

County providing applications for new affordable housing program

With funding received under the Canada-Ontario Affordable Housing Program (AHP), the County of Simcoe has enhanced the opportunity for low to moderate income households to consider homeownership.

The AHP Homeownership Component

has committed over \$1 million to the county, to provide interest-free down payment assistance to 118 households.

The program provides up to five per cent in down payment assistance to help renters in purchasing a home.

The county recently launched the program.

Since then, staff have engaged in public information meetings in Midland and Barrie. Further meetings are scheduled for several locations throughout the region.

The program not only

benefits renters but the community as a whole. It is intended to ease the demand on the rental housing supply by helping renters purchase affordable homes.

Households who can afford a mortgage but can't come up with the down payment may benefit from the program.

Applicants must be renting a residence in the county, be at least 18 years old, and have a combined household income at or below \$61,400. They cannot own or have an interest in a house or property and must be able to access mortgage financing. The deadline for applications is

Dec. 14.

Demand for the program is expected to exceed the number of grants.

So, the county will hold a random draw Dec. 21. For more information, visit the county's website at www.simcoe.ca or call 725-7215.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

A directory of what is happening in your community

The community event calendar is provided as a free public service to non-profit organizations to announce upcoming events. Deadlines are no later than Monday for that week's issue to

COMMUNITY EVENTS, P.O. Box 310, Beeton, Ontario L0G 1A0

Submissions by mail, fax or e-mail and will not be received by telephone.

ISSUES & INTERESTS

The York-Simcoe Naturalists is a young club looking for new members. Contact: Cathryn Rees at 905-775-7021, e-mail: wilcor@sympatico.ca.

South Simcoe Community Information Centre "CONTACT" at 146 Victoria St. W. Alliston. Call (705) 435-4900, Fax 705-435-1106. Website: www.csolve.net/~contact, or Email: contact@focusdc.on.ca.

Be a face in the fight against cancer The Innisfil Branch of the Canadian Cancer Society needs volunteers. Their involvement enables the Canadian Cancer Society to fund cancer research, provide information, services and to support people living with cancer. Call: 436-1060 or 726-8032.

The Canadian Mental Health Association of Barrie-Simcoe supports the development and continuance of self-help groups as a viable community resource for individuals experiencing difficulties. Self-Help groups can provide; support and understanding through difficult times; an opportunity to meet with others who have experienced similar difficulties; information and education; a safe and comfortable environment; suggestions regarding coping strategies that help to get through difficult times.

For further information contact the Canadian Mental Health Association, Barrie-Simcoe Branch at 705-726-5033 or 1-800-461-4319.

Donations are needed for Music Fun Night at the Gilford United Church. If you have any old or unused music instruments like tambourines, shakers, chimes, drums or other fun instruments, call Dawn at (705) 456-2555.

MONDAYS

Friends of the Innisfil Library, Stroud Branch, meetings are held the third Monday of every month at 7 p.m.

Gilford and District Horticultural Society meets second Monday of the month from March to November at Churchill Community Centre at 7:30pm. New members are always welcome. Call Judith Rogers at 431-9278 or Kathy Barraclough at (905)853-8785 for more info.

Al-Anon meetings take place every Monday at Innisfil Community Church at 8:00 p.m. If you have a problem with someone else's drink, come and join the discussion group.

Innisfil Pipes & Drums meet for practice at the Legion in Bell Ewart, 1017 Robinson St. at 7 p.m. Always looking for new members. Phone Ken at (705) 456-3717.

TUESDAYS

Job Search Assistance, help with job search, resumes, interview tips, job bank internet assistance at the Thornton Library 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. and the Alcona Library from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. Services provided at no charge by The Employment Outreach Team call Marilee or Kathy at (705) 728-0897 for more information. This initiative is funded by the government of Canada.

Cookstown Computer Club drop-in program for elementary students, 4 to 5 p.m. at the library.

T.O.P.S. (Take off Pounds Sensibly) from 6:30-8 p.m. at the Library, Robert St., Thornton. For information call (705) 424-9433 or (705) 458-0937.

Stroud Seniors invite persons 55 + to join them for an afternoon of bid and progressive euchre, refreshments and companionship. 1 to 4 p.m. at St. Paul's Anglican Church Hall, Painswick. Call 436-1628.

St Paul's Anglican Church, located on the corner of Mapleview and Yonge Street, has two new youth and young adult programs. From 6:30 - 8:00 pm will be informal musical jamming sessions for anyone with a voice or instrument. If you are learning to play an instrument or like to sing and would enjoy having some fun and social time with similar minded people, come and join us. For more information, please call (705) 722-7755

St. Paul's Church, Innisfil (corner of Mapleview and Yonge Street), Playgroup for tots, moms, dads, caregivers, and grandparents from 9:30-11:30

am. Come for a social time, friendship, play and snacks. For information, call (705) 431-1694.

The Beta Classes will be held at the Innisfil Community Church starting January 9th at 1pm. Beta is a life changing program and the twelve week course will enable you to live free from fear, stress anxiety and the pain of past hurts and traumas. This program is offered at the Church from 1:00 - 2:30 pm. For more information, call Sherri McLaughlin at (705) 436-1611.

WEDNESDAYS

Friends of the Innisfil Library, Lakeshore Branch, meet the third Wednesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. New members are most welcome.

Euchre, bid euchre, Scrabble and cribbage is played at Alcona Seniors club every Wednesday at 12:30 to 3 p.m. at the ABC Hall on the 25th Sideroad below Innisfil Beach Rd. Refreshments and fun days. Bring a bag lunch. **Euchre every 3rd** Wednesday of the month at 7:30, Newton Robinson United Church in aid of Gwen Taylor Library. Refreshments.

Weight Loss Group. The Alcona Chapter of TOPS meets at 7:15 at Goodfellow Public School. Call Joan Davies at 436-3197 after 6 and on weekends.

Job Search Assistance, help with job search, resumes, interview tips, job bank internet assistance. On Wednesdays, the mornings are alternated between the Churchill and the Cookstown Libraries from 10:00 a.m. to noon., and every Wednesday afternoon at the Stroud Branch from 1:30 - 3:30. Services provided at no charge by The Employment Outreach Team Please call marilee or Kathy at (705) 728-0897. This initiative is funded by the government of Canada.

Euchre at St. Peter's Anglican Church, Churchill is held every Wednesday at 1 p.m. at the parish hall. Please call Reg at 705-456-6801 for information.

The Cookstown Co-Operative Playgroup is at St. John's Anglican Church in Cookstown located on Hwy 89, east of Hwy 27. All pre-school children and their care-givers are welcome, as well as new members. The hours will be 9:30 to 12:00 every Wednesday & Thursday. Come out with your pre-school aged children (senior kindergarten and younger), have a snack, make a craft and meet

some new friends. For more information please call Brian Haas at (705) 458-8468. See you there!!

THURSDAYS

Euchre - Progressive and Bid, every Thursday at 1 p.m. at the Royal Canadian Legion - 1017 Robinson, Bell Ewart 705-436-1144, Betty.

Register for Book Book a six week afterschool program for ages 6 and up from 5-6 p.m. Call Innisfil Public Library, Cookstown Branch at 458-1273.

Job Search Assistance, help with job search, resumes, interview tips, job bank internet assistance at the Alcona Library from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. Please call Marilee or Kathy at (705) 728-0897. Services provided at no charge by The Employment Outreach Team 728-3757, this initiative is funded by the government of Canada.

Barrie Chapter of Schizophrenia Society of Ontario family support group meets the last Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Canadian Mental Health Association, Barrie-Simcoe Building, 39 High St., Barrie. For info contact 726-5033.

Painswick Horticultural Society meets the 3rd Thursday of the month at St. Paul's Anglican Church. Meeting time is 7:30 p.m. New members welcome. For info call Linda Lewer at 436-3908.

The Parish of Churchill and Cookstown youth group meets every Thursday from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Youth between the ages of 9-12 years are welcome to attend regardless of denomination. Please call Pam Gervais for information at (705) 735-3484.

St Paul's Anglican Church, located on the corner of Mapleview and Yonge Street, has two new youth and young adult programs. From 6:30 - 8:00 pm we are beginning a study comparing the gospels and learning how and why they developed. For more information, call (705) 722-7755.

SATURDAYS

Barrie Farmers' Market, outside and inside Barrie City Hall. From 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Fresh produce and fruit in season. For info please call 739-4204.

SUNDAYS

Overeaters Anonymus meets at the Mapleview Community Church at 7pm. Do you eat when you are not hungry? Is your weight affecting the way you live your life? It's not what you

eat, it's what's eating you! For more information, call Anne at (705) 436-7921.

The Teen Youth Group of the Parish of Churchill and Cookstown meet at St. John's Anglican Church every other Sunday in the parish hall from 12:30 - 2:30 pm. All teens aged between 13-18 years are welcome to join regardless of denomination. Please call Pam at (705) 735-3484 for information.

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 7

Roast beef supper at Gilford United Church. Homemade pies will be available. Sittings are being held at 5 and 6:30 p.m. Adult admission is \$13, children under 12 cost \$5. For tickets, call 456-2006.

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 8

Barrie Thornton Old Time Fiddlers Night at the Lions Hall on Barrie Street in Thornton. The doors open at 6 p.m. and the music starts at 7 p.m. Admission is \$3 per person and children are free. All fiddlers, singers, callers, dancers and listeners are welcome. Call Cec Denney for more information at 458-9996.

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 9

Cookstown United Church will host an annual Light Up Night ham supper. The supper will run from 5 to 7 p.m. **The New Tecumseth and Area Arts Council** is opening its Christmas in the Country display from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. New displays of local items for the Christmas season. A new artist, Barrie's Tim Coulter, will have his pencil drawings and portraits on display. Refreshments will be served. The event will be held at Art Unique Gallery and Gifts, at the corner of County Road 27 and the 2nd Line of Innisfil. For more information, visit www.artunique.ca or call 458-4466.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 10

Country Craft Bazaar at St. Paul's Anglican Church from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. The church is located at the Mapleview Road and Yonge Street intersection. Baking, preserves,

gourmet delights, children's togs, crafts, and gift baskets will all be available. Santa Claus and his elves will hand out candy canes between 9 and 11 a.m.

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 15

The Alzheimer Society of Greater Simcoe County will host a monthly caregiver support group meeting to discuss issues and successes in a confidential and supportive environment at The Spoke in Sandy Cove Acres North, between 1 and 3 p.m.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 17

Annual Innisfil Christmas Bazaar from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Churchill Community Centre. We have many very talented people with their homemade creations as well as some vendors with great gift ideas. There is something for every age. Lunch and beverages are available. All tables are booked.

Innisfil Beach Gardens is hosting an annual Christmas bazaar and craft sale from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 18

The Thornton Lions Club invites everyone in the community to its annual spaghetti dinner on Nov. 18, at the Lions Hall in Thornton, from 5 to 7:30 p.m. All proceeds will benefit the Lions Club Foundation's dog guide program.

Admission is \$7 for adults and \$3.50 for children. The club also wants to notify the community that they begin selling Christmas trees on Dec. 1, on County Road 27, just north of the traffic lights in Thornton.

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 27

The Bond Head Olde Tyme Fiddle Club will host its monthly jam session. The event will take place at the Bond Head Community Hall, located at the Highway 27 and 88 intersection, beginning at 7 p.m. Admission is \$4. For more information, call Ralph Price at 835-3159 or Ed Elliotson at (519) 941-2134.