

The descendants of Elisabeth Reesor and Abraham Stouffer

Elisabeth Reesor (1774-1835) and Abraham Stouffer (1790-1857), with their two small children accompanied Elisabeth's parents, Christian Reesor (1747-1806) and Fanny Reiff (1751-1818) from Franklin County, Pennsylvania to Upper Canada in 1804.

While Elisabeth's parents settled on Lot 14 Concession 10, Markham Township, Abraham prospected through the woods and came upon a clearing of a couple of acres about eight miles north. He was immediately

attracted by the location.

He purchased the land from Russell Hoag, but it was not registered until March of the following year. Shortly after he bought Lot 35, Concession 9, Markham Township, from John Williams for £67.10. Part of this land became the Town of Stouffville, which derived its name from Abraham Stouffer. Records from York (Toronto) state that on Dec. 28, 1804, both Russell Hoag and Abraham Stouffer appeared before the justice of the peace, William

Willcocks, and made an 'Affirmation of Allegiance'. Hoag is described as a Quaker and Stouffer as a Mennonist.

Both objected to swearing the oath of allegiance so they were allowed to make an 'Affirmation'. Abraham Stouffer is described as '...late from Pennsylvania, farmer, hazel eyes, brown hair, six foot one inch high'.

Elisabeth and Abraham lived full and useful lives in their new community. They are both buried in the Altona Mennonite cemetery east of Stouffville. A

piece of handiwork by Elisabeth Reesor is in the hands of the Betzner family. It is a linen sampler which she made with the date 1790 embroidered on it. Although over 200 years old, it does not have any broken threads and the little tassels, which Elisabeth so carefully stitched in each corner, are still

intact.

Members of the Stouffer family were strong supporters of church and community activities. Some of this family moved to western Ontario, and later many went to the Prairie provinces when homesteading began there a hundred years ago.



Ashmore Reesor, Betty Burkholder, Lois Reesor and George Reesor stand in front of Reesor Gates, which is adjacent to the original Christian Reesor Homestead where the family settled in 1804 when they came to Upper Canada. The 200th anniversary Reesor Homecoming takes place July 2-4, with celebrations at Markham Fairgrounds and a community church service on the banks of the Little Rouge River at Reesor Gates on July 4.

Wagon train commemorates historic journey of original settlers to Upper Canada

On July 2, Reesors from far and wide will gather at a beautiful property on the banks of the Rouge River to begin a weekend of celebrations marking the 200th anniversary of the family's arrival in Canada.

The property is adjacent to the homestead of original settlers Christian and Fanny Reesor, which is located on Reesor Rd. in Markham, just north of Highway 7. A private gathering will be held at the site Friday evening for visiting family members and will include a barbecue, entertainment and children's activities.

At 7 a.m. July 3, a horse drawn wagon train will leave

the property through the Reesor Gates and wend its way to Markham Fairgrounds to participate in a day of family activities, demonstrations of pioneer skills and displays of memorabilia. The wagon train commemorates the arduous six-week trek from Pennsylvania undertaken by the original settlers in their five conestoga wagons and is scheduled to arrive at the fairgrounds at 11 a.m.

On Sunday, July 4 at 10 a.m., a special settlers' church service will be held at the Reesor Gates, 8949 Reesor Rd., and the family extends an open invitation to everyone in the community who would like to attend this historic event.

**Young Drivers
have a better
chance of becoming
older drivers.**

**NEXT COURSE:
Starts Tues. July 6
4 Days
Call 905-640-1229**



YOUNG DRIVERS® of Canada
Your licence to survive. ISO 9001 REGISTERED

www.youngdrivers.com



**The Progressive
Montessori Academy**

The Progressive Montessori Academy invites you to an

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, June 19 • 11am - 3pm

Come in for a tour or call for an appointment

Located at 6528 Main St.
Stouffville (at Stouffer St.)

For information call:
416 220-8070

**DOORS
OPEN**

Maps
available

at Stouffville
GO Train Station
or at

www.DoorsOpenWS.ca

Like a breath of fresh air, the new season arrives with thoughts of renewal, regeneration and rediscovered beauty. It is only fitting to treat yourself to the many luxurious treatments at Headlines Esthetics.

Renew and refresh your face and hands with a deep cleansing facial and manicure, a \$95 value for \$70. The deep cleansing facial is one and a half hours long and includes cleansing, toning, exfoliating, oxygenating and moisturizing, as well as a facial and décolleté massage. Along with the manicure, you will enjoy hot stone therapy massage on your hands and arms.

If you can't decide which of Headlines Esthetic treatments you would enjoy, purchase a gift certificate. You may redeem it for a Relaxing Anti-Stress Treatment, a body wrap that purifies the skin and eliminates toxins. Soothing essential oils such as chamomile, rose, lavender, orange and geranium complete the calming effect.

Perhaps you may benefit from a Spa Delight Nourishing Hydrating Treatment. This treatment hydrates the skin by providing it with moisture and increasing the elasticity and tone of the skin. It is beneficial for those who have circulatory problems and perhaps cannot tolerate other body treatments. Come and experience our friendly service at Headlines, where they are committed to customer care.

headlines
Hair Studio and Esthetics

Call
(905) 642-0336

or drop by their
location at

**6328 Main
Street**

in Stouffville

