

Staff rallies around homeless person

Whitchurch-Stouffville is a town with heart.

This was confirmed last week when management and staff in the Imperial Centre, at Sandford Drive and Main Street, extended a helping hand to a homeless person after she and her four dogs sought refuge in the building's lobby.

A fundraising drive, spearheaded by Michelle Clague, business analyst with Strategic Information Technology, provided the woman several nights of lodging, then found, rented and furnished her an apartment in Stouffville.

"She now has a home of her own," said Michelle. "The people here were amazing."

Michelle said the stranger could neither speak nor hear. Her only means of communication was by writing and lip-reading.

Mayor Wayne Emmerson, whose office is in the building, praised Michelle for her compassion.

"For the entire building, it was 'community' at its best," he said.

Michelle said she went looking for a location where the woman and her pets could stay together.

"Her dogs are the only family she has," Mr. Emmerson said.

When found, all her worldly belongings were stuffed in garbage bags and hauled from place to place in a baby buggy.

A timely sign

The community sign at Stouffville's west entrance/exit is serving a purpose. Truth is, requests to use it are coming so fast, it's difficult to keep pace. The same with donations.

In September, \$830 was added to the Terry Fox Run receipts.

The months of October and November will see the Student Music Scholarship Fund grow by \$500.

December's proceeds will go to the Stouffville Lions Club's Christmas basket program.

There's no set donation fee. Whatever one thinks is fair. The number to call is 905-640-3455. The e-mail address is thomas-jim@rogers.com

Porker saved

A pot-bellied pig was discovered recently on a roadside in northern Whitchurch-Stouffville. Keith Saunders, head of the town's bylaw enforcement department, subsequently inserted a 'found notice' in The Sun-Tribune. With success.

The porker, that Mr. Saunders believes was thrown from a car, has been adopted by an area farmer.

"I'm glad it's alive and not bacon," he said.



Roaming Around

with Jim Thomas

Sounds like Christmas

It's a Stouffville tradition. The Men of Note, a 45-member male choir directed by Dr. Margot Rejskind, presents its annual Home for Christmas concert Dec. 21 at Christ Church Anglican.

The event will also feature vocal soloist Susan Brown, the Stouffville District Secondary School girls' chorus and the Quintessence bell ensemble. Tickets are \$12 after Dec. 3 at Card's Appliances or from 416-200-7525.

Mega celebration

The MegaCity Barber-shop Chorus and The Ballantrae Mixed Choir appear in a Christmas Celebration concert at St. James Presbyterian Church Dec. 9 at 7:15 p.m. Tickets are \$12 from 905-642-0726.

Coffee mates

Stouffville will soon have a second Tim Hortons. Brothers Rod and Jan King will operate another franchise on Hoover Park Drive, north of Wal-Mart. Construction is underway with the opening expected after Christmas.

The new outlet will be slightly larger than their Main Street operation, employing up to 50 people. The Kings also operate a Tim Hortons in Uxbridge.

Rehill retirement

Jim Rehill, choir director at Christ Church Anglican for 50 years, will be honoured during a retirement gathering at the church following morning worship Sunday.

It's a timely honour for an amazing volunteer. His successor is Judy Young.

Ticket turns into car

Lucy Fink of Stouffville bought a \$10 ticket from the Markham Stouffville Breast Clinic Foundation in September. The investment has won her a Honda Acura, valued at \$32,000. "When I received the phone call, I thought it was a joke," she said. "Then I checked the Internet and discovered it was really me."

Jim Thomas is a Stouffville resident who has written for area newspapers for more than 50 years.

MARINATED FLANK STEAKS

I hope that your B.B.Q. has not been bundled up and stored for the season because you'll need it this weekend. Our marinated flank steaks will be featured this week and hopefully, we'll have enough. What makes these so good is that they're quick to prepare at home — all the work's been done. They store well so that you don't have to use them immediately and they're really delicious.

Reg. \$8.95/lb.

25% OFF THIS WEEK

WE'VE GONE FISHING

We've got some Snow-Bass for a feature this week. It comes from the warmer Pacific Coast, either Mexico or Peru, it's mild and sweet, similar to Sea Bass but with a more delicate texture. As usual, we'll have a recipe or two for you to try your hand at. An adventure in fish, to be sure.

12.95 LB.

GIET BASKETS

If you are new to our store, it won't take you long to realize that we're in the basket business. Although I've never really counted them, there must be thousands to choose from. During the festive season we make them up with food, goodies to fit any budget or taste (including wine, if you'd like). You can pick what you would like and we'll make it up as well — or it can be boxed as you wish! See Robert or Evan if you have a special request. We offer good value!

FIREWOOD!

Our first shipment of firewood has just arrived. It's been dried for a year and a half — and we keep it dry under the overhang at the store.

CRANBERRY-MAPLE SAUSAGES

You've got big country flavour happening here. This is a really good dinner sausage with a nice finish of Maple.

Reg. \$3.99/lb.

25% OFF THIS WEEK

PRIME RIB STEW

We make this old-fashioned stew with the meat that's between the bones of a prime rib. As far as I'm concerned, it's the best possible meat to use — and the proof is just how good it turns out. I like this stew served with either spätzle or the Cipriani pappardelle noodles.

It's a great dinner. Reg. \$14.95 Serves 3-4

25% OFF THIS WEEK

CREAM OF CAULIFLOWER SOUP

This is a chicken-stock-based soup, with onions, celery, cream, white wine and seasoning. It's really good either hot or chilled.

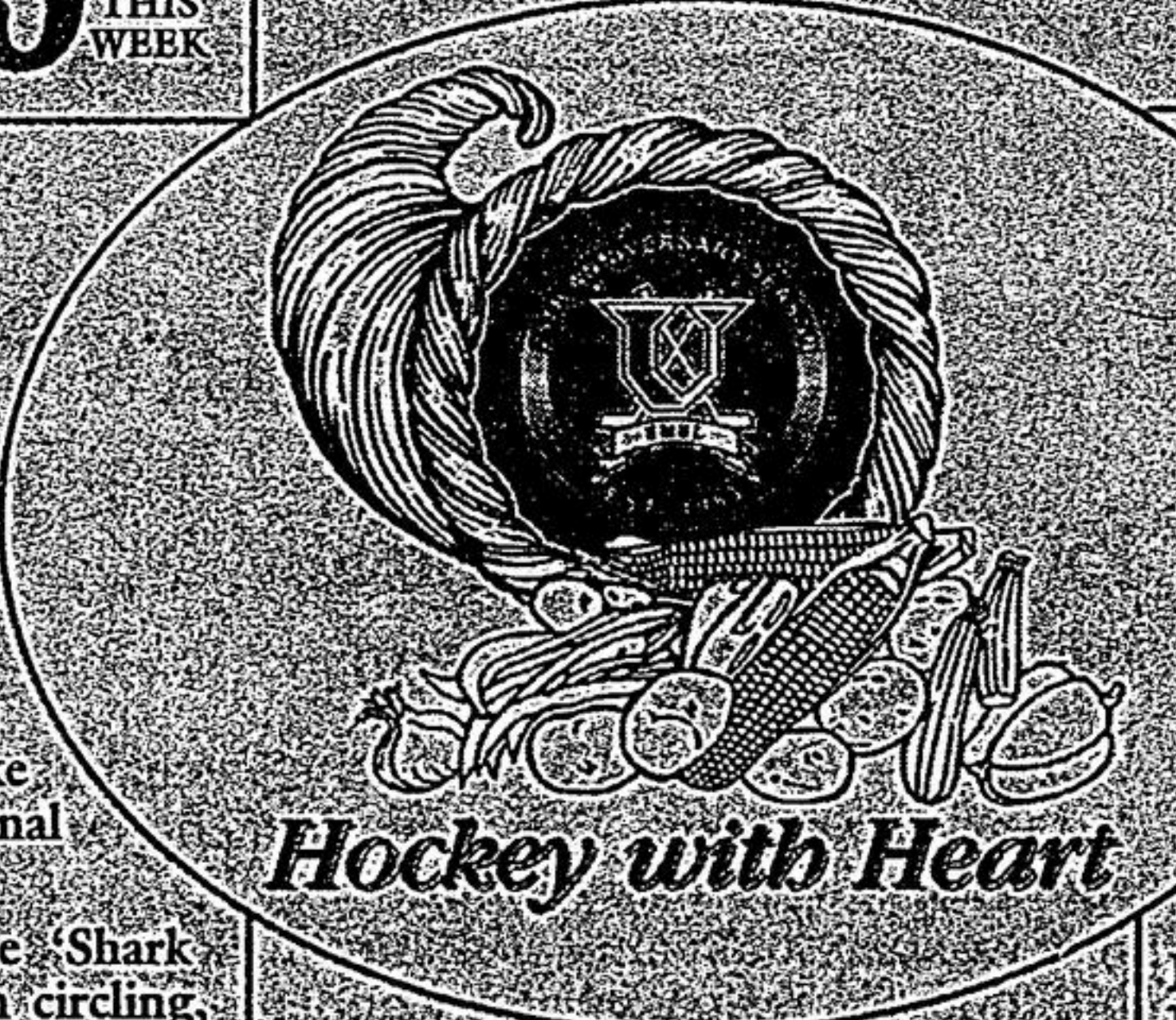
Reg. \$5.99 ea. Serves 3-4

25% OFF THIS WEEK

WHAT'S HAPPENIN' OUTSIDE!

The front sidewalk is awash with greenery and festive arrangements that look amazing. You'll find lots of trim and accents as well to make your front-step urns into seasonal masterpieces.

If you're like the sharks on the 'Shark Week' programs, and you've been circling, it's time to bite. The weather looks great for the next few days and it would be good to get your decorating done.



Hockey with Heart

This is the 25th Anniversary of our Unionville Men's Hockey League and we have undertaken a number of initiatives to celebrate. And this one is big: the league will be providing 150 complete Christmas family dinners to local families who are less fortunate than ourselves. This will be organized through the Markham Food Bank. Secondly, the league and a few partners are funding the purchase of much-needed items for the food bank during the Christmas season. Thirdly, and this is where you can help, we will have a van at Crosy Arena on Sundays Dec. 2, Dec. 9 and Dec. 16th to collect any items that you could help with. I think that you know the drill of what they need. If bringing groceries is inconvenient, a cash donation will be accepted and it will be combined with the league's donation to purchase foodstuffs on your behalf.

Hockey with Heart

WHAT'S BAKING? THIS WEEK...

It's mincemeat season in our little bakery, and we'll be making...

DEEP DISH APPLE-MINCMEAT PIES — Using Spy apples and our homemade bass-ale mincemeat..... Reg. Sm. \$6.95 Reg. Lg. \$15.95

GINGERBREAD COFFEE CAKE — Made with white cake layers filled with tart lemon mincemeat, sugar plums and candied ginger..... Reg. \$15.95

FINNISH STARS — These are made with puff pastry, and filled with apples and mincemeat. They should be served a little warm..... Reg. \$2.49

MINCMEAT MUFFINS — This is my sister-in-law Carol's recipe with walnuts, whole wheat flour, mincemeat, spices and a streusel topping..... Reg. \$1.59

MINCMEAT CHEESECAKE FLANS — These are a deeper flan than most. They've got a shortbread crust filled with our cheesecake, spiced apples and you guessed it, mincemeat. Two sizes..... Reg. Sm. \$8.95 Reg. Lg. \$18.95

And as usual, all these items will be featured this week at

25% OFF THIS WEEK

SPECIALS IN EFFECT UNTIL CLOSING SUNDAY NOVEMBER 25TH

Hours:
 Mon. 11:00-7:00 ~ Tues-Thurs. 9:00-7:00 ~ Fri. 9:00-8:00
 Sat. 9:00-6:00 ~ Sun. 10:00-5:00

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