

Local resident needs community support

by Michelle Minnoch

Innisfil resident Adam Crowder, 15, has Type 1 diabetes. Living with diabetes since he was eight years old, Adam is insulin dependent and receives shots daily to keep the disease in check. His mother, Robin Crowder, is trying to raise \$6000 for an insulin pump, a pager sized device, which would be attached to his body and read his blood sugar level and give Adam a constant minuet dose of insulin.

There are going to be many events

throughout the community to help Adam raise the money needed for the device.

On Saturday, June 24th, CW Coops in Alcona will be holding a fundraising event from noon until close. Raffle tickets will be sold for \$2, and there will be great prizes raffles off, including Kressmann Wine baskets and Robert Simpson Brewery products, and there will be t-shirt giveaways. CW Coops employee Cathy will be donating her tips for the day to Adam and CW Coops owner Mike Billiss will be

matching Cathy's tips for the donation. Adam will be bussing at the restaurant that day, so make sure you take the time to meet and talk to this remarkable young man.

On Saturday, August 12th, there will be a fundraising bazaar at the Alcona Lions Hall with quality used clothing, books, movies, music, baked goods, craft items and a raffle table. There will also be a fundraising BBQ at Wal Mart on Saturday, August 26th, details to follow later this month.

If you can drop by CW Coops on

Saturday, June 24th, whether for the great food or a great cause, Adam would appreciate it. The sooner the money is raised, the sooner Adam can get the device he needs to regulate his diabetes. Donations can be made at the Alcona Branch of the Peoples Credit Union, donations made In Trust, for Adam Crowder.

If you would like to make a donation to the bazaar, email Robin Crowder at redworc@bigfoot.com.

Public meeting set for July 5 for Thornton water

by Richard Blanchard

July 5th has been set as the date for a public meeting on the expansion of the water system in the village of Thornton.

Essa council set the date at last week's council meeting.

The proposal would see the extension of water services along Barrie St., Robert St. and a portion of Robert St.

About 77 lots would be affected by the proposal with the township

proposing a charge of \$6,613 per lot to cover installation costs with an extra \$500 being charged per unit if the lot contains multiple units.

Local councillor Rick Newlove told council that he had some problems with the charge, which includes \$780.56 to be put into reserves for water infrastructure renewal. The township has been required to ensure adequate provision is made for future upgrades and maintenance.

The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. at the township administration centre.

Critical Shortage of long term care beds in Simcoe County

Province Needs to Address Shortage in Long Term Care Beds

Midhurst/ June 13, 2006 – Despite being the most under-serviced area for long term care beds in the Province of Ontario, the Province has not approved additional long term care beds to meet this critical need. The Ministry of Health and Long Term Care utilization reports issued in 2005 and 2006 identified the County of Simcoe as having the longest wait-list in the Province of Ontario.

In 2005, the wait-list for individuals applying for a long term care bed in Simcoe County was 864 and in 2006, the wait-list increased to 1,084 applicants.

This may result in a

minimum of a two-year wait for those requiring care in a long term care home. As a result, many individuals needing long term care are forced to manage without the essential health care services they need. Alternatively, families may be required to choose a long term care home in another jurisdiction such as the Region of York and the Region of Peel. This places undo hardship on the resident and the family.

As the critical situation worsens in the County of Simcoe, the County is taking steps to seek a viable solution and has submitted a formal proposal to the Province for additional long term care beds. It is with regret that the Province has rejected this proposal.

County Council is committed to help its residents to ensure their health care needs are being adequately met.

While provincial legislation requires the County of Simcoe to operate one long term care home, the County of Simcoe in fact owns and operates four facilities. The proposal for which the County was seeking provincial approval was for 43 additional beds. County Council has determined that it's Penetanguishene long term care home can be redeveloped to accommodate this increased demand.

It is not without precedent that the Province of Ontario should acknowledge a critical

shortage of long term care beds and seek to effect a solution. On April 10, 2006, Minister George Smitherman announced a new long term care facility to be built in the City of Kingston to ease a chronic shortage of beds in that community.

Given the critical shortage of long term care beds in the County of Simcoe and the continued burden on County taxpayers, the County of Simcoe urges the Province of Ontario to reconsider their decision not to award new beds in this area. As evidenced by the continued practice of community hospitals discharging patients to long term care homes outside of the County and statistical evidence identifying the

County of Simcoe as having the longest waitlist in the Province, the County views this as an excellent opportunity to work with the Province to improve local health care services and build a stronger community for Simcoe County residents.

Rec Centre receives donation from Kuzmich tourney

The Friends of the South Simcoe Police Hockey Tournament Committee presented Mayor Brian Jackson with a cheque for \$14,000 for the new Rec Centre.

The hockey tournament was held at the Lefroy Community centre on March 31st, and April 1st and 2nd. There were 18 teams playing in three different divisions; Recreational, Gentlemen and Old Timers.

Congratulations to the winning teams in their respective divisions, Georgian Downs, Barrie Sports Medicine and the Innisfil Flyers.

The Committee would like to thank the many supporters and sponsors who contributed towards ice time, prizes and various donations.

As a result of this hockey tournament, \$14,000 was raised for the MURF.

The executive of the hockey committee presented the cheque to Mayor Brian Jackson at council Wednesday night. The hockey committee includes; Bob Eeles, Bill Pring, Gord Wauchope, Sharon Beebe, Sherry Ayres, Brad Ayres, John Wardrop and Larry Wilkins.



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