

Sandy leaves little damage in her wake

BY SANDRA BOLAN
AND JEREMY GRIMALDI

sbolan@yrmg.com/jgrimaldi@yrmg.com

The storm, for which Ontarians were warned to have food and water on hand and prepare for the worst, turned out to be relatively minor.

Damage around the region included fallen trees, destroyed haunted house displays and downed power lines, along with some toppled fences, but no injuries were reported.

"It was fairly quiet," said Whitchurch-Stouffville Fire Chief Rob McKenzie.

Firefighters answered "three to four minor hydro incidents that involved arcing trees onto wires all before midnight".

"There were no wires down, just arcing," Mr. McKenzie said.

Prior to Monday's storm, the fire chief alerted all staff to make themselves available.

"It's no different than any other night. The volunteers are alert. But we didn't ever call them that night," Mr. McKenzie said.

"We really didn't know (what to expect) but we were ready for the worst," he said.

The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville issued alerts to residents Monday in advance of the storm.

York Regional Police handled about 40 storm-related calls, most related to downed trees and hydro lines, spokesperson Const. Blair McQuillan said.

"As a result of (Monday) night's storm, many more fences have fallen down and have become even more dangerous and precarious," said Vaughan resident Laurie Orrett, whose home backs onto the CN rail tracks.

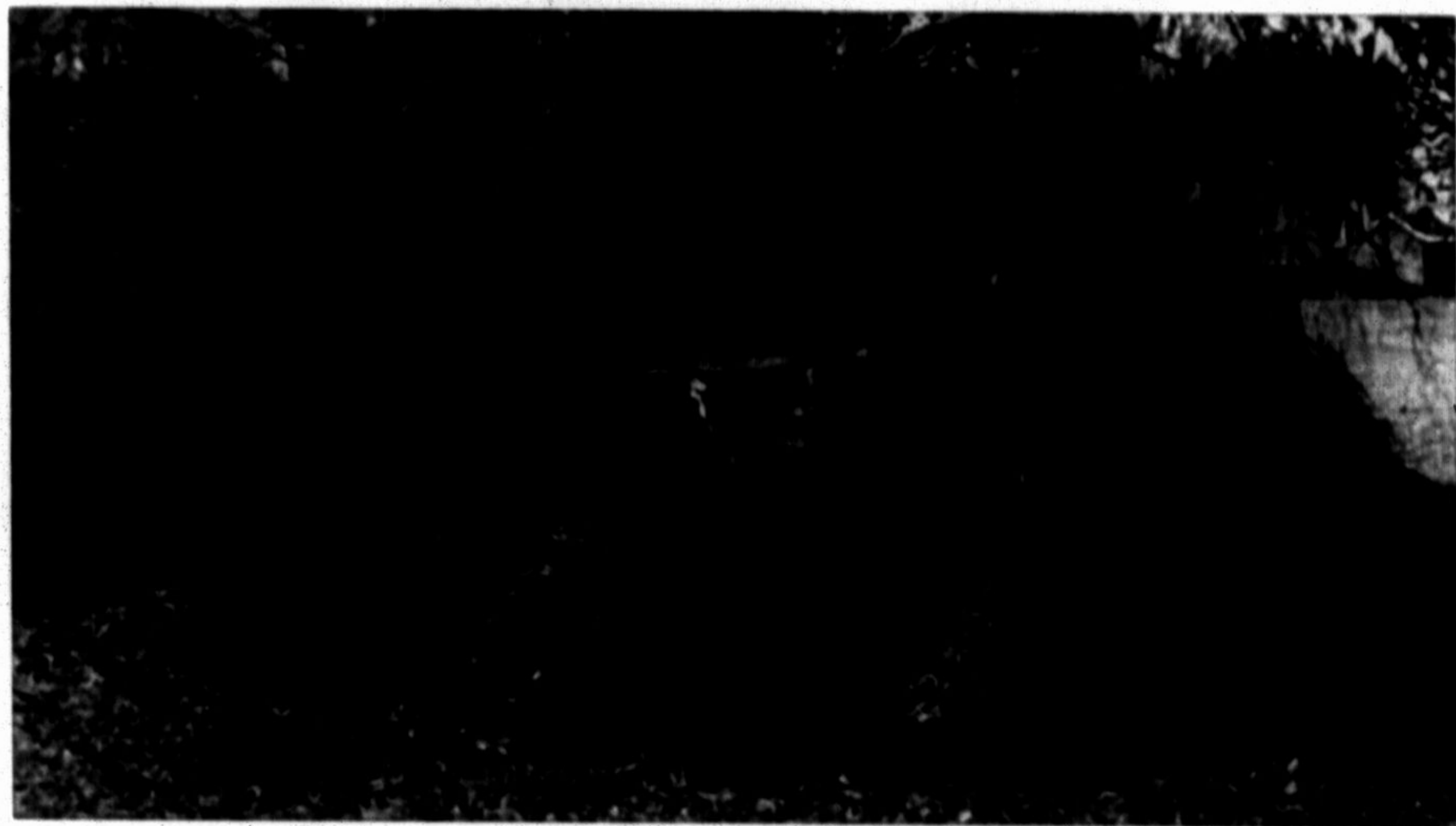
Meanwhile, Woodbridge resident John Di Santo woke up Tuesday morning to find his haunted house display shattered to pieces by high winds, the result of super-storm Sandy.

"I couldn't believe the damage," said Mr. Di Santo, who lives on Tasha Court. "It actually picked up the coffin and moved it almost eight feet and smashed it."

The portable garage he had set up in his driveway flipped over and landed in the street and his neighbour's driveway. And the wooden fence he erected around his yard was toppled as well.

Two of York Region's fire chiefs said they had "quiet" nights during which firefighters answering a handful of calls about downed trees and power outages.

"There was really nothing significant," Vaughan Fire Chief Greg



Mary Attwell and Bob Bowman shared this photograph with Sun-Tribune readers of a willow tree that was blown over during Monday night's storm at their home at the Maples of Ballantrae golf course.

Senay said Tuesday. "We are expecting a few more power outages this afternoon, but the wind has died down a significant amount since 6 a.m. this morning."

"There are still some significant gusts though."

Georgina Fire deputy chief Steve

Richardson said he was amazed at how few calls the fire service received.

"We were really quiet last night," he said. "All we had was a couple of minor calls about trees down, but that's about it."

There were no storm-related

calls in Newmarket and Aurora according to Central York Fire deputy chief Paul Leslie.

"I was up late with my radio on and I was surprised, he said. "I expected at least modest issues."

— with files by Adam Martin-Robbins

SHELTER. COMFORT. FAMILY.

"HOME" can mean many things to many people

Habitat for Humanity Canada (Habitat) and Genworth Canada are asking students in grade 4, 5 and 6 across Canada to tell us what "home" means to them by entering the Meaning of Home Contest

By entering, students have the chance to make a difference in their community: for each eligible entry, up to a maximum of 6,000 entries, Genworth Canada will donate \$5.00 CAD to the Habitat affiliate closest to the entrant's city of residence

Every participant also has a chance to win the top prize which consists of a \$60,000 donation from Genworth Canada to the Habitat affiliate of their choice, as well as five runner-up prizes of \$5,000 donations to Habitat affiliates. That's not all! The winner also gets to host a pizza party for their entire school, and runners-up get a pizza party for their classroom, in addition to other great prizes

For more information about the contest, visit www.meaningofhome.ca. The deadline for submissions is November 9 and the winner will be announced in January 2013



the meaning
of home

We carry birds,
small animals,
reptiles,
fish and
feeders.

petculture
WE SPEAK PET

Spend \$50 Get
**\$20 CASH
CARD**

NOV. 2ND - NOV. 15TH

► Make any purchase of
\$50 or more (before taxes) between
Nov. 2nd - Nov. 15th, 2012
and you'll receive a \$20 Cash Card
you can use towards a future purchase.

Cash Card is redeemable anytime
between Nov. 16th - Nov. 29th, 2012



MEET DAWG
OUR BARGAIN HUNTER

Look for him throughout the store to

SAVE 60% OFF

265 King George Road, Brantford • 519-759-6100

5758 Main Street, Stouffville • 905-642-2525

www.petculture.com

Make a
purchase of
\$30 or more
(before taxes)
and receive a
FREE!
GIFT
from Dawg's
Treasure
Chest