



STAFF PHOTO/MIKE BARRETT

NOT THIS TIME

Goalkeeper Stefanie Romagnolo of Stouffville gets a piece of this shot for her Newmarket team during the Special Olympics soccer tournament and sports festival at Bethesda Sports Fields Saturday. You can see more photographs from the event on yorkregion.com

One of 15 horses on road killed

A horse is dead after it ran onto Vivian Road and was struck by a vehicle.

The accident happened at 5:50 a.m. yesterday.

The initial call to York Regional Police was for a driving hazard.

"Horses on the road, walking on Hwy. 48," said Const. Laura Nicolle.

Five minutes later police received another call about a vehicle hitting a horse on Vivian Road. The collision occurred just west of Hwy. 48.

About 15 horses were wandering in the area, some were on the road, while others were in ditches or cleared to the side, according to Const. Nicolle.

One horse, however, darted in front of a pick-up truck driven by a 60-year-old Newmarket man.

The horse died. The driver of the truck was uninjured, but his truck sustained extensive damage, according to police.

No charges will be laid.

"There's a reason we call it an accident. The driver couldn't predict that," Const. Nicolle said.

— Sandra Bolan

Ash borer hitting town trees

BY SANDRA BOLAN
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Virtually all of the ash trees on boulevards within the community of Stouffville show evidence of being infected by the emerald ash borer, according to Rob Flindall, director of public works for the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville.

The infestation is contained to Stouffville because the trees, in all likelihood, came from a nursery, which means they are all clones, he said, adding, there are no pockets within Stouffville affected more than others.

"Emerald ash borer does not discriminate. If anything, the smaller trees seem to survive a little bit better," Flindall said.

In 2012, there were 1,088 ash trees within the municipality's roadways and so far, 130 have been removed. Trees in parks and open spaces, also managed by the town, were not inventoried.

The municipality is not utilizing any form of insecticide in order to manage the emerald ash borer, instead staff are opting to wait for the tree to die or be on the verge

of death, before they chop it down, which Flindall noted is no different than what other municipalities are doing.

"We're not going to take down what is essentially a living tree and replace it with another tree," Flindall said.

The ash trees are being replaced with maples and oaks, to avoid what Flindall called a "monoculture" of trees.

Flindall warned people should not expect a new tree to be planted immediately after one has been removed. The process will take years. Planting new trees does not guarantee they too will remain disease free, Flindall cautioned.

In July, an arborist, hired by the town, identified 180 ash trees in Stouffville that needed to be removed immediately. This will be done within the next two to three years, according to Flindall.

There are another 334 trees identified as "high priority," which will be removed and replaced within the following three to five years. Another 430 trees were deemed low priority and will be removed at a later time.

Empty liquor bottles will assist sports teams, charities

BY SANDRA BOLAN
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Your empty liquor containers can help local organizations.

Whitchurch-Stouffville residents Shaen Armstrong and Bill Perrie have established the not-for-profit Bottle Shed Foundation, which turns those empties into cash for area organizations, sports teams and charities.

"Something that's going to help the members of the community," Armstrong said. "We can help anybody who would normally use a

bottle drive."

Along with collecting bottles and cans from local homeowners at festivals and fundraising events, the foundation has entered into agreements with some local pubs to collect a portion of their liquor containers.

The foundation is holding its official launch party Sept. 13 at The Coach House Pub in Ballantrae, from 2 to 6 p.m.

A CD featuring The Spoons' Gordon Deppe, FrankYuf, Ted Moroz, Perrie and a group of local sing-

ers known as the Pub Crew, will be available for sale at the launch with all of its proceeds going to the foundation.

Deppe and his new band 3MDM will be at the launch. Deppe will also be signing copies of his book – *SpoonFed*.

Bottle drives were once a mainstay of fundraising for minor hockey teams, boy scout and girl guide organizations, but Armstrong admitted "it's a lot of work for such little return," which is why those groups rarely or no longer do them.

The Bottle Shed Foundation held its first major collection during the Strawberry Festival earlier this summer.

They collected between 420 and 500 liquor containers, which netted the group about \$42, according to Armstrong.

The idea for the foundation came from Perrie. A writer for The Beer Store magazine, Perrie met a woman in South River, Ont., which is about halfway between North Bay and Huntsville, who had a shed where locals dropped off their empty

liquor containers. The money she garnered from the returns was then given out to local community groups, according to Armstrong.

Perrie liked the idea so much, he thought it could be done in Stouffville, she said.

The Beer Store is one of the foundation's main sponsors.

To have liquor containers picked up from your home, call 1-866-389-8747. They will not collect them out of curbside recycle bins.

For more information, go to <http://bottleshed.ca>

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