

# On the Road

JUNE 2025 NO. 89

A STOUFFVILLE MAGAZINE

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## From the Editor

Thumbing through this edition of *On The Road*, you will get a sense that summer is here! It all starts on page 3 with the opening of the new Lolli & Pops ice cream shop at Musselman's Lake.

Running short on summer event ideas? Don't despair—we have seven pages listing every event, concert, festival and movie you can take the kids to this July and August. This is in addition to the official four-page 2025 Strawberry Festival Guide, which can be found on page 26.

Lots of businesses to read about as well, including Long & McQuade, which has made the musical journey from Markham to Stouffville.


Enjoy your read, and enjoy your summer! The next issue is scheduled for the end of August.


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# BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

## Lolli & Pops: This Must Be the Place

*Fishbone Chef Revives Ice Cream Shop with a Savoury Twist*

by Hayley Langdale



When The Coolest Little Ice Cream Shop served its final scoop this past Thanksgiving (see October's issue of *On The Road*), residents around Musselman's Lake feared their sweet rituals might disappear faster than a tall cone on a hot day. After all, the quaint shack on the corner of Cedarvale Boulevard and Maple Lane was a staple for locals and visitors for nearly two decades. Thankfully, summers have been saved by a not-so-new-kid on the block, serving up smash patty burgers, pastries, fried snacks, smoothie bowls and enough sweet treats to bring the chill back.

The owner of Fishbone Restaurants, Pedro Pereira, has completely reimaged the space, saving only the shabby-chic wood flooring and the iconic "Be kind to one another" handwritten sign from the

beloved former business owners, George and Irene. As the pair retired, Pereira leapt at the opportunity to expand his entrepreneurial efforts across the street, "We've done tremendous things for this neighbourhood. Fishbone has brought so much traffic; we've really made this area an attraction in the Stouffville area. I figured we are already managing this corner of the community, let's do a little bit more for it."

Across the street, he's known for fine dining—but here, he's embraced a totally different, laid-back atmosphere. Conceptualized and renovated within just five weeks, Lolli & Pops is casual and fun, perfect for walk-in customers and those who may not be able to get a table at the iconic Fishbone by the Lake on short notice. The charming patio

and bubblegum pink doorways are also prime territory for capturing those classic summer shots: fresh-cut fries, drippy cones, sugar-fueled giggles and sweet, sticky chaos.

Drawing inspiration from some casual family favourites, Pereira emphasizes that everything is made from scratch—led by his guiding principles of quality, value and exceptional service. From cherished memories to present-day inspiration, his family is at the core of his cooking. He says, "Waking up on Sunday morning and having Mom's traditional cookies perfuming the whole house, or Dad making dinner on the grill, those memories to me are priceless, and they still shape a lot of what I do nowadays."

The family connection is evident right on the menu board; the "Little Peanut Burger" is named after his youngest child, and it was the birth of his first grandchild that helped inspire the name of the eatery itself. "Lolli and Pops are our nicknames as grandparents, so one day my wife said, that should be the name for the place!" 🍔



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PHOTOGRAPHY BY SARAH AMELIA

# Game. Set. Community.

Discovering the Spirit of the Ballantrae Tennis Club

by Bobbi Martellacci

Located in the quiet hamlet of Ballantrae, the Ballantrae Tennis Club (BTC) has been a hub for connection, competition and community for over 45 years. What began with just two courts and a few passionate players has grown into a four-court facility, thanks in part to the support of the Town of Stouffville.

More than just a tennis club, BTC is a social space that welcomes players of all skill levels. “It’s not just about the physical aspect,” says Geri Flotron, Club President and 10-year member. “It’s about community—meeting others, staying active and feeling connected.” The club offers themed play nights, round robins and annual events like Canada Day, Family Day and the Club Championships.

BTC also fields competitive teams in the Intercounty Tennis Association (ICTA), wrapping up with playoffs at York University. Longtime coach Peter Liu leads player development and organizes round-robin tournaments and BTC championships, making participation easy and inclusive.

While the pandemic temporarily paused activities like house leagues, Flotron says the club is “vibrant and



thriving” with growing participation and programming.

BTC’s mission is to remain a welcoming place for both longtime residents and newcomers. “Once people find us, they often say it feels like a second home,” Flotron shares. With ongoing volunteer opportunities and a strong social foundation, BTC continues to thrive.

“We’re so grateful to the Town for building the Ballantrae Field House,” says Flotron. “People come from all over and say, ‘Wow, this is amazing.’ It’s become a hub for so many events.”

Thinking of joining? Drop by, meet the members and see what makes Ballantrae Tennis Club a true community gem. BTC members enjoy priority court access, entry to club tournaments and round-robins, and the chance to join Intercounty league teams. Membership also includes free beginner clinics and a supportive, welcoming tennis environment.



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# STILL ROCKIN’ (Just Up the Road)

by Hayley Langdale

Long & McQuade’s relocation  
brings familiar faces and fresh  
energy to Stouffville’s music scene

After more than a decade in Markham, Long & McQuade has found a new rhythm in Stouffville. With a harmonious blend of nostalgia and fresh beginnings, the beloved music store and lesson centre officially opened its new location at 178 Sam Miller Way on March 31st, tucked behind Winners in the Smart Centre Plaza. While the building may be new, the spirit behind it is anything but.

“When we moved, it was a whirlwind,” Ryley Gallwey, Assistant Manager of the store, recalls. “We closed the Markham store at 6 p.m. on a Saturday, packed everything up that night, spent all of Sunday unpacking here—and by 10 a.m. Monday, we were open in Stouffville. It was wild. We had about 40 people helping, trucks running back and forth all day.” Despite the fast pace, the payoff was immediate. “Seeing people walk in, light up and explore the new space—especially our longtime customers—made it all worth it.”

The move to Stouffville wasn’t just about upgrading to a custom-built space; it was about deepening community roots. “A huge portion of our customers that came into the Markham store were already from Stouffville,” Gallwey says. “They were thrilled we were coming. And some of our team lives up here too—it already felt like home.”

The new store features a fully equipped Music Lesson Centre, a wide selection of instruments and gear and a growing connection to local schools and events. “We’ve already had recitals at 19 on the Park, and we’ve been getting involved with Fusion Fest and Glad Park Elementary’s Fun Fair,” Cameron Perret, Store Manager, explains. “We’ve even put up a community board so local musicians can post about upcoming gigs or bands looking for members.”

PHOTOGRAPHY BY SARAH AMELIA



(Seated from left on couch) Ryley Gallwey (Assistant Manager) and Cameron Perret (Store Manager) are surrounded by some of the store’s many staff members: Quincy, Peter, Matt, James, Stephanie, Andrew and Teshaya.

But what really makes the store sing is the people behind it. The team is made up of passionate, experienced musicians who genuinely love what they do. “It doesn’t feel like work when you’re talking gear with someone who’s just as excited about it as you are,” Gallwey laughs.

The staff takes pride in guiding musicians through every stage—from a child picking out their first trumpet to a teacher needing help with a speaker system. “One of our students became the top guitar post on Reddit when he was nine. Now he pops in weekly with his stepdad. He’s a phenomenal player, and we’ve basically watched him grow up.”

Long & McQuade’s support for local elementary and high school music programs remains a cornerstone of what they do. It goes beyond supplying instruments—they also provide replacement parts and accessories, such as mouthpieces, valve oil and reeds, and handle the wear-and-tear repairs that come with busy classrooms and shared gear. Schools also turn to Long & McQuade for expert advice on renting or purchasing sound and lighting equipment, making them a trusted partner in keeping music education running smoothly. “We’ve built strong relationships with local school music programs, and we truly value them. They’re not just partners—they’re shaping future generations of musicians, and that’s something we’re proud to support,” Perret shares.

Local educators have embraced the move, even with the slightly longer

drive—using regular gear pickups as opportunities to explore all that Stouffville has to offer. One Markville Secondary School music teacher shared, “Last month, we had an emergency rental pickup, and I remembered there were food options in the plaza. I ended up grabbing takeout for myself and a colleague—and now it’s become a bit of a habit. I wouldn’t be coming to Stouffville for lunch if it weren’t for our go-to music store now being up here.”

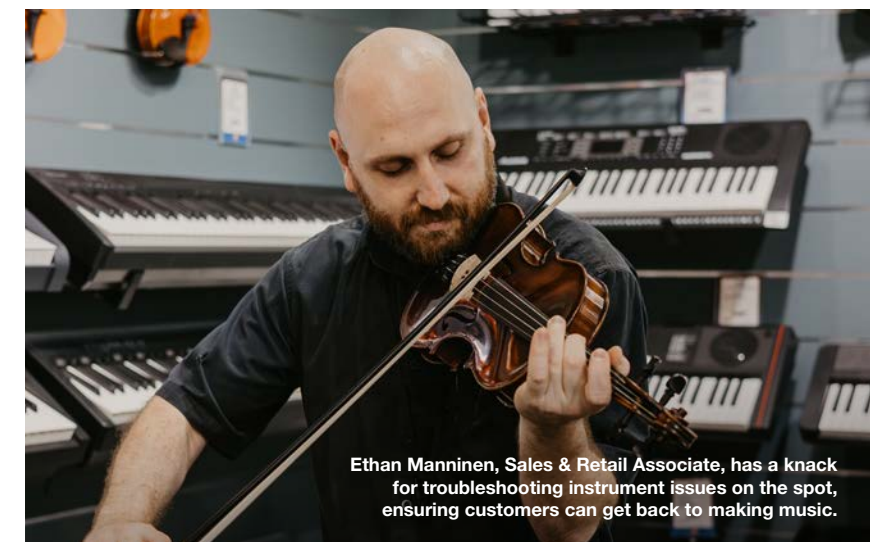
For the team, the most rewarding moments are the quiet, personal ones: seeing a kid try drums for the first time, watching students grow into teachers and working with colleagues who feel more like family. “You know you’re in the right place when you don’t hate going to work

every day,” says Gallwey with a smile. “That’s rare—and we don’t take it for granted.”

Whether you’re a first-time player or a seasoned pro, Long & McQuade’s Stouffville location is not only a music store—it’s a place where community and creativity hit all the right notes. 🎸

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Ethan Manninen, Sales & Retail Associate, has a knack for troubleshooting instrument issues on the spot, ensuring customers can get back to making music.



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## Soccer Star Gets Her Kicks with National Team

*Ailish Hennessy, 16, has represented Canada twice in the past year*



by **Jim Mason**  
jimmason905@gmail.com

The Hennessy family in east-end Stouffville calls them “big moments.”

And thanks to daughter Ailish, there have been plenty of large ones during the past year.

Ailish is a soccer player. Maybe Stouffville’s most accomplished player. Ever.

Just 16 years of age, she’s represented Canada at international events the past two years.

Her biggest moment, so far, came April 6th at Estadio Nacional in Managua, Nicaragua. Canada earned a 3-2 victory against Puerto Rico to win its group of the 2025 Concacaf Women’s U-17 Qualifiers and the accompanying berth to this fall’s FIFA U-17 Women’s World Cup Morocco 2025.

Even more impressively, Ailish was a year younger than most players on the team.

Ailish first represented her country in Costa Rica last August.

An email arrived at 6 a.m. informing her she was on the squad.

“Lots of jumping and screaming,” mom Jen recalls.

There have been other such moments, including an invite to a training camp in Spain.

Dad Mike played soccer at the U SPORTS level, representing Mount Allison University in New Brunswick.

June 15th has been circled on the family calendar for a while.

It’s the first date when NCAA Division I universities in the U.S. can place recruiting phone calls and send emails/messages to athletes in Grade ten in Ontario, like Ailish.

With Ailish’s on-field resume and her 95% average in the classroom at Bill Crothers Secondary School in Unionville, the Hennessys’ texting apps and phone lines were expected to light up.

Understandably, Ailish has big-league goals, including earning a big-time scholarship to the States, playing



Ailish Hennessy of Stouffville exits the Team Canada bus during the 2025 Concacaf Women’s U-17 World Cup qualifying event in Nicaragua during April.

professionally and representing Canada again. Like older brother Shane, who attends Wilfrid Laurier University, Ailish played hockey in Stouffville.

She also took part in “all the sports” offered at St. Brendan Catholic Elementary School but always came back to soccer. “I like the creativity of it,” explained the forward, “how you just get to go and have fun. I get to do something I find so enjoyable and am passionate about.” Ailish got her first taste of the beautiful game at age four, thanks to a moms and tots program in Stouffville.

She played three years of co-ed house league in the Stouffville Soccer Club before moving to the rep program at the Markham Soccer Club.

For the past two years, Ailish has

trained at the National Development Centre Ontario in Markham, one of three such government-funded centres established “to develop Canadian ... players as part of the Canadian women’s soccer pathway.”

Following her morning classes at Crothers, Ailish has daily practices at the centre where they also “lift two to three times per week.”

She has games played on Sundays, which are supplemented by individual skills practice on the artificial turf in the Hennessys’ backyard.

Although she was on the team that qualified for the World Cup, there are no guarantees she will be on the team that travels to Morocco this fall.

The Hennessy family will await that call, too. ☺

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# It's a Wonderful Life

by Jim Thomas  
thomas-jim@rogers.com

It's been 66 years since I slipped a wedding ring on Jean's left hand and walked down the aisle at Greenwood United Church.

Long before, even four years before, we courted, extending our double-check relationship to seven decades. We wanted to be sure our commensurate affection would last, it has.

Yes, like all wed or unwed couples, we've had our ups and downs, but nothing negative ever remained permanent. I'd like to tell you something about our journey.

For me, it was love at first sight. I was a greenhorn reporter at the Stouffville Tribune and Jean was a soft-eyed bookkeeper at Chas. Cooper Ltd. We met on a Monday morning, and I was swept away. For her, not so much. She looked up from her typewriter but didn't speak.

So, what followed?

The next day, I bravely put in a call and sought her accompaniment to a Lions' Ladies Night at Musselman's Lake. She was cool, saying only she'd think about it. Undaunted, I repeated my request two days later and she agreed. Both me and my Underwood simultaneously crashed.

Aboard my newly purchased Ford, I set out to pick her up but, in all the excitement, failed to learn her parents' farm location. Knowing it was somewhere atop Greenwood Hill, I called in at the Pickering Twp. Municipal office in Brougham and enquired.

"Straight up," the reeve replied with a smile. He was right. Me and my Ford easily made the climb while most older Model Ts didn't. They had to back up.

At the Lake, Jean and I played a brief round of golf, me holding a guiding hand and she holding the club. The following weekend, we enjoyed a moonlight cruise across Lake Ontario. I patiently survived but she was lake sick.

Wishing not to apply further pressure, I waited two weeks before asking her to accompany me to an outdoor variety show at Cedarena, Cedar Grove. Jean

stayed in the car; I sat on the grass.

As the weather warmed, so did our friendship, including a dance to the music of Guy Lombardo and his Orchestra; Burlington; front row seats at the Elvis concert, Maple Leaf Gardens and a dance journey to Baltimore, Maryland, to swing and sway with Sammy Kay.

Four years passed before I asked the overdue question, "will you?" In the dark of the farmhouse kitchen, Jean shyly nodded "yes." I departed the driveway, spraying gravel.

On our wedding day, I was delayed by heavy traffic, arriving at the church 10 minutes late. The bride obviously thought I'd backed out.

Our honeymoon took us to New York City, where a high-ranking police officer severely reprimanded me for driving the wrong way on a right-way street. Since he knew we were from Canada, I escaped a ticket. On Broadway, I asked directions to the Rockefeller Centre. The respondent replied, "Look up, you must be Canadian." Further proof was the fact, we had skates strung over our shoulders. "Maybe there's ice in Canada, but not here," he stated, "not in June." Jean's blades still hang in our basement, my tubes are on display in the Vondorf museum.

In Atlantic City, we went swimming. Jean had no fear of sharks. The sharks were afraid of me.

When passing through Lake Placid, I saw a sign that read: "Two-night motel, \$40." We turned the car seats into beds and slept for nothing.

When we arrived back in Stouffville, our bungalow was ready and waiting. I'd previously purchased the furniture, a table, two chairs and a bed.

We've continued to sleep together except when Jean suffers headaches.

The birth of a sixth child forced an addition, a garage and two bedrooms. The cost was \$6,000. Our bank manager kept calling.

The backyard grass was three feet high. It took me four weeks to cut it, using a 12-inch push mower.

It was while mowing the grass that Jean called out, "We've got to go, we've got to go," in reference to our first child. I responded, travelling at break-neck speed



to York County Hospital Newmarket, arriving with only a few minutes to spare. But there was no rush, our family physician was waiting.

By fall, we had established a Garden of Eden. Jean loved her roses. I was somewhat attracted to a neighbour named 'Eden.'

After only a week, Jean was asked to play the organ at St. James Presbyterian Church. No one asked me to sing in the choir.

On our home arrival, we were the block's youngest. Now we're the town's oldest.

Our pet assembly has included three dogs and one cat. Now we have two raccoons, two rabbits and two skunks.

An indoor lamb is my spring pet choice. Jean has approved, pending I change its diapers.

We don't have a cottage. The closest to sand is a winterized driveway plus water in a bird bath.

I love birds. I feed them year-round. My favourites are blue jays, cardinals and goldfinches. Not welcomed are crows, starlings and sparrows.

A tent for me is a must, with interior bunks for aforementioned raccoons, rabbits and skunks.

No worries about thunder, rain and such. An overhead maple will protect my hutch.

What more can I say about a memorable life, one happy husband, one wonderful wife. 🌻

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## Starting Small, Growing Strong



by Susan Tucker  
OTRtipoff@outlook.com

I have often said that social media can be both a powerful tool for good and, at times, a challenging space. Today, I'm focusing on the positive side—the way it connects people, spreads encouragement and brings communities together to support one another. Every day, I see inspiring examples of neighbours recommending trusted trades, services and local businesses when someone reaches out for help. One area I'm especially passionate about is our entrepreneurial community. I had the pleasure of meeting with a local business owner whose name comes up often—and for good reason.

Simon's Property Services is owned and operated by 18-year-old Simon Feld, a business he started when he was 14. Where did this entrepreneurial spirit come from? Like many start-ups, it was born out of necessity. Simon is a hard-working, 'get the job done right' young man with a desire to succeed, but he was turned away at age 14 from several jobs simply due to his age. Not willing to take no for an answer, he started on his own, putting signs up around his neighbourhood offering lawn-cutting services. Fortunately, a few neighbours allowed him to prove himself—and he did, repeatedly. Word got out about his good work ethic and the excellent service he provided, and his business began to grow. But then a challenge presented itself—he was too young to drive to service properties further from home. Thankfully, Simon's family is very supportive of his will to succeed, and dad Ian stepped up to drive Simon and his lawn mower to jobs further from home.

The business grew and expanded over the next couple of years. The services also grew to include more landscaping work and continued into the winter as he began offering snow plowing services. Simon was onto something!

He started at 14 with a push lawn mower, hoping to spend some time outdoors and earn some money through



Simon Feld, 18 of Musselman's Lake, started Simon's Property Services four years ago. Today, he offers grass cutting, sod laying, mulching, and a host of other landscaping services.

hard work. His reputation and business grew to the point he needed to hire some friends to help and enlist the help of his siblings. He now has a truck and various pieces of machinery (like a riding lawn mower) and equipment to get the jobs done right.

Simon has lived in Stouffville his entire life and has seen the needs of the community change and the necessity to offer services to busy working families. He now provides many services, including grass cutting, aerating, cleaning and mulching garden beds, sod laying, spring/fall cleanups, power washing, and, as mentioned, snow plowing in the winter. His business is all set up, official and insured; he can help ease your workload with all these services.

The business world has shown Simon such positivity that he's heading off to study Business at Seneca in September. But don't worry—he'll still be around to provide his skills and talent for your yard requirements.

You may see his ads on social media, like Facebook and Instagram. Give him a call, let him give you a quote, and get your yard in top-notch condition. Simon is grateful to the community for all the support over the past few years, for taking a chance with him, giving him the opportunity to prove himself and helping him flourish his business. I'm confident we'll see Simon around for a long time and watch his company grow into an empire! 🍷

### Contact Simon

✉ simoncf05@gmail.com  
☎ 647-990-3353  
📍 simoncf05.wixsite.com/propertieservices

# Celebrating 60 Years of Compassionate Care

by Michaela Ray

This year marks a remarkable milestone for Parkview Services for Seniors—60 years of dedicated care, compassion and community. As Parkview celebrates, Chief Executive Officer Hamlet Nation reflects on the organization's rich history, the vital role it plays today and its enduring commitment to fostering meaningful connections across generations.



From left: Parkview residents Gennie Cuthbertson, Clara Jones, JoAnne Carlisle and Barbara Palmer enjoy socializing in the dining room.

## Honouring Their Roots

Parkview's origins date back to the early 1960s, when members of the local Mennonite, Brethren in Christ and Missionary churches shared a bold and compassionate vision: to establish a residential home that would provide professional, faith-based care for aging community members. The idea began to take shape after a 1962 proposal to purchase an existing nursing home fell through. Rather than let the momentum fade, a small but determined committee—Newton L. Gingrich, Cecil L. Reesor and Joseph M. Nighswander—was formed to explore alternative options.

What followed was a period of intense grassroots organization, inspired leadership and deep community engagement. A pivotal moment came in December 1962, when the committee travelled to Queen's Park to meet with Mr. Noble (Jack) Drew, then Director of the Homes for the Aged Branch

of the Ontario Department of Public Welfare. Although initially skeptical of the involvement of three separate church groups—famously remarking “three church groups? It will never work”—Mr. Drew ultimately provided valuable guidance and support that helped catalyze the planning process.

From there, interest grew rapidly.

A community-wide meeting was held at Almira Mennonite Church in February 1963, where Mr. Drew presented funding models and government requirements for a proposed care home. Shortly after, in March 1963, the first official Board of Directors

was elected, and The Mennonite Home Association of York County was formally established.

Planning committees were struck to oversee land acquisition, building design, equipment needs and financial strategy. The team decided on a one-storey building with three wings designed to accommodate residents requiring varying levels of care. The group worked tirelessly, holding more than 60 meetings between late 1962 and the opening of the home in 1965.

That vision became reality on June 5th and 6th, 1965, when Parkview Home officially opened its doors as a 63-bed long-term care facility on Rupert Ave. in Stouffville. Rooted in compassion and guided by faith, Parkview Home stood as a testament to what a community could accomplish together.

Over the following decades, Parkview continued to evolve in response to the changing needs of seniors and the broader healthcare landscape. In 1971, an additional 49 beds were added to the original home. In 1984 and 1989,



Parkview residents maintain an active lifestyle with exercise classes.

***“Residents are not just passive recipients here. They are leaders, creators and friends. Their involvement keeps the community alive and vibrant.”*** - Hamlet Nation, CEO of Parkview Village

Parkview expanded its scope beyond long-term care with the development of Parkview Village—a new independent living community comprising a 124-unit apartment building and a series of life-lease bungalow-style cluster homes, all located at 12184 Ninth Line, south of Main St.

In the early 2000s, following updates to provincial long-term care regulations, Parkview undertook its most ambitious project yet: the construction of a new, purpose-built facility. In 2006, residents moved from the original Rupert Ave. home to a modern 128-bed long-term care centre on Weldon Rd., where Parkview Home continues to operate today.

## A Campus of Care and Connection

Parkview's campus is more than just a collection of buildings—it's a thriving hub where seniors live, socialize and receive care tailored to their individual needs. The campus includes multiple residential options, including long-term care beds, supportive housing and independent

living accommodations within Parkview Village.

This “campus of care” model aims to support residents in aging in place by offering a range of services from on-site hair stylists and fitness rooms to spiritual programs, exercise classes, crafts and games that can adapt as their needs change—to enable seamless transitions between levels of support, where possible, within the community they know and trust.

Central to this environment are the dedicated staff who bring warmth, professionalism, and compassion to their work every day. From nurses and personal support workers to housekeeping and activity coordinators, the Parkview team is committed to fostering a respectful and nurturing atmosphere.

“Our staff are the heart of Parkview,” Nation explains. “They build relationships with residents and families, celebrate milestones and provide comfort during challenging times. Their dedication truly defines who we are.”

## Resident-Led Living

Parkview isn't just a place where seniors receive care—it's a place where residents stay active, connected and full of life.

One of the unique features of life at Parkview is the strong sense of agency residents maintain. Many are involved in organizing clubs, social groups and activities that build connection and enjoyment.

For example, residents have formed their own clubs centred on hobbies like gardening, crafts and book discussions. These groups meet regularly, giving members opportunities to socialize, learn and share.

Another special tradition is the use of a simple yet meaningful “ribbon on the door” system. Residents who use this ribbon to signal to neighbours that they are doing well have created a discreet but powerful way to stay connected and look out for one another. It's a testament to the tight-knit community spirit that pervades Parkview.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY KATRINA ROBERT

PHOTOGRAPH PROVIDED BY PARKVIEW VILLAGE



Adding a personal and creative touch to the daily life of the community is the resident-led display board in the lobby. This board is constantly updated to reflect the current season, holidays or local events—from Mother’s Day celebrations to cheering on the Toronto Maple Leafs during playoff season. It’s a source of pride for the residents who craft the displays and a warm welcome for visitors and staff alike.

“Residents are not just passive recipients here,” Hamlet says. “They are leaders, creators and friends. Their involvement keeps the community alive and vibrant.”

### Connecting Generations

For Nation, the true strength of Parkview lies not only in its facilities or services but also in its ability to connect generations and foster a sense of belonging.

“Parkview is more than just a place where seniors live or receive care—it’s a community,” Hamlet explains. “Our work is rooted in relationships, in creating spaces where residents feel valued and where families and neighbours come together to share stories, traditions and support.”

Intergenerational programming is a key part of this vision. Parkview actively encourages involvement from local schools, youth groups and volunteers, creating opportunities for seniors to engage with younger generations through music, the arts, education and shared celebrations.

“These connections remind us that aging is not an end but a continuation of life’s journey, rich with wisdom and experience that can inspire and teach,” Hamlet adds.

### Parkview’s Role in the Community

Beyond the walls of its campus, Parkview has long played an integral role in the broader local landscape. Through partnerships with healthcare providers and organizations such as AdvantAge Ontario and the Alzheimer’s Society, Parkview helps address the complex and changing needs of seniors in the region.

“We understand that care doesn’t happen in isolation,” Hamlet says. “It requires cooperation,

collaboration and a shared commitment to the well-being of older adults.”

Community engagement also extends to education and advocacy, as Parkview works to raise awareness about senior care issues and promote healthy aging practices. That includes hosting open houses, facilitating dialogues with families and supporting staff in ongoing professional development.

As Hamlet reflects, “Our success over the last 60 years is a testament to the strength of these community ties. Together, we’ve built something that not only supports seniors but enriches everyone involved.”

### Embracing Innovation, Honouring Tradition

While proud of its history, Parkview continues to look ahead, adapting to new challenges and opportunities in senior care.

“We’re committed to innovation,” Hamlet notes. “Whether it’s integrating new technologies that improve quality of life or developing programs that address social isolation, we want to ensure Parkview remains a leader in compassionate care.”

At the same time, the organization maintains a deep respect for the values that have guided it since its founding.

“Our roots and commitment to treating each individual with dignity remain central,” Hamlet emphasizes. “This foundation grounds us even as we evolve.”

Future plans include expanding supportive housing options, enhancing wellness programming and continuing to cultivate intergenerational and local partnerships.

### A Celebration of Legacy

As Parkview marks 60 years, the celebration is not just about looking back but also about honouring the people who make the community what it is today—from dedicated staff and volunteers to residents and their families.

Hamlet reflects, “Each person who walks through our doors brings something unique and valuable. Our community is stronger because of the diverse stories and experiences shared here.”

This anniversary is a milestone that reaffirms Parkview’s ongoing mission: to provide compassionate care and foster connections that span generations.

“After six decades, our commitment remains the same,” Hamlet concludes. “We’re here to serve, to care and to connect—today, tomorrow and for many years to come.” 🍷

## How the Stouffville 55+ Club Supports Parkview’s Senior Community

Nora Jones, Recreation Programmer at the Stouffville 55+ Club, sees a strong and natural connection between Parkview Village and the wider senior community. Residents living independently at Parkview Village are automatically eligible to receive a complimentary membership to the 55+ Club, creating frequent crossover between the two spaces. “Whether it’s an exercise or dance class, a cooking program or just dropping in for a free activity, we see a lot of Parkview residents staying active and engaged with our programming,” Jones shares.

That connection, she explains, is critical. “It’s wonderful when seniors have a lot of resources under one roof, but without that gentle push to engage outside their home, we often see declines in health and mental wellness. The 55+ Club gives people a chance to be part of the wider Stouffville community.”

Jones emphasizes that Parkview is one of several retirement residences in town that benefits from the added layer of connection the 55+ Club offers. The Club regularly collaborates with Parkview’s staff, shares programming opportunities and participates in initiatives like health fairs and intergenerational music programs. “We’re like a home away from home for many residents—offering something beyond their walls that enhances their day-to-day lives.”

On a personal note, Jones also speaks highly of Parkview’s legacy of compassion. “I’ve had family members in both the long-term care and the independent living sides. They were treated with so much love and care. Parkview was founded on Mennonite principles, and you still feel that deep sense of purpose and kindness in everything they do.”

For Jones, the relationship between Parkview and the 55+ Club goes beyond just a program overlap—it’s an extension of a shared mission: keeping seniors connected, supported and thriving.

*From Top:* Mrs. Elda Brown RN Director of Nursing from 1965 to 1974 with resident.

Parkview Village patios offer shaded seating and scenic paths for residents to enjoy the outdoors.

Parkview Village Apartments and Cluster Homes at 12184 Ninth Line, south of Main St., 1990.

Parkview Village’s lower-level library offers a cozy spot to read or relax by the fireplace, with books and puzzles available to borrow.

PHOTOGRAPHS PROVIDED BY PARKVIEW VILLAGE



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**26  
JUN**

**TTG END OF SCHOOL  
ICE CREAM TRUCK**

**TIME:**  
THURSDAY AT 3- 5 PM

**LOCATION:**  
WHEELERS MILL PARK



**28  
JUN**

**THE STOUFFVILLE  
MARKET**

**TIME:**  
SATURDAY AT 9 AM - 2 PM

**LOCATION:**  
6240 MAIN STREET



**26  
JUN**

**PATIO SERIES:  
COUNTRY NIGHT**

**TIME:**  
THURSDAY AT 7:30 PM

**LOCATION:**  
CIVIC SQUARE, 19 ON THE PARK



**17  
JUL**

**PATIO SERIES:  
80'S NIGHT**

**TIME:**  
THURSDAY AT 7:30 PM

**LOCATION:**  
CIVIC SQUARE, 19 ON THE PARK



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## BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

# Corner Spa & Wellness Brings Heartfelt Care to Downtown Stouffville

by Michaela Ray

When Janice Patera opened Corner Spa & Wellness in the heart of downtown Stouffville, she wasn't just launching a business, she was building something deeply personal. The idea was born from her own experience after a cancer diagnosis in 2016. Struggling to find natural, non-medical therapies to support her healing, she realized a gap in the wellness landscape. She set out to fill it.

"I wanted to create a space where people could access different modalities in one place," says Janice. "Somewhere welcoming, peaceful and rooted in care."

Since opening on the corner of Church St. and Main St., the spa has earned a loyal following thanks to its calming atmosphere, skilled practitioners and holistic approach. Services range from myofascial release, lymphatic drainage, osteopathy, thermography scans and craniosacral therapy, to full aesthetics services including facials, waxing and med spa services, all offered by specialists trained under leading programs, including those of John Barnes, Upledger and Vodder.

***"This isn't about competition; it's about building each other up."***

- Janice Patera

What sets Corner Spa apart is the level of care in every detail. The space is bright, open and free of chemicals—and with on-site parking available, it's convenient for Main Street visitors. The team takes time with each client, offering guidance, education and support beyond the treatment room. Even young visitors are encouraged to start their wellness journey early. "It's about teaching people they don't need chemicals on their bodies or in their homes," Janice explains.

A long-time Stouffville resident, Janice is also deeply involved in the downtown business community. "I love



collaborating with other local shops," she says. "This isn't about competition; it's about building each other up." Janice also leases a nearby space on Commercial St. to The Nock Academy, a local yoga and fitness studio that complements her vision of holistic wellness in the downtown core.

Janice's commitment to community wellness goes beyond the spa walls. Twice a week, she and Blenda, her holistic nutritionist, host free morning walking groups for anyone looking to move their body, meet others and soak up the fresh air. "It's not about speed or distance—it's about connection," she says. "Sometimes we head to the reservoir, sometimes we stay closer to Main St., but we always start together." The goal is to create a space where people, especially women, can show up as they are and feel supported.

Beyond its services, Corner Spa also hosts monthly cancer support groups and plans to expand into even more community-based programming. "We're always thinking about what else we can offer to help people connect, especially women looking to find a network or simply feel less alone."

Whether you're booking your first facial or navigating a health journey, the goal is the same: to create a space where people feel safe, supported and empowered. "This is more than a spa," Janice says. "It's a place to heal, learn and feel like you're part of something." 🌿



***As a special welcome, new clients can receive 25% off their first visit – just mention that you read about Corner Spa in On The Road.***

📍 6361 Main St.  
🖱️ [cornerspaandwellness.ca](http://cornerspaandwellness.ca)  
📷 @cornerspaandwellness  
📘 Corner Spa And Wellness

PHOTOGRAPH BY CASEY CUNNINGHAM

# Get involved to support MSH



Markham Stouffville  
Hospital Foundation  
Celebrating 35 Years of MSH

There are plenty of ways for you to support our hospital and be part of our community.  
Take a look at the listings below for upcoming events that make a difference.



40th Annual  
MSHF Golf Tournament  
August 11



Bachra Family  
Golf Tournament  
August 22



Markham Stouffville  
Cruisers MotoFest  
September 13



Run for Markham  
2025  
September 28

For more information about these events and Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation,  
please visit [mshf.on.ca](https://mshf.on.ca) or follow [@supportMSH](#) on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn!



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# 2025 Summer Events

Get ready for a season of music,  
food and family fun as the **2025  
Stouffville Celebrates Summer  
Series**, presented by Hyson  
Properties, returns with a full lineup  
of free events all summer long.

Summer in Stouffville is back in full swing with the Stouffville  
Celebrates Summer Series, presented by Hyson Properties. This  
year's lineup is packed with free events, live music and family-  
friendly activities running from May through August.

The season kicked off with Victoria Day Fireworks on May  
16th, and the excitement continues with the beloved Strawberry  
Festival, happening June 27th to 29th, followed by Canada Day  
celebrations on July 1st—complete with fireworks, food, and live  
entertainment in Memorial Park.

Summer's highlight, Stouffville Ribfest, returns August 8th to  
10th in Memorial Park. Headliners Fefe Dobson (August 9th)  
and Nate Haller (August 8th) take the stage, alongside local  
talent, amusement rides, food vendors and a lively marketplace.

With even more to enjoy—including Movies in the Park (July  
25th and August 15th), Symphony Under the Stars (July 18th),  
and Patio Series concerts—there's something for everyone. Visit  
[townofws.ca/events](https://townofws.ca/events) for the full schedule.



Events marked with the Stouffville logo are  
Town-led events.



Events marked with a star are  
*Stouffville Celebrates* events,  
presented by Hyson Properties.

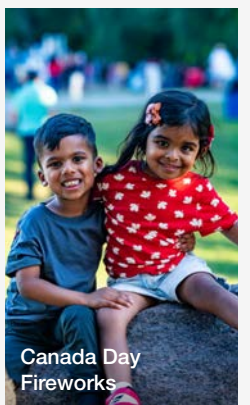
**Hyson**  
Properties



Stouffville Ribfest



Symphony Under  
the Stars



Canada Day  
Fireworks

MAY 10 - OCT 18

## Stouffville Market

Saturdays from 9am - 2pm

6240 Main St.

The Stouffville Market officially opened on May 10th  
with a record-breaking 82 vendors filling 6240 Main St.,  
offering everything from fresh produce and gourmet  
treats to handcrafted gifts, home décor, skincare and  
pet-friendly goodies. The air was filled with the sounds  
of 88.5 FM Hot Country, sunshine and celebration—  
including a red carpet for moms, freebies for hundreds  
of attendees, and all-around good vibes.

The market runs every Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00  
p.m. until October 18th, giving you 23 more Saturdays  
to discover local favourites and new finds. With vendors  
rotating weekly, there's always something different to  
explore. So grab a coffee, stroll the tents and enjoy the  
best of Stouffville's local talent and community spirit.  
See you at the Market!



JUNE 21

International Day of Yoga

9am - 1pm  The Nock Academy (10 Commercial St.)

Guests are invited to enjoy free yoga classes, tour the studio, and meet the team. In partnership with Steer Friends, donations will be accepted onsite to support individuals with disabilities.

JUNE 26

Country on the Patio:  
Featuring *The Band Caves*



Concert starts at 7:30pm  19 on the Park

Dust off your boots and saddle up for a warm night on the patio with music that was made for your summer road trip soundtrack!

JUNE 27-29

Strawberry Festival

 Memorial Park

Head over to Memorial Park during the Canada Day weekend for a FREE family event. Enjoy a festival market, live entertainment, a food zone, a pancake breakfast and more.

JUNE 28

Canada Day Round Robin

9am - 1pm  Ballantrae Tennis Club (5596 Aurora Rd.)

Dress in your best red and white and join us for a fun-filled morning of friendly round robin matches. Show your Canadian pride, meet members, and enjoy social tennis in a festive atmosphere. Refreshments will be provided. Rain date: June 29th.

JUNE 28

Sunset Serenade: Ethnosonic Live

7pm - 11pm  Harmony Hall (14663 Woodbine Ave.)

Experience a soulful summer evening of global fusion sounds with Ethnosonic at the scenic Harmony Hall.

JULY 1

Stouffville’s Canada Day Fireworks  

Festivities start at 5pm • Fireworks at 9:30pm

 Memorial Park

Come for an unforgettable evening of festivities, ending with a spectacular fireworks show that will light up the sky, showcasing the pride and spirit of our great country.

JULY 12

Fusion Fest:  
Taste of the Mediterranean

12pm - 11pm  Memorial Park

Presented by Rita Chemilian Team and Osmow’s Shawarma, this vibrant festival celebrates Mediterranean culture through delicious food, music, dance and family-friendly fun.

Enjoy authentic dishes like shawarma, souvlaki, spanakopita, baklava and gelato, plus artisan vendors and kids’ activities. Headliners include JOEE, Emjay and DJ DBG, with Tony Monaco of Z103.5 hosting. This year’s event supports the Jennifer Ashleigh Children’s Charity. Don’t miss York Region’s biggest Euro dance party—admission is free!

JULY 17

‘80s on the Patio  
Featuring *UK Calling*



Concert starts at 7:30pm  19 on the Park

UK Calling brings a dynamic show that features New Wave, 2 Tone Ska, and Post-Punk hits from the late 70s and early 80s guaranteed to rock the Patio!

JULY 17

Ron Sexsmith

7pm - 11pm  Harmony Hall (14663 Woodbine Ave.)

Enjoy an intimate night of heartfelt lyrics and melodic charm with acclaimed Canadian singer-songwriter Ron Sexsmith.

JULY 18

Symphony Under the Stars



8pm - 10pm  Memorial Park

Experience an evening of classical and contemporary music with a live orchestral performance in Memorial Park.

JULY 24

Throwback Thursday Tributes –  
Motel California

7pm - 11pm  Harmony Hall (14663 Woodbine Ave.)

Take it easy and relive the classics with Motel California’s powerful tribute to The Eagles.

JULY 25

Movies in the Park: *Moana 2*



Movie begins at sundown  Memorial Park

Grab your lawn chairs and blankets and head to Memorial Park for family movie nights under the night sky! Food vendor(s) will be on-site offering delicious treats. Admission is free, no registration required. Movies start at sundown, weather permitting.

JULY 26

Senior BBQ Bonanza

Doors open 4pm, Dinner served at 5:30pm

 Legion Branch 459 (150 Mostar St.)

Join the Legion for a delicious BBQ dinner. Kick off the evening with live music at 4:15 p.m. from Nighthawk, a super oldies band guaranteed to get you dancing! \$20.00 per person. Reserve your tickets today by emailing: rochellestouffvillelegion@rogers.com



AUG 8-10

Ribfest



Friday 4pm - 10pm, Saturday 12pm - 10 pm,  
Sunday 12pm - 7pm

 Memorial Park

Celebrate the best summer has to offer with a FREE three-day festival featuring award winning ribs, local breweries, a variety of food trucks, a kids zone, marketplace and live entertainment all weekend long!

AUG 9

Family Day

9am - 12pm  Ballantrae Tennis Club (5596 Aurora Rd.)

Bring the whole family for a morning of lighthearted tennis and laughter! Family Day is all about fun and inclusivity—no matter your age or skill level. Come out and make memories on the court with family, friends and fellow members. Refreshments will be provided. Rain date: August 10th.

AUG 9

Stephen Stanley & The Ontarians,  
with Piner

7pm - 11pm  Harmony Hall (14663 Woodbine Ave.)

Catch a memorable night of roots-rock and Canadian indie sounds from Stephen Stanley & The Ontarians, with special guest Piner.

AUG 10

52nd Annual Antique &  
Classic Car Show



11am - 4pm  Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum

Visit the Museum for the Town’s longest-running family event. With over 400 vintage vehicles, activities for all ages, and the chance to explore historic buildings and exhibit spaces, it’s an event not to be missed.

AUG 14

The Best of British on the Patio  
Featuring *The British Invasion*



Concert starts at 7:30pm  19 on the Park

The sound, look and energy of the 60s takes over the 19 on the Park stage. Take a trip back in time—from The Beatles to The Rolling Stones, The Zombies to The Yardbirds and so many more!

AUG 15

Movies in the Park: *Wicked*



Movie begins at sundown  Memorial Park

Grab your lawn chairs and blankets and head to Memorial Park for family movie nights under the night sky! Food vendor(s) will be on-site offering delicious treats. Admission is free, no registration required. Movies start at sundown, weather permitting.



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For Kids Ages 5-7

Code Ninjas JR teaches young learners coding and problem-solving skills through a fun, visual curriculum. Our program uses graphical block-based coding, perfect for pre/beginning readers, and incorporates screen-free activities like robotics and circuits. Kids can create games, tell stories, and solve problems while building collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking skills.



**FUN CAMPS DURING SCHOOL BREAKS**  
For Kids Ages 5-14

Code Ninjas CAMPS turn your child's tech interests into a fun learning adventure. Choose from a variety of exciting camps, such as Minecraft, Roblox, game building, modding, robotics, physical computing, 3D design and print, and video production. Join the Code Ninjas community during school breaks and gain valuable tech skills. Make learning fun and unforgettable!

**CLUBS**

Code Ninjas Clubs combine the best of camps and CREATE, with collaborative coding on fun platforms like Roblox and LEGO, plus several weeks of focused instruction to build great things. Kids will love learning to code and creating projects all school year long.

**WORKSHOPS**

We offer custom-tailored 1-hour Coding & STEM workshops for groups like Girl Guides, Boy Scouts, and community organizations. Scheduled and customized on request!

**BIRTHDAY PARTIES**

Celebrate your child's birthday ninja-styly! Play video games with friends, build and play with robotics, and enjoy fun STEM games and activities. We'll handle the details so you can focus on having a great time.





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strawberry festival

JUNE  
27-29

Friday

JUNE 27

Events & Performances

Festival Opening Ceremonies	5:30 PM - 7:00 PM	Main Stage
After the Goldrush - Neil Young Tribute	7:30 PM - 8:30 PM	Main Stage

Festival Opening Ceremonies

Join us for vibrant opening ceremonies featuring a First Nations dedication, the NFSL Lion Dance Group, special community awards, and the Gladys Clarkson Baking Contest winners!

Saturday

JUNE 28

Events

Strawberry Festival Pancake Breakfast	8:00 AM (While supplies last)	Latcham Hall
Stouffville Library Spelling Bee	9:00 AM - 10:30 AM	Main Stage
Totally Toddlers	9:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Picnic Shelter
The Strawberry Festival 3 on 3 Youth Basketball Tournament	10:00 AM - 3:00 PM	Leisure Centre Outdoor Basketball Courts
Strawberry Jam Jr - Group 1	12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	Main Stage
Strawberry Jam Jr. - Group 2	4:30 PM - 5:00 PM	Main Stage
Exhibition Baseball Games	5:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Memorial Park Baseball Diamond

Activities

Bird House Building	9:00 AM - 3:00 PM	Memorial Park near the picnic pavillion
Strawberry Express Trolley Tour	10:00 AM - 6:00 PM	Park Drive Pickup
Arts and Crafts	10:30 AM - 11:00 AM 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM	Picnic Shelter
Picnic in the Park	10:30 AM - 3:30 PM	Ball Diamond
Sandy Stronach Red Berry Cafe	11:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Latcham Hall

Performances

Doo Doo the Clown	10:30 AM - 11:00 AM	Main Stage
York Durham Finger Style Guitar Association	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Latcham Hall
Brian Wride	8:00 AM - 8:50 AM	Latcham Hall
Des McCann	9:00 AM - 9:50 AM	Latcham Hall
The Django Junkies	11:00 AM - 11:50 AM	Latcham Hall
Harriet Chung Performing Arts	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Main Stage
Isabella Hoops	11:30 AM - 12:30 PM 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM	Picnic Shelter Main Stage
Raimee Stevens	12:00 PM - 12:50 PM	Latcham Hall
Wayne Madder	1:00 PM - 1:50 PM	Latcham Hall
The Stouffville Academy of Music and Dance	1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Main Stage
Mike Cole and Anne DeLong	2:00 PM - 2:50 PM	Latcham Hall
The Magic of Aaron Matthews	2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Main Stage
Noah Leibel and The Kuah Jazz Band	3:00 PM - 3:50 PM	Latcham Hall
Vyami School of Fine Arts	3:30 PM - 4:30 PM	Main Stage
Thirsty Horse	4:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Latcham Hall
Alexa Goldie	6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Main Stage
The Ben Hudson Band	7:30 PM - 9:00 PM	Main Stage

Sunday

JUNE 29

Events

Community Church Service	9:00 AM - 11:00 AM	Main Stage
Strawberry Social	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	West of Main Stage
Dog Contest	2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Franklin Field
WSSA Girls (U21) Exhibition Softball game	5:30 PM - 7:00 PM	Memorial Park Baseball Diamond
WSSA Junior Girls (U15) Exhibition Softball game	7:30 PM - 9:00 PM	Memorial Park Baseball Diamond

Activities

Strawberry Express Trolley Bus Tour	10:00 AM - 6:00 PM	Park Drive pickup
Picnic in the Park	10:30 AM - 3:30 PM	Ball Diamond
Kids Activities/Crafts	11:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Picnic Shelter
Sandy Stronach Red Berry Cafe	11:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Latcham Hall



Performances

Men of Note Male Voice Choir	11:00 AM - 11:30 AM	Main Stage
Isabella Hoops	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Picnic Shelter
Kendall Lily	11:45 AM - 12:45 PM	Main Stage
Russ Clayton & the Flailing Shelaleighs	1:00 PM - 2:15 PM	Main Stage
Ken Nilsen	12:00 PM - 12:50 PM	Latcham Hall
The York Durham Finger Style Guitarist Association	12:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Latcham Hall
Doo Doo the Clown	12:30 PM - 1:30 PM	Picnic Shelter
Lost Socks (Jim Miller, Ian Harvey & Tom Pullin)	1:00 PM - 1:50 PM	Latcham Hall
Doug MacKenzie	2:00 PM - 2:50 PM	Latcham Hall
The Magic of Aaron Matthews	2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Picnic Shelter
WhatAboutBob	2:45 PM - 4:15 PM	Main Stage
Michael Howitt	3:00 PM - 3:50 PM	Latcham Hall
Richard Elliott	4:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Latcham Hall
The Markham School of Rock	4:30 PM - 5:30 PM	Main Stage
The Twangsters	5:45 PM - 7:00 PM	Main Stage
New Rodeo	7:30 PM - 9:00 PM	Main Stage



Event Hours

Information Booth	Carnival Rides	Food & Beverage	Festival Pub	Marketplace
Sat: 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM Sun: 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM	Fri: 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM Sat: 10:00 AM - 9:00 PM Sun: 10:00 AM - 9:00 PM	Fri: 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM Sat: 10:00 AM - 9:00 PM Sun: 10:00 AM - 9:00 PM	Fri: 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM Sat: 12:00 PM - 9:00 PM Sun: 12:00 PM - 9:00 PM	Fri: 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM Sat: 10:00 AM - 9:00 PM Sun: 10:00 AM - 9:00 PM

Thank You!

This event is possible because of our incredible partners and volunteers!

2025 Committee Members			2025 Board of Directors	
Alicia Mathura	Kevin Shpak	Sandra Liaros	NELA HUNTER-BURNS, President	
Bryan Stott	Micole Rubinoff	Serhii Fursa	MIKE BURNS, Director / Past President	
Destiny Brown	Mike Bridgeman	Sue Sherban (Honourary)	CARLA ROTONDO, Treasurer	
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Harry French	Myles O'Brien	Yullia Fursa	SANDY BAKER, Director / Secretary	
Jim Thomas (Honourary)	Patty Tamlin			

**2025 Festival Contributors**

The Stouffville Baseball Association | The Whitchurch-Stouffville Softball Association | Stouffville Library | Mayor Iain Lovatt | MPP Paul Calandra | MP Dr. Helena Jaczek | MP Jacob Mantle | Jim Thomas | St. John Paul III 3325 Knights of Columbus Colour Corp | Kendall (Lily) Jones | The Harriet Chung School for the Performing Arts | The Stouffville Academy of Dance | The Vyami School of Fine Arts | Brian O'Sullivan and the York Durham Fingerstyle Guitarists | O'Neill Funeral Home (Arbor Memorial) | Organics Family Farms | Water Depot | John Reesor

**2025 Festival Partners**







**2025 Friends of Festival**

Alsop Insurance | Borlak Law | Camcos Living | Canadian Tire Stouffville | Forest Group | Lumon Canada | Long & McQuade | Percon Construction | RBC Stouffville | SCS Consulting Group | Stanmore Carts | Turack Raguseo Lesti Gilliat LLP

**2025 Festival Champion**



2025 FESTIVAL MAP

JUNE 27-29



The map shows the festival area in Stouffville, Ontario. Key streets include Main St, Church St, Market St, Franklin St, Park Dr, Booth Dr, Thickwood Blvd, and Hoover Park Dr. Landmarks include Latcham Hall, Red Berry Cafe, Picnic Shelter, Ball Diamond, Food Vendors, Market Place, Kid Zone, Main Stage, Memorial Park, Franklin Field, WS Leisure Centre, and Public Access. A compass rose indicates North is towards the top right.

**PARKING**

**MAIN STAGE**

**INFO BOOTH**

**FOOD VENDORS**

**BRIDGE**

**FRANKLIN FIELD**

**WASHROOMS**

**TROLLEY TOURS**

**MARKET PLACE**

**KID ZONE**

**PATHWAY**

**WATERWAY**



# Driven by Compassion

THE LIFESAVING WORK OF WHEELS OF HOPE

by Cassandra Papas

For many cancer patients, the treatment journey is filled with anxiety, uncertainty—and sometimes, a lack of transportation. In Stouffville, that final piece of the puzzle has become especially urgent. The Canadian Cancer Society's Wheels of Hope (WOH) program is in need of local volunteer drivers to help ensure no one in our community misses a life-saving medical appointment simply because they can't get there.

Markham resident Steve Watson knows this need all too well. For the past decade, he's been volunteering with WOH, helping cancer patients across the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) get to and from their treatments. Lately, he's been making regular trips to support Stouffville residents—because there just aren't enough drivers based in town.

"I'm currently helping a Stouffville patient who needs over six weeks of radiation at Southlake in Newmarket," he says. "Without Wheels of Hope, each trip could cost them about \$100 out-of-pocket using a ride-share. That's close to \$3,000 for all their treatments. It's heartbreaking."

**As treatment facilities are often located far from home, this kind of care can be life-changing.**

Steve has also stepped in to drive another local resident to Markham Stouffville Hospital. These gaps in service highlight a problem that's getting harder to ignore: more cancer patients in Stouffville are asking for help, but there aren't enough volunteers available during weekday hours to meet that demand.

Wheels of Hope provides an affordable, compassionate alternative. For just a \$100 annual fee, patients can access unlimited rides for treatments with volunteer drivers—an essential lifeline for



Steve Watson, Markham resident, has been driving cancer patients to various hospitals in the GTA for 10 years with Wheels of Hope.

those who may not have family or friends who can step in. But that promise is only possible when enough volunteers are on the road.

Now, the Canadian Cancer Society is asking for the community's help.

WOH is actively seeking volunteers with flexible weekday schedules who are willing to dedicate at least two to three days each month. Volunteers receive their schedules at least three days in advance and can coordinate availability with WOH transportation specialists. Volunteers decide when and where they are willing to drive.

The role requires a reliable, smoke-free vehicle, a clean criminal record check and a driver's abstract with no more than three demerit points. It's a structured and deeply meaningful commitment that offers mileage reimbursement or a charitable tax receipt—but many volunteers say the real reward is the connection with the people they serve. Steve notes, "I am inspired by the positive attitudes of my clients."

Patients often describe WOH drivers as a reassuring presence during a challenging time. Drivers offer more than a ride—they bring a sense of comfort, normalcy and support to what can otherwise be a lonely journey. This kind of care can be life-changing, especially in smaller towns like Stouffville, where

treatment facilities are often located far from home.

This isn't just about filling time—it's about filling a vital role. Volunteers are considered leaders and ambassadors for the Canadian Cancer Society, helping to promote the organization's values and connect people with critical resources.

The program operates Monday through Friday, primarily between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. There are no weekend or evening shifts. Whether you're retired, self-employed or simply someone with flexibility and a desire to make a difference, Wheels of Hope offers a chance to give back to your own community in a meaningful way.

If you're ready to volunteer, now is the time to act.

Visit [volunteercancer.ca](http://volunteercancer.ca) and click "Wheels of Hope" to sign up or learn more. Questions can also be directed to [volunteer@cancer.ca](mailto:volunteer@cancer.ca)

What seems like a simple drive can become a powerful gesture of humanity, and for people like Steve Watson, it's just another day in the driver's seat of compassion. 🙌

Volunteer Today

Visit [volunteercancer.ca](http://volunteercancer.ca) and click "Wheels of Hope"

PHOTOGRAPH PROVIDED BY WHEELS OF HOPE

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# Building a better budget | Together

Budgeting isn't just about dollars and cents—it's about the parks we play in, the roads we drive on, the events we enjoy and the services we rely on. That's why we want your input to help shape Stouffville's 2026 operating and capital budgets, so they truly reflect what matters to the people who live and work here. Whether you're passionate about numbers or simply love your neighbourhood, there's a way for you to get involved.

## We're Making It Easy to Have Your Say



### Online Budget Hub

Explore [townofws.ca/budget](https://townofws.ca/budget), full of tools to help you learn about the budgeting process and ways to influence budget decisions.



### A Simple Survey

Find our in-person budget survey at local hot spots like community centres, the Library and Town events or online at [townofws.ca/budget](https://townofws.ca/budget)



### Pop-Up Booths

Chat with our friendly budget team at Strawberry Festival (June 28th), Library Discovery Day (July 5th), Symphony in the Park (July 18th) and The Stouffville Market (August 16th).



### Get Social

Keep an eye on the Town's social channels for quick ways to share your thoughts and stay in the loop on all things Budget 2026.



### Mayor's Town Hall

Join us in September for a face-to-face conversation with Stouffville's Mayor Iain Lovatt. Bring your questions, ideas and budget dreams! Stay tuned for the dates.

## So, What Happens With Your Ideas?

Every comment, idea and vote helps shape what's next. Your feedback will help refine the budget during the review process in September and October. We will share a "What We Heard" report summarizing the feedback. A final engagement report will be published in December, detailing public feedback and its impact on the final 2026 budget. We'll take everything you share and use it to help guide budget decisions for the coming year and beyond.

By participating in the budget process, you help shape Stouffville's future. We value your input and look forward to building a better community together.

# DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION

AN UPDATE BY GLENN JACKSON

Stouffville's Downtown Revitalization is taking its next big step. With infrastructure assessments complete and design concepts taking shape, the Town is starting to lay the foundation—literally—for a more resilient and vibrant downtown.

Accardi Engineering Group, the consulting firm working on the Revitalization project, has completed a detailed assessment of the existing infrastructure, including the watermain, storm sewer and sanitary sewer systems. Based on their review, they have developed recommendations for the necessary upgrades to ensure long-term functionality and resilience.

They have also prepared preliminary design drawings that incorporate the proposed improvements. These key design elements were presented at the June 17th Open House in Stouffville for the public to view. We hope everyone had a chance to attend the event. To stay up to date about future Open Houses, sign up for our newsletter at [townofws.ca/downtown](https://townofws.ca/downtown)

Accardi is now taking back the public comments received at the Open House to continue the design phase of the project.

Also, over the past few weeks, Accardi conducted a traffic analysis and developed cross-section options for the road network to meet both current and future transportation needs. They are currently completing traffic counts to augment the detailed design of key intersections and pedestrian crossings. This work will help shape the final design, ensuring it reflects both technical requirements and community priorities.

Additionally, they identified initial Low-Impact Development (LID) strategies to support sustainable stormwater management. For a complete description of the LID study, see the February edition of *On The Road* magazine.

Construction is expected to start around the summer or fall of 2026. Throughout the duration of the project, every edition of *On The Road* will contain an update on the project's status.



### Get project updates

Follow this project and sign up to receive the eNewsletter at [townofws.ca/downtown](https://townofws.ca/downtown)

PHOTOGRAPHS PROVIDED BY VICTORIA SQUARE SERVICE CENTRE

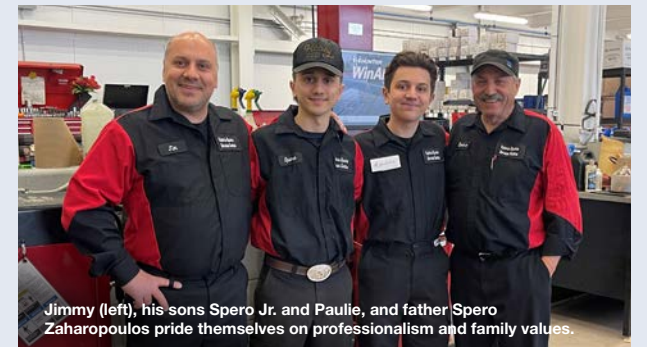
# From Greece to Gormley

Victoria Square Service Centre is building a legacy of trust and quality automotive service

by Cassandra Papas



New Victoria Square Service Centre celebrates their 1-year anniversary at 2 Gormley Industrial Ave.



Jimmy (left), his sons Spero Jr. and Paulie, and father Spero Zaharopoulos pride themselves on professionalism and family values.

After more than three decades in Markham, the Zaharopoulos family is settling into a new chapter in Stouffville—but their story begins far from York Region, in a historical city in Greece called Sparta.

It was there that Spero Zaharopoulos first learned the values that would shape the rest of his life: hard work, humility and the importance of family. Like many immigrants of his generation, Spero arrived in Canada with little more than determination and the dream of building a better life. In the early days, he pumped gas, turned wrenches and did whatever was needed to get by. Over time, he established a reputation for himself as a skilled mechanic and an honest businessman, eventually opening his own auto repair shop in Scarborough in 1971. In 1992, he and his wife Bessie took a leap of faith and moved their business to Markham, a growing city with opportunity.

That shop would become Victoria Square Service Centre, a business that would grow over the next 30 years—not just in size, but in heart. Spero and Bessie raised four children in Canada—one son, Jimmy, and three daughters, Stacy, Tammy and Nicole.

"I started helping out when I was a kid," Jimmy says. "Pumping gas, sweeping floors, whatever needed doing. It just became part of who I was. I didn't know it at the time, but spending time there, watching my dad, listening, I was learning more than what it took to be a great mechanic, I learned how to treat customers, employees, how to be a fair and honest businessman and most importantly, how to be a good man."

As father and son worked side by side,

their bond deepened not just as family, but as partners. Together, they built a reputation for honesty, integrity and deep community roots. Over time, their trusted reputation in the community helped them secure major contracts, including with Enbridge and York Region EMS, Roads and Transit, but Jimmy says the focus has never been on volume—it's always been about values and helping—doing the right thing and helping their community.

"We've always wanted people to feel like they can trust us," he says. "That's what matters most. We treat everyone who walks through our doors the way we'd want our own family to be treated, with honesty, empathy and kindness."

That philosophy of putting people first is what carried the business forward. In August 2024, the family decided to relocate the shop to a new, custom-built facility at 2 Gormley Industrial Ave. The move marked a major milestone: a doubling of shop space, upgraded equipment and a renewed commitment to serving a broader community. But more than that, it felt like coming home.

"Stouffville felt right from the start," says Lia Zaharopoulos, Jimmy's wife and co-owner of the business. "There's a real sense of community here. People know their neighbours, they support small businesses and they value relationships, and that's exactly how we've always run our shop."

The Zaharopoulos family has also continued to grow, and with it, the business. Today, Jimmy and Lia's two sons, Spero Jr. and Paulie, are training as apprentices in the shop, marking the start of a third generation in the family trade.

"We never want them to feel pressured to join the family business,"

Jimmy admits. "It's not an easy job, it's long hours, it's physical and it takes a lot of commitment. But they've found their own way into it, and it's been really rewarding to see, especially as they have the opportunity to learn from the best teacher I had, my dad."

For the family, mentorship is as important as mechanics. Whether it's passing tools or passing down values, the next generation is learning not just how to fix cars, but how to build trusting relationships, and offer top-tier service!

"It's never been just about cars," Lia says. "It's about helping people, and that's something Jimmy, Spero and all their incredible employees do naturally. They care. And I think that's what people feel when they come here."

As they prepare to celebrate their one-year anniversary in Stouffville this summer, the family is planning a community open house on August 1st, 2025—a thank-you to the town that has so warmly embraced them.

"We want people to come by, meet the team, see what we do and just feel like part of the family," says Jimmy.

From Greece to Gormley, in a world where many businesses feel impersonal, Victoria Square Service Centre offers something different, something grounded in family, tradition, and trust. 🛠️

Connect with Victoria Square SC

📍 2 Gormley Industrial Ave.

🖱️ [linktr.ee/victoriasquresc](https://linktr.ee/victoriasquresc)

📷 @victoriasquresc

# Council Endorses New Tourism and Visitor Plan

Musselman’s Lake transportation study coming; Satisfaction survey results

 **by Glenn Jackson**  
glenn.jackson@townofws.ca

## Stouffville Visitor Plan

At the May 7th meeting, Council gave the green light—in principle—to the 2025–2028 Stouffville Visitor Plan. The three-year plan lays out how the Town hopes to grow tourism, support local businesses and create new jobs.

With a strong focus on developing tourism packages, the plan outlines 26 action items aimed at enhancing the Town’s visitor economy. Priority areas include the growth of agritourism, the revitalization of the historic downtown core and the strategic promotion of Stouffville’s unique position in the Oak Ridges Moraine.

The Town will continue to team up with partners such as York Region, Central Counties Tourism and the Greater Stouffville Chamber, to grow our tourism assets. The new plan aligns with the recent establishment of the Village of Stouffville Advisory Committee (VSAC), which will play a key role in supporting the revitalization of the downtown area.

To support this new direction, the Town has also acquired the intellectual property rights to the “Discover Stouffville” website and social media channels (including Facebook and Instagram) from the Greater Stouffville Chamber. These channels will be key in building the Town’s tourism brand and promoting events, activities and experiences throughout 2025 and beyond.

For more information and to view the Visitor Plan visit [townofws.ca/visitorplan](https://townofws.ca/visitorplan)

## Community Satisfaction Survey Results

The 2025 Stouffville Community Satisfaction Survey was presented to Council at the meeting held on June 4th. Conducted between April and May, it gathered feedback from over 500 residents and business owners to assess perceptions of town services, quality of life and civic engagement.

Many Town services received favourable ratings. Facilities, emergency services, events, library services, parks



Treetop Trekking, located at Bruce’s Mill Conservation Area, is a key tourist attraction cited in Stouffville’s new Visitor Plan.

and waste collection were the highest-rated services, all receiving very high satisfaction scores. Staff professionalism and responsiveness were also viewed positively with high satisfaction scores. Community safety was perceived as strong by most, although some noted an increase in crime and traffic issues. Digital communication methods, particularly the Town’s website and email, were the preferred ways to contact the municipality.

When asked about the value respondents feel they receive for their tax dollars, 72% thought they receive ‘fair, ‘good’ or ‘excellent’ value.

Open-ended responses revealed that residents are most concerned about rapid development, infrastructure strain, the need for more amenities and downtown revitalization. Despite these concerns, many residents continue to appreciate the Town’s small-town charm, green spaces and family-friendly atmosphere.

The survey results and Council report can be found at [townofws.ca/2025survey](https://townofws.ca/2025survey)

## Ninth Line – Musselman’s Lake Transportation Study

On May 21st, Council received a report outlining a new Transportation Study focused on the Ninth Line corridor in the Musselman’s Lake area. In collaboration with York Region, this initiative addresses longstanding community concerns about traffic safety, infrastructure and connectivity issues. The study aims to assess current and future transportation

needs, including pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure, environmental impacts and road maintenance.

Key components of the study include community engagement workshops and open houses, the development of a shared transportation vision and the formation of a steering committee with representation from residents, conservation authorities and emergency services.

The first Open House is scheduled for Thursday, June 26th in Ballantrae. See Talk of the Town news (opposite page) for more details. 📄

## COUNCIL & PUBLIC PLANNING MEETINGS

**Upcoming Council Meetings:**  
Wednesday, June 18th – 1 PM  
Wednesday, September 3rd – 1 PM

**Next Public Meeting** (if required):  
Wednesday, June 18th – 7 PM

Agendas for Council and Public Meetings will be available on [townofws.ca/council](https://townofws.ca/council) at 12 PM the Thursday prior to the meeting.

Anyone wishing to provide comments may attend the meeting in-person at the Municipal Offices. Contact [clerks@townofws.ca](mailto:clerks@townofws.ca) for more information.

Listen live: [townofws.ca/cmlivestream](https://townofws.ca/cmlivestream)  
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# talk of the town

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## Youth Roller Skate Nights

Thursdays from Jun. 5th–Aug. 21st at Memorial Park Multi-Purpose Trail  
Time Slots:

- 7:00-7:45 PM – All Ages
- 8:00-8:45 PM – Grades 7-12
- 9:00-9:45 PM – Grades 7-12

No registration needed to skate. Bring your own or register with SUSO for priority rentals (first-come, first-served).

[townofws.ca/rollerskate](https://townofws.ca/rollerskate)

## York Pride Parade

Jun. 21st at 6 – 7:30 PM  
Main Street South, Newmarket  
Celebrate one of Ontario’s largest regional 2SLGBTQ+ parades. Show your support and enjoy a vibrant evening of pride and community.

[yorkpride.ca/events/parade](https://yorkpride.ca/events/parade)

## Musselman’s Lake & Ninth Line: Roadways Visioning Open House

Jun. 26th, 2025, at 7 PM  
Ballantrae Community Centre  
Help shape a safer, smarter, and more connected community. Learn about the Town and York Region’s Transportation Study for Ninth Line through the Musselman’s Lake area.

[townofws.ca/roadwayvisioning](https://townofws.ca/roadwayvisioning)

## Curbside Giveaway

Jun. 28th, Jul. 26th, Aug. 30th  
Place re-usable household items marked “FREE” at the curb starting at 7 AM. Remove all unclaimed items by 5 PM to avoid by-law violation.

[townofws.ca/waste](https://townofws.ca/waste)

## RECREATION

### Summer Camp 2025 Registration

Spaces are still available in our summer camps! Explore recreational, swimming, sports, arts, museum, theatre camps and more.

[townofws.ca/camps](https://townofws.ca/camps)

## 19 ON THE PARK



### Patio Series

Bask in the warmth of summer evenings and enjoy free live music at 19 on the Park. Arrive early for seating! Gates open at 7 PM; concerts start at 7:30 PM. Onsite concessions and seating available.

Jun. 26th – Country Night: Kick off the season with Caves

Jul. 17th – 80s Night: Dance along to the hits with UK Calling

Aug. 14th – The Best of British: Celebrate classic British tunes with The British Invasion

[townofws.ca/patioseries](https://townofws.ca/patioseries)

### Summer Theatre Camps for Kids

Explore themed camps that include drama, musical theatre, playwriting, set creation, and end-of-week showcases.

[townofws.ca/theatrecamps](https://townofws.ca/theatrecamps)

## HERITAGE

### Heritage Awards

Celebrate contributions to our community by nominating a property that preserves built heritage. Nominations are open until July 11th.

[townofws.ca/heritageawards](https://townofws.ca/heritageawards)

## MUSEUM

### Historic Places Days

Jul. 16th – 19th, 10 AM – 4 PM  
Drop in for this free interactive event celebrating Canada’s historic places with games, clues and prizes!

### EXHIBIT: Worthy: The History of the Royal Canadian Armoured Corps

Jun. 28th – Sept. 27th  
Presented by the Canadian Tank Museum, this exhibit explores the legacy of the RCAC and its founder, Major-General F.F. Worthington.

### EXHIBIT: Fighting in Flanders – Gas. Mud. Memory.

Aug. 2nd – Dec. 20th  
On loan from the Canadian War Museum, this exhibit tells the story of Canadian soldiers in Belgium during WWI.

The Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum is located at 14372 Woodbine Ave. and is open Wed – Sat, 10 AM – 4 PM

For more details, call 905-727-8954 or email [wsmuseum@townofws.ca](mailto:wsmuseum@townofws.ca)

[townofws.ca/museum](https://townofws.ca/museum)

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# LOCAL LOOP

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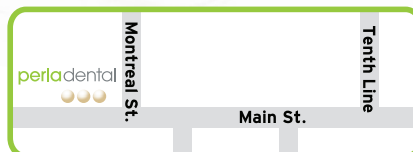


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