

THINGS TO DO: Busy Thursday downtown

Bargain hunters can get inside information on town

BY SANDRA BOLAN
sbolan@yrmg.com

We all say it and we all hear it: there is nothing to do in Whitchurch-Stouffville.

Well, that will not be the case Thursday.

Between the weekly Downtown Stouffville Farmers' Market, Moonlight Madness, Inside Whitchurch-Stouffville and a concert by The Midway State, it is going to be a jam-packed afternoon and evening right downtown.

The farmers market begins at 2 p.m. while Moonlight Madness kicks in after 5 p.m.

Along with some of the Main Street stores remaining open, there will be street performers, dance school performances in the parking lot of the Care and Share, free wagon rides and face painting.

"I want (the residents) to have an experience downtown. It's not just about the shopping. It's the socializing," said Anna Rose, downtown co-ordinator for the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville. "It's what makes small towns so great."

From 7 to 9 p.m., Civic Square will be filled with local not-for-profit service groups, volunteer organizations and sports clubs providing information on their associations.

"It's just to get information on what's happening in town," said Gillian Angus-Traill, council co-ordinator for the town. "I think there's more out there than they realize."

Some of the groups participating in the fifth edition of Inside Whitchurch-Stouffville include the Whitchurch-Stouffville Chamber of Commerce, Stouffville Terry Fox Run, Stouffville Toastmasters, Stouffville Igoma Partnership, Stouffville Ministerial Association, Stouffville Skating Club, Stouffville Multicultural Association, 707 Marion Orr CM Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron and the Stouffville Royal Canadian Legion, branch 459.

Various departments from the town, including leisure services, will also be on hand.

"Enthusiasm is growing for the event," Ms Angus-Traill said.

The evening can be topped off by seeing Canadian alternative rock band The Midway State perform inside the Lebovic Centre for Arts and Entertainment - Nineteen on the Park. Tickets are \$20 and the show begins at 8 p.m. (See story on page 4.)

For more information on the day's events, go to www.townofws.com

Search on for fair ambassador

The Markham Fair has its magnifying glass out and is scouring the Markham and Stouffville area for the next ambassador of the Markham Fair.

Stouffville resident Kristen Miller wraps up her ambassador duties this weekend at the CNE where she will compete against more than 100 other ambassadors from fairs across Canada to be crowned ambassador of the fairs.

"She's been amazing," said Gerry Seeley, chairperson of the Markham Fair Ambassador committee. "She's been a real leader of the ambassador team."

The Markham Fair will hold its ambassador competition Sept. 17 with a family barbecue at Markham Fairgrounds.

"We are just in the process of looking

for contestants," said Ms Seeley.

The ambassador, formerly referred to as Miss Markham, makes appearances at the Santa Claus parades in Markham and Stouffville. As well, they attend the Ontario Association of Agriculture Societies Convention.

Judging is based on knowledge about the fair and personality, she said.

"It's very difficult to judge because there are a lot of super youth in the area," she said. "When they tell you what all they're doing, I'm really amazed."

The winner of the competition gets a \$2,000 bursary towards future education, said Ms Seeley. The fair is seeking people between the ages of 18 and 24 for the competition.

For more details, call the fair office at 905-642-3247

Low-income population up 55%

From page 1.

Macgregor said.

Citing the recently released Making Ends Meet report from York Region's human services planning board, he said while the economy experienced growth from 2001 to 2006, York's low-income population increased 55 per cent, which translates into 112,165 people living in poverty.

"With the help of thousands of volunteers, United Way is committed to uniting people and resources to tackle the region's priorities, especially now that we're experiencing a 40-per-cent increase in people knocking on United Way-funded agency doors," board chairperson and Counsel Public Affairs Inc. princi-

pal Charles Beer said. To give of your time or funds, visit york.unitedway.ca, call 905-474-9974 ext. 242 or send a cheque payable to United Way of York Region, 80F Centurian Drive, Suite 200, Markham.

Torontor CAT executive Glenn Keenan expressed pride in his company's deep-rooted sense of corporate responsibility and long-standing partnership with United Way.

"This is our fourth time participating as title sponsors," he said. "We know how important it is to launch United Way's campaign on a strong and positive note and

believe dragon boat provides a solid starting point for the fundraising efforts ahead.

"We're pleased to not only take part today, but to contribute to United Way through our workplace campaign and our volunteer participation in Day of Caring."

Additional event sponsors included IBM and Acklands-Grainger.

In addition to its traditional role of supporting agencies to meet urgent needs, United Way is working to tackle the root causes of social issues.

To help strengthen York's quality of life, United Way is uniting people and resources on three priorities: helping kids, moving people from poverty to possibility and building healthy people and strong neighbourhoods.

Let LeaseBusters.com
Sell Your Current Lease and Save Thousands
on Your New Replacement Vehicle



See how easy it is to get out of your lease or finance payments
At LeaseBusters.com and FinanceBusters.com... We make it easy!

Call today 1-888-357-2678

Over 2,000 Vehicles to Choose From

Lease Take Overs, Finance Take Overs, Used Cars, Dealer & Factory Company Cars and more



LEASE
BUSTERS

FINANCE
BUSTERS

What's the
real secret
to happiness?
Saving
Money!

flyerland.ca

Just a few of our featured advertisers

Longo's
a french bistro

Rexall Pharma Plus

SHERWIN-WILLIAMS PAINTS

Michaels
Where Creativity Happens

STORES • FLYERS • DEALS • COUPONS • BROCHURES • CATALOGUES • CONTESTS • PRODUCTS