

SOUNDS OF THE SQUARE



STAFF PHOTO/JIM MASON

Soprano Sarah Marie serenades Main Street shoppers Thursday in Civic Square. Street performers are in action Thursdays from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. downtown. The Park Drive farmers market runs Thursdays from 2 to 7 p.m.

Hospital climbers on Kiliminjaro

BY L.H. TIFFANY HSIEH
thsieh@yrmg.com

A group of 18 Markham Stouffville Hospital supporters arrived in Tanzania, Africa, this week and is now on a steady ascent to the top of Mt. Kilimanjaro.

For climber Ron Hulse, giving up soft beds and warm showers has never been more meaningful.

"We all started to begin to realize we were actually climbing a mountain. Our conversations became quieter and we were all concentrating on making the steep climb."

"We reached 10,000 feet around noon. We celebrated our halfway point with water and nuts. It was a short celebration because we knew that we need to get to camp," Mr. Hulse blogged.

"We breathe dust from the trail and our faces are brown when we arrive at camp. Our boots and clothes are covered in dirt. We have all given in to the fact, so be it."

While the effects of arriving at 10,000 feet took a toll on some

of his fellow climbers, headaches and nausea were overcome with medication and climbers are checked twice daily or more for heart rate and blood gases, Mr. Hulse wrote.

"After dinner, a real rejuvenation of the spirit occurred when a large group of us were left sitting around the dinner table reflecting on our own reasons for coming," Mr. Hulse wrote.

'We breathe dust from the trail and our faces are brown when we arrive at camp.'

The Climb to Conquer expedition is the biggest community fundraising initiative in support of the hospital's \$400-million expansion.

The climb will raise more than \$500,000 for the hospital's mental health program.

To follow the climbers' blog and to see images and video footage of the climb, visit climbtconquer.mshf.on.ca



Find a place to call Home

We combine the ability to customize your search with the latest mapping technology, demographics and a REALTOR Directory. Giving you the valuable Real Estate information you need to make informed decisions. HomeFinder.ca - helping YOU to "Find a place to call home"!

 HomeFinder.ca