

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 withrinkles@hotmail.com or drop off at 6111 Main Street.

Free Opinion - Fries With Everything

Once again, capricious fortune rained on Moonlight Madness, the BIA's annual celebration of summer.

This year's event was severely dampened by a stormy deluge which swept through the area with incredible ferocity Aug. 20. It took us back to when Moonlight Madness was scheduled to take place Aug. 14, 2003. That was the day the hydro went out across the entire eastern seaboard, keeping everyone in the dark for many hours and in some cases, days. Our sympathies go out to the organizers and merchants who work so hard every year to create a community event that brings people together and helps to showcase our downtown.

As the summer of 2009 sputters towards its inglorious end (having been more or less absent for most of its

length), media hacks of the Western world turn their attention to matters of grave international import, such as the length and appropriateness of Michelle Obama's shorts as she descended the steps of Air Force One on arrival at Grand Canyon National Park.

Not to be left out when it comes to analyzing the vital issues of the day in our own community, the *Free Press* embraces the news that Mayor Wayne Emmerson went to bat for a chip fryer at the new arena: a stance that gladdened our subversive hearts. What a refreshing change from the doom-watch brigade of health nannies, endlessly nagging us about appropriate and healthful food choices.

We're not advocating jumping on the *Supersize Me!* bandwagon, we're just saying that indulging in the occasional

sinful treat is good for one's sanity. Food is more than just fuel made up of a combination of carbs, vitamins and monounsaturated fats, etc. sanctioned by Canada's Food Guide. Sometimes a bar of chocolate, a chunk of full-fat brie or a fistful of fries can be balm for the stressed-out soul. Let's hope they don't put health warnings on the containers.

September means back to school, the end of the beginningless summer and the Terry Fox Run. This year's local run covers a new route and will mark a major milestone for Whitchurch-Stouffville, as the community prepares to surpass the one million dollar mark in donations. Come out Sept. 13 and help take us over the top.

Free Laughs - A Learning Experience

Writing: The dawn of legibility in your son's handwriting reveals his total inability to spell.

Geography: He does well to find his way home.

Swimming: Tends to sink.

Arthur Marshall, School Report

The only time my education was interrupted was when I was at school.

George Bernard Shaw

At school I never minded the lessons. I just resented having to work terribly hard at playing.

John Mortimer

I went to a tough school. The senior prom queen was selected by an arm wrestling contest.

Anon

Every act of conscious learning requires the willingness to suffer an injury to one's self-esteem. That is why young children, before they are aware of their self-importance, learn so easily.

Thomas Szasz

Labour Day is a glorious holiday because your child will be going back to school the next day. It would have been called Independence Day, but that name was already taken.

Bill Dodds

Stewed prunes and custard were a too-regular feature of the school lunch. On Fridays there was a sort of bread-and-butter pudding, known as Resurrection Pudding, as it was felt that everything left over during the week was put into it.

John Montgomery

It will be a great day when our schools have all the resources they need and the air force has to hold a cake sale to buy a bomber.

Lothian Parents Action Group

There are three good reasons to be a teacher. June, July and August.

Anon

Did you know America ranks the lowest in education but the highest in drug use? It's nice to be number one, but we can fix that. All we need

to do is to start the war on education. If it's anywhere near as successful as our war on drugs, in no time we'll all be hooked on phonics.

Leighann Lord

Home computers are being called upon to perform many new functions, including the consumption of homework formerly eaten by the dog.

Doug Larson

When a subject becomes totally obsolete we make it a required course.

Peter Drucker

Education is what remains after one has forgotten what one has learned in school.

Albert Einstein

A mother telephoned the school to ask if her son was homesick. 'I very much hope that he is,' replied the headmaster, 'I shouldn't think much of his home if we wasn't.'

John Pritchard

Free Thoughts

It has been decided that Stouffville's new arena will be equipped with a deep fryer after all, because there's some things at a hockey game you just can't do without...



Readers Write - Dog Days Of Summer

To the Editor:

I have a pet peeve.

Actually it's two peeves and it's really a pet owner peeve.

The first is that we often discover dog droppings on our front lawn within two yards of the sidewalk; therefore within leash distance. This discovery is usually made when mowing the grass and is quite disgusting.

My second peeve is the constant sound of a dog barking, usually because the owners have let their pet out and left it outside. This has happened on frequent occasions at all times of the day and night.

Owners are responsible for their dogs and common decency should ensure that they pick up droppings and make sure that their animal's behaviour is controlled. Most owners are very caring of their pets

and conscious of their neighbourhood. However there are those who simply do not appear to care.

We had a dog noise problem with one of our immediate neighbours and a short conversation with the owner has made a tremendous difference, however there are still several problems with dogs further away. We were lucky that our next door neighbour took responsibility as soon as he was made aware of the problem.

We need to make owners aware of their responsibilities and deal with those who choose not to bother. I would be very interested to hear from other residents as to their experiences and to share ideas on how to deal with the problem of antisocial dog owners.

J.D. Pritchard
Stouffville