

Motorfest revved up from humble start

BY SANDRA BOLAN
sbolan@yrmg.com

The first Motorfest, way back in 1997, had 45 classic cars and a decent number of people oohing and ahing at vehicles that reminded them of a time gone by.

The one-day event raised \$1,300, which was split between the Whitchurch-Stouffville Food Bank and Markham Stouffville Hospital.

Flash-forward to 2015 and the Sept. 12 show is expected to attract more than 1,200 vehicles and upwards of 5,000 people.

"It's a time for friends to get together and look at old cars and old people," Tim Soukup, a member of the Motorfest organizing committee, told councillors back in June during a delegation.

He added a number of car clubs "feel this is one of the best shows they attend."

In its second year, Motorfest partnered with Teen Challenge, a faith-based organization that provides drug and alcohol rehabilitation to women 18 years of age and older.

Since then, the car show has raised more than \$150,000 for the organization and Soukup hopes for another \$10,000 this year, he told councillors.

All of the money comes from donations. Neither car owners nor attendees pay an admission fee to the family-friendly event.

Along with a sea of cars on Teva Canada's grounds in west-end Stouffville, the daylong event includes music from the Marion Drexler Band, as well as the 45s.

There will also be vendors and food available for purchase.

New this year is a golf cart. Not a relic for people to peruse, but a modern day one that will be used to transport seniors and other people with mobility issues around the show, so they, too, can see all of the vehicles.

The idea for the golf cart, which is being donated by Bennett



SUN-TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

Car lovers at Motorfest 2014 on the Teva Canada grounds.

Golf Cars and Utility Vehicles, came from the need of one of the event's organizing committee members who had trouble walking around last year, Soukup told The Sun-Tribune.

"We thought it (was) a good idea to offer it. We will see how it works," he told The Sun-Tribune.

Motorfest 2015 takes place Sept. 12 at Teva Canada (Main and Mostar streets) from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The rain date is Sept. 19, same location and hours.

For more information, go to www.motorfest.ca and www.teenchallenge.ca

Meet artists at new gallery show tonight

A non-traditional approach to landscapes makes up Latcham Gallery's new show — Expanding The Landscape. Each of the four artists in the show utilizes innovative and contemporary filters to reflect landscapes.

Up close, Robert Wiens' watercolours appear almost abstract, but take a step back and the paintings come into focus, according to the press release.

Toni Hafkenschied utilizes photos of iconic landscapes to create nostalgic postcard images, while Monique Resnick reflects our current obsession with Google through paintings that isolate aspects of the landscape through the Google lens.

Alison Judd's wood block prints present layers of ebbing and flowing colour, which is made of wood grain.

The show runs from today to Sept. 26.

The opening reception takes place tonight from 7 to 9 p.m. at the gallery, 6240 Main St. The artists will be present. For more information, go to www.latchamgallery.ca

Busy evening in Stouffville

The Latcham Gallery show is but one event on tonight's busy schedule in Stouffville. Other activities include:

- A Whitchurch-Stouffville Chamber of Commerce networking event at Gallucci Winery from 5 to 7 p.m.
- Hockey Night in Stouffville at the arena at 7 p.m.
- Moonlight Madness and Inside WS in downtown Stouffville from 7 to 10 p.m. The weekly farmers' market goes from 2:30 to 8:30 outside the gallery.
- Smiley, the therapy dog hosts, an event in Memorial Park. See story on page 10.

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