

Town wineries continue to pull down awards

BY SANDRA BOLAN
sbolan@yrmg.com

You're in wine country. This isn't the Sonoma Valley or Niagara. But Whitchurch-Stouffville wineries continue to pull down awards.

Local wines are among the best in Ontario, according to the sommeliers who judged the Royal Wine competition.

Applewood Farm Winery's Ella's Ice was named best fruit wine in show.

More than 60 Ontario wineries participated in the competition that highlighted red and white wines, as well as rose, sparkling and dessert wines.

The wine was made with iced cider and raspberries. It took about 10 partial blends to come up with the winner, according to Matt Passafiume, who co-owns the winery with his wife, Stephanie.

'Normally Niagara wins gold. We're a little winery in Stouffville.'

The vintage is sold exclusively at the McCowan Road winery and as it was a fairly small run, there are only about 1,000 bottles available, according to Mr. Passafiume.

Last year, Applewood won a gold medal for its Mac Mead sparkling wine, which was a combination of apples and wild honey flowers.

Mr. Passafiume gives much of the credit for the winning wines to the Oak Ridges Moraine soil, which he said is fantastic for growing a variety of fruit.

Another winner at this year's Royal Wine competition was Willow Springs Winery. It brought home a gold medal for its 2010 Pinot Noir.

In 2012, the winery earned silver medals in the competition for its 2007 Vidal icewine and 2007 Merlot.

"Silver, to us, was always our gold because Niagara always won gold," said Gwyn Layton, manager of the winery. *(She's on today's cover.)*

"Normally Niagara wins gold. We're a little winery in Stouffville," she said.

The grapes used in icewines are harvested by hand at night when it's around -10C.

"We'd like to say it's a romantic time but it's because it's cold and there's no sun out," Ms Layton said.

For more information go to www.applewoodfarm-winery.com and www.willowspringswinery.ca

\$1,500 from family's fair presented to hospital

The Volpe family of Whitchurch-Stouffville continues to be charitable. They presented a cheque Sunday for \$1,500 to Markham Stouffville Hospital.

The money was raised at the Volpes' fifth annual Whistle Stop Christmas Fair held Dec. 1 at the Markham GO train station.

The funds have been earmarked for the hospital's expansion campaign. Tony, Laura, Hannelore and Grace Volpe made the presentation to Allan Bell, director of corporate sponsorship and special events for the hospital foundation. Hannelore Volpe is a former Sun-Tribune reporter.



27 Quick and Easy Fix Ups to Sell Your Home Fast and for Top Dollar

Announcement

Stouffville – Because your home may well be your largest asset, selling it is probably one of the most important decisions you will make in your life. And once you have made that decision, you'll want to sell your home for the highest price in the shortest time possible without compromising your sanity. Before you place your home on the market, here's a way to help you to be as prepared as possible.

To assist home sellers, a new industry report has just been released called "27 Valuable Tips That You Should Know to Get Your Home Sold Fast and for Top Dollar." It tackles the important issues you need to know to make your home competitive in today's tough, aggressive marketplace.

Through these 27 tips you will discover how to protect and

capitalize on your most important investment, reduce stress, be in control of your situation, and make the best profit possible.

In this report you'll discover how to avoid financial disappointment or worse, a financial disaster when selling your home. Using a common-sense approach, you will get the straight facts about what can make or break the sale of your home.

You owe it to yourself to learn how these important tips will give you the competitive edge to get your home sold fast and for the most amount of money.

Order your free report today. To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your FREE copy of this report call toll-free 1-800-628-2827 and enter 1023. You can call any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Get your free special report NOW.

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Schedule C Class Environmental Assessment to Address Outfall Capacity Limitations at the Duffin Creek Water Pollution Control Plant



NOTICE OF PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD EXTENSION Environmental Study Report Public Review Period Extended to February 18, 2014

On November 19, 2013, York and Durham Regions placed the Environmental Study Report (ESR) for the Schedule C Class Environmental Assessment to address outfall capacity limitations at the Duffin Creek Water Pollution Control Plant on the public record. The Notice of Completion announced a 90-day public review period for the ESR ending on Family Day, February 17, 2014.

In response to community requests, the review period has been extended by **one (1) day**, and will end at close of business on Tuesday, February 18, 2014 to avoid closing on Family Day, a statutory holiday. The ESR and supporting studies are available on the project website www.durham.ca/outfallEA and at the following locations:

The Regional Municipality of York
Clerk's Department
17250 Yonge Street
Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1

Pickering Public Library
Central Branch
1 The Esplanade South
Pickering, ON L1V 6K5

Ajax Public Library
Main Branch
55 Harwood Avenue South
Ajax, ON L1S 2H8

The Regional Municipality of Durham
Clerk's Department
605 Rossland Road East
Whitby, ON L1N 6A3

Pickering City Hall
1 The Esplanade South
Pickering, ON L1V 6K5

Ajax Town Hall
65 Harwood Avenue South
Ajax, ON L1S 2H9

Requests for a Part II Order must be received by the Ministry of the Environment by Tuesday February 18, 2014 and can be submitted through a written request to the Minister at the following address:

The Honourable Jim Bradley
Minister of the Environment
12th Floor, 135 St. Clair Avenue West
Toronto, Ontario M4V 1P5

Copies of any Part II Order requests should also be sent to:

Mr. Barry Laverick, P.Eng.
Project Manager
The Regional Municipality of Durham
605 Rossland Road East, Box 623
Whitby, ON L1N 6A3
Phone: 905 668-7711, ext. 3840
Toll Free: 1-800-372-1102
Fax: 905 668-2051
Email: info@OutfallEA.com

Mr. Wayne Green, P.Eng.
Project Manager
The Regional Municipality of York
17250 Yonge Street
Newmarket, ON L3Y 6Z1
Phone: 905 830-4444, ext. 75049
Toll Free: 1-877-464-9675
Fax: 905 836-4590
Email: info@OutfallEA.com

NEWS ONLINE

yorkregion.com

If this information is required in an accessible format, please contact 1-800-372-1102 ext. 3840.