## CHEPACK'S COUNTRY MARKET

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Chepack's Country Market has conducted business for 32 years from a barn built in the late 1940's at Ninth Line and 19th Avenue.

The Chepack family first sold corn on Sheppard Avenue at Birchmount in 1952 and are believed to be the originators of the roadside corn stand.

When Birchmount Road was paved, the stand was relocated to the farm lane, which is now next to the current entrance to Tam O'Shanter Golf Course.

From the Stouffville location, the family now specialized in farm fresh veggies, runny buttertarts, homemade preservative free dinner entrees and fresh baked bread and pies. Local crafts and antiques beckon browsers in a quiet area of the building.

Although relative newcomers, we are proud to add the name Chepack to the history of our area.



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Embrace like, keep smiling!

# Stouffville leads in 2104 with new agrarianism

By June Jacobs Urban Affairs Reporter June 25, 2104

community Stouffville, Ontario, located on the northern boundary of the Greater Expanded Increased Enlarged Area, Toronto recognized today by the Premier and by planning professionals as the country's leading example of "New Agrarianism" — a radical new approach to planning which involves wholesale agriculturalization urban areas under the Foodland province's Arability Restoration & (F.A.R.M.) Maintenance program.

New Agrarianism has replaced New Urbanism which in the 21st century had replaced Urban Sprawl predominant the philosophy. planning Planners thought they had it right with densified communities, approving thousands of new homes on small lots which brought 10 million people to the Greater Expanded Enlarged Increased 21st century.

However, when the global food supply collapsed in the late 21st century as a result of weather conditions, soil depletion, third world labour unrest, and a series of unexpected wars, governments realized their only option to ensure roots quickly embraced the food supply and safety was to start growing food again locally.

Historical data revealed that areas north of the Expanded Greater Enlarged Increased Toronto area contained rich fertile agricultural land which now lay under subdivisions, plazas, strip malls and roads. Four years ago at the turn of the century, the province boldly proclaimed that this land was to be reclaimed for agriculture and topsoiled. Stouffville was chosen as the pilot area for ambitious

"undevelopment" project. province's The reagriculturalization which imperative, returning mandates thousands of acres to cropland and the reintroduction of hundreds of cattle and other farm animals to the area, required removal virtually all these housing developments. announcement set waves of protest residents of these areas, dubbed "househuggers", tried to oppose the undevelopment scheme, going so far as to place themselves in the path of the bulldozers demolishing their houses. Petitions to the Town Council, which was firmly convinced of the

wisdom undevelopment, proved futile, as did appeals to the OMB (Ontario Manure Board), whose prime directive was to ensure the production of thousands of tons of organic fertilizer to spread on the cropland, as chemical fertilizers had been banned globally in

Eventually, Toronto Area in the mid "househuggers" had no option but to take their monetary compensation and relocate outside the reagriculturalized area.

> reagriculturalization polarized the community. Those who wished to see the town return to its rural province's Agrarianism policy. Signs bearing the town's slogan "Country Close to the City" were altered by deleting the "C" in Close and the "to" before "city". "Country Lose the City!" appeared as the town's new slogan.

New Agrariansim together with global trade conditions transformed commercial face Stouffville in the four years since the turn of the new century.

Trade Agreement was signed, mandating a living

wage for workers in both developing industrialized world, the town's big box retailers were forced to close, abandoning their huge complexes on the outskirts of town. Their land was under reclaimed F.A.R.M. program, and now cabbages grows turnips.

More recently, small single function businesses with antiquated names like Hardware Store, Butcher Shop and Bakery have begun to spring up along the previously vacant Main Street. Though initially resisted by residents accustomed to big box stores and shopping malls, the fact that those employed in these new, small shops actually had some knowledge of the products they were selling appears to have led to greater acceptability.

On his final stop on the tour, the premier unveiled a plaque at the Stouffville's newly completed Clock Tower Theatre. The project had been languishing for several generations but seemed to gain new with the momentum establishment of the new, small independent businesses on Main Street.

After declaring the Clock Tower Theatre officially open, the Premier stepped aboard the York Durham Heritage Railway to ride out of town. When the YDHR had first been launched in the late 20th century, there were those who felt that the engine and coaches were not old enough to qualify the project as a Heritage Train. However, now that the equipment is over 150 years old it would satisfy even its most vocal critics were they still alive.

As the train pulled away today, the Premier waved and predicted that as New Agrarianism rolls out across the region there will be farmland as far as the In 2099, when the Fair eye can see between Stouffville and Markham. Now that's progress!



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