

# LETTER: Lack of advertised events!!

On Feb. 14 I drove with my nephew to Musselman's Lake to take part in the Winterfest put on by newly-elected councillor Phil Bannon.

On the trip up there my nephew and I talked about the last winter festival we attended, put on by Friends of Musselman's Lake, where my nephew got to make a little birdhouse, which was one of the events. It was special because it was something the two of us got to do together, and I heard about it for years after, every time a new family of birds nested in it.

When we arrived, all we saw were numerous people milling around looking confused and looking for something to do. I asked someone, "So where is all the fun?" The answer I got was, "There is nothing going on." I whipped out the flyer advertising the festival and proceeded to look for all of the things to do.

Buddy the dog was there, and the fire department, but I found out later they were not going in the water for an ice rescue demo. Community Policing? Well two officers were there, but weren't doing anything. Snowmobile rides...no, but I am kind of glad about that, I hate snowmobiles and the noise. Horse drawn sleigh rides...no again. Scavenger hunt...a big zero, which I found out later was taken away from the Friends of Musselman's Lake who wanted to participate, but Phil wouldn't let them. Why not? These were the people who put on great festivals before.

The big loser in all of this was my little nephew who wanted so badly to build another birdhouse so he could show his mom what uncle Bill and he had made. Phil, couldn't you let a local environmental group participate, help you out and maybe have some events

for the kids to enjoy? From what I understand the Friends offered to do three-on-three shinny, birdhouse building, a scavenger hunt, a polar bear swim -- I would have paid money to see that -- hoot and howl nature walk, and a couple of other things I can't remember.

This group had done a Winterfest in the past and it was fun and successful, instead of leaving people standing around watching kids throw snowballs and listen to snowmobilers drive back and forth over and over. At least when Mark Carroll was councillor he let the right people plan the events and just helped out.

I guess what I am trying to say is thanks for wasting three-and-a-half hours of my life and for disappointing a little boy, who had his heart set on building a small bird house to put in his backyard.

Billy Stembobilitchski  
Stouffville

## Alzheimer Society director special guest at Rotary Dinner

Susan Hart, director of the Alzheimer Society of York Region, will be the guest speaker March 2 at the Stouffville Rotary Club dinner meeting at Parkview Village on Ninth Line.

Ms. Hart, who has over 30 years experience caring for people with cognitive impairments, has written five books on Alzheimer Disease, dementia and the

difficulties faced by caregivers. Her presentation will give an overview of the disease, explain the warning signs and offer strategies for coping.

The meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. downstairs in the dining room and there will be a charge for dinner. Those who wish to attend are asked to call Sandra Stronach at 905-640-1333.

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