

## Crafting Warmth For Local Shelters

Casting Off the Cold is a Markham-based volunteer group which knits and crochets winter clothing for shelters across York Region.

Started by five enthusiasts in 2006, the group now has more than 30 members and every year donates around 1,500 items, including hats, scarves, mitts, socks, blankets and sweaters, to charities in the region.

"We have recently started a program in conjunction with the Stouffville Library to encourage teens and 'tweens to learn a craft and help the less fortunate in their community at the same time," said Sally Karamath. "Group members are on hand for conversation, guidance and teaching new skills at each meeting." Meetings are held at the library on the third Sunday of every month.

"We welcome students looking to fulfill some of their community service hours in a creative way with a tangible result," noted Sally. "Interested adults, with or without any prior experience in knitting or crocheting, are invited to join in as well. Casting Off the Cold also gratefully accepts donations of unwanted yarns and needles to help in our projects."

Casting Off the Cold meets at the library from 1 to 3 p.m. on the third Sunday of the month. The next meeting is on Nov. 20. For information call 905-642-7323 or send an email to castingoffthecold@gmail.com



Kassandra is a high school student and member of Casting Off the Cold, a volunteer organization that knits and crochets clothing for shelters across York Region. The group meets once a month at the Whitchurch-Stouffville Library.



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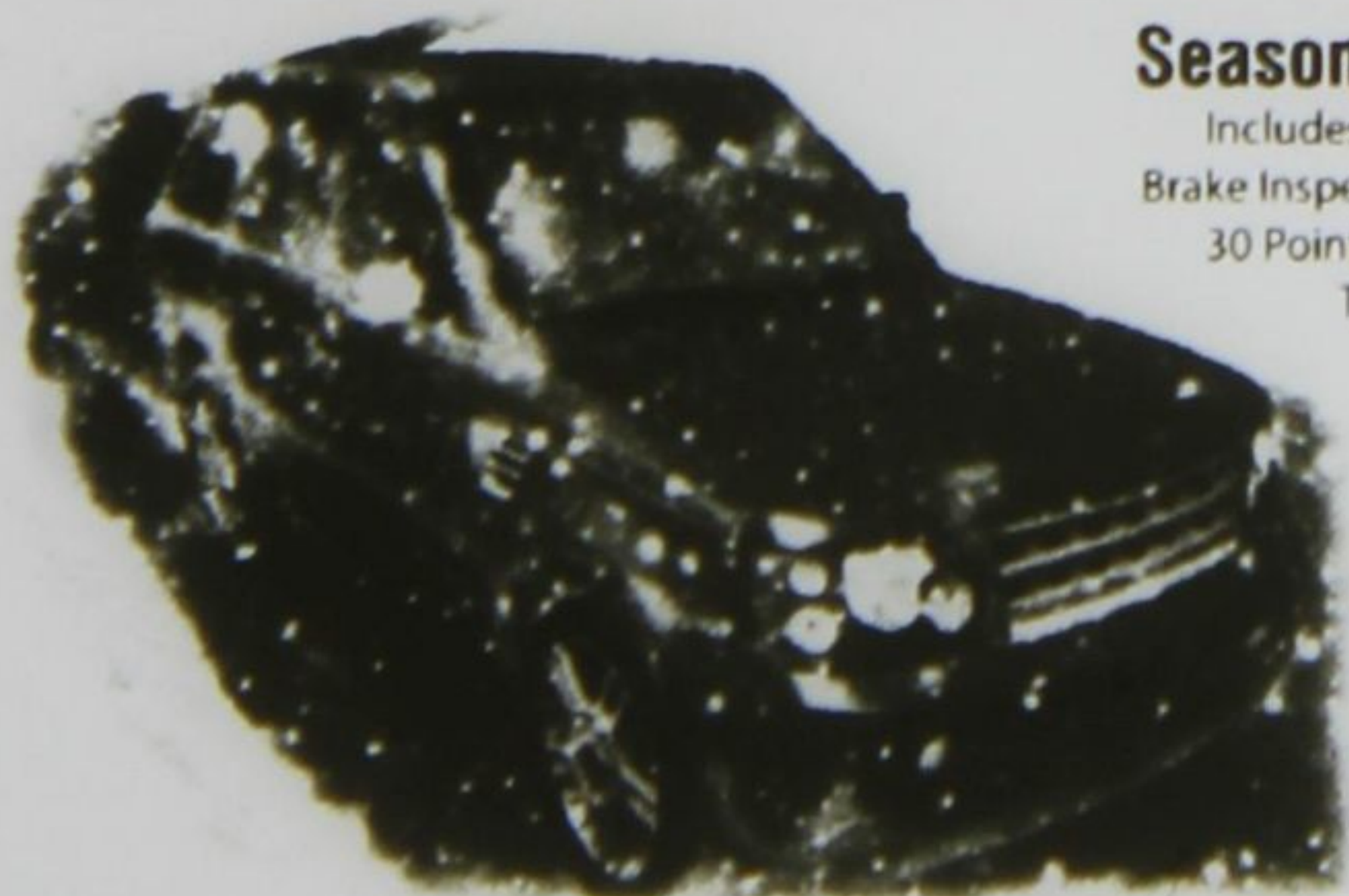


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