

Stouffville Sun-Tribune

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DUCK TO WATER

Kyle Card competes in the 25-metre butterfly during a Stouffville Ducks swim club meet Saturday afternoon at the Lebovic Leisure Centre in Stouffville.



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE MAN THRIVING AFTER RECEIVING SECOND DOUBLE-LUNG TRANSPLANT

Organ donation campaign paying dividends

BY TERESA LATCHFORD
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A Whitchurch-Stouffville mother's quest to educate you on organ donation is paying off, especially during national organ donation week, which wrapped up Sunday.

In January, The Sun-Tribune featured the story of Tanis Hargrave and her son, Dan, who lives with cystic fibrosis, a genetic, multi-organ disease affecting the lungs and digestive system. In 2002, his only hope for survival

was a double-lung transplant and, at the critical moment, a donor supplied him with the organs he so badly needed.

The catch was the lungs were too big for the body of a then-teenaged boy and had to be trimmed to fit. When he turned 24, his body began to reject the transplant and his health took a turn for the worse in November.

Again Mr. Hargrave, the nephew of Stouffville Councillor Rob Hargrave, was

placed on the transplant list awaiting a match.

He was matched and had his second transplant last month, Tanis Hargrave said, adding he is "doing very well".

This time around, the donated lungs fit her son's body and the surgery that was expected to take up to 15 hours, because of the difficulties associated with second transplant procedures, only took 7-1/2 to complete.

"After the first transplant, he was in the

hospital for two months," Ms Hargrave said. "This time, he was out in 28 days."

He is continuing to rebuild his muscles and working out his lungs at Toronto General Hospital three times a week, but is feeling great, she added.

These kinds of miracles — the gift of life — are what motivate Ms Hargrave to continue stressing the importance of registering

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