Hospital climbers reach top of Kilimanjaro

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

They were exhausted, unshaven and some in tears, but all 18 Markham Stouffville Hospital supporters reached the top of Mt. Kilimanjaro this week.

"It feels so good," said Dr. Shaz Khan of Markham's Health With Care clinic in video footage from the summit.

"It feels like a million bucks," he said. "I thought about my family all the way up here."

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Organized by the Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation, the Climb to Conquer expedition was chronicled by a team of filmmakers led by climb leader

and documentary filmmaker Ben Webster and Canadian Adventure Productions.

For many climbers, making it. to the top of Mt. Kilimanjaro is a dream come true and a journey to remember for generations.

"We are all in good spirits and though some have needed to take medication, we have the support of one another to get us up and soon back down this mountain," blogged Allan Bell, hospital's director of corporate sponsorship and special events, prior to reaching the summit.

Climb to Conquer raised more than \$500,000 for the hospital's child and adolescent mental health programs.

It is the biggest community fundraising initiative in support of the hospital's \$400-million expansion. The hospital has raised 66 per cent of its \$50-million fundraising target.

To see photos and video footage of the climb, visit www.climbtoconquer.mshf.on.ca



All 18 Markham Stouffville Hospital supporters reached the top of Mt. Kilimanjaro this week, unrolling a celebration sign to share the moment with readers of The Sun-Tribune and Markham Economist, media sponsors.



Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation and The Stouffville Legion Branch 459

Keith Acton

Former NHL Player and Assistant Coach of the Toronto Maple Leafs

Gary Leeman

Retired All-Star NHL Player and Stanley Cup Winner

Canadian Sportscaster and "The Voice of the Toronto Maple Leafs"

Ethan Werek

NHL Player for the Phoenix Coyotes

Wayne Emmerson

Mayor of Stouffville

with more to come!

TICKET SALES:

Tuesday, July 26th from 6:00 - 9:00pm at the New Stouffville Legion Branch 459 150 Mostar Street, Stouffville, ON L4A 0Y2

Price \$20 per ticket

While quantities last

GAME DAY ACTIVITIES:

FREE AND OPEN TO ALL

4:00 - 5:00pm

Pre Game Community Skate (Stouffville Clippers Arena) 5:00 - 7:00pm

Pre Game Family Fun Fair (Stouffville Arena - Pad B)

TICKET REQUIRED

7:00 - 9:30pm **Charity Game**

(Stouffville Arena - Pad A)

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