

## Pet oxygen masks donated to King Township Fire Departments

By TERRA CIOLFE  
WEEKLY STAFF WRITER

Instead of buying each other a Christmas gift for the past couple of years, Ross Hamilton and his wife Jackie have opted to give back to the community instead.

This year, the Nobleton residents decided to purchase pet oxygen masks for the local fire department.

They got the idea from an event they participated in with their dog-carting group – a group where their dogs suit up in harnesses to take kids for a ride for charity.

About a month ago, they attended an event with their dog-carting club, to help raise money for pet oxygen masks for another fire department. This year, the two decided that was what they wanted to do for their Christmas presents this year.

After hearing about the idea, their neighbours, Patti

and Nick Grillo, who own the dog biscuit company Northern Biscuit Bakery, offered to share the costs as well as donate dog biscuits for the fire trucks. The biscuits are meant to help gain the trust of pets in emergency situations.

The masks come from Wag'n enterprises and are assembled with masks used in the veterinary industry and perform a similar function to CPR. With all the shipping and fees attached, each mask retails for just less than \$100.

Six in total have been donated to the King Township Fire Departments. Each fire station will get two masks.

Fire Chief Bryan Burbidge said the masks will be in the first stations and all firefighters will have their training complete by the New Year.



From left: Ross Hamilton with canine companion Timex, Fire Chief Bryan Burbidge, Jackie Hamilton with their pet Cassio, Patti Grillo with pet Halley, Deputy Chief Jim Wall, Nick Grillo, and District Fire Chief Wayne Brown with his puppy Doc.