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Willowgrove Primary School is a program of Willowgrove Inc. Willowgrove is a non-profit organization with a Christian perspective.

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**York Region holding public consultation session on draft accessibility plan**

The Regional Municipality of York invites you to come and let us know what you think of *Understanding Barriers, York Region's First Annual Accessibility Plan*. This Plan showcases what we plan to do in 2004 to make Regional Government programs and services easier for people with disabilities to use.

The public consultation session will be held on **June 17th, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.** at the York Region Administrative Centre, 17250 Yonge Street in Newmarket. Registration begins at 6:30 p.m. Sign language interpretation will be provided.

York Region Transit will provide free *Mobility Plus* specialized service to and from the session for people who are unable to use regular public transit because of physical and/or functional limitations. This free service is subject to availability and must be booked by 7:00 p.m. on Friday, June 13th by calling (905) 762-2112 or 1-866-744-1119.

*Understanding Barriers* is also available on the Region's Web site at [www.region.york.on.ca](http://www.region.york.on.ca) under the "What's New" link from the home page. Deadline for comments by fax, e-mail, voicemail or mail is **June 20th, 2003**.

For a printed copy of *Understanding Barriers*, to RSVP your attendance at the public consultation session on June 17th or for more information, call (905) 895-3223 or 1-877-464-9675 ext. 2000.

# Tourney remembers generous resident

An August golf tournament will support a specialized cancer treatment machine purchased by the late Phil Talaska for the hospital where he received treatments.

The second annual Phil Talaska RFA Program Golf Tournament on Aug. 18 at the Sleepy Hollow Golf and Country Club in Whitchurch-Stouffville will raise money to maintain the Radio Frequency Ablation (RFA) equipment and purchase the associated \$1,000 disposable probes.

The 44-year-old Whitchurch-Stouffville resident died of colon cancer in February, 2002. He purchased the RFA equipment for the Toronto Sunnybrook Regional Cancer Centre, where he was being treated for his secondary liver cancer. At that time, it was the first RFA machine in Canada and is used for inoperable cancers of the kidney, liver and lungs.

Mr. Talaska is remembered by local residents for the two turkey-giveaways he held in front of the A & P store shortly before Christmas in 2000 and 2001. He also made a significant donation of equipment from his home gym to Stouffville District Secondary School.

His wife, Lorna Talaska, is organizing

## Our Town with Hannelore Volpe

the tournament, which last year raised \$11,000. A dinner and auction follow. The first person to be treated with the RFA machine at Sunnybrook will be a guest speaker at the tournament.

Golf tickets are \$200 per person, with \$100 going towards the Phil Talaska RFA Program. A variety of individual and corporate sponsorships are available. More information is available by calling 416-444-3837, ext. 281.

### Red Hats invade town

After years of tending jobs, husbands and kids and volunteering everywhere, Red Hat Society members have said, "Enough!"

They've reached the magic age of 50. They've earned the right to put on their red hats and purple outfits — who cares if they clash — and get together for a good time and a lot of silliness.

The Red Hat Society's philosophy invaded Stouffville last month in time

for the group to celebrate International Red Hat Day.

Started by a group of friends in California in 1998, there are more than 4,000 chapters around the globe. The Red Hat Society grew out of a poem by Jenny Joseph called *The Warning*. It begins, "When I am an old woman, I shall wear purple and a red hat which doesn't go and doesn't suit me."

The Stouffville Red Hat Society calls itself the "Whistle Stop" chapter. Its first-ever gathering in Stouffville at the Referee and Fisherman left customers staring as the Queen Mother, the Duchess of York, the Honey Bee and others waltzed in with their red hats and purple clothes.

Stouffville's chapter has 18 members, noted Queen Mother Thelma McDonald. When asked what they do, she replied, "Nothing!" Among that "nothing" is an outing to Music Mania, complete with their red hats. Over the summer, the chapter will be playing mini-golf, riding the York-Durham Heritage Train, and having tea with other Red Hat chapters.

Information on the Red Hat Society is available by checking their website at [www.redhatsociety.com](http://www.redhatsociety.com)



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