

Sun-Tribune

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

EDITORIAL

ADVERTISING
905-640-2612

Classified: 1-800-743-3353
Fax: 905-640-8778

DISTRIBUTION
905-294-8244

EDITORIAL
Editor

Jim Mason
jmason@yrmg.com

ADVERTISING

Advertising Manager

Stephen Mathieu
smathieu@yrmg.com

Marketing Manager

Mike Banville
mbanville@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, beingwell 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
Debora Kelly

BUSINESS
MANAGER
Robert Lazaruko

DIRECTOR,
PRODUCTION
Jackie Smart

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Barry Black

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Maintaining traditions of Christmases past

In a world that seems not only to be changing, but even to be dissolving, there are some tens of millions of us who want Christmas to be the same, with the same old greeting "Merry Christmas" and no other.

We long for the abiding love among men of good will, which the season brings.

We believe in this ancient miracle of Christmas with its softening, sweetening influence to tug at our heart strings once again.

We want to hold onto the old customs and traditions because they strengthen our family ties, bind us to our friends, make us one with all mankind for whom the child was born and bring us back again to the God who gave his only begotten son that "whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have

HAVE YOUR SAY, WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE

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

everlasting life."

So we will not "spend" Christmas, nor "observe" Christmas.

We will "keep" Christmas — keep it as it is ... in all the loveliness of its ancient traditions.

May we keep it in our hearts, that we may be kept in its hope.

CATHERINE MARSHALL
& STAN SPRUNG
STOUFFVILLE

You can read letters, columns and stories from *The Sun-Tribune* on yorkregion.com



When prohibition ruled and skates cost \$1

What was Christmas like for previous generations in Whitchurch-Stouffville?

What was going on in this town during Decembers past?

A read through this newspaper's past editions gives us a taste: from days when it was illegal to sell liquor to when a pair of girls' ice skates cost \$1.

Check out these clippings:

Dec. 14, 1893 - 118 years ago
Stouffville Tribune

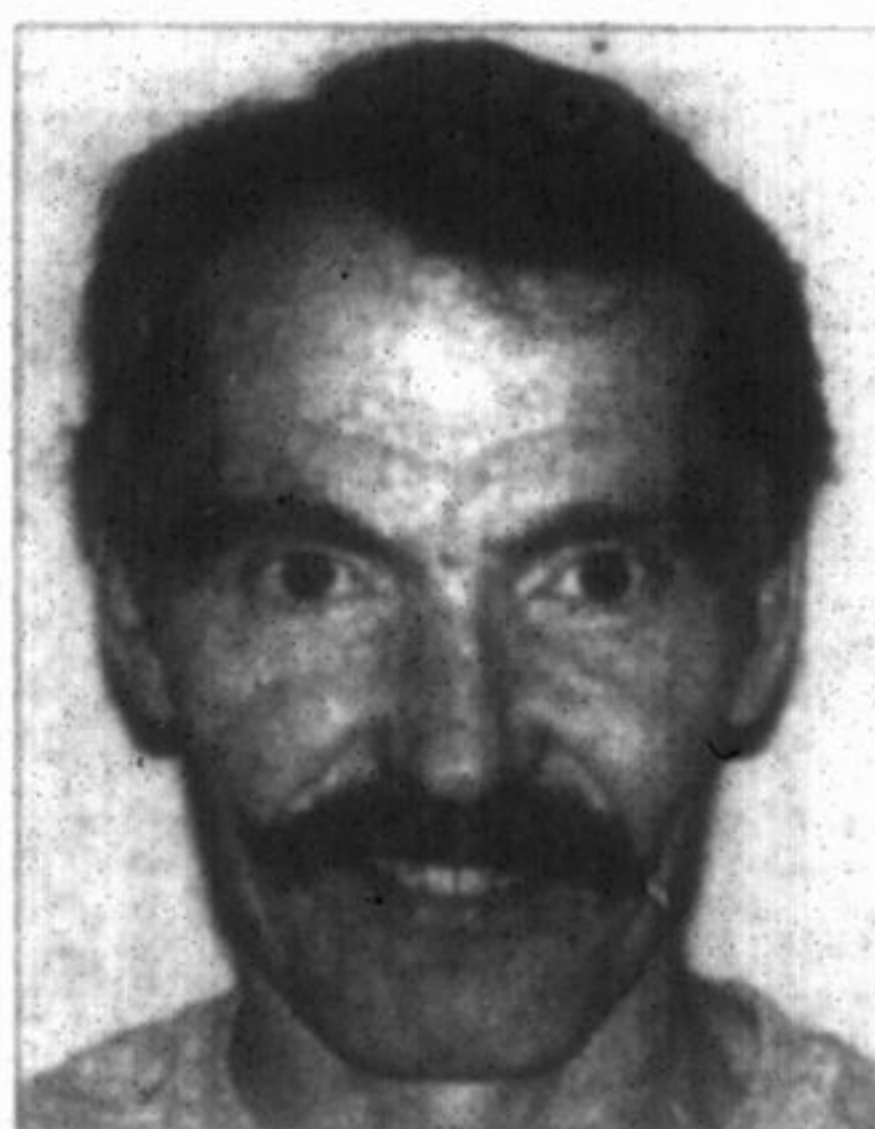
• Hand sleighs from 50 cents at Silvester and Dougherty's — "get your boy and girl something to play with".

• "We have a few cases from a car of oranges that took first prize at the Californian Fruit Fair." J.H. Ratcliff & Co.

• The case of Mr. Houck, hotel keeper at Ringwood, for the alleged selling of intoxicating liquor to William and Leonard Morden a short time ago was heard Tuesday before Justice Sanders and Dougherty at the Queen's Hotel. No evidence, however, was adduced to show the defendant violated the law and the case was consequently dismissed.

Dec. 14, 1922 - 90 years ago
Stouffville Tribune

• Capt. J. Slatter to train the Boys Stouffville's new band has gotten away to a good start. Last Thursday night, bandmaster Geo. E. Slatter, leader of the 48th Highlanders band



Fred Robbins

in Toronto, gave the new organization its first instruction. Between 40 and 50 men met in the council chambers. Capt. Slatter addressed the boys and gave them something to work on until next practice night.

• The first coat of plaster is now on the new public library and expectations are to commence the second this week.

• The combined ages of four of the eldest citizens of Stouffville total 343 years: Mr. Benjamin Parkeris 93, Mr. J. J. Rae 82, Mrs. James O'Brien 84, and Mrs. Kester 84.

• A girl's best gift, a pair of ladies "Automobile" skates cost a \$1 and up from a local retailer. "Designed solely

for the daughters of Eve," the advertisement reads.

Dec. 16, 1937 - 74 years ago
Stouffville Tribune

Christmas ice cream from Brick and Bulk is now on sale (silverware coupons in every brick) from Turner's Farm Dairy Phone 8308

• Mr. Stanley Lewis and Mr. Earl Howson are having the hydro installed.

• At Brier Bush Hospital Stouffville (where Spring Street now runs north of Main Street) on Saturday, Dec. 11, 1937, Mr. & Mrs. Eldon Fairless, Uxbridge Township, welcomed a son.

• We understand that Mr. Edwin Forsyth has purchased the home on Albert St. South, recently owned by Mr. Albert Bottom. The home was formerly known as the Harper place and is located just south of the Goldfish Supply Co.'s premises (where the Testa Villa apartments are now located on Albert Street in Stouffville).

• Ice maker Cliff Pipher has done a good job in laying a sheet of ice at the curling rink.

Dec. 13, 1962 - 50 years ago
Stouffville Tribune

• Mr. & Mrs. Howard Barkey Con. 7 Whitchurch entertained the directors of the local horticultural society along with their husbands with a pot luck supper and an evening of crokinole.

• Mrs. Tom Wedsetof, O'Brien Ave-

nue, has accepted the position of librarian for the public library.

• Nine-year-old Whitchurch boy selected to the Russian Ballet. A dream has come true for Danni Sandiford Con. 6 Whitchurch Township. He has been selected by Russian choreographer Asaf Messerer to take part in two appearances of the Bolshoi Ballet at Maple Leaf Gardens in Toronto.

Dec. 9, 1987 - 25 years ago
Stouffville Tribune

• The issue of Sunday shopping was back in council's lap as Queen's Park declared it should be a municipal, not provincial decision.

• The longest and nosiest Kinsmen Santa Claus Parade took place. In some cases, spectators were three-deep.

• Former Whitchurch-Stouffville resident Tim Brazier left from New York City for a four-month engagement dancing in the European tour of Fiddler on the Roof.

• Maurice (Len) Keeping, a local barber, died. He was 82.

• A 750 ml bottle of Coke sold for 39 cents and 40-cent deposit.

Fred Robbins is a Stouffville historian. With files from Sandra Bolan. Thanks to the Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Library, you can read back issues of Stouffville's newspapers online at news.yorkregion.ca/whitchurchstouffville/search