



STAFF PHOTO/STEVE SOMERVILLE

Maria and Felice Famiglietti of Stouffville celebrated their 65th anniversary recently.

'NO FIGHTS'

Couple shares secrets on 65th anniversary

BY SANDRA BOLAN
sbolan@yrmg.com

What's the secret to staying married for 65 years?

"No fights," according to Maria Famiglietti.

"Now, they're more happy because everyone's married and gone away," joked daughter-in-law Josie Famiglietti.

Maria, 83, and Felice, 88, celebrated their anniversary recently with 30 of their family members.

The couple, who moved to Stouffville two years ago, married on June 24, 1948, six months after Mr. Famiglietti went to his future wife's house and asked her out on a date.

He was 23, she was 18.

"When he saw her, he fell in love with

her," Mr. Famiglietti said through his daughter-in-law of why he proposed.

The couple operated a crop farm in south-east Italy's town of Anzano di Puglia.

With six children in tow, the couple moved to Toronto in 1965 for a better life.

'Now, they're more happy because everyone's married and gone away.'

He worked at a plastics' factory and she stayed at home to raise the children, which grew by one more once they arrived in Canada.

They have 10 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren.

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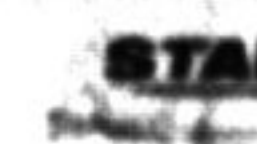
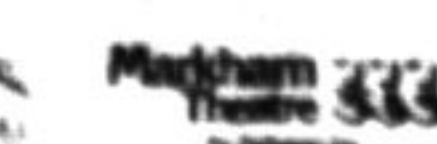
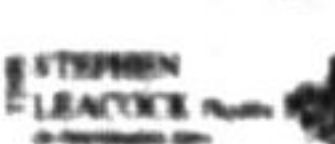
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Penny-saving St. Mark students chip in for Habitat for Humanity

BY SANDRA BOLAN
sbolan@yrmg.com

The old adage of every penny counts is particularly true for Habitat for Humanity.

The York branch wants to collect 10 million pennies, which is what it costs to build a home.

"The penny's going out of style, so let's pitch a penny drive," said Kate Higgins, volunteer co-ordinator for York Region Habitat for Humanity.

"This is another way to get people involved in our program," she said.

St. Mark Catholic School recently contributed 4,745 pennies to the Uxbridge ReStore penny drive.

"I thought we might get a few," said Margaret Grandison, education assistant for the school's Grade 6 class.

Every class participated in the month-long drive. The school has about 350 students, according to Ms Grandison.

The school got the idea from Uxbridge's Josh Morrison, who, for the past two years, has been collecting the copper coins. However, it wasn't until a trip to the ReStore earlier this year did he know what he wanted to do

with his pennies.

"He said they didn't meet their goal last year, so I want to help them meet their goal this year," said his mother Gloria Morrison.

"He just envisioned wheelbarrows full of pennies being wheeled in," she said.

Since March, he has collected 55,500 pennies.

Originally, the family counted and rolled each and every penny. Now, they are put into bags of 100 or 300 and weighed on a special scale, according to Ms Morrison.

In York Region, money from the Newmarket and Vaughan ReStore locations support Habitat for Humanity's administrative costs. All donations go directly to the cause of building homes.

"That's something that separates us from a lot of organizations," Ms Higgins said.

To contribute to the Habitat for Humanity campaign via Josh Morrison, pennies can be dropped off in town at 6675 Main St., or you can bring them to the Newmarket ReStore, 776 Davis Dr.

For more information, go to www.habitatyork.ca