

# Strawberry Fest region's second largest event

BY ALI RAZA  
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The town's biggest festival is just two weeks away and the strawberries can't wait.

This year's Whitchurch-Stouffville Strawberry Festival runs throughout the Canada Day weekend from June 30 to July 3. First held in 1984, the 32nd festival this year features a jam-packed weekend of events, activities and vendors. It's York Region's second largest event, attracting an average of 25,000 people each year, officials say.

"Our goal this year is to have something going on in all areas at all times," said co-chairperson Nancy Matheson.

Whether it's your elected officials serving you pancakes, seeing Canada Day fireworks while listening to live music, or witnessing a fly-by of a First World War airplane, the festival offers something for everyone.

Though the opening ceremonies take place the evening of Friday, July 1, there are unofficial events beforehand, starting on Wednesday, June 29, at the 26th annual Music Festival at the Stouffville United Church at 8 p.m.

The next day, June 30, visitors can see Ginger St. James and What About Bob perform at the Marquee for a \$5 cover. The Stouffville Lions barbecue is being held in the park the same night.

## FIREWORKS, FLY-BY

On Canada Day, Gladys Clarkson's Strawberry Pie and Jam Contest kicks off at 9 a.m. An exhibition featuring First World War fighter pilot Captain Roy Brown will be featured at 19 on the Park for most of the weekend.

Craz-E-Crew Stunt Team will perform on Canada Day, at 1, 3 and 4 p.m. at Park Drive and Burkholder Street. They'll showcase BMX and skateboarding stunts.

During the opening ceremonies, a plaque dedicated to Capt. Roy Brown will be unveiled, followed by the announcement of the citizen and sports person of the year, which are sponsored by The Sun-Tribune. The Black Board Blues Band will perform after the ceremonies until dusk, when fireworks will mark Canada Day.

"Last year when Canada Day was on Wednesday, everyone left after fireworks because the next day was a working day," said festival co-chairperson Ker-Yng Pang. "But this year it's on a Friday, so the band will stay longer, people can hang out longer in the park, and food vendors will be open until 11:30 p.m."

"Just hang out the whole day, there's no stress." The festival continues well into Saturday, July 2, with more activities, exhibits and bands.

Markham-Stouffville MP and federal health minister Jane Philpott, along with Oak Ridges-Markham MPP Helena Jaczek and Mayor Justin Altmann will be serving a pancake breakfast at 8 a.m. outside Latcham Hall. Deputy Fire Chief Richard Renaud will also attend. All proceeds will go to the Whitchurch-Stouffville Food Bank.

At 10:45 a.m., visitors at Memorial Park will witness a fly-by of two fighter planes from the First World War.

Two-time Juno award winner Jack de Keyser performs in the evening with a \$10 cover at the Marquee.

Sunday's highlights are the ecumenical church service and strawberry social.

As events are spread across downtown Stouffville, certain roads will be closed or sectioned off. They include Main Street, Park Drive and Burkholder Street; Main Street will be closed Saturday between Park Drive and the GO station for the popular street sale.

For a full schedule and more, visit <http://www.strawberryfestival.ca>. Look for the official festival guide delivered with today's Sun-Tribune.

## TEXAS BEEF CHOPS

This is the one week of the year that we feature these rather **Neanderthal Steaks**, and they have become the Father's Day tradition at our store. They are a single bone, thick-cut from the more tender end of a prime rib, and they are quite an episode on the grill, so we'll have instructions. I'm thinking that a large one will serve two, although I have seen some pretty hungry men! Further, this year they are all 'Prime' grade from Alberta. Quite simply, it doesn't get better! **Bone-In (my fave)** \$19<sup>95</sup> LB (It will be best to order these because we always sell out.)

## BLACK TIGER SHRIMPS

These are size 8-12 per pound, and they are ready to grill. We have a recipe to B.B.Q. these - Bonfire Shrimp actually, and you'll want to stand back while you work your grill magic. They are delicious! \$19<sup>95</sup> LB **Featured at**

## WHAT'S FOR DINNER?

From our frozen section we'll have one of my fav soups - **Cream of Mushroom**. This is a chicken-stock based soup, with not just mushrooms, but pureed Yukons and cream. It's a milder, smooth soup requiring a couple slices of baguette on the side. **Reg. \$8.95/900ml** The second item will be **Chicken Cacciatore**, which has sweet onions, fresh tomatoes, peppers, olive oil and herbs. **Reg. \$20.95/8"x5" foil.** 25% OFF **Both featured at**

## WHAT'S HAPPENIN' AT THE DELI!

We start off this week with my fave afternoon snack, our **Napa Salad**. It's light, refreshing and flavourful. Ingredients are napa cabbage, green onions, almond slivers, sesame seeds, fried noodles, with a soya and rice vinegar dressing. **Reg. \$1.99/100g** 1/3 OFF THIS WEEK **Featured at**

Next, we'll be making our **Gazpacho**. This is a chilled tomato soup that's been elevated by mint, Tabasco, honey and... tequila. It's going to be a hot weekend, and I'm thinking that you'll need this. **Reg. \$8.95 per 900ml.** \$6<sup>95</sup> THIS WEEK **Featured at**

Our next feature will be our **Beef Stroganoff** in our 4"x5" foils. This container will serve 2, and it's best over egg noodles, but rice works just fine too! **Reg. \$10.95, and featured at...** \$7<sup>95</sup> EACH THIS WEEK

Our Sous Vide feature will be our **Pan-Seared Boneless Chicken Breast in a Forestiere Mixed Mushroom Sauce**. This is fully cooked; just immerse it, bag and all, in boiling water for the suggested time, and life is easy and good tasting, too! **Reg. \$4.99/100g...** 25% OFF **Featured at**

... And lastly, our Salad Dressing feature for this week is **Blue Cheese**. 250ml size, **featured at** \$3<sup>99</sup> JAR

## DAD'S ROOT BEER

We always feature this now. Although root beer is good on the rocks, it makes the best old-time 'float' that you can imagine! \$4<sup>99</sup> /A PACK OF 4

## SKEENA CHERRIES

With **Cherries**, it's best to think big! The reason is that the pits grow first, and then the 'meat'. If you buy the smaller sizes, you get more pit than meat, and

from what I know, that's the important part. **Cherries** are sized by 'rows' within a given distance. If you get fewer rows, it means that the cherries are larger. '12 row' is rather small and disappointing, whereas 8½ or 9 row are pretty big. What we have this week are 8½ row **Bings** from Washington State. If you are thinking **Cherries**, these are definitely what you want! \$4<sup>99</sup> LB

## CHEEZY PLEASE

Some Dads just appreciate cheezy things, according to my kids.....

We've elevated cheeziness to a higher level this week, with our **Whiskey Cheddar** for the hard core, and **Beer Cheese** for those that are newbies. Both will be featured at \$3<sup>99</sup> /100G THIS WEEK

## DAD'S MARGHERITA PIZZA

## HONEY BLAZE NECTARINES

During the season of summer fruit, almost each week yields a different variety of stone fruit, and right now the best-eating **Nectarines** of the season are available. **'Honey Blaze'** have a fairly short window of availability, and they are at their best! \$2<sup>49</sup> LB From California, Extra-Large size

The dad here would be me, and I like this with extra cheese, and extra pepperoni (our own). And that's just what they've done! 12" Size \$11<sup>95</sup> EACH **Featured at**



## WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

We're honouring Dads this week with **Hot Beef Sandwiches**. We load shaved strip loin on a kaiser roll with caramelized onions, horseradish and homemade gravy. **Featured at \$8<sup>99</sup>** (available on Thursday to Saturday.)

It seems that every time Evan comes to the cafe looking for a **salami sandwich**, we're either sold out of them or didn't make them that day, so as a special gift to Evan, we'll have (**half-priced**) **Salami & Provolone sandwiches**, get them before he eats them all. **Reg. \$7.99** (available on Saturday.)

Sunday Brunch will be our **Cream of Mushroom Soup** with either **Fusilli w/ Chicken, Asparagus in a Rose Sauce, Chicken w/ Pesto Cream Sauce** or **Beef Stroganoff**, with either rice or mashed, tea or coffee and a mini dessert. **All for \$11<sup>95</sup>**

Serve from noon till 2.

## WHAT'S BAKING FOR FATHER'S DAY

In one word, **CHOCOLATE!** We think Fathers love chocolate, so we are baking lots of things with chocolate!

**CHOCOLATE GANACHE CAKE:** This is our rich, not too sweet, elegant chocolate cake that is filled and glazed with chocolate ganache. **\$15.95 and \$25.95**

**CHOCOLATE FROSTED CAKE:** Same chocolate cake but with a bit sweeter chocolate frosting. **\$15.95 and \$25.95**

**BLACK AND WHITE MOUSSE CAKE:** Vanilla and chocolate cake, and filled with dark and white chocolate mousse, and decorated with chocolate-dipped strawberries. **\$24.95 and \$34.95**

**BLACK FOREST CAKE:** Cherries and chocolate are a beautiful combination! Kirsch-brushed chocolate cake filled with our cooked cherry filling and whipped cream. **\$19.95 and \$29.95**

**HOLE-IN-ONE CAKE...** Our white cake finished with green icing turf, complete with a white chocolate golf ball just about to drop into the hole. **\$25.95**

**CHERRY CHEESECAKE:** Vanilla cheesecake topped with our cooked sour cherry topping. **\$18.95 and \$29.95**

**FRESH FRUIT CUSTARD FLAN:** What separates ours from the others is that we actually make the whole thing, not just top a crust with factory custard and sliced fruits. So the base is our shortbread that has been brushed with chocolate, the custard is made with real vanilla and a touch of Grand Marnier, and the fruit is the best of what we have in the store. **\$12.95 and \$24.95**

**FLOURLESS CHOCOLATE CAKE:** topped with whipped sour cream topping and fresh fruit. **\$17.95**

**TURTLE CHEESECAKE:** Pecan crust filled with cream cheese, swirled with ganache, caramel, and candied pecans. **\$18.95 and \$29.95**

Most of our regular selection is also available this weekend, including **Jellyrolls, Cheesecakes, Lemon Meringue Pies, Keylime Pies, Coconut and Banana Cream Pies**, to name a few.

**PLEASE CALL THE LADIES AT THE CAKE COUNTER TO PLACE YOUR ORDER!** (905) 940-0655

## THURSDAY NIGHT BANDSTAND

Thursday, June 16 brings us Acrobat and their tribute to U2 and Bono. Just last July Bono brought Acrobat onstage at ACC where they performed an outstanding rendition of "Desire" to the delight of Bono and the audience. Less than a year later Acrobat is here with us!!! Be sure to join us for another exceptional night at the Bandstand!! Thursday Nights at the Bandstand every Thursday through to August 25 at Millennium Bandstand in Unionville. Be sure to put Thursday Nights in your calendar.

SPECIALS IN EFFECT FROM THURSDAY TO CLOSING SUNDAY, JUNE 19

Hours: Mon. ~ Fri. 8:00-8:00 | Sat. 8:00-6:00 ~ Sun. 9:00-6:00

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