

# Stouffville Sun-Tribune

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## Berry festival vendors asked to go green

Family fun run new to 27th extravaganza

BY SANDRA BOLAN  
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Although spring has been a wash-out, summer is just around the corner and that means it's almost Strawberry Festival time.

Since last year's event, festival organizers have been busy putting together four days of activities for the whole family - during the Canada Day weekend.

New to this year's 27th annual slate is a spelling bee contest for kids in grades 1 to 8, as well as a dunk tank. So far, the only person willing to take the plunge is Whitchurch-Stouffville Fire Chief Rob McKenzie, but festival chairperson Catherine McCowan is hoping Mayor Wayne Emmerson as well as local business owners will volunteer.

Just before the People's Parade comes through town July 1, there will be a family fun run. The run will start at the Main Street train station and head along Main Street to the Park Drive marquee on the corner of Park Drive and Burkholder Street.

The run is free, but advanced registration is required.

There can't be a Strawberry Festival without food. But this year, organizers are encouraging all food vendors to use recyclable food containers. If they do, they

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## NEW PET



STAFF PHOTO/STEVE SOMERVILLE

Nathan Onlock points out a snail in a plant pot to his sister Ella during the Ballantrae and District Lions Club's perennial plant sale at the Ballantrae Community Centre last Saturday.

## WEEKEND FOCUS

# Legion moving in style

FLAG SERVICE, PARADE, PARTY  
 MARK MOVE TO NEW DIGS

BY SANDRA BOLAN  
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A new era will be ushered in for Stouffville's Royal Canadian Legion Branch 459 next Saturday.

With a lot of pomp and ceremony, the Ninth Line building will be decommissioned May 28 and a brand new facility, less than one kilometre away on Mostar Street, will have its flags raised, ribbon cut and doors thrown open to welcome its members and the public.

"It's going to be tearful. Time moves on," said Dave McQuaker, past district commander for the Royal Canadian Legion. "It's going to be sad."

"I'm sure there are those who don't want it. But they've accepted it," said Murray Pattenden, outgoing president of the Stouffville legion.

The de-commissioning ceremony begins at about 12:15 p.m. Once the flags have been lowered, approximately 200 veterans in full uniform, members of local service groups and other legion branches, will parade from 12278 Ninth Line, along Main Street to 150 Mostar St.

"It's something everyone's looking forward to and you won't see again," Mr. Pattenden said.

Once everyone arrives at the new site, the

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