

Thrift shop hopes for continued success in new location

BY SANDRA BOLAN
sbolan@yrmg.com

A new chapter in a Stouffville success story.

That's how officials with the Care and Share Thrift shop are looking at their latest move.

The Mennonite Central Committee-owned thrift shop will move from its downtown location to Ringwood Drive in west-end Stouffville in early November.

The store's board purchased the building and property currently owned by Randy's Refrigeration and Appliances Ltd.

The Care and Share moved into the former library's location in January 2002, but it has been a part of the community for 32 years. Its original location was in a Main Street store, just east of Mill Street.

Last year, after expenses, the Care and Share generated more than \$200,000 in profit, Joanna Reesor-McDowell, a volunteer member of the thrift shop's executive committee, told The Sun-Tribune.

Money generated by the thrift store goes

towards local and international programs, including relief funding.

As a thank-you to the town, Care and Share volunteers will present council with a comforter during Tuesday night's meeting that they made with donated material.

Volunteers have made 1,500 comforters since 2002, which have been distributed by the Mennonite Central Committee to hospitals, refugee camps, orphanages and locations that have experienced natural disasters.

"We think they have a unique beauty and they are very much appreciated by the recipients around the world," Ms Reesor-McDowell said.

Once the Care and Share has vacated the Main Street location, the town will transform it into multipurpose space.

Thrift shop officials hope to have extended hours one day a week. The Care and Share is currently open Monday to Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. It will not open on Sundays.

"We believe everyone needs a day of



JIM MASON/SUN-TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

The Main Street Care and Share shop generated more than \$200,000 in profit last year. The thrift store is moving to the Randy's Appliances building in west-end Stouffville this fall.

rest," according to Ms Reesor-McDowell.

Come October and during the transition, donations will start to be accepted at the new location and "I'm sure there will be deep discounts to clear the stuff out" of the Main Street space, according to Ms Reesor-McDowell.

As for the actual move, Ms Reesor-Mc-

Dowell said they hope to close the downtown building's doors one night and open in the west-end the next day.

"It sounds a little crazy, but it is what our plan is," she said.

An addition to the new building won't be ready for opening day, she said.

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