

RELAY FOR LIFE: Twenty-five year trek for Stouffville woman

People made cancer journey positive

Parkview Village resident Doris Robertson will take part in next weekend's Canadian Cancer Society Markham-Stouffville Relay for Life event.

This is her story in her own words:

Twenty five years ago I started on my cancer journey. What a trip it has been.

There have been struggles, trials, and many trips from Trenton to Toronto, that I could have done without.

However, in spite of the negatives on my journey, there have been far more positives.

As I look back, from day one, I have had the best doctors that anyone could ask for. I have had the best treatment that they could give me.

I have met so many wonderful people, both in Princess Margaret Hospital and in its lodge. The lodge is the place to be if one is taking treatments. I stayed there in 1997 and 2006. This is the place to meet others who are dealing with the same cancer issues.

The service there, for whatever one needs, is excellent. I believe the one outstanding positive is that I could encourage others, especially the people coming to the hospital for the first time.

Many are fearful and uncertain about their illness. To be able to speak a word of encouragement, was to me a gift that I could use.

Cancer isn't pretty. I fully understand that, but it's here to stay and we hear about it more and more. We can all help however we can. We can volunteer, we can have faith in our God who is in control. We can have a positive attitude, and above all else, show love and be thankful that we are so well looked after in this country, when we are confronted with cancer.

READY TO RELAY?

▶ Next weekend's Canadian Cancer Society Relay for Life event will feature new entertainment and activities. The society has combined the Markham and Stouffville events into one.

This year's fundraiser will include dance contests, a scavenger hunt as well as performances by singers and musicians. The society aims to raise \$175,000 at the Markham-Stouffville event.

The society hopes to have 75 teams but currently has about 50. You can register online until Thursday at relayforlife.ca/Markham or you can register at the event. There is a \$10 registration fee and minimum \$100 fundraiser fee. Relay For Life is a 12-hour non-competitive event. It is an opportunity to get together with family and friends and celebrate cancer survivors, remember loved ones lost to cancer, and fight back against this disease. The event runs from Friday, June 18, at 7 p.m. to Saturday, June 19, at 7 a.m. at the Markham Fairgrounds at 1081 McCowan Rd.

Go to www.cancer.ca and enter "relay for life" in the search box for more information.

My message to all the suffering patients is: "Take heart, God is alive and well."

DORIS ROBERTSON
STOUFFVILLE

Who do you think should be Whitchurch-Stouffville's 2010 Citizen of the Year?

Nominations are open for this year's award.

We are looking for a person who:

- makes our community a better place to live, work and play
- is involved to benefit more than his or her family or business
- sets a positive example for others

DEADLINE JUNE 11, 2010

Nominations should include nominee's detailed resume and letters of support.

e-mail: jmason@yrmg.com

Mail or hand deliver to:

Stouffville Sun-Tribune

6290 Main St.

Stouffville, Ont.

L4A 1G7

Attention: Jim Mason

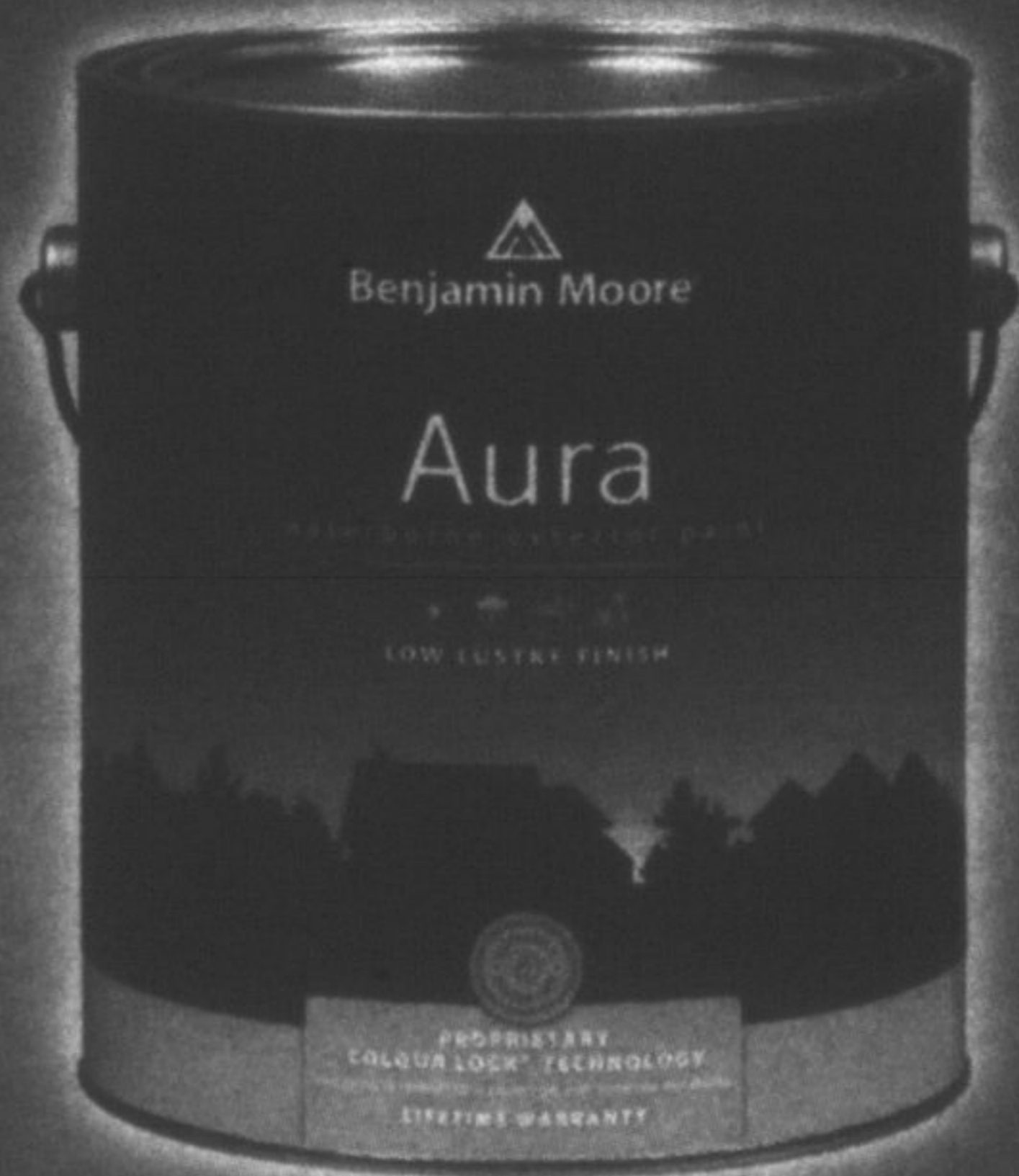
For more information call **905-640-2612 ext. 23**

Award to be presented July 1 during the
26th Annual Whitchurch-Stouffville Strawberry Festival

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5, Stouffville Sun-Tribune ■ Saturday, June 12, 2010



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