

APRIL 2023 NO 70



On the Road in Whitchurch-Stouffville is the monthly magazine of the Town



THERAPEUTIC HEALING WITH HORSES

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From the Editor

On the Road in Whitchurch-Stouffville (OTR) is the Monthly magazine of the Town. The purpose is to communicate with residents, promote local businesses, support agriculture, develop tourism and, most importantly, build community. This edition brings awareness to 26 businesses, 11 special events, and 13 matters of community importance. And, most of this is classified as Tourism. For OTR advertising, contact Bruce Stapley@ sympatico.ca. For any other questions or concerns, contact me:

David Tuley, Editor & Designer **Economic Development Officer** Town of Stouffville david.tulev@townofws.ca

Stouffville Market No Charge Booths for non-profits & student entrepreneurs

The Stouffville Market continues its giving back to the community spirit by offering booth space at no charge for non-profits and charities to spend the day educating, raising awareness and/or fundraising.

New this year and thanks to local resident Brian Chung for sponsoring the Student Entrepreneur Booth, we can accommodate 1 student per week to sell their product, promote their services or raise funds for their chosen charity. If you are - or know of - a student from Grade 1 to university, who would like to try their hand at running their business in our outdoor market, please go to our website thestouffvillemar**ket.ca** and you'll find the 'Student Entrepreneur' application form there. Just fill it out online and we'll review it and respond back to you.

The market runs every Saturday from May 13 - October 14, 9:00 am -2:00 pm at 6240 Main St., in the heart of downtown Stouffville. You'll find a wide variety of vendors... from artisans, crafters, bakers and produce sellers to service providers, all offering up a great selection of items for your sunny Saturday shopping pleasure.

We're currently accepting vendor applications and seeking family friendly, upbeat musicians and entertainers. Any questions, please emailthestouffvillemarket@gmail. com or call 647-945-8740.



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More speed humps coming this summer Council gives go-ahead to Memorial Park skating trail construction Glenn Jackson. Contributor

This is a monthly column summarizing recent Whitchurch-Stouffville Council decisions. Subscribe to our eNewsletter for more detailed information: eepurl.com/cKPNg9

Speed humps. In the summer and fall of 2022, the Town conducted a "traffic calming" project where speed humps were placed in three locations throughout the Community of Stouffville. The impacts on traffic movement were then analyzed.

At the March 8 meeting, Council was shown the results and asked to extend the project to this summer and possibly beyond.

As part of the project, speed humps were installed on West Lawn Crescent, about 30 meters north of the intersection of John Davis Gate: on West Lawn Crescent, about 30 meters south of the corner of John Davis Gate; and on Millard Street just before the crosswalk on the westbound lane at the intersection with Winlane Drive near Madori Park.

Vehicular speed and volume data were gathered in the vicinity of the speed hump locations on West Lawn Crescent before installation, when the speed humps were in place and following their removal.

Westbound stop sign compliance was also checked at the intersection of Millard Street and Winlane Drive before installation, when the speed humps were in place and following their removal.

Upon the aftermath of the project, staff concluded that:

• Speed humps significantly increased compliance with the posted speed limit on West Lawn Crescent, in the vicinity of the speed humps. Improved compliance did not continue to a significant extent following removal of the speed humps. • Speed humps did not have a positive impact on stop sign compliance at the intersection of Millard Street and Winlane Drive. Speed humps placed at stop signs present conflicting messages to motorists at a single location: stop signs require a full stop whereas speed humps only require the driver to slow



ABOVE: A new skating trail is being planned for Memorial Park in downtown Stouffville. Council recently authorized the hiring of the construction company to build the trail and the associated fieldhouse. The Town received over \$4m in federal and provincial grants to help fund the project.

down.

• The speed humps did not have a significant negative impact on Fire and Emergency Services.

As a result of the study, Council approved the project to be extended into the summer and fall of 2023. Speed humps will be placed on Town-owned roads, with up to two per ward, after consultation with local stakeholders (including residents).

Staff will report back to Council after the conclusion of the 2023 project with results.

Skating Trail. After recommendations outlined in the 2018 Leisure and Community Services Master Plan, staff began to plan and develop a Skating Trail at Memorial Park. In 2019, Stouffville was awarded grant funding for \$4.09 million from the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP), which contributed to the total budget of \$5.577 million for the trail.

In late 2021, the Town began the project and hired contractors to oversee consultation, design, administration, and refrigeration services.

In January 2023, staff released a tender for the trail and fieldhouse construction and at the March 22 meeting, Council awarded the contract to Pine Valley Corporation.

The Town has requested further grant funding from ICIP and meetings are being scheduled with both levels of government to explore other funding sources.

Growth Management. The Town has recently undertaken a Preliminary Growth Management Strategy to provide a long-term assessment of future urban growth and associated urban land needs to the year 2051. The Strategy will complement the Town's Official Plan Review and reflect the York Region Official Plan growth forecasts.

At the Council meeting of March 8, consultant Watson & Associates Economists presented their preliminary findings to Council.

As of 2021, the Town's population was 51,400, reflecting an average annual growth rate of 1.7% over the 2016 to 2021 period. The Town's population is forecast to increase between 2021 and 2051 to approximately 91,700 persons. This increase represents about 40,300 persons.

For more information, the report is available at https://bit.ly/3KecL7i

COUNCIL MEETINGS:

Council meetings are either 9 a.m. or 7 p.m. every other Wednesday at Town Hall in Stouffville. Agendas at calendar.townofws.ca/council. Listen live: townofws.ca/cmlivestream. Live tweets: @ws townhall

SKATING CLUB PUMPED TO PRESENT 50TH ICE SHOW

Pandemic delayed anniversary celebration for three years by Jim Mason

It's been a tradition of spring for thousands of young Stouffville athletes during the past 70 years-plus. But next month's Stouffville Skating Club Ice Show will carry added significance onto the fresh ice of the Stouffville Arena.

For one, it's the 50th such production of what's normally a semi-annual event. Plus, the show, which was originally scheduled for May 2020, has been three years-plus in the making. Thank you, COVID-19.

"It has been a rough few years trying to keep the skaters on the ice as much as possible while dealing with the ever-changing restrictions," said 10-year club president Krista Beatty.

Things are looking up. The club's roster has been built back up from a pandemic-related low of 100 skaters to 425, but still down from the pre-COVID ranks of 550.

History Lesson

There's plenty of history to draw from in a club founded in 1951. It's one of the original 16 clubs that formed Skate Ontario.

Thousands of local youngsters learned to skate under the auspices of the club. Many stayed on and climbed the competitive ladder while making the grade on test days.

Others became hockey players.

If the club had a hall of fame it would include the likes of competitors Jean Barclay, Cindy McNeil, Cindy Todd and Lynda Butler,

plus coaches Hans and Judy Ahlgren who worked with Stouffville skaters for more than 40 years before retirement.

Brad May, better known for winning the Stanley Cup with the Anaheim Ducks in 2007, skated in the club and took part in the 1976 ice show as a 4-year-old.

Marg Curtis skated in the first two shows in 1951 and '52. The lifelong Stouffville resident still has the candy cane outfit she wore in the second show at the old Stouffville Arena, which was in Memorial Park across from Latcham Hall.

"It was a big deal at the time," Curtis said of those early shows. "Plus the arena was new, so it was exciting also because we now had artificial ice in town."

'50 is Golden'

Fast-forward 70-something years and there's still a buzz.

"Everyone is very excited for the show to happen," said Beatty, who will retire from the presidency this year. "I think this is the breath of fresh air and getting back to normalcy that everybody needed. It's nice to be able to go practice skating but if you don't get to perform you're missing a huge aspect of it. It's like playing scales all day long and not playing a full piece of music."

"The skaters are all very, very excited. For all of the figure skaters, this is their time to show off all of their skills. And the

Canskaters (in the learn-to-skate program) are all excited to be in the show."

There are 120 young athletes registered to skate in the "50 is Golden" show May 12 (7 p.m.) and 13 (2 and 7 p.m) - from the little 4-year-old first-timers to the teens who skate in the competitive stream.

While the club is based out of the Stouffville Clippers Complex on Weldon Road, the show will be staged at the Arena on Ninth Line with its larger capacity for seating. That staging includes professional lighting, sound and costumes.

The club is inviting its alumni to attend an informal reunion at the rink between the two shows on May 13. Cake will be served and a display of memorabilia, including a library of old show programs, is sure to be a conversation starter.

Tickets are \$25. Children 4-12 and seniors are \$20. Three and under are admitted free.

Tickets

For details on the show, including online ticket information, and the club's programs, go to: stouffvilleskate.com or call the club offices (905 642-8651).

Tickets will also be on sale on designated days at the club's offices atop Pad 2 at the Clippers Complex.

(left) Senior skaters preparing for this month's ice show include (from left) Nauka Mistry, Lilah Brandt, Christen Pedro, Caitlin Chan, Madison Beatty and Erika Gregory. (right) Stouffville Skating Club president Krista Beatty and Margaret Curtis with the costume Margaret wore at the 1952 Stouffville Ice Show plus programs from some of the previous 49 shows.





STOUFFVILLE-DENMARK HOCKEY EXCHANGE LIVES ON 40 YEARS LATER 'When you literally move in with people, sleep

in their homes and eat at their tables, you really form that strong bond' by Jim Mason



(left) A Stouffville-Denmark mini-reunion at the Stouffville Arena. Back row: Danish coach Walter Bagnkop, Aaron McWilliams, Craig Stronach, Dan Larmer, Brad McDonald, Kevin Francis and Darron Baston. Front row: Rob Parham and Stouffville coach Grant Nesbitt. (right) The Stouffville Clippers represented Ontario during a tour of Denmark and Sweden in 1985

The row of men taking in the exhibition hockey game at the Stouffville Arena earlier this year must have felt like they were in the movie Groundhog Day.

On the ice, the Stouffville Clippers U16 AA team were facing a squad from Frederikshavn, Denmark.

Now in their early 50s, the guys in the stands were the minor hockey Clippers who first hosted a team from the port city of 22,000 in northern Denmark nearly 40 years ago.

The Danish visit to Stouffville was frontpage news during the Christmas holidays of 1984-85. Call it a most friendly invasion.

Aside from a sold-out, two-game series at the now razed arena in Memorial Park, there was a dinner at the Royal Canadian Legion and a full dance card of parties. Mayor Tom Wood presented the visitors with a Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville flag.

The 30 players, who were billetted with local families, could be seen around town in their Frederikshavn hockey jackets. They took in the CN Tower and Niagara Falls and played a full slate of games in the area, including entering a tournament in Beaverton.

"It was a big event for small-town Stouffville at that time," recalls Darron Baston, one of the players. "We missed them greatly after they left and couldn't wait to see them the following year."

Indeed, the host Edwards-Murphy Clippers would return the favour and fly to Denmark a year later.

But not before a massive fundraising campaign that had the Clippers splitting and selling firewood at Canadian Tire and delivering copies of the Stouffville Sun every Tuesday. A local pool company donated a hot tub for a raffle. A dance was held at the Cedar Beach Pavilion.

Just as in Stouffville, it was packed arenas, off-ice celebrations, warm welcomes from billets and sightseeing plus sampling Danish delicacies, including the ubiquitous open-face sandwiches.

"We were elated to find out there was no drinking age," Baston quipped. "The coaches were not."

The Clippers took a ferry to Sweden where they won a tournament title before flying back to Canada. But the relationships lived on in spite of distance.

"The guys always talk about just how fortunate we were," said Dan Larmer, an assistant captain on the Stouffville team who now lives in Brantford. "We were two teams of kids who meshed really well. Coaches on both sides were great and the amount of work that they, as well as the organizing committee of parents, put into making this trip possible was incredible.

"But the parents and billets who opened their homes were what really made the experience and helped us become such a tight group. When you literally move in with people, sleep in their homes and eat at their tables, you really form that strong bond. There were language barriers, cultural differences and age differences. But that

was part of what made the experience and helped form those bonds and friendships."

Led by revered Head Coach Grant Nesbitt, the Clippers went on a run after returning from Scandinavia and won an Ontario Minor Hockey Association BB championship in Niagara. The banner hangs at the south end of the arena.

Larmer went on to play major college hockey at Mercyhurst University in Erie, PA and coach the Stouffville Spirit Jr. A team. He's now a scout for the Peterborough Petes.

"The community support we got from Stouffville was outstanding," Larmer said. "Obviously, our team couldn't billet all 30 Frederikshavn players and we needed people from Stouffville to take these players in, and they did with open arms. Gorm Sondergaard stayed with Wayne and Terry MacFarlane and family. When their oldest daughter, Tracey, married Scott MacDonald, Gorm came back to Stouffville for their wedding."

Darron Baston still lives in Stouffville where he is art director with Choko Motorsports. He coached in the Stouffville Clippersorganization and was instrumental in setting up the game with Frederikshavn in January.

Baston returned to Frederikshavn six years ago to visit Danish friend Claus Rosenburg and other members of the team.

To complete the circle, Claus' son was on the team that played in Stouffville this year.

Save the Date **30th Annual Lemonville Group of Artists Show & Sale**

Please join The Lemonville Group of Artists for their 30th Annual Art Show and Sale. Our show begins Friday May 5 from 7pm to 9pm and continues Saturday & Sunday May 6 and May 7, from 10am to 5pm. A wide variety of original works of art by the group members are for sale. Everyone is welcome. Browsing very welcome.

No admission charge, wheelchair

accessible, light refreshments. We are located at the Lemonville Community Centre, 13453 McCowan Road which is on the east side of McCowan half a kilometre south of Bloomington Road. From the 404 exit east on Bloomington to McCowan Road. (905) 985-8209 LGAinfo@gmail.com www.LemonvilleGroupofArtists.com

Save the Date **A Musical Tribute**

Stained Glass Centre for the Performing Arts presents: Where Have All The Folk Songs Gone? is an enthusiastic and heartfelt tribute to the timeless songs of the folk music revival of the 1960's. Sing-Along with lyrics shared. Saturday, April 22, 7:30pm. At 34 Church Street N. Tickets are \$15 availbale at Candlelight and Memories and Boston Pizza Takeout.

Bill 23 and Town Heritage

Considerable implications for Town's heritage properties by Development Services Staff



What is the Town's Built Heritage Inventory? The Town's Built Heritage Inventory (BHI) is a municipal 'register' maintained by the Town to recognize properties for their potential design or physical value, historical or associative value, or their contextual value to the development of the Town. Properties included on this list may exhibit some of these characteristics, but are not formally designated under Parts IV or V of the Ontario Heritage Act. The Town of Stouffville has approximately 650 non-designated properties listed on its BHI - a list which affords properties temporary protection from demolition.

What has Bill 23 done? The Province of Ontario passed Bill 23, More Homes Built Faster Act in November 2022, making significant changes to the Ontario Heritage Act and having considerable implications for the Town's heritage properties. With the changes to legislation under Bill 23, the Town has two years (until January 1, 2025) to evaluate the 650 listed properties and move forward with the designation of the properties before they are automatically removed from the register. If a listed property is removed from the BHI, the property will not be able to re-enter the BHI until five vears later.

It is likely that several properties will be removed from the BHI. This could cause many properties to face redevelopment, resulting in the loss of significant architectural heritage and history in the Town.

What can be done to protect our heritage? The Town is committed to protecting its

heritage and is embarking on a project to comprehensively review the BHI. Listed properties on the BHI will need to be reviewed and assessed for designation under Part IV of the Ontario Heritage Act to recognize their significance to the heritage of the community and to formally protect them from demolition so they can be experienced by future generations. If you own or know of a property that is currently listed on the BHI and may possess significance to the heritage of the Town, you may recommend it for designation.

Additional Information

For additional materials related to this project, including links to the Town's map of properties listed on the Built Heritage Inventory, more information on the currently designated properties in the Town, and the survey to recommend a property for designation, please visit cometogetherws.ca/heritagereview.

Have additional questions? We are happy to help! The Town's heritage planning staff can be reached at: developmenthelp@ townofws.ca, 905-640-1900 ext. 2442.

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Mayor Lovatt has introduced a monthly newsletter - Mayor's Monthly is sent direct to your inbox the third week of each month. Inside you'll find information on upcoming Council and Public Planning Meetings as well as a monthly feature article on current issues impacting our municipality, an events calendar and local news and community service updates. To subscribe please visit www.lovatt.ca.

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8 BUSINESS by Kassandra Pavlou

WAH LUNG LABELS (CANADA) INC.

Canadian-Owned and Operated Group Specializing in Label, Tag, and Trim Products

Wah Lung Labels has humble roots originating in Hong Kong in 1962. What started off as a shop with a single machine, which primarily serviced local businesses needing labels for garments. has turned into a multinational organization, with headquarters in Stouffville. Wah Lung Labels began operations in Ontario in 1992, and today they produce over 155 million labels, tags, and trims annually for some of the biggest brands in fashion, athletic wear, and pet wear. Wah Lung Labels "produces everything except the garment itself", from patches, zipper liners, packaging, garment bags, silk screening and heat press labels, to EAS tags, rubber embossing, and stickers. Their products can be found on big brand name garments such as Nobis. Pajar, Moose Knuckles, CCM, Rudsak, Laura Canada, Canada Pooch, and fast fashion brands like Boohoo, Missguided, and Pretty Little Thing.

Bill Kwan, Vice President of Sales & Marketing, professes that the company is still very much a family run business. The business was originally started by his grandparents in Hong Kong, and it was his parents who established Wah Lung Labels in Canada, after emigrating in 1992. After starting the business in Canada, Bill's parents worked tirelessly to build-up their North American clientele and eventually opened a large manufacturing plant in Markham. Up until the mid-2000's the majority of Wah Lung Labels production was done domestically, as many of their clients were also within the continent. It was around this time that garment manufacturers moved production overseas, to countries like China and eventually Bangladesh, Bill notes, that they had no other choice but to have their manufacturing follow their clients, and that the transition of garment manufacturing leaving North America

happened drastically and quickly. Although garment manufacturing has moved abroad, head offices for the brands they serve have stayed in North America, and it's for this reason Wah Lung Labels still has a strong presence domestically. The Stouffville headquarters is where the Wah Lung Labels marketing, accounting, management, graphic design, artwork processing, and communications with clients happens. Although Wah Lung Labels manufacturing is abroad, Bill hopes, that eventually some production can be moved back to Canada, as the push for sustainability and locally Made in Canada products continues to be a demand among domestic buyers.

Although labels are a small component of an overall garment, they have gone through tremendous innovation and change over the years. An easy example is the feel of tags inside







[left] Bill Kwan, Vice President of Sales & Marketing with a sample of labels Wah Lung Labels produces for CCM and Moose Knuckles; [above] Inside one of Wah Lung Labels manufacturing facilities; A collage of the different types of products that Wah Lung Labels produces.

The Early Years of Parkview Village

A compelling vision and strong commitment to making it work by David Tuley

Parkview Services for Seniors consists of three not-for-profit corporations or entities that comprise senior's living accommodations and this includes, 124 rental apartments, 20 bungalow-style linked homes, 45 condo-style suites, and a 128-bed Long Term Care facility.

I wanted to tour the facility, and with very little notice, a friendly Karen Gayman, CEO, arranged a time and personally escorted me through. Karen is enthusiastic about Parkview's present and future. She even lent me the coveted, limited edition history book about Parkview.

As we walked through, Karen showed me the large auditorium, library, Village Café, tuck shop, craft room, gazebo, and garden plots. There were seniors playing a round of pool, while others were enjoying a coffee social. You may have seen the entry signs for Parkview's campus along Ninth Line or Weldon Rd., but you cannot grasp the extensiveness of this 16-acre campus from the outside, or grasp the vastness of its history in Stouffville.

The story of the development of the Parkview complex begins with Parkview Home for the Aged. The story is a complex labyrinth of marrying community needs for the aged with government support and regulation. Here, a group of citizens, mostly of the Mennonite faith, created a vision and saw it through with technical prowess and precision. Developments over the next 30 years were rapid. How these volunteers navigated the waters is unfathomable, but they did, and there's not enough space in the below summary to do them justice.

This retelling is heavily based on a book authored by Joseph "Joe" Martin Nighswander, Parkview, Its People, Life and Times, 1962-1994. Joe was born in Altona to David and Nancy (Lehman) Nighswander in 1923. Joe finished his elementary schooling early, as his parents believed it best to end his formal education - administrative abilities would be learned on the farm and in the church. According to the Global Anabaptist Mennonite Encyclopedia Online, a significant piece of Joe's education was through his work as a conscientious objector. For a while, he worked under the auspices of



Ground breaking for Parview Village, April 27, 1985. (left to right) Mayor Tom Wood, Regional Chair Eldred King, MP Sinclair Stevens, MPP Bill Hodgson, Parkview Chair Glenn Steiner, and Parkview Administrator Joe Nighswander. Notice that Joe isn't smiling toward the camera, but rather exhibits an inner smile.

the Non-Resistant Relief Organization in Winona, Ontario. Later he volunteered as a "cowboy sailor," when in 1946 he assisted on a ship carrying 960 horses from Baltimore to aid in reconstruction in post-war Europe.

Much of Joe's career (1947-1970) was spent farming. He would marry Elsie (Drudge) and they would have four children. In 1963, Joe's path changed when he was appointed to a committee struck to investigate the potential purchase of a nursing home. From that point on. Joe served as a member of the Parkview Board of Directors, and then as the Parkview Administrator (CEO) from 1969-1990.

In the preface of Parkview, Joe wrote it was the work of many people that brought the Village into existence. He also lamented that "I am the only member of the original Board of Directors still in the land of the living." Joe died much later in Stouffville in 2006, and Elsie in 2013.

There was an early interest to purchase the privately-owned local hospital - the Brierbush - when it was listed for sale in 1956. Local Mennonite people had a considerable interest in purchasing and operating the enterprise. However, the listing price was too high, and the deal fell through. Carl W. Reesor was noted as saying, "It would take a lot of potatoes to pay for the hospital at that asking price!"

In 1962, the Stouffville Nursing Home (current-day Buckingham Manor) was for sale. Members of the Reesor Mennonite group were to study the option of purchasing this facility. In the end, they decided to oppose the purchase, however, the effort concluded with two important results: one was to set the seeds for the development of a Mennonite Nursing Home Association, and the other was to forge a goal-oriented relationship with the Wideman Mennonite congregation, who were to provide significant leadership and assistance.

Over the next couple of years, many early milestones were set that formed the future of Parkview, such as the appointment of the first board of directors, when Joe Nighswander came on as Secretary under Chair Allan Wideman and Vice Chair Cecil Reesor, and the formation of special

committees regarding Land Purchase, Building, Finance, Policy, etc. The committees were very active. Six acres of land were purchased adjacent to a park along Rupert Avenue in 1963 for the development of a two-wing 63-bed home for the aged – with a "park view".

As part of their due diligence, the group, now known as the Mennonite Home Association of York County, questioned whether the facility should carry the burden of real estate taxation. The matter was eventually concluded by a precedent-setting decision by the Supreme Court of Ontario that they would not be subjected to property tax; it was an exemption that would extend to all charitable Ontario homes for the aged.

Parkview Home for the Aged officially opened on June 6, 1965. The well-attended dedication ceremony was led by Newton Gingrich, Chair of the Board, while Rev. Arthur Walsh, pastor of the Stouffville Missionary Church, led in the opening prayer. Music was provided by the Wideman Church Male Quartette. Some had their doubts on opening day, as most of the Board members and the new staff, had no experience in operating such a service. However, they had a compelling vision and strong commitment to making it work.

Initially, Parkview provided only residential care, requiring residents who needed special care to be transferred to other facilities. In 1968, the board decided that it must provide special care as well. Not long after, in 1971, another dedication service was held. This time for the new 46-bed nursing care addition. In 1975, a 36-unit apartment building was developed to provide housing for seniors, and in 1986 major renovations were carried out to the west wing of the original facility.

Changing trends in long-term care in the late 1980s forced Parkview to reassess its operation. Increasingly, the elderly began opting to age in place. The demand for residential care dropped, while the need for nursing care increased. Too, the Province was applying pressure to upgrade facilities for an extended level of care (aka. long-term care). Parkview found that it was providing long-term care services at higher costs, but since provincial standards had been raised, government subsidies came in at a lower level. The arrangement was unsustainable.

At the same time, the Board at Parkview recognized that there was a greater need for seniors' housing than its land holdings could accommodate. The search for more land began and was successfully concluded by 1982 – 16 acres was purchased along Ninth Line, a brisk walk from the Rupert Avenue site. The design for this new site, dubbed Parkview Village, incorporated a new philosophy of independent living, marking a departure from residential care. Over the next 3 years, Parkview was engaged in a flurry of activity, planning, consultants, financing, and government negotiations. In 1985, the signing of a construction contract occurred in front of Jim Thomas and Jim Mason, the editors of two local newspapers. It wasn't long after the story broke that more people had filed



Board Director Recruitment For Parkview Services For Seniors

To complement our skills-based Board, we invite applications from qualified individuals with diverse skills and experience in either governance, human resources, information systems, government affairs, marketing, communications, finance and accounting. Board members must possess a strong commitment to ethical standards, a history of community involvement, an appropriate level of education and or experience, and a passionate interest in seniors housing and long-term care sector.

If you believe that you could contribute to the future success of Parkview Services for Seniors, we encourage you to apply. All members of the community are welcome to apply. Please email your resume and cover letter describing your interest and skills to Ecressall@parkviewhome.ca.

applications than the 124 apartments could accommodate. While the apartments were being built, planning was underway for the development of 20 bungalow-styled units named the Parkview Clusters. The Clusters were completed and occupied in 1988.

Beyond the early years, a fully accredited 128-bed Long-Term Care Home was later built on the Village campus in 2006. Residents and staff relocated to the new building from the Rupert Avenue site. Yet, this is another story in the Parkview development saga, and there will likely be more to come. For more information regarding Parkview Village, see parkviewhome.ca.

Parview Village as it appears today. The 16 acre campus is bound by Ninth Line in the east, Weldon in the west, and the LivGreen development on the north side (along Main Street). Note that there remain more developable lands within the site, allowing Parkview to expand as needed in the future.

The Parkview Board of Directors is a volunteer body that plays a key leadership role in providing guidance and advice to the CEO and executive team. PSS is looking to recruit Board members who can use their talents to help quide and support the Board as we continue in our mission to serve seniors today, and into the future.

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2022 state of the economy: Employment by David Tuley

After a hiatus during the COVID pandemic, the York Region door-to-door employment survey resumed over the Summer of 2022. At the onset of COVID, a paradigm shift was underway: state of emergencies were called, businesses were forced closed (many times), Highway 404 emptied, people began working from home if possible, and if not, a number of government supported acronym-programs served to support people to stay at home and to return to work

at the same time (CERB, CEWS, CEBA, etc.). When businesses reopened, they wondered if they could compete with new social supports while they scrambled for their own business supports. These generational crazy times will be forever remembered in the history books. The question remains: how was our local economy impacted? The



following analysis should provide some clarity from an employment perspective. However, it does not touch on profit and income loss, which are very relevant.



Figure 2 - Distribution of Employment by Sector, 2012 and 2022



The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville has added 4,406 jobs to its employment base since 2012, and 756 jobs since 2019.

Construction (17%), Retail Trade (14%), and Manufacturing (9%) sectors account for the three largest shares of employment.

The top growth sector between 2019 and 2022 was Retail Trade (+410 jobs) followed by Construction (+278 jobs) and Manufacturing (+271 jobs).

As for Construction, the Residential, Heavy, and Structural sectors grew most, while jobs involving Site Preparation were reduced.

With Retail, Grocery and Department Stores had the biggest gains (+349 iobs since 2019), followed by gains with pharmacies and cannabis sales. With a lack of inventory due to supply shortages, automotive sales positions were reduced.

Manufacturing jobs grew the most being related to animal food processing and sectors involving cement and concrete.

Service-oriented jobs represent an 73% share of employment in the Town. Restaurants - the most feared impacted sector - 16 new properties were added, bringing the number to 75, 11 changed hand and/or names, and 9 were converted to non-restaurant space (one-third being conversion to cannabis sales).

Puzzling, public school jobs were reduced by 125, while private educational services increased by 46.

Despite the early losses with yoga clinics, fitness spaces, and rural tourism destinations (due to forced closure). 45 jobs were added since 2019. Rural tourism bounced back better than ever. according to interviews.

2022 employment: Spatial Analysis

The Community of Stouffville captures 58% of the 2022 cross-town job count, followed by Gormley, Vandorf, and Ballantrae/Musselman's Lake.



66% of the Community of Stouffville's employment is west of Ninth Line, while 14% is Downtown. Downtown Stouffville eclipses Smart Centres and rivals the macro-centres of inner-city industrial areas and Ringwood. West Main Street (excl. Ringwood and the frontage at Sandiford) remains the most powerful employment area in the Community of Stouffville, Despite infiltration by institutions. the "old" industrial areas along Sandiford. Mostar and Innovator hold their own at 1,282 jobs.





gains or losses regarding income, and the impact of inflation.



- 58% in Community of Stouffville (incl. Ringwood, Lemonville, Bloomington)*
- 5.5% in Ballantrae (incl. Musselman's Lake, Churchill, Kennedy & Aurora)*
- 1.5% in Cedar Valley (incl. Vivian, Seldom Seen, Pleasantville)*

* The York Region Employment Survey does not capture home-based businesses, entrepreneurs-at-large, agricultural businesses, and non-conforming rural land uses. Anecdotally, we know that some of these sectors grew exponentially during the pandemic; however, these are difficult to find and count. These

- 1,561 Jobs along Sandiford, Innovator, Mostar ("inner city industrial")
- 1,282 Jobs in Ringwood (historical reach: Bethesda to Hoover Park, Spring Lakes to Ringwood Dr.)

Little Powerhouses

Vista Park Place (Longos Plaza) and Ballantrae Gates (Hwy. 48 & Aurora Rd.), are not to be overlooked. The former opened just prior to COVID and currently boasts 456 jobs, while the latter opened during COVID and houses over 100 jobs in Ballantrae.

Conclusion

Employment grew above a meager pace across the pandemic. We did not lose a vast number of small businesses as projected nationally. 117 new businesses and 1,174 new jobs were realized since 2019. However, this is only part of the big picture. We have yet to understand trends in business profit and losses.

Wellness Services, Shopping, and a Salt Cave



[above] Janice Patera relaxes in the Salt Cave at Nature's Gifts and Organic Spa

In this month's OTR Check Up, we revisit Janice Patera Nature's Gifts and Organic Spa.

Nature's Gifts and Organic Spa is a boutique day spa with a stunning salt cave and wellness store for local and visiting spa enthusiasts. The establishment was founded by Janice Patera, whose personal struggle with cancer prompted her to explore natural healing and wellness.

OTR last visited the spa in September 2019. Since, Janice explains that they have expanded the facility. Part of the expansion was forced by precautions related to the pandemic-to allow space for clients to physically distance themselves. However, since opening day, there have been expansions in the arena of Wellness services: now there are 6 RMTs, a naturopth, a nutritionist, and an osteopath, plus others.

Janice reports that she recently

purchased an Intense Pulsed Light (IPL) machine, which provides a method of painfree hair removal. IPL hair removal is a photo-thermal therapy that leaves surrounding skin undamaged.

The Salt Cave is all about Salt Therapy, also known as halotherapy. With the help of a salt generator and over 11 tons of Himalayan salt, Janice has endeavored to recreate the healing microclimate of the ancient underground salt caves. She explains that Himalayan Salt is rich in negative ions and minerals.

During a salt room session, negative ions are absorbed into the body by breathing the saturated air into the lungs. The salt is anti-bacterial, anti-inflammatory, anti-viral, and anti-fungal. During your

45-minute session, you will relax in comfortable chairs, listen to soothing music, and breathe air that is saturated with 84 minerals and trace elements.

Beyond the Salt cave and Wellness services, Nature's Gifts features a boutique natural health store. The store is stocked with only natural health products, from skincare products to essential oils, books, and supplements.

For more information about Nature's Gifts and Organic Spa at 6312 Main Street, or see naturesgiftsandorganicspa.com



[above] 100 years of the Lemonville Community Centre will also be celebrated as part of Doors Open (WS Museum, Accession No. 975.162.021). [below right] Art in the Park will run on Saturday, June 10th in Memorial Park

Sneak Peak at the Summer Series

Spring has finally arrived, and the Heritage, Events and Theatre Operations (HETO) team is looking towards the start of the Stouffville Celebrates summer series of events. The series kicks off on Friday, May 19th in Memorial Park with the Victoria **Day Fireworks** celebration. The event will begin at 8pm with loads of fun before the fireworks commence at 9:30pm. There will be a bubble show, face painting, a fun zone, food trucks and more, with the event concluding with a spectacular fireworks presentation! Bring the whole family out to celebrate with us.

Looking a bit further ahead into June, we have event offerings every weekend! **Doors Open Whitchurch-Stouffville** takes place on June 3rd from 10am-4pm with a variety of engaging sites across Town providing unique family-friendly activities. The event kicks-off by celebrating 100 years of the Lemonville **Community Centre** and the presentation of the Whitchurch-Stouffville Heritage Awards during Stouffville Celebrates Heritage. Everything begins at 9:00am at the Lemonville Community Centre.

The following weekend, Art in the Park will run on Saturday, June 10th in Memorial Park from 11am to 4pm. You won't want to

miss this annual art show and sale where artists from across southern Ontario come to showcase their talents and sell their artwork.

19 on the Park's **Patio Series** in Civic Square kicks off on Friday, June 16th followed by Music in the Park on Friday June 23rd in Memorial Park.

This is just the beginning of this amazing event series with events hosted by the Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum, 19 on the Park, and the Events Team. The Stouffville Celebrates summer series attracts more than 50,000 visitors each year across 15+ events featuring local and regional businesses, performers, vendors, food trucks, and more. Programming for families and other groups ranges from food and music festivals, movie screenings, educational events, artistic exhibitions, and seasonal gatherings.

Generous sponsor contributions enable us to continuously enhance our programming while sustaining the award-winning events that thousands of Stouffville residents and visitors have come to love.

For more information regarding sponsorship or to request a Stouffville Celebrates Sponsorship Package, please contact events@townofws.ca.



Event Rescheduling Update

The YR Experience Trail Marker Unveiling needed to be rescheduled due to inclement weather. The unveiling is now scheduled to take place on Saturday, April 15th from 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM. The YR Experience Trail Marker project is a collaborative interactive project designed to re-connect people on the land presently known as York Region through art and illustrations by Indigenous artist Donald Chretien, Nipissing First Nation, cultural narrative by Ojibwe Elder Shelley Charles, Georgina Island First Nation and commissioned by York Region Arts Council

Join us at the unveiling of the Blue Jay Trail Marker in Vandorf Community Park, located just south of the Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum & Community Centre.



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20 SEASONS

Therapeutic Healing with Horses

The Sneaky Therapy by David Tuley



(above) Jessica with "Teddy" at HTCC. (right) Ashelle with "Maple". (on cover) Justine, also with "Maple".

Jessica Echeverri is driven, to say the least, having launched two mental health companies. She is passionate about helping, healing, and educating. In 2010, just out of university, Jessica formed Court Counseling Institute (formerly The Anger Managers), specializing in court-related services related to anger management, domestic abuse, addictions, parenting, and a host of other court-related counseling services.

Jessica had always loved horses and eventually purchased a rescue horse. The lady from the rescue center asked Jessica if she had considered using equine-assisted therapy as a mental health treatment. "I hadn't considered it until then." she said.

Jessica is a self-proclaimed "research geek". It didn't take her long to study animal-assisted intervention and start, what she thought at the time would be, a small equine-assisted therapy practice. "Once I started practicing, I couldn't contain it! It just grew and grew," she said. "It makes my heart warm to see how many individuals we have helped over the years with this amazing human-horse connection."

In 2016, Jessica established the Horse Therapy Centre of Canada (HTCC), a farmbased therapeutic centre that provides equine-assisted therapy and learning services to a diverse population of clients with social, emotional, and mental health

concerns. "The uptake has been wonderful to watch, some of our teens call it 'sneaky therapy' because it doesn't feel like therapy and they really enjoy coming every week."

People served at HTCC are many - from ADHD, PTSD, and Autism Spectrum Disorder to eating, anxiety, and personality disorders. Additionally, HTCC offers therapy to at-risk youth, families, and people with disabilities. "Essentially, everyone can come to our centre. Whether they want to better communicate with their partner or child, or they are suffering from anxiety or another mental health concern, we can help."

The farm is located at 15443 Ninth Line in the Hamlet of Churchill (east of Ballantrae). On the farm, many regular non-therapeutic, fun events occur, such as Family Time with Ponies, Goat Yoga, and Private Birthday Parties. There are also certification courses, to train new Equine Assisted Therapists and Equine Assisted Learning Facilitators, which is another passion of Jessica's, helping this therapeutic field grow.

A highlight of the activities on the farm is Therapeutic Horse Camp. "Our team of Therapists has created a very special camp where we teach campers all of the psycho-social lessons that we teach our therapy clients," said Jessica, "We teach them about social health - communication, empathy, caring for others. We teach them about their emotional health - how we think and feel, and we teach them about their mental health - how to handle stress, anxiety, failure, and accomplishments. Most of all, we allow them to be themselves and celebrate who they truly are."

Summer camp has a 1:4 counselor-camper ratio. Jessica stresses that camp is based on an inclusive, anti-oppressive, trauma-informed framework. For many, their benefits package covers the cost of camp.

"With HTCC, I look to serve, not to receive," emphasized Jessica. "I don't take income from it - my other business is quite successful. I reached out to OTR because I noticed that many of our clients are from outside of Town. I want our community neighbours in Stouffville to know about it too."

Jessica has a rags-to-riches-type story. She was born and raised in a small town. dropped out of high school, and left home to move to the city at a young age. After experiencing poverty and homelessness, she was a single mother to her, now 19-year-old daughter, by only 20. "I knew that I needed to show my daughter a better life, so I went back to college, and eventually university," she said. In 2005 she was accepted into Trent University for a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology. "I remember crying, I was just so happy that I could study and give my daughter a better life. I knew from a very young age that I wanted to help others, so I

chose psychology."

A lifelong learner at heart, Jessica studies, what she describes as, "constantly," After graduating from university, she became



interested in the field of trauma and eventually became a Clinical Traumatologist, vet she states, "I knew that I was meant to do more."

Jessica, now married with two more children, is now close to completing a Master of Clinical Social Work, in a Master to Ph.D. bridging program at Walden University. She says lightly that her goal for the next 5 years is to get her Ph.D. and help expand research relating to the benefits of equine-assisted therapy for the human trafficking survivor population - and continue serving others.

Jessica concludes that horses are amazing animals for helping humans learn, regardless of their confidence level. "There is something calming and relieving about being around a horse in general that has been described as good for the soul. If your heart is beating quickly, the horse will know it, sometimes before you do. If you are nervous, anxious, relaxed, happy, excited, sad, depressed, and so on, the horse will see this and respond accordingly," she said.

For more information, visit horsetherapycanada.com

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STOUFFVILLE SENIOR OF THE MONTH

DONNA POWERS

1. How long have you lived in Stouffville?

Donna and her family moved here from Don Mills 20 years ago.

2. Tell us about your family:

Donna and her husband of 61 years, Joe, have three children: Barbara,

- Catherine, and Jeff; and four grandchildren.
- 3. What is the highlight of your life?
- Unquestionably her wedding day.
- 4. "What's life all about Grandma?" Be the very best that you can be. Give freely and live each day as a Blessing.
- 5. What do you like best about life in Stouffville?

The wonderful people of Stouffville that give this town such a strong sense of community.

6. What would make life in Stouffville even better? More extensive bus service.

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We hope to see you in The Village of Stouffville soon!



Want to know what's going on around town? Visit: DiscoverStouffville.ca

Upcoming Events

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Spring has finally arrived and with spring comes an exciting new lineup of events and activities to enjoy. DiscoverStouffville.ca is your one stop website that showcases things to see and do around Stouffville as well as upcoming local events.





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⁺ Source: PCMag (June, 2022)





F stands for 'functional' **TEAM TRAINING**

Once upon a time, in what seems another lifetime, I was gym rat. I spent most of my none working hours in some kind of gym whether it be on the basketball court or in a training facility. The gyms all had the usual weights, machines, etc. same stuff, different location. A couple of weeks ago I was introduced to a new-to-me type of gym facility and from the enthusiasm from its members, it's easy to see why this company is the fastest-growing gym concept in the world.

The first of the 3 owners I met is Ricardo Ramos Rodriguez. We met at the under-construction F45 Training facility located at the corner of Hoover Park Dr and Mostar St. Ricardo hails from Mexico, and has a fascinating story of his journey to Stouffville and how he came to be a part owner in this F45 location.

F stands for 'functional', the 45 is 45 minutes. They are functional, 45-minute workouts that are a combination of HIIT and circuit training and they truly are ideal for any level of workout. The class I observed had first-timers as well as people doing their 300th class, having never missed one. As the members arrive, there is a lot of friendly greetings and general chatter while they wait for the class to start. This is not a typical gym where you can arrive and do your workout whenever you want, the workouts are done in structured class settings only, with everyone working at each station at their own pace. There are no mirrors on

the walls as the focus is on the workout and following the plan on one of the many tv screens. What really struck me was that there were participants of all ages (adult), various shapes and sizes, and it was a welcoming, judgement free zone. The friendliness and camaraderie was exceptional and naturally formed amongst members. You are never isolated or alone here.

Every class is run by a Certified Personal Trainer who is also an F45 Certified Trainer, and they are there to help you achieve your goals. All classes begin with a demonstration of proper technique of all the equipment being used, followed by a warm-up session, then participants move to a starting station. The class progresses through a series of 18 stations that provide a specially designed and targeted workout. The class I observed was cardio day and is the one class that is 60 mins rather than the usual 45. The music is powerful, upbeat and designed to keep you motivated and moving. The coaches are attentive, supportive, and wandering the class offering proper technique tips, and all-around encouragement to all members.

I noticed on the wall of the gym the term "team training" thinking they must do classes for various sports teams incorporating F45 into their training regime, but as I watched, I realized it's referring to everyone in the gym that particular class. Members entered the gym as individuals but it quickly became clear that everyone in the room is now part of a team, they are all working together for the same goal...their own health and fitness. Some paired up and did the circuit together, others continued on their own, there was a married couple that did the route together...but altogether, they were a team. The atmosphere was incredible. There are several tv screens on the wall blasting out the program, with countdown timers, so that everyone is working together and taking breaks together.

I watched as everyone arrived at the gym fresh and ready to go, and by the end it was clear they'd all had a very good workout. The classes are offered 7 days a week, and alternate between cardio, strength, and hybrid. You attend the classes you want by

signing up on the app, then show up and get to work. The first person I asked what they love about doing F45 workouts said "I come in, do my 45 minutes and then boom, I'm out", the next person couldn't say enough good things about joining this gym, "the people are great, the workouts are great, and I love the combination. I come 6 days a week and never have the same workout twice, the variety is key, I never get bored."

The F45 concept was developed in Australia and has taken the world by storm. The Stouffville location is owned by above mentioned Ricardo and partners Marc Spillman and Jodi Spillman Schmidt. All are highly trained professionals, passionate about health and fitness, have spent their careers in the fitness world and found the F45 business model and workouts a perfect fit. Marc and Jodi also own the franchises in Newmarket and Bradford. They are all bursting with excitement with the construction progress being made at the new Stouffville location, and cannot wait for opening day, which they are aiming for is the beginning of May, watch for the announcement.

To get more info and get an idea of what you can expect, head to F45.com and download the app from the app store to get started.



BEEF TENDERLOIN Cooked two ways indoors

Getting the BBO going for the first time in the spring is a special thing. I am sure you can all relate to that spring smell when the summer for me. As I have said before, I find chicken drums and thighs on the grill with most people, BBQ season is still not here, I am going to tell you about a couple of ways I like to cook a whole beef tenderloin in the Method 2: Sous Vide off-season of BBQ'ing.

Beef tenderloin, also known as filet mignon, is one of the most popular cuts of beef due to its tenderness and rich flavour. It comes from the loin area of the cow and is considered a premium cut due to its high price tag. But with the right preparation and is evenly cooked from edge to edge. cooking method, beef tenderloin can be a show-stopping centrepiece for any special occasion.

Selecting the Beef Tenderloin

When selecting beef tenderloin, it is important to choose a high-quality cut of meat. Look for beef that is bright red in colour and has a good marbling of fat throughout the meat. The fat will add flavour and tenderness to the meat during the cooking process. The size of the tenderloin will depend on the number of guests you are cooking for, but aim for at least 8-10 ounces per person.

Preparing the Beef Tenderloin

Before cooking, it is important to prepare the beef tenderloin properly. If your tenderloin hasn't been trimmed already, trim any excess fat or silver skin from the meat using a sharp knife. This will help the meat cook evenly and prevent tough, chewy bits. Once trimmed, season the beef generously with salt and freshly cracked black pepper.

Cooking the Beef Tenderloin

There are several cooking methods for beef tenderloin, and here are two methods for the best results indoors.

Method 1: Oven Roasting

Preheat your oven to 425°F (218°C). Heat a large oven-safe skillet or roasting pan over neighbour starts up the Q for the first time medium-high heat on the stovetop. Add a and man, does that ever signal the start of tablespoon of vegetable oil to the pan and sear the beef tenderloin for 2-3 minutes on it is always good practice to do a first run each side until a golden-brown crust forms. before you have guests over. Cook up some Once seared, transfer the tenderloin to a pan with a rack and put it in the oven and a side of fresh grilled vegetables and some roast until it reaches your desired level of garlic and chive mini potatoes. Since, for doneness. Use a meat thermometer to check the internal temperature of the meat.

This is the one I go to, especially in the winter months. Sous vide is a popular cooking technique that involves sealing food in a vacuum-sealed bag and cooking it in a water bath at a precise temperature. This method results in perfectly cooked meat that

Prepare the Beef Tenderloin: As mentioned above, remove any excess fat and silver skin. Pat dry and season the beef generously with salt and freshly cracked black pepper.

Cooking the Beef Tenderloin: Preheat your sous vide water bath to 130°F (54°C) for sous vide tenderloin is to sear it on high for medium-rare or your desired level of on the BBQ once it's cooked in the sous vide. doneness. Once seasoned, put the tenderloin Slice this up and add your favourite sides, in a sous vide bag and vacuum-seal it. Place and you will have a 5-star meal for sure.











CONTACT Dave Mills. david@stouffville.com

the bag in the water bath and cook for 2-3 hours. Check your sous vide directions. Once cooked, remove the bag from the water bath and pat the meat dry with a paper towel. Heat a large skillet over high heat and sear the beef tenderloin for 1-2 minutes on each side until a golden-brown crust forms. Allow the meat to rest for 5-10 minutes before slicing and serving.

Sous Vide is that simple. The perfect finish

From – WHERE **IIIVF** with BRUCE STAPLEY



ACCESSIBILITY INITIATIVES Universal Design the Key for People with Disabilities

The Canadian Survey on Disability found that in 2017 there were 6.2 million Canadians 15 years of age or older living with a disability, 47% of those over the age of 75. For some current and former Stouffville residents, this reality has served as an incentive to make all types of housing more accessible for these people.

In 2002 Luke Anderson, then a recent university graduate who was born and raised in Stouffville, suffered a high-level spinal cord injury in a mountain biking accident that would leave him wheelchair bound. Encountering barriers in the built environment became a growing source of frustration for him.

Upon moving to Toronto, Luke came to realize there was a citywide access issue that needed to be addressed for people with disabilities looking to enter stores and shops. This inspired him to become the Founder of the StopGap Foundation in 2011, which committed itself to building and distributing wooden ramps called stop gaps for storefronts with single-step entry ways. Luke's sister Logan co-authored a book, illustrated by the grade six students at Summitview Public School, called 'The Ramp Man' about her brother's stop gap success story. "Together we can raise awareness about the barriers that prevent many people from accessing the spaces that they want to enjoy," Luke told the students

who invited him to visit the school. 'The Luke Anderson Story', a YouTube documentary produced in 2019, recounted how Luke turned his accident into a movement to improve the lives of people who use wheelchairs.

More recently the push to make Stouffville, Ontario and all of Canada more accessible and inclusive for those with disabilities is being championed in our town by the likes of seniors advocate Sal Amenta. and Hannelore Volpe, who has lived with rheumatoid arthritis for 22 years. Sal made a strong case in last October's OTR for having governments at all levels work towards providing more desirable alternatives to institutionalized long-term care for seniors.

"I quickly learned that the tool for 'accessibility for all' is Universal Design (UD), which aims to provide housing for persons of all ages and abilities," Sal said. "The Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation has published a UD guide to encourage architects and developers to build a stock of accessible homes for the future."

Sal is co-chair of the Accessible Housing Network (AHN), a collaboration of over 35 Canadian non-profit organizations advocating for Canadian building codes to be mandated to have all homes built according to UD standards. The AHN has launched two petitions - one for Ontario's Legislative Assembly, and the other through Change. org. A third petition is in the works that will be presented to the House of Commons in Ottawa calling for UD to become the standard for the provinces and territories. "If Australia can do it, so can Canada," he said.

Hannelore was one of the first to respond to Sal's petition. "I'm guessing that accessibility might be even more important to me as time goes by," she said. "Although I have spent only brief periods in a wheelchair, it brings home what a barrier even one step can be. The bathroom door is too narrow by just a few inches, but I couldn't get in. Kitchen counters look mighty tall when you are sitting down."

"I will always remember the last days of my Dad's life when he was in a wheelchair

in a back split, with three stairs to get to the bedrooms and bathroom," Hannelore added. The basement bathroom was about 10 steps down. He was trapped in the living room and kitchen. Universal Design would make it so that new homes will have features such as constructing entryways with no stairs, washrooms, and bedrooms on the ground floor, lower door handles, wider doorways, enough space in a room to maneuver a wheelchair, and much more. The aim of UD is to accommodate people of all ages, stages, and abilities."

CONTACT Bruce Stapley, bstapley@sympatico.ca

Sal and Hannelore are encouraging everyone to sign the AHN petitions. The Ontario and Change.org petitions can be accessed by going to the AHN home page at: www.accessiblehousingnetwork.org.

To sign the Ottawa initiative, search for Petition E-439 on the national petitions website: https://petitions.ourcommons. ca/en/Home/Index.

Hannelore Volpe and Sal Amenta are actively advocating for the provincial and federal governments to take steps to ensure that new housing is accessible to people of all ages and abilities.





REESOR EXCITED BY JAYS' NEW-LOOK ROSTER AND STADIUM

Stouffville native earns promotion in MLB team's baseball department

Upgrades have been made since we last Championships in May and has a chance at checked in with Stouffville native Jeremy qualifying for the 2024 Paris Olympics if she Reesor at the Rogers Centre.

And not just to the ballpark formerly known as SkyDome. The 32-year-old, who girls filled with lots of international comhas worked in the Toronto Blue Jays baseball department for 11 years, was promoted exciting to see three sisters all competing to Director of Baseball Operations last year. on the national team."

The job description: "responsible for roster moves, transactions, Major League paythings (free agency, trade deadline, etc.)," Jeremy told OTR during spring training.

The Stouffville District Secondary School graduate who has "never played a game of organized baseball in my life" is pumped for for college and pro teams in the U.S. continthe home opener on April 11.

"I think fans should be very excited," he said. "We feel really good about the team on Black, heads the class. Black was the first the field this year and knock on wood think we're poised to make some noise." "The renovations should be a great update for the the Brew Crew out of Wright State for fans, too – some new angles and things in \$2,200,000. the outfield that will create some more character and intrigue to how the ballpark plays, games with the big league team this spring. and some great new ways to experience the game for those in the ballpark. We're all really excited and invigorated about the year at the AA level. Brother Brody Black is upcoming season."

NATIONAL CHAMPS SET TO TRAVEL

The Brewster family in west-end Stouffville must have local bragging rights when it comes to national championships in one household.

The three sisters – Megan, 17, Ella, 14, and Hannah, 11 - all won their divisions at the 2023 Canadian National Taekwondo Championships in January.

More recently, they competed in the Canada Open in Vancouver, and US Open in Las Vegas. Ella won her division in both competitions, Megan won gold in Vancouver and just missed the semifinals at the US Open.

Hannah, who won silver at the Canada Open, is competing up a level in the 12-14 age group. Next? This year's Pan Am Championships in the Dominican Republic at the end of April.

Megan will compete in the Senior World

can secure enough ranking points this year.

"So, it's another exciting year for the petitions," said mom Catherine. "It's also

It's also expensive. You can support them at gofund.me/8424a8bd and follow their roll, arbitration and strategy related to those story on Instagram at @thebrewstersisters

BOYS OF SUMMER REVISITED

Yes, Stouffville is a baseball town. The list of homegrown players suiting up ues to grow.

Tyler Black, the son of broadcaster Rod Canadian selected in the 2021 MLB draft. by the Milwaukee Brewers. He signed with

Black played in Arizona spring training TSN calls him the No. 2 Canadian pros-

pect in all of MLB and predicts he'll start the now at Coppin State in Maryland.

The Blacks' buddies, the Murchison brothers from Stouffville, remain at the college level in northern California. Cole

[below] Stouffville Native Jeremy Reesor was promoted to Director of Baseball Operations last year.



SportsTown with JIM MASON



CONTACT Jim Mason, jimmason905@gmail.com

has moved up a division to California State University, Monterey Bay. Younger brother Cole remains at West Valley College.

Stouffville's Lucas Vincent plays at Colby Community College in Kansas and Hayden Simon pitches for the University of Rio Grande.

There are 998 Canadians playing at U.S. schools this year, according to the Canadian Baseball Network.

STUDENT/ATHLETE

Stouffville's own Ryan Harvey, a rookie defenceman with the Stouffville Spirit, was one of six players named to the Ontario Junior Hockey League's 1st Prospect Team March 23. Harvey, 18, has a 91-percent average in his Grade 12 classes at Bill Crothers Secondary School in Unionville. There are approximately 500 players in the 21-team Jr. A league.



COMMUNITY NEWS

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COUNCIL & PUBLIC PLANNING MEETINGS

Agendas for Council and Public Meetings will be available for review on our website at 12 p.m. (noon) the Thursday prior to the meeting.

Upcoming Council Meetings:

- Wed. April 5 7 p.m.
- Wed. April 19 9 a.m.
- Wed. May 3 7 p.m.

Upcoming Public Meetings (if required):

- Wed. April 26 7 p.m.
- Wed. May 31 7 p.m.
- Residents may watch the meeting

live online at townofws.ca/cmlivestream.

Anyone wishing to submit comments, may write to the Town Clerk at clerks@townofws. ca. Anyone wishing to provide comments may attend the meeting in-person at the Municipal Offices, please contact the Town Clerk at clerks@townofws.ca for more information

Follow all council meetings on Whitchurch-Stouffville's official council Twitter account @ws townhall.

Join our Council E-Newsletter at: eepurl.com/cKPNg9 and receive meeting agendas and summary reports straight in your inbox.

MUSEUM EVENTS

Easter Hop-penings

Saturday, April 8, 2023 (10 a.m. – 1 p.m.) Hop on by the Museum in celebration of Easter! Join the egg hunt, play Victorian lawn games, snap a family photo, create an egg-cellent craft and explore the Museum's heritage buildings! Pre-registration required at townofws.ca/active using barcode 27312. Ages 2-8, \$15.00 per child, required adult chaperones free.

Enjoy the Ride: Celebrating 50 Years Saturday, April 15 - Saturday, Sept. 2, 2023

(12 – 4 p.m.; Wednesday to Saturday) This retrospective exhibition celebrates 50 years of the Museum's Antique & Classic Car Show. The exhibit includes featured artifacts and images from the past 50 years, and 'Canada's Car Stories' from the Canadian Automotive Museum.

April Showers

Saturday, April 22, 2023 (12:30 – 2 pm.) Come explore the science and wonder of storms! This staff-led program includes themed science experiments and crafts. Pre-registration required at townofws.ca/ active using barcode 27313. Ages 3-12, \$10.00 per child, required adult chaperones free.

How My Garden Grows

Saturday, May 13, 2023 (12:30 – 2 pm) Explore the Museum's gardens and try some planting of your own! This staff-led program includes garden-themes crafts and tours. Pre-registration required at townofws.ca/active using barcode 27314. Ages 3-12, \$10.00 per child, required adult chaperones free.

Museum Open House: **International Museum Day**

Saturday, May 20, 2023 (noon – 4 p.m.) Come and discover what's new at your museum as we explore and celebrate Stouffville's local heritage at this FREE event in celebration of International Museum Day.

The Museum is open Wednesday -Saturday, noon - 4:00 p.m.

We continue to accept bookings for education programs (virtual or in-person), group tours, and all types of rentals (including corporate rentals and weddings).

For more information on these services, contact (905) 727-8954 or wsmuseum@ townofws.ca

MORE INFO:

townofws.ca/museum

SUMMER CAMPS

Summer Camp registration is now open. Please note non-residents are subject to a 20% surcharge to register in Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville programs.

Look out for the new Summer Playbook to be released in May.

> DOWNLOAD YOUR PLAY BOOK: townofws.ca/playbook





5K RUN Join us on June 18, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. for

the first ever Stouffville Main Street 5K. presented by Fieldgate Homes. Run, walk or stroll across Main Street while raising funds for OUR community hospital, Markham Stouffville Hospital. We'll kick things off with the Kids Dash. Register before May 15 to save with the early bird rates and be entered for a chance to win a family pack of passes to Canada's Wonderland. Fundraising minimum is \$50 for youth 12 and under and \$100 for those 13 and up. Visit www.stouffville5k.ca for more information and to get registered!

19 ON THE PARK THEATRE

Trivia Night

Thursday, April 5, 2023 (7 p.m.) A new full-service, fun Trivia Challenge event played at your fingertips with your smart phone, join us at the Lebovic Centre for Arts & Entertainment at 19 on the Park with your friends to take bragging rights! \$5+HST; Doors open at 7:00pm, trivia starts at 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. 19+ event. bit.ly/42NBy9N Barcode: 26990

Motus O Junior Company Presents: East of the Sun, West of the Moon Live Theatre

Sunday, May 7, 2023 (Doors: 1:30 p.m.) East of the Sun, West of the Moon is a mythological story exploring the timeless themes of love, human error and redemption. The story's setting is the Northern wilderness of Scandinavia, mirroring the geography of Northern Canada. The re-imagining of this folk tale breathes new life, humour and relevance into a very old story. Weaving both movement and spoken word, this latest production presented by MOTUS O's Junior Company inspires and empowers both the young and the young at heart. \$12 + taxes and fees. bit.ly/42NBy9N or call 1-888-655-9090. Doors open at 1:30pm,

show starts at 2 p.m.

ART IN THE PARK

Saturday June 10, 11a.m. - 4 p.m.

Are you an artist interested in exhibiting your hand-made, one-of-a-kind artwork at this annual art show and sale? If so, applications are being accepted now.

Please contact events@townofws.ca to request an application or go to the Art in the Park website. townofws.ca/artinthepark

TRAIL MARKER CEREMONY

The Town of Stouffville and the York Region Arts Council are excited to announce the next installment of The YR Experience Trail Marker Project.

The newest addition to the Experience Trail, "Blue Jay" or the "Diindiisi" in the Anishinaabe language, will be unveiled at the Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum & Community Centre/Vandorf Community Park at 11a.m. on Saturday, April 15, 2023. Meet the artist, learn about the project, and enjoy light refreshments from 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.

MORE INFO: townofws.ca/council

TOWN HALL 111 Sandiford Drive Stouffville ON L4A 0Z8

townofws.ca

ALL NIGHT LAWN

Summer in Stouffville just got a whole lot more fun with the launch of All Night Lawn | Lawn Bowling Nights in support of Markham Stouffville Hospital. Register as an individual or as a group of 4 to attend one of 3 public summer events happening at the Stouffville Lawn Bowling Club. These monthly events targeting the under 50 crowd will provide a great introduction to the sport of Lawn Bowling while also focusing on the spirit of generosity in our community. Events take place June 9, July 14 and August 11 and will each kick-off with a happy hour (6:30 p.m.) and a lesson from one of our seasoned Lawn Bowlers from the Club. Cost is \$25 per person and prizes will be awarded for best dressed. Learn more at www.allnightlawn.ca. Registration opens May 1.

EVENT SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The Town of Stouffville is proud to present the 2023 Stouffville Celebrates Summer Series sponsorship program. This series attracts more than 50,000 visitors each year across 15+ events featuring programming and events ranging from food and music festivals, movie screenings to educational events and artistic exhibitions.

Generous sponsor contributions enable the Town to continuously enhance award winning events that thousands of Stouffville residents and visitors have come to love. For more information or to request a Stouffville Celebrates Sponsorship Package, please contact: events@townofws.ca. Website: townofws.ca/play/events/eventsponsorship

AVIAN FLU

MORE INFORMATION: townofws.ca/avianflu



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How to Avoid the "C" Word

The risk of developing oral cancer increases as you age, with the risk becoming greatest after the age of 45. The good news is oral cancer can be successfully treated if caught at an early stage.

The dental hygiene appointment is often the best opportunity for early detection of oral abnormalities.

In honour of Oral Health Month, Perla Dental offers a FREE OralID® cancer screening: a painless light induced fluorescence technology aid in identifying a wide range of unhealthy tissue in the mouth, including oral pre-cancer and cancer.

Contact us to schedule your next dental check up.



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