

Hospitals get \$2 million from developer's estate

Markham Stouffville chemo clinic named for John Kaptyn

BY SIMONE JOSEPH
Staff Reporter

The family of the late John Kaptyn has donated \$1 million each to the Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation and Southlake Regional Health Centre Foundation for cancer-related programs.

"Southlake was the logical choice. So was Markham Stouffville because they are in York Region. My father had a huge connection to York Region," said Simon, Mr. Kaptyn's son who made the donation from his father's estate along with his brother, Henry. "Southlake brings state-of-the-art research and diagnoses to York Region.

"Cancer is a prevalent disease," Simon said. "We have to take a holistic approach to it, looking at everything as contributing to a better standard of care. Nutrition, education, less travel and waiting times."

Mr. Kaptyn, a successful developer, died in May last year at 79 from cancer.

From Holland originally, Mr. Kaptyn's first jobs in

Canada included picking tobacco, working in the Holland Marsh, being a farmer's helper and working as a lumber jack.

In the '60s and '70s, he started buying and selling recreational properties in vacation spots such as Collingwood and Kingston.

He later set his sights on York Region where he developed the Sheraton Parkway Hotel, Richmond Hill's town hall and at one time, owned the property where Markville Shopping Centre now stands.

His company is called Captain Developments. His major business when he died was Sheraton Parkway Hotel and various real estate holdings.

With the bequest, Markham Stouffville Hospital has established a unique program for oncology patients blending treatment with an holistic, patient-centred palliative approach to comprehensive care.

Markham Stouffville's chemotherapy clinic will now be known as the John Kaptyn Oncology Treatment Area.

At Southlake, the \$1-million donation will establish the John Kaptyn Supportive Care Program, a new service

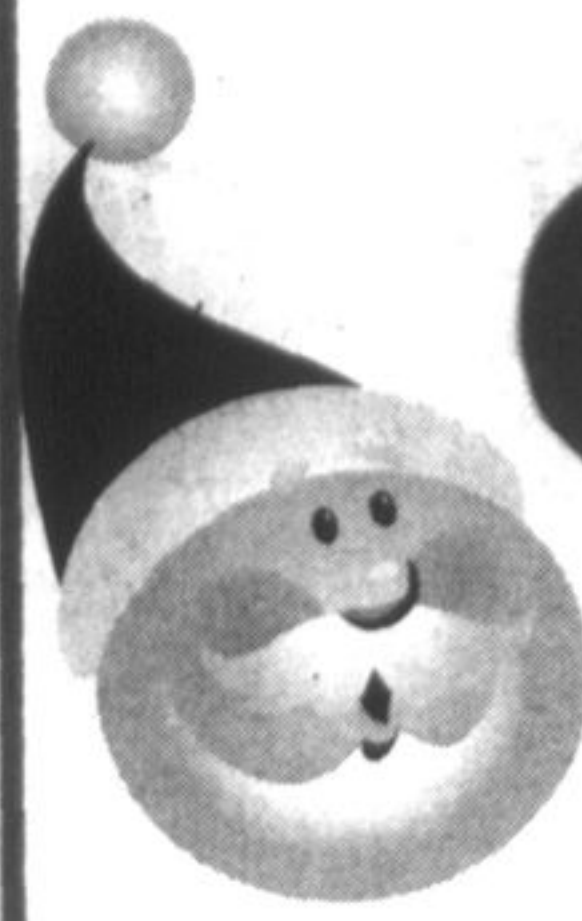
that recognizes the mental health, spiritual and quality of life needs of cancer patients and their families.

Patients struggling with issues such as depression, anxiety, childcare or financial worries, will have access to supportive services, said Neila Poscente, president and CEO of Southlake Foundation.

Both Southlake and Markham Stouffville provide an important alternative to trekking downtown, Simon Kaptyn said.

"A lot of people who had to drive to Princess Margaret Hospital for treatment can (now) go to Markham Stouffville or Southlake. Now, people from York Region have a shorter drive and people have more time with families. That one fact alters the experience in a significant way."

Mr. Kaptyn valued Canada's system of socialized medical care, Simon said. "He realized the challenges in terms of providing health care on a free basis. The government cannot do it all alone. We all have to co-operate, do something. We need to realize if we sit back, it (the social safety net) will be taken away."



Stouffville Community

Christmas Celebration

Come and join us for our Annual

Christmas Day Dinner

December 25th at

EastRidge - 12485 10th Line, Stouffville
Evangelical Missionary Church

Free! Everyone Welcome!

Whether you are new to the community, away from your family, home alone or would like to enjoy a festive Christmas dinner with friends, please join us.

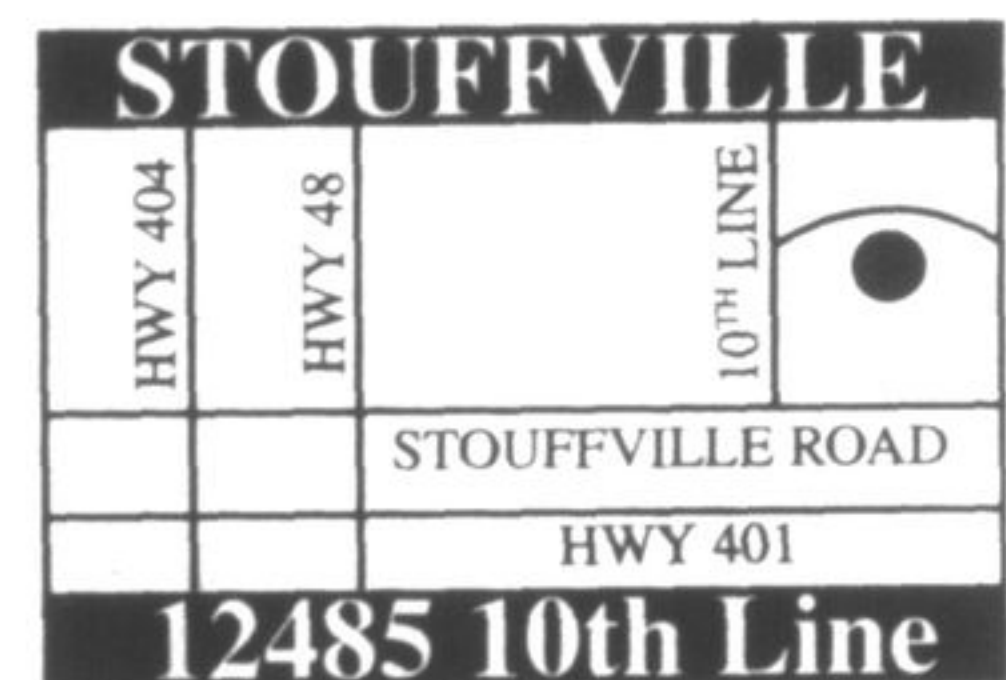
11:00 a.m. - Entertainment Begins

12:00 noon - Dinner

1:00 p.m. - Santa Arrives

For info contact:

David Knight - 905.852.3534



Boston Pizza would like to thank Stouffville for making our first year a great success!

Guest Appreciation Night ~ December 14

- Giveaways include tickets to a Leaf game
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Come meet Tomas Kaberle and Pavel Kubina from 7 - 8 pm

Come and enjoy the music of 2/Down on December 28th 9pm



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