

Whitchurch-Stouffville's Independent Community Owned Newspaper

Stouffville Free Press



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UP AND COMING

The Stouffville Free Press welcomes community event listings from non-profit groups and organizations. Please send a brief synopsis of upcoming events by email to withwrinkles@hotmail.com or drop off at 6111 Main Street.

Free Opinion - Waste Not, Want Not

After 35 years of service to the residents of Whitchurch-Stouffville, the Recycling Depot is closing its doors for good at the end of the summer.

Established in the mid-1970s, the facility was ahead of its time in recognizing the need to reduce, reuse and recycle, and many of its volunteers harked back to the days when packaging was minimal and a lot of stuff we throw away today either didn't exist, or would have been reused or handed on to someone else. The people who established the depot and gave up their time to run it deserve a big vote of thanks from the community.

These days people feel a sense of accomplishment when they separate their garbage into blue boxes, green

bins and plastic bags, but the fact is most of us could do a lot more to cut back on the garbage we generate. The best place to start would be by refusing to buy over-packaged goods.

Despite the green revolution, have you noticed how much supermarket produce comes pre-packaged? For instance, not long ago you could buy mushrooms loose and put them in a paper bag.

Now most supermarkets sell them in a tray covered with plastic wrap. Even though some of this unnecessary packaging may be recyclable, the fact is that recycling itself costs money and energy and the best solution would be to sell them loose.

Then there are those plastic-boxed greens which take up more and more space in the produce department.

People may be driven by convenience, but many of us prefer to live without supermarket bags rather than shell out five cents to buy one, so perhaps a surcharge on pre-packaged fresh produce would have a similar effect. Another solution would be to remove the produce from its packaging, put it in a reusable bag, and leave the packaging for the store to dispose of.

A trip to downtown Toronto this summer, where garbage cans are overflowing with plastic cups, fast food containers and foil wrap, provides a sobering look at how much stuff we unthinkingly acquire and throw away.

Perhaps, like the volunteers at the depot, we should stop regarding it as someone else's problem and start to do something about it.

Free Laughs - State Of Play

If people don't want to come out to the ballpark, nobody's going to stop them.
Yogi Berra

Baseball is very big with my people. It figures. It's the only time we can get to shake a bat at a white man without starting a riot.
Dick Gregory, From the Back of the Bus, 1962

The sneer has gone from Casey's lip, his teeth are clenched in hate; He pounds with cruel violence his bat upon the plate.

And now the pitcher holds the ball, and now he lets it go,
 And now the air is shattered by the force of Casey's blow.

Oh, somewhere in this favoured land the sun is shining bright;

The band is playing somewhere, and somewhere hearts are light,
 And somewhere men are laughing,
 and somewhere children shout;

But there is no joy in Mudville - mighty Casey has struck out.
Ernest Lawrence Thayer, Casey at the Bat, 1888

Baseball is almost the only orderly thing in a very unordered world. If you get three strikes, even the best lawyer in the world can't get you off.
Bill Veeck

If a woman has to choose between catching a fly ball and saving an infant's life, she will choose to save the infant's life without even considering if there are men on base.
Dave Barry

Cricket explained: Two old men in white coats walk together to the middle of a large green field, each carrying three long sticks and two little ones. Each plants his three sticks in the ground, 22 yards apart, and puts the little sticks on top. They then turn around and look towards 22 younger men at the edge of the field - and it starts to rain.
Anon

Many continentals think life is a game, the English think cricket is a game.
George Mikes

Cricket is a game which the British, not being a spiritual people, had to invent in order to have some concept of eternity.
Lord Manscroft

In his quieter moments, he sounds as if his trousers are on fire.
Clive James on motor racing commentator Murray Walker

One way to stop a runaway horse is to bet on him.
Jeffrey Bernard

I don't know. I never smoked Astroturf.
Tug McGraw, when asked if he preferred grass or artificial turf

When male golfers wiggle their feet to get their stance right they look exactly like cats preparing to pee.
Jilly Cooper

I watched the Indy 500, and I was thinking that if they left earlier they wouldn't have to go so fast.
Steven Wright

Free Thoughts

Stan and Myrtle go antiquing...



Readers Write - Hats Off To Stouffville

To the Editor:
 Anyone who has ever organized or hosted an event understands how important the smallest detail can be and how meaningful every helping hand. To thank all that recently gave their support to our Mad Hatter's Tea Party is an overwhelming task, but there are some that must be mentioned.

Steven Foster and his staff at Nineteen on the Park went out of their way to accommodate us, and our town should be proud of both the facility and its staff. Stouffville Free Press, the Stouffville Sun/Tribune and WhiStle Radio gave us wonderful media coverage.

Motus O choreographed our show, their dancers helped model our clothing, and principal dancers James and Jack entertained as Tweedledum and Tweedledee. Studio Lab arranged the music and Latcham Gallery helped decorate, organize and staff the event, while Ivan Harris, forever the helpful citizen, rounded up props.

June Wiancko as the Queen of Hearts was outstanding. Carmen Stiller as the White Rabbit was incredible. Paige Madsen as Alice was a little doll. Next year we will remember the microphones! To our models, vendors, volunteers and our caterer, Asparagus & Chives, a very

special thank you. You helped put on a terrific show.

However, the biggest thank you goes to those who donned their hats and gloves and came out on a rainy afternoon to support Main St. business, our new Nineteen on the Park, and Motus O and Latcham Gallery, in the wonderful work that they do to help make our town the distinct and wonderful community it is.

Lastly, I would like to thank my staff, who stick by me and support my every effort, regardless of the sacrifices, work involved and stress I create. Anyone who has ever visited one of my stores knows the support and good work they do for me.

I hope I speak for all who attended and helped when I say that we can make this an annual event to raise funds for two of the jewels in Stouffville's crown - Motus O and Latcham Gallery.

Charlotte Cave
 Chic Thrills, The Girls Bra Boutique and Hubba Hubba Fine Ladieswear
 Stouffville