

Free Opinion

## Brewing up Business

A recent visit to Port Perry provided an opportunity to see how a well managed, beautifully restored building housing a new microbrewery brings locals and visitors flocking into that downtown community. Of course, Port Perry already has a large selection of independent retail stores, restaurants and cafes on its heritage main street, with the added bonus of Lake Scugog providing a picturesque backdrop. But given Mayor Altmann's vision for our own Main Street, which he articulated at the Mayor's Dinner on April 9, a craft brewery could be a key addition to Stouffville's downtown revitalization. Stouffville Brewing Company's application to lease the former Silver Jubilee building at Main and Market streets, a town property, would entail extensive renovations at an estimated cost of \$350,000, which would be borne by the town. The brewery would then lease the building from the town for \$50,000 a year. Of course, spending taxpayers' money in a volatile economy isn't something that can be done without careful consideration of the risks and benefits, but there are strong indications that this type of establishment could provide a substantial economic boost to the community. "There are currently well over 150 operating

breweries in the province with many more in planning," said Cam Heaps, chair of Ontario Craft Brewers, in an April press release. "The industry employs over 1,000 people in direct brewery jobs and more than four times that in indirect jobs... They account for well over 30 per cent of the direct brewing jobs in the province." With the provincial government's recent announcement that it intends to open up more retail outlets for beer, "These new changes will allow craft brewers to double or triple our share which will create another 1,000 to 2,000 direct craft brewery jobs across the province," said Mr. Heaps. Ontario Craft Brewers' president John Hay added that the growth of such businesses "will give a real shot in the arm to smaller communities and particularly to downtown cores that could really benefit from this economic stimulus." Sadly, the hollowing out of downtown Stouffville continues with the move of the CIBC branch to the west end. If council is serious about revitalizing our heritage district and boosting the local economy, we believe that Stouffville Brewing Company's proposal could be an excellent place to start.

Free Thoughts

Alvin decided to bring his own Big Bike to the Heart and Stroke foundations fundraiser...



Readers Write

## Readers Thank Local Retailers For Donations

To the Editor:

Wow what a trip! Recently my wife Janet and I returned from a trip to Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands. Before we left, the tour company suggested that we bring school supplies for the native school students there. Rob Croxall of the IDA Pharmacy in Stouffville and Janice Whiteley of Staples in Stouffville both generously donated a large amount of supplies (about 40 lbs.) that we carried with us on the trip. These supplies were gratefully accepted and will be very helpful in the education of the students there.

Janet and I wish to thank Rob and Janice for their donations and assistance.

Jim and Janet Follis  
Stouffville

Free Laughs

## Mother Load

It'd be cool if my kids could make something I actually want, like a bottle of wine, out of macaroni and glue.  
*Stephanie McMaster*

Having kids makes you look stable to the people who thought you were crazy, and crazy to the people who thought you were stable.  
*Kelly Oxford*

You may not have candy for breakfast. Now finish your Pop-Tart.  
*Laney Griner*

I was dating a transvestite, and my mother said, 'Marry him. You'll double your wardrobe.'  
*Joan Rivers*

Sometimes being a good parent means hiding in the pantry and eating all of the Fudgsicles over the course of a day so the kids don't have to.  
*Kelly Oxford*

My mother had morning sickness after I was born.  
*Rodney Dangerfield*

I asked mom if I was a gifted child. She said they certainly wouldn't have paid for me.  
*Calvin, Calvin and Hobbes*

The mother-child relationship is paradoxical and, in a sense, tragic. It requires the most intense love on the mother's side, yet this very love must help the child grow away from the mother, and to become fully independent.  
*Erich Fromm*

When your mother asks, 'Do you want a piece of advice?' it is a mere formality. It doesn't matter if you answer yes or no. You're going to get it anyway.  
*Erma Bombeck*

My mom said the only reason men are alive is for lawn care and vehicle maintenance.  
*Tim Allen*

Neurotics build castles in the air; psychotics live in them. My mother cleans them.  
*Rita Rudner*

It would seem that something which means poverty, disorder, and violence every single day should be avoided entirely. But the desire to beget children is a natural urge.  
*Phyllis Diller*

Mom and Dad say I should make my life an example of the principles I believe in. But every time I do, they tell me to stop it.  
*Calvin, Calvin and Hobbes*

My mother is such a lousy cook that Thanksgiving at her house is a time of sorrow.  
*Rita Rudner*

My mother was a terrible cook. When I was a child I went ice fishing. I came back with 40 pounds of ice. My mother fried it and we almost drowned.  
*Anon*

Republicans understand the importance of bondage between a mother and child.  
*Dan Quayle*

**Stouffville Free Press**  
Whitchurch-Stouffville's independent community owned newspaper

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 [stouffvillefreepress@rogers.com](mailto:stouffvillefreepress@rogers.com)

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