

AIDS week launched in York

TRACY KIBBLE
Staff Reporter

A program designed to draw attention to the fact that several Stouffville residents could easily "succumb" to AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome), was given town council approval last week.

Dr. Helena Jaczek, York Region's Medical Officer of Health, attended last Tuesday evening's council meeting where she and Gail Cleman, an health educator on the disease, asked that Oct. 16 to 22 be proclaimed AIDS Awareness Week in Whitchurch-Stouffville. The region-wide theme will be AIDS: Our Challenge.

"Some small municipalities think AIDS is a problem of the big bad city and that Steeles Ave. is some sort of boundary to keep AIDS out of York Region. But it won't," she added.

Gail Cleman told council, "the problem will get worse before it gets better" because of the up-to-10-year incubation period for infected carriers of the disease.

"People may not get tested and (HIV virus) symptoms may not

show up for two years — although in most cases symptoms do show up in six months," she said.

In other words, unsuspecting AIDS carriers could be unknowingly infecting sexual partners for a period of two years without being aware they have contracted the virus themselves.

"The decline (of AIDS-infected citizens) will come farther in future" through education and prevention practices.

Ms. Cleman says the highest risk age group for contracting the HIV virus is the 20 to 49 group where 20 per cent of those are 20-year olds.

"AIDS is still one of the greatest health care and community challenges. It becomes a challenge to care and to educate," the expert says.

"AIDS week (in its sixth year) is a commitment to communities through education and support and a series of planned events is geared to provide continued awareness."

York Region will launch the week with tree-planting ceremonies.

Recreation budget upped by \$6,300

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Active citizens in Whitchurch-Stouffville will benefit from an injection of more than \$6,000 into the town's 1989 budget to improve and upgrade recreational services.

The town's recreational budget is \$6,300 richer due to an approved provincial grant to help the

Our mistake

A photo caption in last Wednesday's Tribune incorrectly identified a group of seniors celebrating the 25th anniversary of Ontario housing as being residents of Parkview Home. In fact, the seniors live at 325 Elm Rd. in Stouffville.

The Tribune regrets the error.

town "carry out its municipal recreation programs in 1989."

Bill Ballinger, MPP-York-Durham, announced the grant on behalf of the Ontario Minister of Tourism and Recreation Ken Black.

The grant — geared to "give smaller communities an opportunity to gain some ground" when it comes to providing upgraded recreational programs — is "essential to the operation," says Marlene McKee-Wetherall.

"The funding is applied for every year for the delivery of recreational program services. The lower the population — the higher the percentage of grant you receive," she explained.

"This grant is essential to our operation and is used not as capital dollars but operating dollars."

"The whole community will benefit from the recreation programs and facilities this grant

will help to support," Ballinger announced Friday.

The grant is part of a 1988-89 small municipality recreation funding boost including 891 municipalities, local service boards, improvement districts and Indian band councils.

Wires crossed in pizza puzzler

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Staff Reporter

Members of town council waited anxiously for their dinner to show up at the municipal offices on Civic Ave. last Tuesday before the scheduled 7:15 p.m. council meeting.

And they waited, and waited, and waited.

When press arrived, Councillor Tatone was peering hungrily out the office doors in anticipation of a missing large pizza expected to arrive an hour before, while others walked around shrugging their shoulders in disbelief and amusement.

It seems the order went to the right street, wrong town. The pizza company's central phone system sent the town councillors' pizza to Civic Ave. in Newmarket!

When the lost pizza finally found its way to the right street, right town — at no charge — the council wolfed it down in nine minutes flat and were ready to roll at 7:15 p.m. sharp.

Lightning damages Ivy Cres. residence

A powerful lightning bolt — a product of this weekend's series of electrical storms — jolted a Stouffville home Sunday causing "considerable damage" to the chimney, says Deputy Fire Chief Murray Emmerson.

The vicious storm, which darkened the skies and bolted through Metro and surrounding communities around 5 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday, left Whitchurch-Stouffville virtually untouched except for one attack on a two-year-old home at 65 Ivy Cres.

The owner, Mario Rizzuto, has lived in the community only five-and-a-half weeks. He says he returned home Sunday to find the top of his chimney "blown all over the backyard."

"It took a good shot. Pieces of the chimney were blown into some neighboring homes and one neighbor said his neatly stacked woodpile was strewn about. But we're not sure if it was because of a flying brick or the wind."

Rizzuto says the lightning "blew right through" the chimney, travelling down into the basement, throwing bricks and concrete pipes onto the floor.

Although the electrical charge, in its path to the basement, did not trigger a fire, the chimney was severely damaged and many of the household appliances did not work, Mr. Emmerson told the Tribune.

The Rizzutos notified Fire Chief Bill Brown because they were "concerned there may be hot wires that could still cause a fire."

According to the chief's report, the bolt struck the brick chimney first and travelled through the wiring in its path.

"Some very strange things happen when electricity of this extent travels through electrical wiring in search of a ground," the deputy chief says.

Lack of funds cited

(From Page 1)
for private schools. In Manitoba, the government gives \$1,800 to people going to private schools.

St. John's tuition costs are just under \$10,000.

Mike Maunder, currently a teacher at the school and an ex-headmaster, said parents and old boys from the school were

shocked when they heard of the closing.

"It's a little like dying," said Mr. Maunder, who has been with the school for 21 years.

Mr. Maunder compared the feeling to the way he felt when the school lost 12 students and a teacher who drowned on a canoe excursion to Lake Temiskaming in 1978.

Bell spends \$1 million on upgrade

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