

# Get your motors running

**W**hitchurch-Stouffville — the classic car capital of Ontario — maybe Canada.

This title has long been obvious with outstanding shows at the museum in Vandorf and Teva Canada in Stouffville.

It was solidified, however, thanks to a trip down memory lane last week, hosted by Branch 459 of the Royal Canadian Legion and others.

More than 100 golden oldies lined Stouffville's downtown, extending from Market Street to Park Drive with an estimated 1,000 spectators on hand to view the spectacle.

But it was only the beginning. The Car Cruise Launch Party, as it was called, will continue every Tuesday throughout summer and into the fall from 5 to 9 p.m. at the new legion hall on Mostar Street.

"Even if the weather isn't suitable there'll be social activities inside," said legion member Steve Pickard.

President Judy Bond described the initial turnout of cars and spectators as "great".

"It was good for us and everyone else," she said.

She explained how they had earlier been approached by a classic car enthusiast, also a legion member.

His suggestion of an initial show downtown followed by weekly events at the legion had resulted in several meetings.

"Things progressed from there," she said. She suggested while the crowd was large, it would undoubtedly have been even larger had the weather been warmer.

Stouffville's WhistleRadio, headed by hockey broadcaster



## Roaming Around

with Jim Thomas

Rick Callaghan, played a prominent part in the launch, providing entertainment throughout the evening.

However, it was the chrome-laden beauties of the 1940s and '50s that stole the show including our favourite, a 1951 Hudson convertible owned by Al Webster of Gormley. This car, immaculate inside and out, captured everyone's attention.

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But it wasn't alone in audience appeal. A 1968 Buick Wildcat convertible, driven by Gary Solomon of Markham, also attracted many admiring glances, as did a black 1960 Corvette convertible displayed by Don Neal of Whitby. Mr. Neal purchased the car in 1967 and did much of the restoration himself.

Two additional Corvettes shared the spotlight, one a 1964 model owned by Stouffville's

Bill Brown and the other, a 1974 Stingray, owned by Tom Wheeler, also of Stouffville.

Dave and Marion McMullen of Stouffville were picture perfect in their 1965 canary-yellow Mustang convertible. It has been their pride and joy for 12 years.

Stouffville's Ross Harris entered his 1949 four-door Lincoln.

"It's power everything," he told inquirers to a current price tag of \$20,000. Mr. Harris also owns a 1948 Chev.

Typical of so many automobiles built in the '50s was a two-toned red and cream 1955 Oldsmobile Holiday 98 sedan owned by Ron Ferris of Seagrave.

Equally elongated was a 1955 Buick Special Riviera displayed by Mel and Margaret Sadler. The .264 cubic inch overhead valve V-8 engine can propel the car from a standing stop to 60 mph in 11.5 seconds. Its curb weight was listed at 3,175 pounds.

Bob and Nancy Stover turned the clock back more than half a century when they entered their 1949 Chevrolet panel truck, a Stouffville Bakery original.

"Any bread or buns on sale tonight?" we asked.

"Could have accepted a few orders," Bob replied.

Sid Landry of Stouffville raised eyebrows when he rolled his 1981 Rolls-Royce Corniche into a parking stall.

Its value?

"Oh, maybe \$90,000," Mr. Landry said.

Not to be bested, Mrs. Landry drives a 1974 Rolls-Royce Silver Shadow.

*Jim Thomas is a Stouffville resident who has written for area newspapers for more than 60 years.*

# Help us find our town's top citizen, sports person

**W**e're looking for a couple of good people. Two to be exact.

Whitchurch-Stouffville's 2013 citizen and sports person of the year.

We know they're out there.

Nominations for the awards sponsored by The Sun-Tribune have been open for two weeks. They'll close June 9.

We already have some nominations, but we want more.

Whom exactly are we looking for?

They're local heroes, possibly unsung.

The award winners are people who make Whitchurch-Stouffville the place it is, the place we've all chosen to settle into.

They don't do what they do for money or accolades.

They do it because it's the right thing to do.

They don't volunteer at the neighbourhood community centre, church, school, arena or playing field to benefit themselves or their family.

They do it for the common good.

Carol Morin is the reigning citizen of the year. As so many residents told us, she has quietly given back to this community, from St. Mark Church to the 55-Plus Club and the public library.

Last year's top sport, Ken Burrows, may have put as much time, heart and money into the Stouffville Spirit Jr. A hockey team as he has his landscaping supply business



## Off The Top

with Jim Mason

during the past 15 years.

Do you know of a similarly worthy candidate for one of the awards? Craft a nomination, including a list of community involvements and as much backup material, including letters of recommendation, as you can get your hands on.

The more information the better.

Get it to me, via [jmason@yrmg.com](mailto:jmason@yrmg.com) or 6290 Main St.

(An annual reminder; this is not an election. One solid nomination package is as good as 10 for the same person, especially when they are photocopies of each other.) Any questions? Drop me an e-mail or phone me at 905-640-2612, ext 23.

Happy nominating, Whitchurch-Stouffville.

Thanks for sharing your civic pride and honouring your neighbours.

*Jim Mason is editor of The Sun-Tribune*



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