

## White picket fence isn't for everyone in Stouffville

Re: *Not everyone likes new looks, column by Jim Thomas, Sept. 1*

I agree with Mr. Thomas that Stouffville should have an architect in order to police the appearance of any new developments.

Perhaps we need to go one step further and build a wall around the "original" Stouffville in order to keep out any change to our semi-rural, small town feel.

Really?????

Whose architectural tastes are we going to use as the standard?

I have only lived in Stouffville for 26 years and may still be considered a newcomer, but I am delighted to see the town grow, and appreciate the diversity of new building styles, including townhouses and condos.

We need to embrace and accommodate this as we welcome new people into our community.

After all, not everyone can afford, needs, or wants a detached house surrounded by a white picket fence.

WAYNE KERR  
STOUFFVILLE

## Condo site should look better

The PACE on Main new condo development hoarding makes Main Street look like a second class street.

We have businesses doing all that they

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

can by keeping their storefronts clean and attractive and then there's PACE on Main, supposedly saving downtown with new residential shoppers.

At the least the local council and staff could get them to put on the hoarding a painted scene along the whole front of the future site. Or at least a scene in keeping with the downtown.

Come on, Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville, we're better and smarter than this.

What is our Downtown Working Group doing or is the Stouffville Chamber of Commerce sleeping?

We shouldn't have to look at the awful site for the next year.

SUE SHERBAN  
STOUFFVILLE

## Why don't Stouffville drivers obey stop signs, speed limits?

This letter is directed to drivers everywhere, but specifically, the people who use Thicketwood Boulevard between Lori Avenue and Booth Drive to get to and from Main Street and those who use Park Drive to get to and from Main.

We have lived on Thicketwood for 23 years. When we moved here it was a dead-end street, but since Hoover Park Drive opened several years ago, it has become a main artery on which people drive to get to Main day and night.

We absolutely did not sign on for this. People constantly speed, and drive through the stop sign without so much as slowing down. Drivers who use Park seem to have forgotten there is a four-way stop at the intersection.

There have been countless times we have been honked at or almost rear-ended while pulling into our driveway because the individual behind us had to momentarily slow down.

Also, many drivers cross in front of pedestrians who are crossing the street, many of whom are walking with children or pets, because they can't be bothered to wait.

We have never seen such a blatant disregard for speed limits and stop signs. I don't understand how people have the audacity to drive through an intersection as though there is no stop sign, or how they feel it's perfectly fine to drive 80km/h (or more) in a 40 zone, or pull a U-turn at an intersection.

Driving behaviour everywhere is getting worse, and will only get worse with the ever increasing number of people on our roads.

I have been in contact with the police for more than two years, and periodically they have sat on Thicketwood, but to affect change, they have to be present on a regular basis. Drivers have to begin to wonder

if today will be the day a police officer is waiting at the intersection. Only then will behaviours change.

In conversation with friends and neighbors, one thing we all agree on, is that police presence on our roads appears to be very low. We need more visibility from them, and not less.

As we all know, there are a record number of cars on our roadways with the amount of condos and homes that are going in everywhere. Something has to be done to at least attempt drivers to alter their habits.

It shouldn't have to take a serious injury or fatality to cause major changes, but that nearly always seems to be the case.

L. VALLEAU  
STOUFFVILLE

## What about status of men?

Re: *What about gender parity on our local councils?, column by Marney Beck, July 21*

Why is it that gender equality is always advocating for only women? Why is there no Minister of Status of Men?

If one were to walk the halls of our elementary schools today, one would see a dearth of men in classrooms. Where is the concern for the lack of a male influence in the education system of our youngest learners.

Equality has to mean equal access for all genders. After all, in the words of our PM, it is 2016!

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A FREE orientation meeting will be held  
Monday, Sept. 19, 2016, 5:30 - 7:00 pm  
At Royal Canadian Legion - 150 Mostar Road, Stouffville



April 22 - May 03, 2017  
(Registration deadline: Oct. 17th 2016)