

Character Community



E-News



A Town of Richmond Hill initiative.

A Town of Richmond Hill Character Community monthly e-letter

May is Responsibility

I will be accountable for my actions, be reliable and keep my commitments.

May 2007

Town of Richmond Hill Character Community Organizations

Arts Richmond Hill Inc.

Between Friends

Community Living York South

The Curtain Club

Girl Guides of Canada York South Division

Helpmate Community Information

Hill House Hospice

Ja'fari Islamic Housing

Learning Disabilities Association of York Region

Lions Club of Richmond Hill

Music For Young Children

Music to Care for Your Life

My Canada! Integration Settlement Services

Optimist Club of Richmond Hill

Richmond Hill Aquatic Club

Richmond Hill Canoe Club

Richmond Hill Chamber of Commerce

Richmond Hill Community Food Bank

Richmond Hill Rams Hockey Club

Richmond Hill Social & Bocce Club

Richmond Hill Training Centre

Richmond Hill Winter Carnival

Royal Canadian Legion Branch #375

Spiritual Assembly of the Bahai's of Richmond Hill

St. Matthew's United Church Health Cabinet

Stroke Recovery Network
The Amici Centre

Wilderness Lifeskills of Youth Inc.

Reserve Your Canada Day Booth!

To reserve your booth for the Canada Day Home Show at Richmond Green please contact Don Crowder, Community Development Coordinator, at (905) 884-0855, ext. 224 or dcrowder@richmondhill.ca. The first 10 Character Organizations to reserve will receive a complimentary booth.



His Life's Work

by: Wyverne Flatt, "Chicken Soup for the Soul at Work"

When his wife died, the baby was two. They had six other children - three boys and three girls, ranging in age from 4 to 16. A few days after he became a widower, the man's parents and his deceased wife's parents came to visit.

"We've been talking," they said, "about how to make this work. There's no way you can take care of all these children and work to make a living. So, we've arranged for each child to be placed with a different uncle and aunt.

We're making sure that all of your children will be living right here in the neighborhood, so you can see them anytime..."

"You have no idea how much I appreciate your thoughtfulness," the man responded. "But I want you to know," he smiled and continued, "if the children should interfere with my work, or if we should need any help, we'll let you know."

Over the next few weeks the man worked with his children, assigning them chores and giving them responsibilities. The two older girls, aged 12 and 10, began to cook and do the laundry and household chores. The two older boys, 16 and 14, helped their father with his farming.

But then another blow. The man developed arthritis. His hands swelled, and he was unable to grip the handles of his farm tools. The children shouldered their loads well, but the man could see that he would not be able to continue in this vein. He sold his farming equipment, moved the

family to a small town and opened a small business.

The family was welcomed into the new neighborhood. The man's business flourished. He derived pleasure from seeing people and serving them. Word of his pleasant personality and excellent customer service began to spread. People came from far and wide to do business with him. And the children helped both at home and at work. Their father's pleasure in his work brought satisfaction to them, and

he drew pleasure from their successes.

The children grew up and got married. Five of the seven went off to college, most after they were married. Each one paid his or her own way. The children's collegiate

successes were a source of pride to the father. He had stopped at the sixth grade.

Then came grandchildren. No one enjoyed grandchildren more than this man. As they became toddlers, he invited them to his workplace and his small home. They brought each other great joy.

Finally, the youngest daughter - the baby, who had been two years old at her mother's death - got married. And the man, his life's work completed, died.

This man's work had been the lonely but joyful task of raising his family. This man was my father. I was the 16-year-old, the oldest of seven.

Source:
<http://www.inspirationalstories.com/8/804.html>



Short Story of Responsibility

by: Ann Onymous

Once upon a time, there were four people named Everybody, Somebody, Nobody, and Anybody. When there was an important job to be done, Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did.



When Nobody did, Everybody got angry because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought that Somebody would do it; Nobody realized that Nobody would. So it ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done in the first place.

-From the archives of Jean C. West (1913-1996)

Source: <http://www.fredericknow.org/anybody.htm>

Two New Groups Come Aboard!

Between Friends & Community Living York South

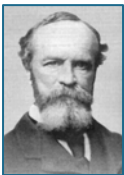
Between Friends, Aboriginal Clothing & Book Drive is a not-for-profit drive that sends clothes and books to Aboriginal communities in Ontario. Twice annually, Between Friends sends 400+ boxes of clothes, books, toys, household items and more to over 13 Ontario First Nations communities. Although they hold two main drives per year (spring & fall), they also arrange emergency shipments and donations are received all year long. During Drive week, they are loaded into a transport truck bound for several northern hubs. Communities with road access pick up their own boxes. Remote communities receive their boxes by small, single engine prop planes.

Responsibility Quotes



"The willingness to accept responsibility for one's own life is the source from which self-respect springs."

-Joan Didion



"A new position of responsibility will usually show a man to be a far stronger creature than was supposed."

-William James



"Few things help an individual more than to place responsibility upon him, and to let him know that you trust him."

-Booker T. Washington

Next Month's Attribute:
June is Honesty

Responsibility

by: Amber Rose

Something I'm learning, something that I know is true.

The only person responsible for your actions is you.

What goes around, comes around, as you may have heard.

You give and take, you receive what you deserve.

As much as I may not want to admit, this mess that I'm in, I got myself into it.

What I've done, I've done a couple of times.

They say you live and learn, well why didn't I?

So I'm dealing with the pain, and taking on the ache

I have to lie in the bed I didn't mean to make, so instead of looking up to heaven and asking God for help

I'll take a look in the mirror, a good look at myself.

I have to realize and accept what I've done wrong, learning lessons is tough but not if your strong.

Source:

http://www.sffworld.com/authors/r/rose_amber/poems/responsibility.html



Community Living York South supports individuals of all ages with an intellectual disability to live a fully integrated life with the community - to live, love, to go to school, to work, to enjoy leisure activities and be active in retirement. They provide a full range of residential and daytime supports to more than 300 individuals in their direct service programs and provide community outreach to up to 2,000 individuals with an intellectual disability and their families living in the communities of the region of York South.



Town of Richmond Hill Ward 2 Councillor Arnie Warner looks on as York Regional Police Constable Nick Verruno checks to see if drivers are being responsible with their speed in the community safety zone outside Crosby Heights Public School on April 24, 2007.

Character Community E-News is a monthly e-mail newsletter to share information about upcoming events within our organization and beyond. If you would like to contribute upcoming Character Community event information, story ideas or photos, please forward it to the Editor, Michelle Lipkus, at mlipkus@richmondhill.ca.