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OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK



Friendly Ghosts of Main Street Markham

Friday October 30th ONLY 5 pm - 9 pm

Wear an appropriate costume & receive SCARY SAVINGS

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Ramblin' Ruth



If It Quacks Like A Duck...

Who knew a duck could lose his webbed feet to frost and survive quite nicely on the stumps? Yes, Hattie the duck stayed out in the frigid cold and left her webbed feet behind on the ice. But don't fret for Hattie, she is as happy as a duck with the best of mobility.

Local Kennedy Road farmers the Bolender family, Dennis and Lorraine and their three daughters Anikka, Kelsey and Olivia, are true animal lovers living on their 100 acre property. They have cows to milk and rabbits, ducks, pot-bellied pigs, dogs and cats to share this peaceful spot with.

Recently while I was visiting the farm, Lorraine told me of Belbin the duckling, who was scooped up by a large heron as the girls frantically tried to frighten the predator away. Small prey is a target for this prehistoric-looking bird that is frequently seen in our rural skies looking for its next meal. It was a dose of reality for the startled girls as they watched Belbin fly away.

On a happier note, there is Eggo the duckling, who for the longest time thought he was a human and Lorraine was his mama. It is a fact that ducklings become attached to the first thing they see when born. As Eggo's little duck eyes opened, he saw Lorraine and he promptly followed her every move until the day he realized he was a duck and the stalking of Lorraine ended.

Not to be left out, the pot-bellied pig Monty made quite a name for himself at Markham Fair, where it was decided that maybe Romeo would be a more fitting name for him. Frisky Monty had the female pigs

looking over their shoulders as he sought out romance. He will not be attending the fair again.

Dennis, Lorraine and their daughters have embraced the farming lifestyle and all creatures great and small. Anikka, the eldest, is now at university and is considering becoming a large animal veterinarian.

The girls have farming in their blood and all were members of the 4H Club, whose motto is "Learn to do by doing." This age-old organization goes back to the basics of life skills and farming and you don't have to have a farm to get involved. Many of the animals on the Bolender farm are there as a result of 4H projects that the girls participated in over the years and that brought a lot of knowledge and understanding to their young minds.

This practical club not only teaches plowing and the raising of animals but can give you the skills to make a killer loaf of bread. In our busy world of fast food and convenience the 4H Club offers leadership and practical skills that empower the young. A huge and delicious turkey, which was the guest of honour at my Thanksgiving dinner, was raised by Olivia as a 4H project.

Living on a farm in not a prerequisite to joining and local farmers can offer youths living in subdivisions a chance to raise an animal and experience farming life. Contact 4-hontario.ca and get growing and learning.

You may not have a Hattie in your life, but you are guaranteed an interesting time.

Upcoming Festive Activities

29th Annual Victorian Tea

Friday, November 27

11:30 am, 1:00 or 2:30 pm sittings

\$12 adult/\$6 child



A Candlelight Christmas

Saturday, December 12

6:30 or 8:00 pm tours

\$15 adult/\$10 child

Please call to reserve your tickets for these events.

Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum

14732 Woodbine Avenue in Vandorf

1-888-290-0337 or 905-727-8954 www.townofws.com/museum

Visa or MasterCard accepted

Kenyan Children's Choir To Perform In Stouffville

On Nov. 10, the Mully Children's Family Choir from Kenya will perform at Christ Church Anglican as part of their North American Safari tour.

The Mully Children's Family (MCF), which was founded by Kenyan Charles Mulli, has transformed the lives of over 5,000 street children since its inception in 1989. Mr. Mulli understands the plight facing these children, as he was left to fend for himself when he was only six. Despite being abandoned by his parents, he grew up to become a millionaire entrepreneur.

According to the UN, 15 million children in sub-Saharan Africa have been orphaned by AIDS. The Mully Children's Family Charitable Foundation (MCFCF) presents a rare opportunity for Stouffville residents to meet some of those children during their fall tour.

North American Safari is an evening of joyous celebration, with songs in Swahili and English; acrobatics; African dance and drumming; karate demonstrations; and testimonials of restored hope from the children of MCF, including Lydia Akinyi. Both her parents died of AIDS and her twin sister died of malnutrition before Lydia's eighth birthday. Like other members of the choir, her future seemed hopeless until she was rescued by MCF.

In 2006, Stouffville residents Chuck and Lore Ormrod travelled to Kenya to help out. "We returned to MCF in 2007 and ran a medical clinic which saw 1,400 villagers, and we taught

in the two schools using 60 donated lap tops," said Lore.

"The now bone dry Thika River which flows past the Mully Children's Family home was the source of irrigation which the orphanage used to grow most of its own food," she noted. "The lack of rain leaves them at the brink of starvation."

Doors open at 6 p.m. for the Nov. 10 fundraiser, giving guests an opportunity to meet MCF founders Charles and Esther Mulli and the 25 choir members. Dinner and entertainment begin at 7 p.m., and will be followed by a concert at 8:30 p.m.

Tickets for the North American Safari tour are available from the Christ Church office, 254 Sunset Blvd., or by calling 905-640-1461. Single tickets are \$50 and tables of eight are \$400. All proceeds go to MCF.



Donated laptops give Kenyan students a helping hand with their schooling.



Special Fall Consignment AUCTION SALE

Sat OCT. 31, 2009 at 11 am sharp Viewing from 9:30 am day of show

CONSISTING OF: Choice pieces of oak, walnut, china, crystal, art work, quilts, Victorian baby pram
PROPERTY OF: Petrie; Rehill; Irwin with items from other Stouffville estate homes

LOCATION: Great Hall, Christ Church, 254 Sunset Blvd., Stouffville

Partial Listing: Gibbard Tea Wagon, pressback rocker, washstand, spinning wheel, child's captain high chair, ornate 1/4 cut oak dresser with tilt bevel mirror, Persian rugs, strawberry plate 22kt, cir. 1920 Japan cream/sugar, pre war Czek china & crystal pieces, cir 1890 ink well/pen, Beleek pieces, brass kettle, Moorcroft vase, Royal Doulton Arcadia china set, Bavarian, Royal Winton Toby Mug, 1881 Rogers Silver, Antique crocks, authentic cir 1950 Kenya Masai spear, numerous cups saucers, demi tasse etc, Antique child's sleigh & barrow, cocoa jug, biscuit jar, sausage grinder, collectors Aunt Jemima pieces. Many other items far too numerous to mention.

ACW CHURCH LADIES LUNCH COUNTER

TERMS: Cash/VISA/MasterCard, day of sale before removals. Auctioneer, Consignees Church Not Responsible For Accidents, Injury, Loss Or Damage. No 'HIDDEN' Internet Bidding Permitted.

ACTIONEERS NOTE: Anyone looking for quality furniture, china & crystal, home decorating & furnishings ... Don't miss this sale!

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Contact: Ken Prentice, Stouffville 905-642-1878 Keith Pike, Oshawa 905-723-8628 • For Details See: www.prenticeandpike.com

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