

Solutions to our congestion, collision problems

Before someone is seriously injured or killed, "no left-turn signs" should be posted at exits onto Main Street from west-end Stouffville's Metro and Shoppers Drug Mart plazas. With four lanes of traffic traveling in a 50 km/h area, the risk is great. Several collisions have recently occurred there.

Congestion problems?

While early-morning and late-afternoon traffic congestion continues to pose a problem in many areas of Stouffville, nothing can compare to the bottleneck at the exit/entrance to St. Brendan Catholic School near the intersection of Hoover Park Drive and Ninth Line. While patience is a virtue, motorist endurance is undoubtedly strained to the limit.

Students set to shine again

Stouffville District Secondary School will echo to the sights and sounds of more than 500 students Nov. 21 when St. James Presbyterian Church hosts its 22nd annual scholarship concert at 7:30 p.m. The evening's emcee is Sun-Tri-



Roaming Around

with Jim Thomas

bune editor Jim Mason. Eight Whitchurch-Stouffville schools will be represented, including St. Mark, St. Brendan, Wendat Village, Ballantrae; Glad Park, Summitview, Stouffville Christian and host SDSS. Adult admission is \$5 with all receipts returned to participating schools to assist their music programs.

Why no Halloween pie?

On garbage day following Halloween, hundreds of jack-o-lanterns were lined up along Stouffville boulevards awaiting garbage pickup. Instead of ending up on a land-

fill site, hundreds of pumpkin pies could have resulted. What a waste!

The boys are back?

The Springvale Boys, vocal artefacts of Springvale Baptist Church, had supposedly retired after one of their members moved to Kitchener. Supposedly but not actually. This celebrated assemblage of gospel choristers, recipients of the 2012 Music Town, Ontario award, will re-group and participate in the annual Celebration of Life service at the O'Neill Funeral Home, Dec. 3 at 7 p.m. Without formally saying so, we hope this is a re-start to a group that's truly missed in this community.

Leafs could use this guy

What was Toronto Maple Leaf management thinking when they let Stouffville's Michael Del Zotto slip through their collective fingers? Here for the picking was a stellar defenceman who could have shored up a sometimes pathetic Leaf rearguard. During his seven seasons with the New York Rangers, the 24-year-old Del Zotto scored 29 goals and picked up 104 assists for 133 points. The Philadelphia

Flyers obviously saw something in Del Zotto that the Leafs didn't. On Nov. 6, he scored a huge goal in the Flyers' 4-1 win over the Florida Panthers.

Dancers not 'squares'

Round dancing, as Stouffville once knew it, may be a thing of the past. However, old-fashioned square dancing is still alive and well. Proof of this occurred Oct. 23 when Stouffville's Young Life organization hosted a do-si-do dance in the lounge above the Stouffville Arena. The floor was filled with dippers-and-divers ranging in age from 30 to 80 with everyone calling for more of the same.

With apologies

To err is human. Whoever, from the distant past, coined this adage, didn't account for bloopers following an election ballot count. My apologies. In ward 1, veteran councillor Ken Ferdinands retained his seat over rival Elizabeth Johnston, but not by the majority indicated in my Nov. 6 column. The spread instead was 202 votes with councillor Ferdinands garnering 495 to Johnston's 293. In ward 2, new-

comer Maurice Smith collected 1,884 votes over opponent Adam Schickedanz with 661. My thanks to clerk/returning officer Michele Kennedy for setting the record straight.

A gremlin also crept into my list of long-service awards presented Nov. 1 at Markham Fair's president's banquet. Stouffville's Bill Burnett was honoured for a volunteer commitment spanning 40 years. Of interest, too, is the fact the last four fair presidents - Rob Miller, Phil Redshaw, Lesley English and Kelly Winnitoy - have all been Stouffville residents with Bryant Hulshof, also from Stouffville, waiting in the wings.

'Tis the season

Hard to believe but Christmas is only six weeks away. A reminder of this is the fact the Stouffville Lions Club's order of 400 trees will go on sale Nov. 29, one week earlier than usual. They'll be displayed outside the Canadian Tire Store in the Walmart Plaza. Prices, unchanged from last year, range from \$30 to \$60.

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

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