

Ramblin' Ruth



Growing Up Is Hard To Do

By Ruth LeBlanc

I thought I was maturing and was a little depressed about it. Now here comes Christmas and the child within has returned.

Now, I realize in certain circumstances a dose of maturity is crucial, but a bigger dose of immaturity has its place in a well balanced life. Recently, with my move to the land of retirees, this has never been more apparent.

Grocery aisles are filled with silver heads and along with milk the corner store sells Geritol. This set off warning bells in my head and the battle began to cast maturity to the wind.

The other day a golden oldie, *These Boots are for Walking* by Nancy Sinatra, came on the radio when I was in the recreation room. Grabbing an impulsively bought tambourine from the wall, I banged it against my big butt and danced around the room, kicking my legs and belting out the lyrics.

It was a moment to be savoured, but Mr. J just looked shell-shocked and failed to comment, even when I strutted like Mick Jagger. With thoughts of sugar plums dancing in my head, I felt like a kid again, encouraged by the snow and Christmas lights popping up as people eager for the season begin to decorate.

For me, an important part of the holidays is lots of delicious goodies. Once again I will make my homemade turtles, which requires simmering a can of sweetened condensed

milk for five hours or so. However, it is important to remember to let the can cool before you open it.

My good friend Linda omitted to mention this one little detail, and while the can was still warm I popped the lid off and hot caramel shot up onto the kitchen ceiling. If you have never had to remove caramel from plaster you don't know what you're missing.

Like Santa himself, most of us put on a pound or two with all the treats baked or bought for the holidays, in our eagerness to support the economy. Just think, if we didn't overeat, who would sign up at weight loss clinics and buy gym memberships in January? As a true supporter of local businesses, I always try to do my part to help.

As we get ready to celebrate the season, it is more than okay to embrace the child inside us, no matter how old we are. Dredge up happy memories and let the joy of the season into your life.

Put on *Jingle Bell Rock*, dance around the house and let yourself go. You can bet this house will be shaking as I blast away my favourites and bake up a batch of something so decadent it should be illegal.

Life requires mature moments for survival but it also requires crazy, fun-filled times to help maintain your sanity. Now on your mark, get set, because before you know it Christmas will be here!

Seasons Greetings From Our Family To Yours!

Your Community REALTY

ROYAL LEPAGE

5859 Main St., Stouffville (905) 642-6333

BROKERAGE INDEPENDENTLY OWNED & OPERATED

Look For Us In The Santa Claus Parade on Dec 6th!

Local Choir Welcomes New Members

Cora Ryan Westermann, who has been involved with music all her life, directs a chapter of Shout Sister! women's community choir in Stouffville.

The choir was founded by award-winning blues/jazz vocalist Georgette Fry in Kingston in 2002, and takes a novel approach to choral singing, allowing both neophytes and seasoned performers to participate without auditioning. The choir's repertoire ranges from pop and Motown to folk, country, and blues, and members learn from

recorded tracks, so the ability to read music is not required.

York Shout Sister! meets every Wednesday from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Davis Room at Stouffville United Church, 34 Church St. North. Women who are interested in learning more are invited to attend a practice with no obligation, and new members are warmly welcome.

Visit www.shoutsisterchoir.ca or contact Oriole at members@shoutsisterchoir.ca for more information.



COME CELEBRATE THE Christmas Season WITH US AT OUR CHURCHES

Stouffville Pentecostal Church

6853 Main Street * 905.640.5696 * spcfamily.ca

Ladies

'Colors of Winter' Toys and Tinsel with Grace Fox

Sat. Dec. 13 @ 7pm (doors open at 6:30pm)

Cost \$5

Join us on Christmas Eve for a one hour service - 7pm

The Not-So-Silent Night

Sunday Dec. 14 @ 10am

'Kids Christmas Presentation'

* Followed by a Potluck Luncheon EVERYONE WELCOME

STOUFFVILLE UNITED CHURCH

Come Celebrate Christmas With Us!

Sunday, December 14th 10:30 a.m. - Cantata

Wednesday, December 17th 7:30 p.m. - Blue-Christmas Quiet Time

Sunday, December 21st 10:30 a.m. - Children's Christmas Service

Wednesday, December 24th (Christmas Eve) 6:30 p.m. - Family Service

9:30 p.m. - Candlelight & Holy Communion

34 Church Street, Whitchurch-Stouffville (905) 640-1163 * www.stouffvilleu.ca

heisehillchurch

LIVES CHANGED HERE

1176C Woodbine Avenue, Gormley (Just south of Stouffville Road) 905-887-5489 * www.heisehill.org

Sharing the joy of Christmas together

Advent Sundays @ Heise Hill Each Sunday @ 10:30 a.m. Advent Scriptures / Candle Lighting Singing the Songs of Christmas Teaching - "The Cast of Christmas"

Christmas Eve "The Night Before Christmas" 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Carol Singing / Christmas Stories

Interim Pastor - Charlie Mashinter Interns - Matt Hill / Caleb Morley

CANADA