

# Taking Care OF BUSINESS

By Bruce Stapley

## STOUFFVILLE FINANCIAL ADVISOR GUEST OF HONOUR AT NYSE

*'This Ain't Mayberry'*

Stouffville Financial Advisor John Paulino got to rub shoulders with the big boys at the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) this spring. John, who operates a Raymond James Ltd. franchise on Freel Lane in Downtown Stouffville, was one of four advisors invited by Invesco Trimark to participate in the closing bell ceremony at the NYSE May 26.

Accompanied by the top executives of the large investment firm, John was in the balcony of the exchange for the ringing of the bell and the bringing down of the gavel.

"For some one who has been in the business for a while it was incredibly awe-inspiring", said John. He was ushered to the same board room where top American officials and money gurus including Secretary of the Treasury Tim Geithner and the legendary Warren Buffet gathered to decide strategies for the TARP rescue package during the financial meltdown in 2008. "We received commemorative coins and medals in the board room." He also got to see the 'market maker' in action, the man whose job it is to balance the swings of the market to control fluctuations. "It was very interesting to see that," he noted.

"The activity level is just incredible," he said of the action he saw on the exchange. "The electronic flow of information was mind boggling."

The fixation with security also impressed him. "That was the most noticeable thing. There was no vehicle traffic for blocks, picture ID and a passport was needed. The police presence at Times Square is phenomenal."

An added bonus for John was that he is Portuguese, and it just happened to be Portuguese day at the NYSE. "That was quite an experience."

While acknowledging that it's a long way from his office in Stouffville to the board room of the NYSE, John suggested it shouldn't come as a surprise that a financial adviser from outside the Toronto core could earn such an honour. Stouffville, he suggested, is no backwoods, calling back memories of the Andy Griffith show from a half century back. "This ain't Mayberry. The consensus is that you have to be in downtown Toronto to be up to speed in the financial world. But you can do just fine in a town like Stouffville because of the technological advancements that have occurred in the business. You can be in any setting and have full access."

## FARIBA RESURFACES IN TOWN'S WEST END

Stouffville's favourite Iranian female barber hairstylist has moved over to the Town's West End. Fariba Marandi is now wielding her hair trimmer at Salon 2000 in the McDonald's plaza on Sandford Dr.

Fariba has been winning hearts as well as heads in a variety of Stouffville hair salons for a decade. Having survived a horrific car crash a few years back, she comes to work each day with a smile no matter how much discomfort she's feeling. Possessed of a generous spirit, she organized a fundraiser for the Schulich Heart Centre at Sunnybrook Hospital last summer.



Her Achilles Heel: She's a die hard Leafs fan who refuses to give up with her collection of Maple Leaf flags, bears, posters etc. often found adorning her workspace. She loves nothing better than to hang out at Stouffville's Boston Pizza, owned by Maple Leafs assistant coach and Stouffville resident Keith Acton and his wife Susan, to watch the G.I.A's favourite underachievers on TV.

## MISSING CAT'S OWNER REFUSES TO GIVE UP HOPE

Isabella Dunn lives with the faint hope that she may some day be reunited with her cat Oreo. The Elm Road seniors' apartment resident has been putting up posters all over Stouffville ever since the black and white long haired male (neutered) tabby went missing last December.

According to Isabella, there have been Oreo sightings at various locations around town, and she believes her beloved cat may have been taken in by someone who thought it was a stray. "I don't care if someone has adopted Oreo, I just want to know he's okay," said Isabella.

She has even gone so far as to place a notice, complete with picture, in this edition of the Free Press. (See page 5) If you have taken Oreo in, or think you know where he might be hanging out, call Isabella at 905-640-8411.



John Paulino gets down to business at the NYSE.

## All Fired Up



At their year-end trip to Stouffville Firehall headquarters, on June 11, kids from the Mothergoose Academy tried putting a fire out with encouragement from parents and teachers.

Until July 31, 2010

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**HOURS: Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. - 6 p.m. • Sat. 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

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