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12 A woman's struggle to survive cancer is eased by outpouring of support from community.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

EVENT: Family movie night

WHEN: Friday, March 24

WHERE: Summitview Public School



3 One farmer's quest to make a fair living off the land takes him through York Region.

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Take-out reading



STAFF PHOTOS/JOERD WITTEVEEN

Curtis Cargill, 4, checks out some easy reading to pass the time during March break. He is being helped by librarian Barb Lee at Whitchurch-Stouffville Public Library.

Residents propose survey on pool opinion

Town rejects offer, OMB hearing still on

BY JOAN RANSBERRY
Staff Writer

An olive branch has been extended to the town by a citizens group opposed to the indoor pool and library proposed for Memorial Park South.

Officials of Residents Information Group (RIG) have approached the town suggesting a lengthy and costly Ontario Municipal Board hearing about the twin complex could be averted if certain conditions can be met.

But council is not interested in entering into such an agreement, said Whitchurch-Stouffville Mayor Wayne Emmerson.

Two months ago, four members of RIG applied to the OMB asking for a hearing on the pool-library plan.

As a way of avoiding a \$300,000 hearing, council is requesting a town-wide survey asking residents if they want an indoor swimming pool and library complex at the Memorial Park South site.

As well, RIG chairperson Will Child has asked council to secure independent, qualified and mutually agreeable arbitrators to review the site, the project and the process and finally to present a decision.

Whitchurch-Stouffville council has not formally informed RIG of its decision to reject the offer.

See EIGHT, page 10.

Nursing on the front lines

Community care nurse says she's like Florence Nightingale

BY JENNIFER BROWN
Staff Writer

Madge LeGrice doesn't wear hospital greens or report to a nursing station every day. For the past 10 years, the Unionville RN has revelled in her chosen career as a community care nurse, wearing the crest of the Saint Elizabeth nursing agency and seeing herself as a true frontline care worker.

Travelling to her clients' homes four days a week, sometimes carrying a weekly roster of 15 patients, she tends to their medical needs, enabling them to be in their homes and not stuck in a hospital bed — something the province is anxious to encourage.

"Community nursing is not for new grads, but for somebody with life experience. This is like what Florence Nightingale did 100 years ago," said LeGrice, relaxing with her dogs on her day off recently.

"When you're talking about community health care, I think you're talking about me. I am community care. To me, this job is such an important part of the health-care system. It is a job that really makes a difference. And studies show health care provided in the community is the best value for the tax dollar."

The job performed by community health nurses is often misunderstood, says LeGrice, who works for Saint Elizabeth Health Care in North York.

"We don't give baths to ill people. We administer IV therapy and home chemotherapy, provide wound care and provide insulin and education to new diabetics. We also have

See COMMUNITY, page 4.

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