

THORNTON NEWS

by Cathie Miller

Its time to be planning your Valentine's Day surprise for your sweetie. How about taking them to the annual Valentine's Dance sponsored by the Thornton Area Action Committee? It will be held upstairs at the Thornton Community Arena on Saturday, February 10th starting at 8 p.m. For just \$12.50 per person you can dance the night away to the sounds of DJ "Keep Them Dancing." There will be spot dances and door prizes and a full lunch served at 11 a.m. For tickets and information you can call Terry at 458-9054 or me at 458-0869.

The Lt. Governor of Ontario has announced a province wide book drive to provide surplus books to native communities especially those in Northern Canada. During

the month of January you can drop off books at any OPP Detachment in Ontario. Maybe its time to clean out those closets and make some room for yourself and pass on the pleasure of reading a good book to someone else.

The Essa Historical Society will hold their monthly meeting on Saturday, January 27 at the Thornton Library starting at 1:30 p.m. The topic will be show & tell; and roll call is bring your favourite oldie. For more information call Olive Lee at 458-9971.

Story Time for Preschoolers begins next week at the library. If you haven't signed up yet there's still time. You can choose from either Monday or Tuesday mornings from 10 until 11 a.m. The Monday dates are January 22 & 29 and February 5 & 12 or the Tuesday dates begin January 23 & 30 and February 6 & 13. Each four week session costs \$2 per child and registration is required. For information about Story Time or any of the services and programs the library offers you can call them at 458-2549.

January 27 is Family Literacy Day. Visit the ABC

Canada website www.abc-canada.org for interesting information about literacy, games, special offers and more. If you click on the Family Literacy tab they are featuring a contest for one lucky Canadian family to win a visit from Robert Munsch at their community's Literacy Day. Check on line for details.

For those of us who still have Christmas trees and don't know what to do with them the Christmas tree pickup in Essa is scheduled for the week of January 22nd. That is this coming Monday. Your tree must be at the side of the road by 7 a.m. on Monday and the trees will be collected during the week. The tree must not be bagged, have any decorations left on it or frozen in the snow bank or they will not take it.

As always, if you have any news, meetings, anniversaries or special occasions, I'd be happy to write about them. You can email me at thorntonnews@rogers.com or call me at (705) 458-0869 or drop it off at 25 Robert Street. Bye for now.....

56 dogs surrendered and one removed from Essa Township property

NEWMARKET, ON, (January 11, 2006) – An investigation is ongoing following the surrender of 56 husky-type dogs, and the removal of one husky-type dog, from an Essa Township property.

On January 3, 2007 Ontario SPCA Barrie Branch investigators attended the property to monitor compliance with previous Ontario SPCA Orders to improve the dogs' living conditions. During the inspection the owner surrendered four dogs. One dog was removed by the Ontario SPCA to receive immediate veterinary attention due to a collar embedded in its skin, an injured paw and neurological issues. Following the removal the Ontario SPCA has continued to collect evidence and charges may be laid. The owner later surrendered the dog to the Ontario SPCA.

The Ontario SPCA returned to the property on January 5, 2007 to remove an additional 44 dogs surrendered by the owner. Included were 15 puppies. Ontario SPCA veterinary examination determined that the majority of the surrendered dogs were suffering from internal parasites. An additional seven dogs were surrendered January 9, 2007.

Due to the large number of animals surrendered, Ontario SPCA branches and affiliated humane societies are working together to provide sheltering and veterinary care to the dogs, as well as assisting with adoptions. This includes: Ontario SPCA Orangeville & District Branch, Ontario SPCA York Region Branch, Ontario SPCA Perth County Branch, Peterborough Humane Society and Kitchener-Waterloo Humane Society.

"This coordinated effort between Ontario SPCA branches and affiliated humane societies is a great example of what we can do for animal welfare when we work together and pool our resources," says Hugh Coghill, Ontario SPCA Acting Chief Inspector.

An additional four puppies are being surrendered in early February when they have completed nursing and can

be separated from their mother (who the owner has chosen to keep).

Ontario SPCA investigators will continue to monitor the property and the condition of the remaining animals to ensure compliance with outstanding Ontario SPCA Orders to address water, shelter (including moving all kennels onto raised platforms to keep the dogs dry), and veterinary issues

(parasite control). The investigation initially began in November 2006, at which time the owner surrendered one dog.

Subject to the results of the investigation charges may be laid at a later date.

To report suspected animal abuse call the Ontario SPCA at 1-888-ONT-SPCA (668-7722) extension 1, Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477), your local Ontario SPCA

Branch, affiliated humane society or police.

Innisfil Christmas Tree collection

Christmas Tree's will be collected in the Town of Innisfil the week of January 22nd.

Have your Christmas Tree at the curb by 7am that week.

Van Loan helps to kick off Ski and Snowboard Week

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Canadians to get involved in sport and physical activity," he said. "I am pleased that we are delivering on this important commitment for families and taxpayers."

Van Loan said some 60 per cent of Canadians are inactive, and that can have an impact on the health care system.

"Children and young people need to be active every day to promote a healthy lifestyle," he declared. "Of course, sports can be a lot of fun."

This is the 30th anniversary of National Ski and Snowboard Week, which is held to encourage people to get out and take part in winter activities, according to Colin Chedore, president of the Canadian Ski Council.

Chedore observed that for every 100 young people who give skiing or snowboarding a try, 17 stay with it, and they would like to see that number

increased. He added there are five million skiers and snowboarders in Canada, making 18 million skier visits annually.

Friday's festivities were attended by a group of Grade 5 students from Brampton, who received a free day on the slopes, including lessons and rentals.

"It is important to get these kids active and healthy in winter, because when they are active and healthy in winter, they are active and healthy all year long," Chedore remarked.

The opening of the slopes was very good news to those who depend on those sports for their livelihood.

"We've had a really tough start to the season," commented Martin Kimble, chairman of the Ontario Snow resorts Association, but he expressed the hope the mild winter is behind them.



Simcoe County District School Board

TENDER FOR
MIDLAND 6th STREET ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
MIDLAND, ONTARIO
TENDER NUMBER 2006-2007-212T

Prequalification submissions have reviewed, and invitations to tender have been accepted by the following companies:

General Contractors

Bertram Construction & Design Ltd.
Bondfield Construction Co. Ltd.
Kiwi Newton Construction Ltd.
M.J. Dixon Construction Ltd.
Melloul Blamey Construction Inc.
Monteith Building Group Ltd.
Percon Construction Inc.
Tasis Contractors Inc

Phone

(705) 726-0254
(416) 667-8422
(519) 822-5281
(905) 270-7770
(705) 792-5023
(705) 719-1355
(905) 795-1117
(905) 831-1100

Fax

(705) 721-0366
(416) 667-8462
(519) 822-6159
(905) 270-4244
(705) 792-6971
(705) 719-1455
(905) 795-8329
(905) 831-0107

Masonry Contractors

BMC Masonry
Burling Ranger Company Inc.
Limen Group Ltd.
Nu-Caltat Masonry Inc.
Paramount Masonry Inc.

(905) 417-4634
(705) 436-2186
(416) 638-8880
(705) 487-0408
(705) 431-7899

(905) 416-4635
(705) 436-4922
(416) 638-7363
(705) 487-1083
(705) 431-5494

Mechanical Contractors

H.S. St. Amant & Sons Inc.
J.M.R. Electric Ltd
Sexton s Mechanical Limited
Simcoe Mechanical Contracting (1986) Ltd.
Soan Mechanical Ltd.
Western Mechanical,Electrical,Millwright Services Ltd.

(705) 549 7227
(519) 235-1516
(705) 728-4040
(705) 326-9501
(519) 455-1530
(705) 737-4135

(705) 549-4308
(519) 235-0507
(705) 728-4046
(705) 326-0829
(519) 455-1104
(705) 737-1765

Electrical Contractors

Abercrombie Electric Co. Ltd.
J.M.R. Electric Ltd.
Minnings Electrical Service Ltd.
N.S.E. 2000 Inc.
Pentor Electric Ltd.
Walker s Electric 2000
Wallwin Electric Services Ltd.
Western Mechanical,Electrical,Millwright Services Ltd.

(705) 728-5509
(519) 235-1516
(705) 322-1307
(705) 325-3738
(705) 549-5078
(705) 526-7825
(705) 726-1859
(705) 737-4135

(705) 728-5644
(519) 235-0507
(705) 322-0722
(705) 325-3717
(705) 549-3706
(705) 526-9282
(705) 726-8450
(705) 737-1765

General contractor tender submissions, enclosed in a sealed envelope, shall be submitted to the reception desk, at the Simcoe County District School Board, Education Centre, 1170 Highway 26, Midhurst, Ontario, L0L 1X0 by:

1:30:00 p.m. local time, Thursday, February 1, 2007

Tender documents will be available for pickup by General Contractors at the office of **TED HANDY and ASSOCIATES Inc. ARCHITECT**, 76 Mary St., Barrie, Ontario, telephone (705) 734-3580, on Thursday, January 11, 2007. Tender documents will also be on display at the Construction Associations of Barrie, Grand Valley, Orillia and Toronto and the Simcoe County District School Board.

A mandatory site viewing for General Contractors has been arranged for : **Tuesday, January 16, 2007 at 10:30 a.m.**

General Contractor tender submissions shall be accompanied by a **Bid Bond in the amount of \$500,000.00** and an Agreement to Bond for a 50% Labour and Material Payment Bond and a 50% Performance Bond.

The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

Debra Edwards
Chairperson

K. Gordon Campbell
Director of Education