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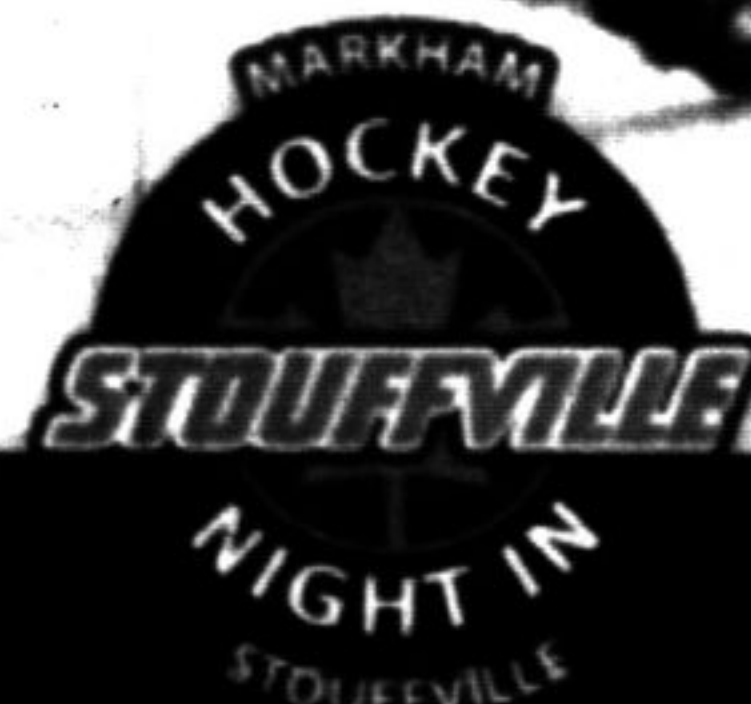
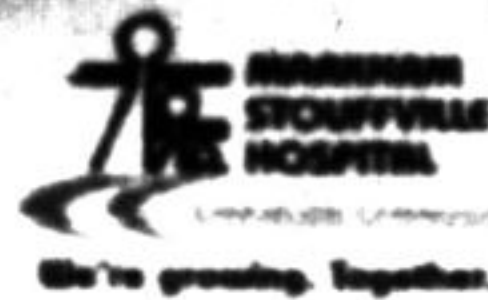
**THURSDAY
AUGUST 22, 2013**

STOUFFVILLE ARENA
12483 Ninth Line, Stouffville
7:00 - 9:30 pm

Tickets:

**TICKETS STILL
AVAILABLE!**

Presented by
Markham-Stouffville
Hospital Foundation and
the Markham-Stouffville
Girls Hockey Association



HOSTED BY
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PEOPLE

Unique paint job will feed hungry

BY SANDRA BOLAN
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That daily commute to and from work can be a real grind or source of inspiration.

It was while looking at all the black and grey cars around her that Denise Bruno decided it was time to give her almost 16-year-old blue Toyota Corolla a facelift.

At first she thought of painting it yellow. Then realized rust would show through. Ms Bruno, 53, then decided to paint it a number of colours and better yet, have friends and family do all the work. And while they're at it, why not raise money for a local charity — the Whitchurch-Stouffville Food Bank?

"There's always a need. We're in a fortunate position where we don't have to rely on the food bank," Ms Bruno said, noting she and her family have been donating to the organization for a number of years.

The food bank currently helps feed about 17 to 20 families a week, according to Marion Wells, co-ordinator of the facility.

That is about one-third the number of families they typically see the rest of the year. Ms Wells attributed the lower numbers to seasonal workers being employed and expects the need to increase once school begins in a few weeks.

"We are grateful people are fending for themselves and they're not using (the food bank) when they don't need to and abusing it," she said.

'It's done by people who mean a lot to me, it's not advertising a company, it's for a good cause.'

Ms Bruno tossed out the idea of painting her car technicolour to her family a few days after she got the idea. Despite thinking she was "crazy", they all purchased portions of the car to paint.

About a week later, just by word-of-mouth, the entire car had been sold to various people and organizations, which raised \$2,525 for the food bank.

The bumpers were \$100 each, while the hubcaps were \$25 a pop. A door or fender, as well as the roof, hood and trunk sold for \$200 each.

"It's done by people who mean a lot to me, it's not advertising a company, it's for a good cause," Ms Bruno said.

Money raised by this endeavour will be used to purchase meat, eggs, cheese, carrots, onions, potatoes, apples and powdered milk.



MARION WELLS: Food bank official has not heard of a more unique fundraiser for local charity.

"It's very expensive," Ms Wells noted of the powdered milk.

Food bank volunteers used to separate bulk sized items such as flour, sugar and powdered milk into smaller portions for clients. Now, mainly due to health regulations, they no longer do that. Clients instead receive a 2kg bag of flour or sugar once or twice a year.

This is the most unique fundraiser for the food bank Ms Wells has ever heard of.

"I can't interfere with somebody's ideas. I think it's a little far out," she said.

The automotive artists are able to paint pretty much whatever they want on their panel.

However, unless it is their signature, they are not allowed to paint words, anything derogatory or things will get her in trouble with the police.

"It's up to the imagination now of the people who have purchased the panels," Ms Bruno said.

As far as the legalities of driving it on the road, there are none. All Ms Bruno is required to do is register its colour change with the Ministry of Transportation.

And the car will be on the road every day, for a couple of years, as Ms Bruno needs it to get to her job with York Region in Newmarket.

Because the project has been so successful, Ms Bruno is now looking to paint the interior of the car, as repainting the family's other vehicle technicolour is out of the question.

"If I'm going to go all out ... why not go all out and in," she said.

The car will be painted on weekends throughout September.