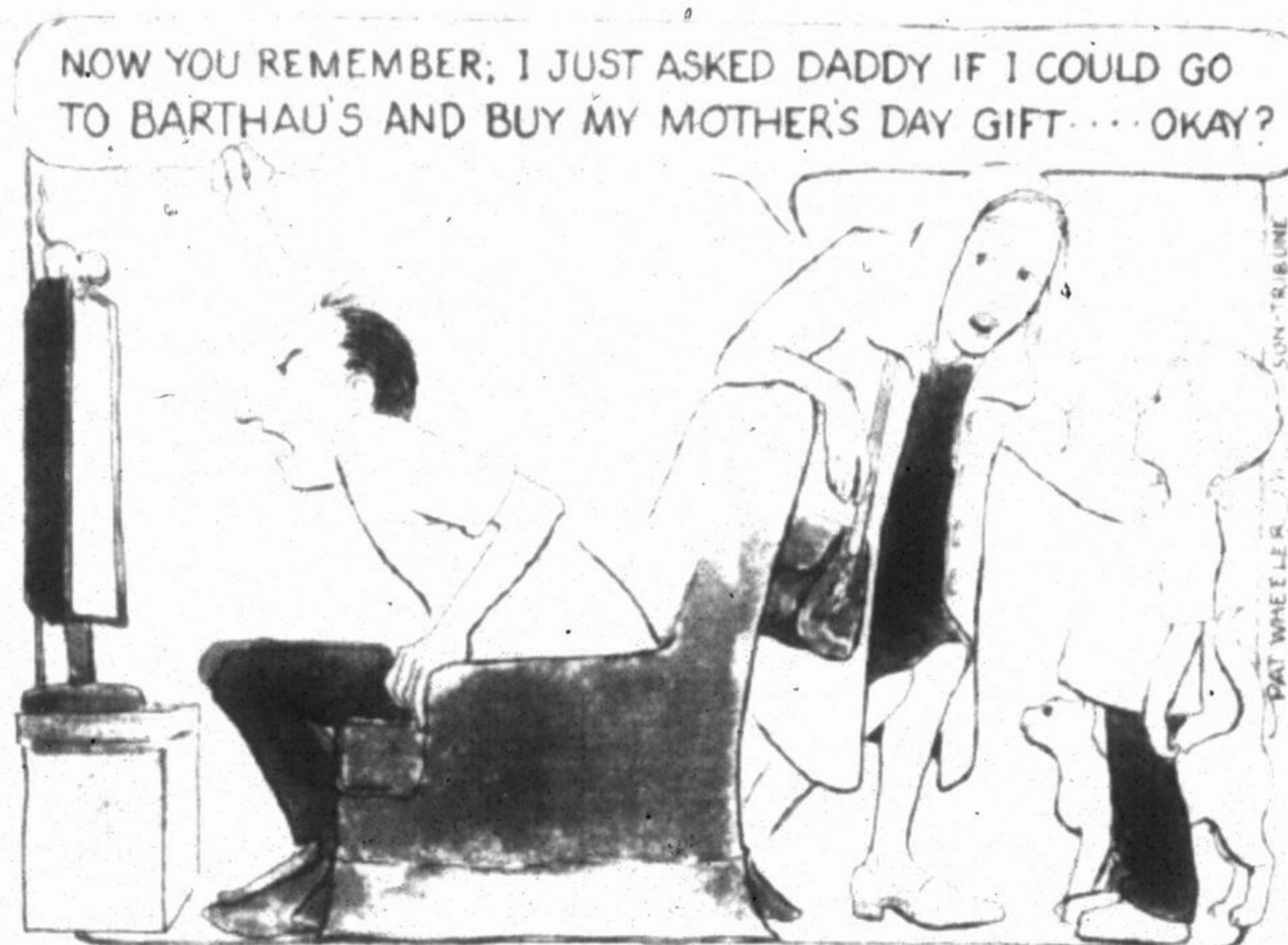
He's backed Markham Stouffville Hospital, the new Royal Canadian Legion hall and Whitchurch-Stouffville food bank. Smart moves.

Is Mr. Calandra, a Stouffville resident first elected in 2008, cabinet material? Mr. Harper has 167 MPs to choose from, including a new crop from the GTA.

The prime minister, while revelling in his much coveted majority, also knows more Canadians didn't vote for his party than did. That's the slippery slope Ottawa presents. Mr. Harper and his gang can't get too giddy or cocky with their riches won Monday night.

The New Democrats, who also won voters at the expense of the Liberals here, are closing fast as the Official Opposition.

If anything, we have stability on Parliament Hill for a change. But that can change quickly.



Letters to the Editor

Town, residents show love for Canucks, neighbours

Re: Family delivering greetings to Canucks, April 30.

This past week, I had the pleasure of involving Stouffville residents in my pet project - to cheer on the Vancouver Canucks in their quest for the Stanley Cup with a banner signed by as many of them as possible.

I have been deeply touched by the response of Stouffville residents and businesses, as well as the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville.

I have stopped a number of people on the street or in public places, and have been greeted with curiosity, generosity and enthusiasm.

Town staff have been extremely helpful, and have been very efficient in both communication and execution of details. Mayor Wayne Emmerson responded promptly with my request for an official town letter of encouragement.

Other residents allowed me to photograph their property or even volunteered helpful information to assist our family in our journey.

Finally, the support of this local newspaper allowed us to get our story out in a timely fashion.

I feel truly blessed to be part of such a warm, caring community.

Before this weekend, I would often tell people I really like Stouffville. Now I can truly say that I love Stouffville.

If we can harness the energy, youthfulness, excitement and optimism I encountered last weekend, the future of our town looks extremely bright.

As a "new" Stouffville resident of only five years, I wish to say thank you from the bottom of my heart.

TAMMY WU
BALLANTRAE

Stouffville event hard to beat

An open letter to chairperson Mark McMahon and the organizers of last month's Ontario Hockey Federation midget A championships in Stouffville.

I just wanted to send you and your committee a huge thank you. As this was my first OHF championship, it will be hard to beat what you and your committee put on.

I was totally amazed by what you all were able to put together. From the arrangements made at our hotel, to the opening banquet and you speaking to the players in the dressing room after their heartbreaking loss.

You helped me out by getting ice for my injured players and had great concerns when our goalie was hurt. This is nice to see and very unusual.

Anything we asked from you and the volunteers was answered and what we needed was delivered. That is hard to do at times, but your group did it with a smile and no questions asked.

This weekend will never be forgotten. Although the boys ran out of gas in the semifinals and really didn't play that well all weekend, our goal was to play on Sunday morning, which we did. It would have been great to play in the final, but things just didn't go our way.

With only one year left in my son's hockey career, the chances of running into this type of event again are very slim. I don't think others will ever be able to match what we just participated in in Stouffville.

Thanks again for a great weekend, and if you are ever up in the Timmins area, don't be shy to look us up. We will try and return the favour of hospitality, but it will be hard to match.

JOHN MAVRINAC
TRAINER
SCHUMACHER CUBS



Off The Top

with Jim Mason

Lawn placards told election tale

Lawn signs do vote. And exit polls are pretty darn accurate, Kreskin.

Who knew?

We all do following Monday's Tory cakewalk through the riding of Oak Ridges-Markham.

That was south Stouffville resident Paul Calandra celebrating a landslide win in his own hood, just down the street at Boston Pizza.

Less than an hour after results started appearing, the incumbent was ear-to-ear smile, strolling into the pizzeria and shaking at least half of the 600 hands in the room. Most of the other hands were busy clutching celebratory beverages.

That's a far cry from his first win 2-1/2 years ago. The bar was legally closed and much of Stouffville's commuter crowd was halfway through its evening sleep when victory was declared at about 2 p.m.

We awoke to have a Conservative MP for the first time in a long time. Just barely. A win by 545 votes in 2008. Expanded to a margin of 20,821 votes Monday. Yowza.

That's a big-league vote of confidence in any league. Confidence in Mr. Calandra, his boss Stephen Harper, the Conservative or all of the above? You decide. You already did.

Those signs told the story in my Stouffville neighbourhood and many others, blue Calandra placards outnumbering the combined opposition 10 to 1.

A bathroom renovation guy had more signs on my crescent than some legit candidates this spring.

Stephanie West, The Sun-Tribune's Stouffville District Secondary School co-op student, spoke to voters when the polls opened at Glad Park Public School Monday.

Five of six who would commit were marking their X next to Mr. Calandra's name.

Something was sure up, Stouffville.

Jim Mason is editor of The Sun-Tribune.