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A.J. Groen/News Advertiser photo

Perennial favourites

PICKERING — Peggy Lynn (left) and Cathy Schnipper, the producer and musical director of the Pickering Perennials, entertain residents at Orchard Villa Retirement Home during a visit. Here, they work as a duet on the chorus of 'Little Yellow Bird', although the song was a solo for Ms. Lynn.

Pickering appeals building permit

Council believes 'wrong decision' reached in Johnson application

By Lesley Bovie
Staff Writer

PICKERING — Rick Johnson says local councillors are turning a planning issue into a political one by appealing a building permit for his north Pickering property.

"This is very unfortunate. It's devastated my family and myself," said the Ward 3 regional councillor.

Pickering's committee of adjustment granted him the permit March 19.

He wants to build a house and some barns on his 100-acre lot near Uxbridge-Pickering Town Line Road and Sideline 8,

but needs a minor variance because his property is situated on a road that isn't publicly maintained.

However, Pickering council decided by a 4-2 vote to launch an appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB). Coun. Johnson declared a conflict of interest and wasn't present for the March 24 in-camera decision.

"From our perspective, we think the committee of adjustment decision was basically the wrong decision," said Ward 1 Regional Councillor Maurice Brenner.

"The prudent thing would have been to refer it back to the planning or legal departments of either (Pickering or Uxbridge)."

Pickering council didn't agree with the public panel's scrapping of a sixth condition from City planners deeming the contract "null and void" if all other

♦ See Pickering page 4

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FBI expert testifies in Raghunauth trial

Pickering man accused of murdering wife on Mother's Day

By Stephen Shaw
Staff Writer

DURHAM — Heavily sedated, Geeta Raghunauth was barely conscious as her husband held a cup of deadly poison to her mouth.

Prosecutor Cindy Johnston painted this as the Crown's theory, in questions put to an FBI forensic toxicologist, during the trial of a Pickering man accused of murdering his pregnant wife on Mother's Day, May 14, 2000.

Ganesh Raghunauth allegedly fed his wife a "spe-

cial Mother's Day" lunch laced with the sedative Temazepam before poisoning her with cyanide.

Mr. Raghunauth, 31, has pleaded not guilty to first-degree murder. The defence position is his wife committed suicide.

Marc LeBeau, head of the FBI crime laboratory in Quantico, Va., testified Thursday as the 50th and final witness for the Crown, which started calling evidence Jan. 13.

The defence is expected to begin calling evidence Monday.

Court was told Durham Regional Police sought the FBI's assistance investigating Mrs. Raghunauth's death in August 2000.

The FBI crime lab is capable of toxicological testing that Ontario's crime lab - the Centre for Forensic Sciences (CFS) - could not conduct, such as

analysis of hair and fingernail clippings for traces of drugs, said Mr. LeBeau.

He said tests by the FBI on Mrs. Raghunauth's blood and stomach contents showed she ingested the equivalent of eight 30-milligram capsules of Temazepam before she died. The normal prescribed dose is one capsule.

She also consumed two to three grams of cyanide prior to her death.

"Is that a lot?" Ms. Johnston asked Mr. LeBeau, a forensic toxicologist and an expert in cases of murder by poisoning and drug-facilitated crimes.

"A whole lot of cyanide... A substantial amount," Mr. LeBeau replied.

It would take about 30 minutes for the sedatives to be absorbed by the body, he said. But since cyanide kills within min-

utes or less, the Temazepam was "very likely ingested some time prior to the cyanide," Mr. LeBeau added. He said death by cyanide "can be incredibly painful to the victim."

"You sometimes see a look on their face of pain associated with cyanide... A look of fear on their face."

The level of cyanide in Mrs. Raghunauth's blood was 16 to 25 times higher than the lethal level," said Mr. LeBeau, calling that "a very conservative estimate."

(A CFS toxicologist who also ran tests estimated the amount as high as 64 times the lethal level)

Mr. LeBeau said the amount of Temazepam in Mrs. Raghunauth would cause "heavy sedation to the loss of consciousness" in the average person.

"Anywhere between being very, very sound asleep to a point of semi-comatose. It's not likely they would be able to walk and talk," he said.

Would Mrs. Raghunauth have been capable of swallowing a drink with cyanide, if another person held a cup up to her mouth? the Crown asked.

"Yes, absolutely. It's happened before," said Mr. LeBeau, who recalled a case in Germany involving that exact method of murder.

Mr. LeBeau, who has investigated more than 100 poisoning deaths, 10 with cyanide, said it was very unlikely Mrs. Raghunauth committed suicide.

"I've never been involved in any (suicide) where someone has taken a chemical poison such as cyanide in combination with a drug," he said.

Mr. LeBeau told the court cyanide is generally used in chemistry and industrial labs, insecticides, gold cleaning and as a "homicidal agent."

"It's used in our gas chambers in the United States," and was used by the Nazis to exterminate Jews in Germany, he noted.

The FBI tests also detected Temazepam in hair and nail clippings taken from Mrs. Raghunauth, meaning she had limited "prior exposure" to the drug.

The Crown is alleging Mr. Raghunauth, who was engaged to a New York woman three weeks before his wife's death, was drugging Mrs. Raghunauth over a period of several months, making her sick and disorientated.

Her family thought "evil spirits" possessed her.

Police seek sex assault suspect

Pickering student attacked on way to school

PICKERING — Police are looking for a man who sexually assaulted a 19-year-old girl on her way to school Tuesday morning.

The teen was trying to climb an icy hill in a greenbelt area beside Pine Ridge Secondary School on Liverpool Road at approximately 7:45 a.m. when a man grabbed her from behind, Durham Regional Police say.

Police say the suspect threatened the teen and pushed her jacket over

her head, forcing her to the ground and fondling her.

He then ran away and the girl told school staff about the incident, according to police.

She was visibly shaken by the incident but didn't require medical treatment, say police.

The suspect is described as a black male, approximately 5'8" to six-foot tall, and of average build. He was seen wearing a blue bandana around his nose and mouth and wearing baggy, dark clothes.

Anyone with information is asked to call Detectives Maw or Cutler of the sexual assault unit at 905-579-1520, ext. 5318 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

The hits just keep on coming...

durhamregion.com sees over 546,000 views in March

DURHAM — Sometime early Saturday morning someone in cyberspace helped durhamregion.com reach more than 546,000 page views.

The half-million mark is a significant landmark for the three-year-old Web site, which is designed to provide a rich mix of local news and consumer information.

The site has drawn interest at a rapid rate. In February, for instance, durhamregion.com received 365,000 page views. In January, 300,000 views were recorded at the site.

An increase in interest in local issues, such as the two-week-long transit strike in Oshawa in March, helped to generate site views. Events in Durham Region such as the 'Oshawa This Week' home show, have also brought in users. Lately, information on the SARS epidemic has brought interested browsers to durhamregion.com.

"It's great, I'm thrilled with the interest in the site," said Todd Blayone, manager, Web publishing and eBusiness at durhamregion.com. "This milestone indicates significant growth. It is something to build on."

According to Mr. Blayone, his staff believes local residents have begun to appreciate everything durhamregion.com can offer them.

"One of the keys to our success is our strong partnership with Metroland's community newspapers. In many ways, we complement their offerings and extend their reach," said Mr. Blayone.

What does the near future hold for durhamregion.com?

"Very soon we will roll out a new look and several new services," said Mr. Blayone.

"Our goal is to be the premier destination for local information in Durham Region."

Durhamregion.com is the online member of the Metroland Durham Region Media Group which includes This Week, The Ajax-Pickering News Advertiser, The Canadian Statesman, and the Uxbridge Times-Journal.

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Pickering turns case over to OMB

◆ Pickering from page 1

requirements aren't followed, he said. While committee of adjustment members said at the time they thought the sixth condition was "redundant", Coun. Brenner argued it's been his experience "if it's not in writing, it's not there".

The City couldn't turn its back on concerns from Uxbridge Township, either, he said.

Uxbridge councillors had requested the Johnson application be tabled by the committee for further review, fearing it could alter a settlement reached between the councillor, Pickering and Uxbridge over work he completed on Town Line and Sideline 8 near his property.

Uxbridge launched a lawsuit against the councillor, eventually leading to a deal involving the three sides that required

Coun. Johnson to restore the roads and replant a number of trees.

"We acknowledge Uxbridge as an important piece of the puzzle and the fact they didn't feel comfortable about the application at this time," said Coun. Brenner. "You can't go forward without one of the major players involved. The Town Line is Uxbridge's as well as the City's."

The community has also expressed concerns to the City about Town Line being used as an access point to the property and how that might affect the Trans-Canada Trail, said Coun. Brenner.

Add to that comments from Toronto Region Conservation that the application needs more work, and the end result is it should never have moved forward, he argued.

Due to procedure, the only way Pickering can

change a committee of adjustment decision is to appeal to the OMB.

When contacted, Uxbridge chief administrative officer Alex Grant said his municipality has not decided if it will appeal the decision.

"This is a very difficult situation to be in," Coun. Brenner acknowledged. "But the public expects transparency and council has decided this will ensure transparency."

Coun. Johnson questioned how much more open the process can be, pointing out the commit-

tee of adjustment is made up of five members of the public appointed by council. The approval was based on a "positive recommendation" from City staff and made by "an independent body" made up of "high-profile people", he said.

Kevin Ashe, chairman of Pickering's committee of adjustment, defended the decision.

"To be fair, council has a lot of political issues to deal with.

"It may want a greater-than-arm's-length position," he added.

But his committee was following the recommendations of City planners with only minor adjustments to some of the conditions put forward, he said.

Pickering's planning department recommended approval of the permit when the application first came forward three years ago, and has been "fully involved" ever since.

Not only did the committee feel all of its concerns had been addressed, but its vote was unanimous for the approval, he pointed out.



RICK JOHNSON
'This is very unfortunate...'

Pickering launches new waste exchange program

List your items on City's Web site

PICKERING — Instead of throwing away garbage it may be useful to someone else.

The City of Pickering has recently launched a new Waste Exchange Program.

The primary goal is to find other ways to use unwanted materials.

Residents, companies

and institutions that have non-hazardous materials can list their items on Pickering's Web site.

Items currently on the list include doors, lawnmowers, tomato cages, used tennis balls and five-gallon plastic pails. People can refer to the Web site's services section, then waste management.

Listings are under the Materials Waste Exchange Program at www.city-of-pickering.com.

For more information, call 905-420-4630.



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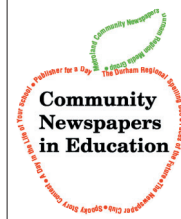
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One more suspected SARS case admitted to hospital

By Martin Derbyshire
Staff Writer

DURHAM — Lakeridge Health Oshawa has admitted yet another person with a suspected case of SARS.

Dr. Don Atkinson, Lakeridge chief of staff, said the patient was in quarantine at home, began showing symptoms of the deadly virus, and was admitted to the hospital Wednesday.

This suspected case brings the total SARS cases at Lakeridge Health Oshawa to five — two probable and three suspected (one suspected case is still at home being monitored by Lakeridge staff.)

Despite the fact provincial health officials say "the containment process seems to be working," they are recommending individuals do not wait too long to put themselves into quarantine if they feel any symptoms such as headaches, malaise or muscle aches.

"Waiting for a fever to isolate oneself is too long," says James Young, commissioner of public safety.

As of April 2 at 3 p.m., provincial officials confirmed there are approximately 146 cases of SARS being treated in Ontario. This includes 67 probable and 79 suspect cases.

No SARS cases have been reported at Lakeridge facilities in Bowmanville, Port Perry, Uxbridge, or Whitby. Three suspected cases have been reported at Rouge Valley Ajax and Pickering in Ajax.

Durham Region Health Department officials claim they are monitoring five probable and two suspected SARS cases in Durham and are following up on 260 contacts that have been identified through the community.

Health department staff say they have received more than 1,400 calls related to SARS so far.

All cases in Durham are reportedly linked to the outbreak at Scarborough Grace hospital.

SARS stands for Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome. It is a potentially severe form of pneumonia, accompanied by a fever. The total number of cases in Canada is 176 with most (146) reported in the Greater Toronto Area.

The World Health Organization says more than 2,000 people have been infected worldwide and 79 have died - seven in the GTA.

Meanwhile, 54 people visited a SARS assessment clinic at Lakeridge Health Oshawa on its first day Wednesday, although no more SARS cases were identified.

Four people were asked to commit themselves to home quarantine for 10 days because of contact with a suspected case of the dreaded disease. Another 22 were quarantined for for 48 hours and seven were referred to emergency for further evaluation.

But, most were sent home or referred to their family doctor with cold and flu-like symptoms.

Two patients were referred to the hospital's emergency department for further observation not related to SARS.

Security at the front of the clinic was tight and all patients entering were asked to put on a respiratory mask before being seen by health care staff.

Stepping out of the clinic, Oshawa student Shawn Welsh said he felt fine, but was asked to get an assessment done by his school because of a fever.

He said health care workers inside simply took his temperature, asked him a few questions and sent him packing.

"I knew I didn't have it," he said. "Better safe than sorry," added his aunt Gloria Welsh, who took him

down to the clinic.

Oshawa resident Ernie Reid said he had what he thought was a cough and cold, but a local medical clinic wouldn't see him unless he was assessed for SARS first.

"Thank God," he said after being handed what was not exactly a clean bill of health, but one that did not show evidence of SARS. "Now I can go get some cough syrup...I wasn't really concerned, but I came to get checked out because I couldn't get treated otherwise."

While SARS clinics in Toronto and York Region have seen up to 150 peo-

ple on their first day, Dr. Atkinson described activity at the Lakeridge clinic as "steady" and said he expects it to get busier as more time elapses.

"Fifty-four people in eight hours is a reasonable amount of people to have come through," he said. "I expect the numbers will increase over the next couple of days and we will remain open seven days a week."

The Durham Region Health Department has suspended all non-essential services.

Those who feel they may be at risk should call Telehealth Ontario at 1-866-797-0000.

SARS questions:

How contagious is SARS?

Based on currently available evidence, close contact with an infected person is needed for the infective agent to spread from one person to another. Contact with aerosolized (exhaled) droplets and bodily secretions from an infected person appears to be important.

To date, the majority of cases have occurred in hospital workers who have cared for SARS patients and the close family members of these patients. However, the amount of the infective agent needed to cause an infection has not yet been determined.

When should I stay home?

You should stay at home and away from large gatherings of people if you feel unwell.

When should I be assessed for SARS?

You should be assessed for SARS if you have developed symptoms within the last 10 days, your symptoms are worse than you normally experience and you have been:

- * In contact with anyone who has SARS or is under investigation for SARS or
- * To China, Hong Kong, Vietnam, Singapore or Taiwan and have symptoms.

Wayne ARTHURS

Pickering-Ajax-Uxbridge Provincial Liberal Association

P.O. Box 632

Pickering, Ontario L1V 3T3

Tel.: 905-839-8890

e-mail: vote@waynearthurs.com

The longest serving Mayor in Pickering's history says it is time for change at Queen's Park.

Mayor Wayne Arthurs, the city's Mayor since 1988 and a member of Council for more than two decades, has been unanimously endorsed by the Pickering-Ajax-Uxbridge Provincial Liberal Association as the Liberal Candidate in the next provincial election.

Mayor Arthurs has steered Pickering for 15 consecutive years. Now he is ready to take that experience to Queen's Park.

"It is an honour and a privilege to accept this endorsement as the Liberal candidate for the people of Pickering-Ajax-Uxbridge," he said. "I look forward to the opportunity to stand up for the residents of this community who have suffered far too long the mismanagement and arrogance of the Ecker/Eves government."

"In 1997 voters in overwhelming numbers asked for an Environmental Assessment of the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station and Janet Ecker said no - the Federal Regulator said yes and it was done. This week the News-Advertiser reported more than 90 per cent of respondents said no to the taxpayer funded infomercial budget, but Janet said yes. Since 1995 this riding has been represented by a Minister of Government who has ignored the expressed wishes of the majority of people she was elected to represent on matters of significance to us all."

"It's time for accountability in Government. It's time for change. I am calling on Janet Ecker and Ernie Eves to face the people of Pickering-Ajax-Uxbridge and call the election."

Riding Association President Jim Grady said "Mayor Arthurs has demonstrated tremendous leadership for the people of Pickering and now we will work to ensure he is our voice for change at Queen's Park."

Pickering Councillor Dave Ryan, the 1999 provincial candidate, is confident Mayor Arthurs will win the Riding in 2003.

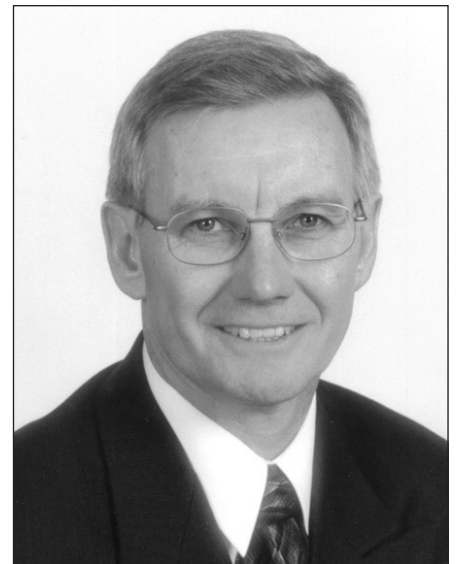
"After slashing funding for health care, education and the environment, the Ecker-Eves government is adding energy debt at over one billion dollars a year," he said. "It's time for a change and Mayor Arthurs will provide that leadership."

Mayor Arthurs, who Chairs the Regional Planning Committee and is a former Chair of the Regional Finance and Administration Committee, is a board member of the Rouge Valley Health System Foundation, the Ajax/Pickering Transit Authority, the Greater Toronto Marketing Alliance and Veridian Corporation. He sits on several City committees, such as the Race Relations and Equity Committee and has been a member of a number of other boards and Task Forces.

Contact Information

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905 839-8890



Editorials & Opinions

FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 2003 ♦ News Advertiser ♦ TONY DOYLE, NEWS EDITOR, 905-683-5110 EXT. 254

Editorial

Too many differences

Joining Pickering, Scarborough in one riding doesn't serve city well

Pickering residents eligible to vote in provincial and federal elections will have to cast their ballots in a decidedly different political riding in 2004 if new boundaries are entrenched by the federal electoral boundaries commission.

A portion of Pickering, currently part of the Pickering-Ajax-Uxbridge riding, would become part of a new Pickering-Scarborough East riding if final approval is given to the new configuration.

And that's where the problem arises for citizens of Pickering who, although sharing a southwestern border with Toronto, have little in common with their mega-city neighbours.

Some points to ponder regarding our common differences: Pickering and Scarborough share transit concerns, but not transit systems. Pickering and Scarborough share land-use concerns, but not the same land-use options. Pickering and Scarborough share quality of life concerns for their residents, but have extremely diverse sources of support and extremely different approaches to solutions.

Thus, it makes little sense for Pickering residents to choose their candidates measured on the basis of different and sometimes competing needs among citizens in two such disparate communities.

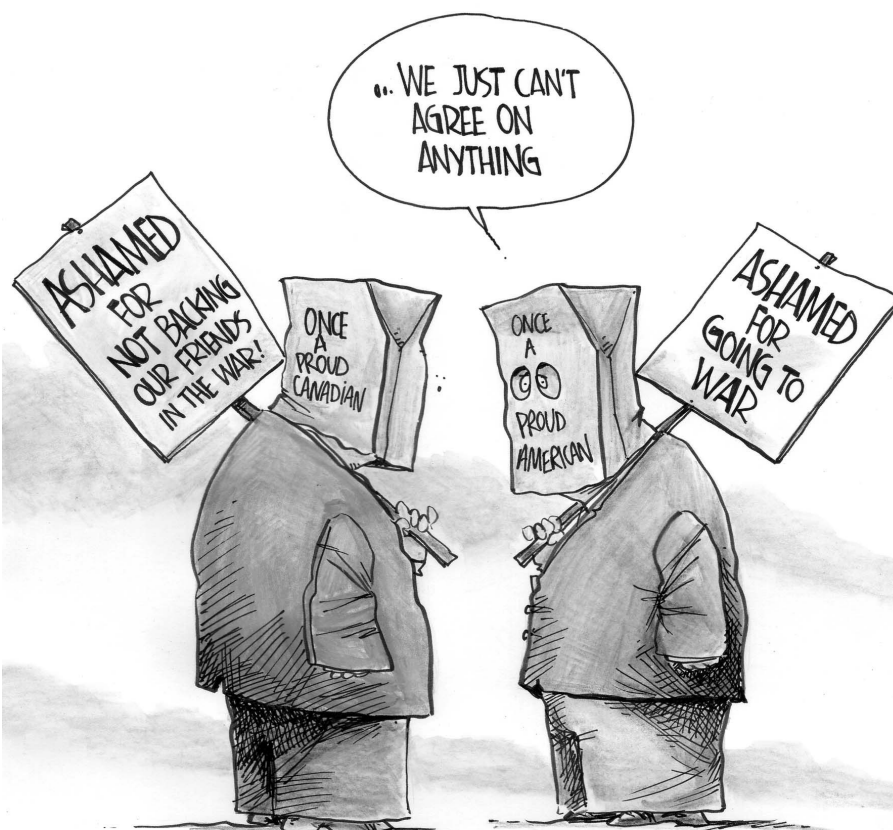
Conversely, Pickering residents living in the area north and east of the boundary line that follows Finch Avenue to Valley Farm Road, down to Hwy. 401 and then over to Brock Road will join the new riding of Pickering-Ajax. That riding is far more reflective of communities that share a common history, common concerns and one that can more readily seek common solutions. Pickering Councillor Mark Holland referred to the final report from the boundaries commission as "a blow to Pickering" and has vowed to officially object to the reconfiguration.

His views are sound, but the timing must be questioned. What was Pickering's level of participation before the commission? Were our views adequately expressed? Was there proper consultation? The City of Pickering must marshal its considerable resources to not only object to this proposal, but also appeal any suggestion that arbitrarily merges two widely dissimilar communities in the interests of democracy.

Keeping geographic areas that share common values, political needs and governance as closely aligned as possible must be the goal of any riding redistribution. Voters must be engaged in the process and that is achieved by creating ridings that adequately reflect those values, needs and that shared history of governance.

The current proposal to join Pickering with a community that has no historic, residential or political connection to the community is not the solution.

Change for the better is a worthy goal. Change without adequate forethought for the consequences spells nothing but trouble.



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Letters to the Editor

Not everyone's fortunate in 'retirement'

To the editor:

Re: 'Too young to retire,' March 23.

This was supposed to be a 'make-you-feel-good' article.

It was great for the people involved but made me angry. These fortunate people had worked until retirement, enjoyed some time off and then had the privilege of going back to work on contract to the same or a similar job.

I worked for the Bank of Canada for 20 years and was a commendable employee in the job title of executive co-ordinator. I was laid off and was part of the team to help staff adjust to the hardships they would face when trying to get a job. I was good at my job and proud of the skills I obtained after so

many years service. I also did not kid myself that finding a job would be easy but I never imagined it would be impossible.

I have been laid off since 1998 and thanks to the kindness of friends I have been able to get shelter for me and my kids and a job to meet the minor bills I face.

I thought I would be employed by now and able to support my two kids in a home with no major problems. Much to my surprise, I have not been able to get an interview, let alone a job.

I have applied to jobs that my resume mirrored and when I followed up with queries on why no interview, I had the person in charge call me back without ever looking at my resume. As I met each skill he thought I lacked, the end result came clear -- 'we hired within our department'.

The old saying prevails - it's not what you know, but whom you know.

Betty Moss,
Ajax

Your religion doesn't make or break you

But good strong morals and ethics do

Is there anything that automatically guarantees entry through the gates of heaven or to eternity in hell?

In the last while, media have been reporting on the activities of priests and the Catholic Church, and constant religious warfare in northern Ireland, Israel and around the world. How much bloodshed, misery and even death must be endured in our communities and worldwide, because of religion?

Some believe in Charles Darwin's theory of evolution, and agree we evolved from apes. The Raelian movement believes we were created by aliens. Some believe Mother Nature is our spirit, while still others believe we are God's creation.



Lorie Blundon

opinion shaper

Not too long ago, my daughter's friend told her she would go to hell because she is not Christian. I was shocked and confused by this comment. At first I thought maybe her friend had seen my husband in his new devilish looking full-body red long underwear; an honest mistake of identity. But when her friend started showing up at our house to express his concerns, I became worried. He believed only those who believe in hell are Christian.

Among other things, he believed that if you ask you shall receive.

While his friends were taking drugs and drinking alcohol he was being comforted by religion and that was great. The upsetting part was that this 15-year-old believed his thoughts and beliefs were the only right ones. Anything outside of his box was simply wrong.

A single-minded attitude is not religion, it is dictatorship. Nor is religion a 'Genie in a Bottle' with potential to grant all our dreams and wishes. Nobody is going to knock on your door and hand you the world.

What allows one person to make assumptions or judge the faith and beliefs of another human being? Maybe I missed the worldwide memo appointing certain individuals as moral judge and jury over the rest of us.

Religion helps us as individuals

to understand our existence and our sufferings. It provides strength in hard times and to appreciate and be thankful for the best of times.

One does not have to attend a place of worship to have religion in their hearts. Whether an individual is Catholic, Jewish, Muslim, Baptist, Pentecostal, no matter what their religion, if their choice of faith brings them joy and happiness then we should be happy and respect their freedom to choose, not criticize or condemn.

There are no right or wrong religions. Religion does not define goodness in a person -- good strong morals and ethics do! If you lose this goodness, then all you have is hypocrisy.

Oshawa resident Lorie Blundon is a busy mother of two who loves to write.

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All letters should be typed or neatly hand-written, 150 words. Each letter must be signed with a first and last name or two initials and a last name. Please include a phone number for verification. The editor reserves the right to edit copy for style, length and content. Opinions expressed in letters are those of the writer and not necessarily those of the News Advertiser. We regret that due to the volume of letters, not all will be printed.

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Durham series helps empower women

DURHAM — Women can break free from abuse and violence in their lives.

Employability Empowerment Series (EES) has established SMART Inc., to help women gain the necessary tools to empower and motivate them.

The program assists women in making positive changes, discovering their true talents and abilities and to facilitate career planning.

“It is so amazing to see women gain confidence and courage to make changes in their lives that not only affects

Boost your volunteer hours and local watersheds

PICKERING — The Volunteer Environmental Watch (VEW) monitoring program is set to begin its third season.

VEW provides volunteer opportunities and an opportunity

them, but also their children,” says Bonnie Porter, program coordinator of the Ajax location. Services are free of charge for el-

to explore natural areas found within watersheds. Workshops are being offered Wednesday, May 21 from 6 to 8 p.m., and July 23 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Both sessions are at Alex

Robertson Park. Students requiring community service hours can achieve their required levels while taking part. Call 905-420-4660 ext 2212.

CORRECTION

In the New Style Restaurant

Buffet ad for Wed. April 2,

under Dinner Buffet,

it should Read:

Mon-Thurs-5pm -10pm \$9.99

Fri-Sun 5pm-10pm \$11.99

Sorry for the Inconvenience.

Rotary Club grows in Durham

DURHAM — “Grow your business, grow yourself” is the motto of a new chapter of the Rotary Club.

Membership in the Durham Rotary Club chapter is open to entrepreneurs, businesses, corporations and companies.

“As long as they have a business presence in Durham there are no restrictions,” said Rotary Club spokesman Michael Danks.

Rotary is a service club that helps people improve their business and their lives through networking, education and community service. The Durham Rotary Club also plans to specifically assist the Junior Achievement organization throughout the community with a series of events.

The club is hosting an information session Monday, April 14 at 7:15 a.m. at Titanic Restaurant, 100 Westney Rd. S., Ajax, to share details of the club and the steering committee.

For more information, call Danks at 905-686-3320 or Dave at 905-428-0500.

Trio robs store

AJAX — Durham Regional Police are checking possible links to other recent holdups after three bandits robbed a shopkeeper at knifepoint Tuesday.

The trio, armed with knives and wearing handkerchiefs over their faces, entered Kitchen Food Fair, at 214 Bayly St., just before 11 p.m., police said.

The store owner was forced to open the register. As the robbers scooped up cash and cigarettes, the victim ran out of the store to a nearby gas station. Police were called but the bandits got away.

The robbery unit is investigating.

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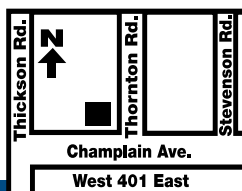
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Man jailed four years for 'revenge shooting'

By Stephen Shaw
Staff Writer

DURHAM — With a 17-year-old Ajax youth behind the wheel, Cleyon Cummings leaned out the passenger window of a speeding car and fired six rounds from a 45-calibre handgun at another motorist, intending to kill his fleeing target during a wild chase through downtown Oshawa.

As the two cars raced down city streets Raymond Brathwaite dodged bullets, trying to escape the would-be killers pursuing his Ford Mustang.

Three bullets hit the mark, one penetrating Mr. Brathwaite's driver-side door, prevented from entering the car by a one-inch steel window frame.

Another shot shattered the window and a third struck an electrical component causing the victim's vehicle to stall, Superior Court has heard.

As luck would have it, Mr. Brathwaite's car died steps from Durham Regional Police headquarters. He ran into the station and sought refuge.

Mr. Cummings, 28, of Toronto, was found guilty of attempted murder for the "revenge shooting" and was sentenced Wednesday to four years in prison.

After being given credit for 31 months pre-trial custody, the sentence imposed by Justice Hugh McLean is equivalent to six-and-a-

half years.

Court heard the "revenge shooting" was retaliation for Mr. Brathwaite slashing the 17-year-old in the back with a razor blade a few days earlier.

The original altercation happened Aug. 28, 2000 after Mr. Brathwaite caught the teenager with his girlfriend at her Ritson Road apartment.

The youth, who was cut for 10 stitches, vowed retribution and enlisted a friend, Mr. Cummings, to help execute payback, prosecutor John Pollard said.

In the early hours of Aug. 30 the pair -- Mr. Cummings armed with the semi-automatic -- drove to Oshawa in a Ford Probe searching for Mr. Brathwaite.

They found their target sitting in his car parked on Ritson Road.

Mr. Brathwaite, fearing for his life, sped away with his assailants in pursuit.

As the cars sped west on Williams Street, the Probe pulled alongside the Mustang and Mr. Cummings leaned out the passenger window, opening fire.

The judge said Mr. Cummings endangered the public by his recklessness with a gun.

"This event took place in downtown Oshawa... in the centre of a city. There was a high-speed chase including several shots fired out the window of a moving vehicle," he said.

"This was a revenge shooting that took place on a public street," said Mr. Pollard.

"If it wasn't for a little piece of metal in Mr. Brathwaite's door he may not have been around to testify. It was pure good fortune he wasn't killed."

The 17-year-old Young Offender pleaded guilty in November 2001 to attempted murder and received a sentence of 20 months' custody, as well as 13 months in pre-trial custody.

Mr. Brathwaite, 26, of Markham, was charged and convicted of aggravated assault for the slashing of the teen, and jailed one year.

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2003 ENVIRONMENTAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

The Durham Region Environmental Advisory Committee (D-EAC) is a volunteer advisory committee formed by Regional Council to provide advice to the Region on environmental land use planning issues.

Durham Region and D-EAC have established an awards program to recognize significant contributions in creating, maintaining or promoting a healthy environment in Durham Region.

Award Categories Include:

- George Scott Stewardship Award:** for the maintenance, protection, or preservation of the natural environment.
- Dr. J. Murray Speirs Restoration Award:** for the restoration of degraded natural environments
- Irene Kock Education/Communication Award:** for fostering effective communications, sharing knowledge, or exhibiting leadership in helping others to learn about the natural environment.
- Innovative Plans/Policies/Initiatives Award:** for forward-thinking efforts to encourage positive change with respect to the natural environment.
- Jessica Markland Partnerships Award:** for cooperative efforts to enhance the environment involving public, community and private interests.

Nominations

To nominate an individual or organization in the public, private or non-profit sector, please submit the following in writing:

- The name, address and telephone number of the nominee;
- The desired award category; and
- A brief description of the nominees contribution to the environment.

Nominations must be submitted no later than April 25, 2003 to:

Mr. Chris Darling
Planning Department
Regional Municipality of Durham
Box 623, 1615 Dundas St. E., Lang Tower West Building
Whitby, On. L1N 6A3
Fax number: 905 436 6612
Email address: chris.darling@region.durham.on.ca

Award Presentation

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Easter bunny pays a visit to Pickering libraries

PICKERING — The Easter bunny has many surprises in store throughout April. Children ages 2 to 6 are invited to join Easter fes-

tivities Saturday, April 12 at 10:30 a.m., at the Pickering Public Library's Petticoat Creek Branch. Special Easter story

times take place at Pickering Central Library from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on April 16 with live rabbits.

The central branch is also hosting a family Easter story time Saturday, April 19 at 10 a.m. There is no need to reg-

ister for these programs. The Petticoat branch is at 470 Kingston Rd., west of Rosebank Road; the central library is at One

The Esplanade. For more information on what's being offered, call Kathy Williams at 905-420-2254 ext. 6004.

Requiem marks Palm Sunday service

PICKERING — A local church is providing yet another reason to attend services.

Dunbarton-Fairport United Church celebrates the arrival of Easter with a performance of 'Requiem', a play written by John

Rutter. The performance begins at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, April 13 and is part of the church's Palm Sunday service.

For more information, call the church at 905-839-7271.

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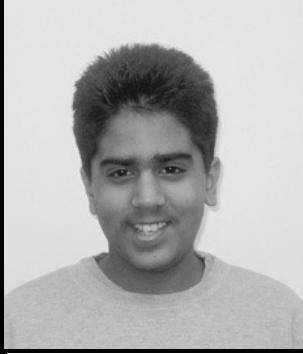
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Celia Klemenz/ News Advertiser photo

Just passing through

DURHAM — Pickering's Dunbarton High School student Brandon Townsend, offers water to a mountain bike race participant during the 12th annual Uxbridge Icebreaker event through forested trails in north Durham. Competitor Martin McFly-Boucher accepts the offering from Brandon as Uxbridge cyclist Sean Whitelock prepares for his turn at taking a refreshment on the fly.

Human rights the topic when Amnesty group meets

AJAX — Human rights and suffering is the topic as the local chapter of Amnesty International meets later this month.

Group 90 in Ajax and Pickering welcomes Nora Lopez to its meeting Wednesday, April 23 at 7:30 p.m.

The group meets each month at Pickering Village United Church, 300 Church St. N.

New members are always welcome to join.

For more information on the meeting, call Tinie Evans at 905-666-4485.

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Durham Catholic teachers deliver strike mandate

Elementary unit votes 87 per cent in favour of move

By Mike Ruta
Staff Writer

DURHAM — Durham Catholic elementary teachers have given their union a strike mandate to press their case for a new collective agreement.

The Durham elementary unit of the Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association (OECTA) is comprised of roughly 950 teachers. Last Wednesday, teachers, who have been without a contract for 19 months, voted 87 per cent in favour of using sanctions against the Durham Catholic District School Board if necessary, said unit president Marnie Daly, adding they hope to avoid strike action.

She expects a provincial conciliation officer to soon be appointed. "We are very hopeful about conciliation," she said. "We are entering it with a view to getting a resolution so that nobody's work or schooling has to be interfered with."

Ms. Daly said teachers have a number of issues with the board, including the 160 minutes per week of

Car payments long gone thanks to lottery win

PICKERING — Quick, who's Pickering's newest lottery winner?

That would be Greg Duncan, who along with Nestle Canada co-worker Pius Snook, of Georgetown, took home the \$178,282.10 second prize from the March 15 Lotto 6/49 draw.

The two have been playing the lottery together for years.

Mr. Duncan and his wife, Iona, have four children. He plans to use the money to pay off his car.

preparation time the board is offering. Teachers currently receive 150 minutes, plus have two professional activity days they may also use. Ms. Daly said the board gets paid for 200 minutes per week in the education funding formula.

Chris Hurst, the board's human resources superintendent, said the wording in the last contract states a minimum of 150 minutes.

"In fact, at most of the schools they receive more than that," he said.

Mr. Hurst termed the claim about the funding formula as "misleading."

He said the board's salary

offer to teachers is the same as the deal reached with secondary teachers earlier this year: a 5.7 per cent increase retroactive to September 2002 and ending September 1, 2004. The elementary teachers turned it down, said Mr. Hurst, adding an offer of a total 5.75 per cent hike was also rejected.

"The reason we did that was to push them over the \$73,000 mark," he said.

He added that the Province provided enough for a 2.8 per cent hike for the current school year and "we're giving them every cent the Province gave us."

Mr. Hurst said if teachers accept the offer, it would make

them the third-highest paid Catholic elementary unit in Ontario, with a top salary of \$73,050 per year.

However, Ms. Daly said elementary teachers are not being offered the same package as their secondary school counterparts. High school teachers have more preparation time, she said, and while she conceded the board is offering a higher percentage salary increase than what secondary teachers received, she said it still would leave elementary teachers earning less than their peers at the highest, 'A4' grid level.

Ms. Daly also cited "skyrocketing supervisory duties" at

schools, claiming yard duties at some schools have doubled or more than doubled and "we're wanting to put a cap on that."

"The kids come first," Mr. Hurst responded. "And if we need some supervision in a school, that's a principal's duty to make sure it's done."

Ms. Daly said roughly 400 teachers took part in the strike mandate vote, calling it, "a very good turnout in terms of a general membership meeting."

Mr. Hurst said the board currently has a deficit of \$3.8 million in teacher salaries and benefits, paying out \$64.6 million but receiving \$60.8 million from the government.

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Province provides deficit relief for Ajax hospital

By Lesley Bovie
Staff Writer

DURHAM — Rouge Valley Health System is getting an \$11-million booster shot from the Province to help treat its ailing deficit.

But hospital officials say the additional funds won't halt staffing changes taking place between now and August, which are expected to impact 35 full- and part-time staff at the Ajax site.

"The staffing changes are part of the condition we get back on track with the ministry and reach its performance benchmarks," explained Maria Milanetti, Rouge Valley (RVHS) spokesman.

In detailing a financial and ser-

vices plan to reduce its \$18-million deficit to zero by the summer, RVHS already factored in \$10 million in relief it had hoped to receive from the Province, she said. That estimate was based on a pledge from Ontario Minister of Health Tony Clement at the Ontario Hospital Association's annual conference last fall to provide an additional \$350 million in hospital funding.

"It's more than we expected so that's fantastic," added Ms. Milanetti. "Hopefully, it will help us break even a little faster. We're very happy the ministry recognized hospital deficits in general."

Earlier this month, RVHS

moved forward on its plan to address its deficit by introducing staffing changes and reductions, and a realignment of beds to create clinical efficiencies. At the same time, it announced any additional funding from the province would be used to reinvest in computer and medical equipment and other crucial infrastructure.

The hospital is in the midst of working out those staffing issues now with affected unions and hopes to minimize layoffs by offering early retirements and severance packages to those who leave voluntarily.

"We're trying to get around re-locating and moving people

around," said Ms. Milanetti, adding RVHS realizes the shuffling can be tough on staff. "We also realize staff morale will be important to seeing these changes through."

A total of 158 hospitals across the Province are sharing in the \$350 million, about 120 of which are in deficit situations, said ministry spokesman Paul Kilbertus.

"We appointed two outside reviewers to look at how the funding should be allocated with the view of wanting to reward hospitals who are trying to be more efficient," he explained.

About \$300 million of the new funding went to hospitals with deficits, while \$40 million went to

about 39 hospitals for their innovation. The remaining \$10 million was shared among small and rural facilities.

While the third-party review found some hospitals were moving in the right direction, it plans to make recommendations for areas of improvement to the ministry in April.

"The Ernie Eves government is committed to providing health services as close to home as possible for our residents," said Janet Ecker, MPP for Pickering-Ajax-Uxbridge.

"This new funding will support our hospitals as they work to achieve excellence in the delivery of those services."

Officials issue caution on garage fires

PICKERING — A number of garage fires over the last two years are igniting concerns.

Between January 2001 and January 2003, Pickering Fire Services has responded to 13 garage-originated fires.

In many of the incidents a significant amount of damage occurred to both the garage and the residential property.

As a result, Pickering Fire Chief Bill Douglas is encouraging residents to complete a fire safety check of their garage areas.

Tips include disposing of flammable or combustible liquids at the hazardous waste depot, 1220 Squires Beach Rd. in Pickering, refraining from using electrical extension cords when permanent wiring will suffice, and allowing gasoline-powered devices such as lawnmowers and chainsaws to cool before returning them to the garage.

For more information, call 905-420-4628.

Nominate a woman of distinction

DURHAM — Nominations are still being accepted for the YWCA of Durham's Women of Distinction Awards.

The 21st annual awards dinner will be held May 28 at the Holiday Inn in Oshawa. Nominations are being sought for the awards, which honour women who have positively contributed to the Durham community.

Young women in high school who have also contributed to their communities can be nominated for Young Women of Distinction Awards.

Nominations will be accepted up to April 9.

For more details or nomination forms, visit www.ywca-oshawa.org or call the YWCA at 905-576-8880. Completed nominations forms should be mailed or delivered to the YWCA of Durham, 33 McGrigor St., Oshawa L1H 1X8, to the attention of Shelley Rolland.

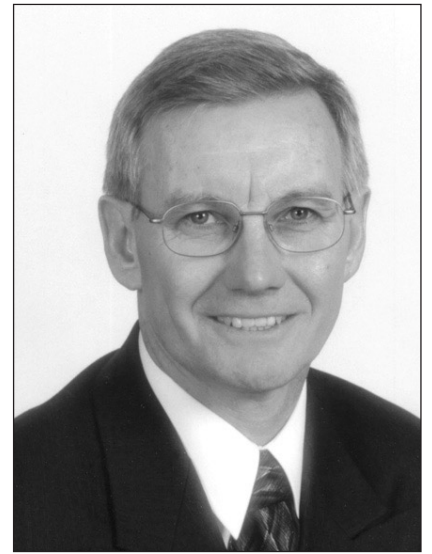
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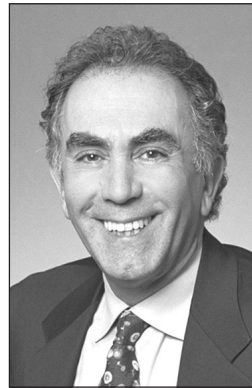
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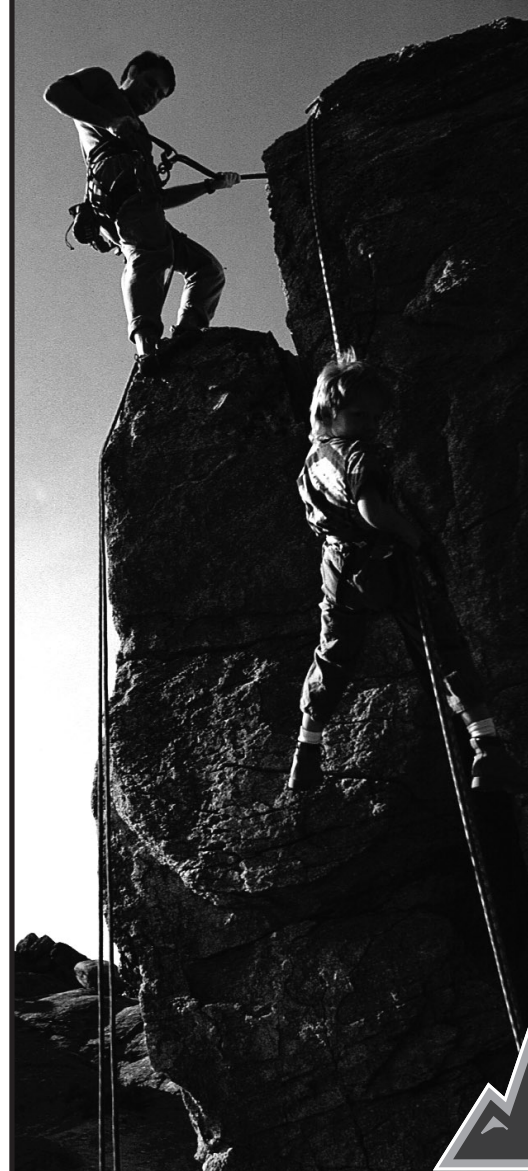
available right here in the community. Rouge Valley Health System and McEachnie Funeral Home are organizing grief support group sessions for people who have recently experienced the death of a parent, partner, child or friend. The first two sessions start Tuesday, April 22 at 3:30 p.m.

and 7:30 p.m. The series' duration is six weeks. Sessions take place at Rouge Valley Ajax and Pickering, 3rd floor west wing, Mental Health Outpatient Department. Space is limited. During the six weeks, people will learn to accept that a death has occurred, coming

to emotional terms, creating a new identity for the self while incorporating the loss, dealing with anniversaries and other specific issues.

For more information and to obtain registration sheets, call Rouge Valley Ajax and Pickering at 905-683-2320 ext. 3263 or McEachnie Funeral Home at 905-428-8488.

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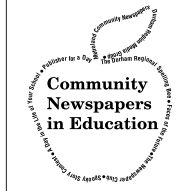
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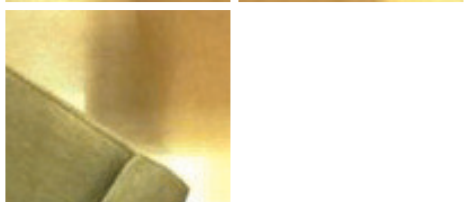
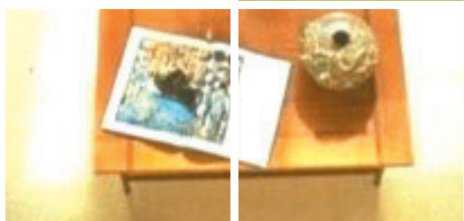
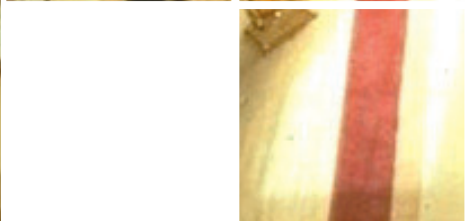
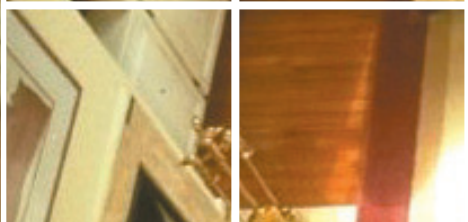
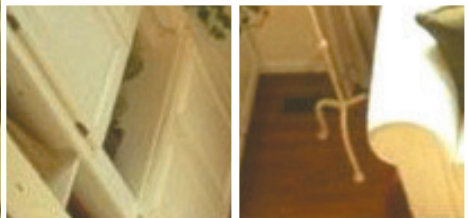
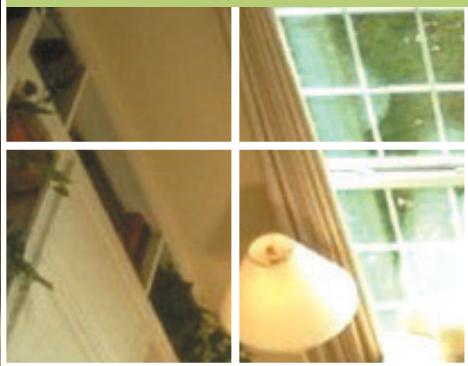
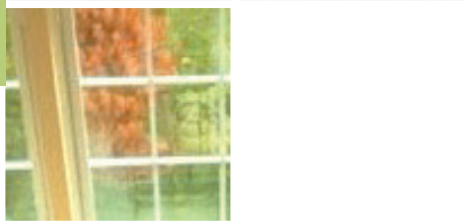
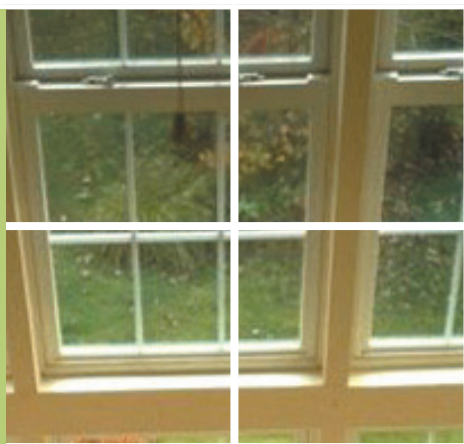
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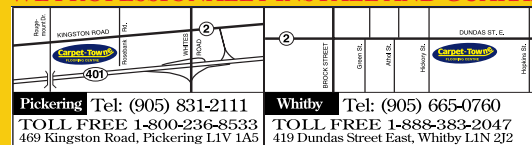


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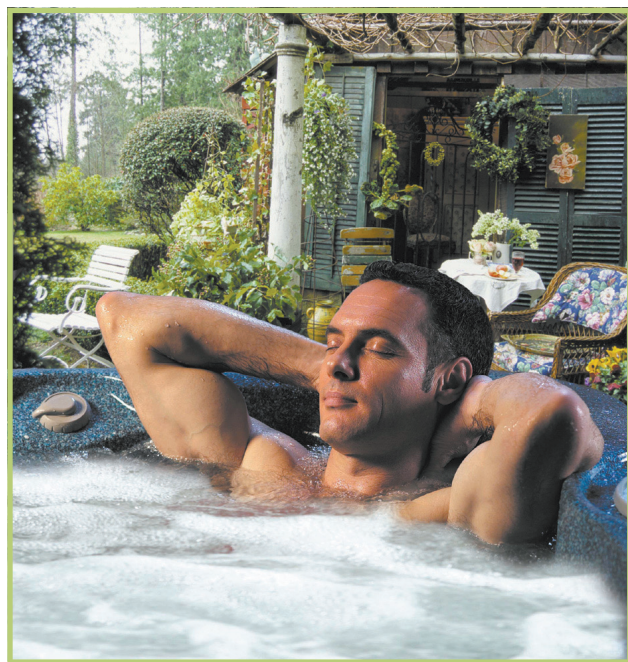
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2002





Home Sweet Home

advertising feature



Visions of the Garden

Janice J. Donelle
Horticulturist
Pine Ride Garden Gallery

Pine Ride Garden Gallery

Is your vision of your lawn one of dark green thick grass offering lush carpet for children to frolic, dogs to play fetch, or a blanket scattered down for a picnic lunch? Or is the reality a vision of lifeless grass with patches ripped up from raccoons and skunks scowling for grubs to be followed by dandelions competing with grab grass and clover? Or perhaps the vision is one of thin, spotty patches and clover or one of thin, spotty patches of grass check boarded with dirt, a noticeable contrast to the surrounding manicured lush lawns of the neighborhood?

Each tiny grass blade is a living, growing beneficial entity, releasing oxygen back into the air; acting as natural filter by trapping pollutants and dust; cooling the environment between expanses of concrete; beautifying our surroundings. Try not to view home lawn care as a chore more so than a therapeutic endeavor—a time to turn the cell phone off, leave the never ending list of chores aside and allow yourself time to spend outdoors beautifying your outdoor living space and revising your spirit. Home lawn care is also an excellent aerobic activity, a fun family project and an ideal opportunity to greet and meet with the neighbours. Lastly the home lawn is your contribution of



pleasure to beautifying your living space and the environments. Your action plan to achieve the lawn of your vision—lush green and healthy would include the following steps.

1. When the grass is dry a spring raking is essential to remove debris, twigs and thatch.

2. The first application of fertilizer can be applied to supply the lawn with nutrients which stimulates and promotes “greening up”.

3. If crabgrass is a problem “Crabgrass Control” fertilizer contains a herbicide which suppresses the germination of crabgrass seeds.

4. Over seeding of lawns with the appropriate blend of grass seed types will help thicken up the lawn.

5. Now is always the ideal time for a visit to your local nursery centre for personalized advice on other lawn -related matters such as fertilizer programs or insect/grub control. Your vision of lush green lawns is attainable with your commitment to time and energy and by following a lawn maintenance schedule. Until next weeks column... “Sit Back and Envision your Garden.”

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pleasure to beautifying your living space and the environments.

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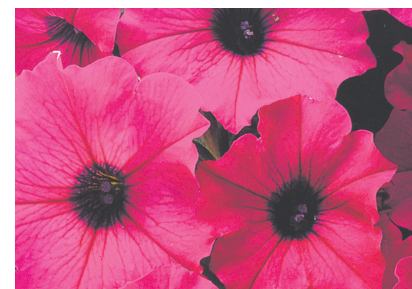
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Rick
(Manager)

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Home Sweet Home advertising feature

Water And Your Health

Pure Water is an essential ingredient to a healthy lifestyle and yet it is often the most neglected. Doctors recommend we drink 6-8 glasses of water per day for optimum health, yet this is often difficult when you don't like the taste, odour or if you are concerned about the quality of your drinking water.

Every living cell in the body depends on water to carry out essential functions. Sufficient amounts of water in the body can increase energy and endurance, help in body weight control, aid digestion and elimination, lubricate joints and encourage a feeling of well being. Water is extremely important given that nearly 70% of the body's weight is made up of water. Accordingly, the quality of water you drink can radically affect your health and well being and therefore vitally important that you drink only PURIFIED water. The Water Drop has the technology to provide, you the customer, with healthy, great tasting water in your home or office.

How We Purify Water at The Water Drop

No method using a single component can be as effective as The Water Drop Seven-Step state-of-the-art Purification System. The Water Drop uses the Best Proven Technologies so you will enjoy pure and healthy results:

1. ION EXCHANGE

Pre-treats water to remove reddish brown iron and scaling minerals.

2. SEDIMENT FILTRATION

Removes sediment and other particulate matter such as sand, silt and rust particles.

3. ACTIVATED CARBON FILTRATION

Removes unpleasant taste and odour, chlorine, THM's, volatile organic contaminants, herbicides and pesticides.

4. REVERSE OSMOSIS

Water is forced under pressure through a special membrane, which removes up to 99% of dissolved solids such as lead, copper, sodium, nitrates, radium, mineral salts and bacteria.

5. CARBON BLOCK FILTRATION

Removes organic chemicals and polishes the purified water for superior taste.

6. ULTRAVIOLET STERILIZATION

This final stage ensures that any remaining bacteria are destroyed before the Purified Water is dispensed into your bottle.

7. INDEPENDENTLY TESTED AND INSPECTED

A certified independent laboratory monitors water quality daily and tested periodically. All Purified Water Systems are inspected and maintained by qualified technicians.

Distinguishing Water Drop Purified Water From Other Types Of Water

Consumers today are seeing a wide variety of bottled water on the market. It can be confusing when you look at all the different brands and types of water. How do you know what you are really getting?

Continued on Page 21



To celebrate the grand opening of The Water Drop™, we are giving away two 4L bottles or one 18L jug* of our purified water absolutely free**.

Taste and see the difference! Come see our new state-of-the-art Water Drop Purification System using the best proven technologies with our 7-step process. **24 Hour Vending.**

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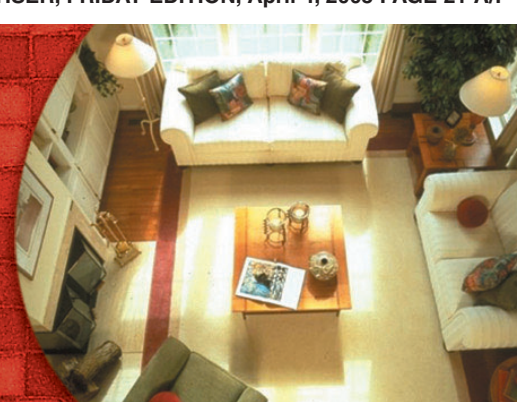
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Home Sweet Home

Water And Your Health Continued from Page 20

advertising feature



- Spring water: natural underground water that comes up to the earth's surface.
- Mineral water: Typically spring water, it contains dissolved solids usually calcium, magnesium, sodium, potassium, silica, and bicarbonates.
- Sparkling water: water that is naturally carbonated from a spring or artesian well.
- Artesian water: water from an underground natural reservoir.
- Distilled water: can be from a spring or tap source; it is "de-mineralized" so that only oxygen and hydrogen remain. Distilling is accomplished by reverse osmosis, filtering or boiling, then converting to steam and recondensing. However, these waters may still contain many of the mineral salts, inorganic metals and chemicals that can be found in tap water. Although distilled is a pure form of water it's more expensive and has very little taste. The Water Drop seven-step State-Of-The-Art process eliminates all the unwanted particles and contaminants found in the above water sources and gives you great tasting water.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the shelf life of The Water Drop Purified Water?

Maximum freshness is achieved if bottled water is consumed within 3-4 weeks of filling. After this period, the water will still be safe to drink but it may have a 'flat' taste.

How do I store my water?

Bottled Water should be kept in cool, dark location with the cap firmly in place, away from chemicals or cleaning supplies.

MINERALS IN WATER

The desired minerals our bodies require are organic forms that are found in foods and quality mineral supplements. However, minerals found in water are inorganic minerals that are not nearly as biologically acceptable to the human body. Even if minerals in water were in a good form, there amount is small compared to that found in foods.

What is the importance of Purified Water in Weight Loss?

Incredible as it may seem, water is quite possibly the single most important catalyst in losing weight and

keeping it off. Water naturally suppresses the appetite and helps the body metabolize stored fat. Studies have shown that an increase in water intake will cause fat deposits to decrease.

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Trips fall by the wayside for students

War in Iraq forces Catholic, public boards to impose ban

By Mike Ruta
Staff Writer

DURHAM — Durham high school students are grounded again.

The war in Iraq, and the high level of tension in the world as a result, has prompted local school boards to cancel trips that involve travel outside of Canada.

"This morning at administrative council we determined we would inform the system that we would cancel all international trips until further notice," Patricia Manson, education director of the Durham Catholic District School Board, said at Monday night's board meeting. "The United States is a country at war, and a country that has raised its level of terror alert to

extreme/high." Board chairman Mary Ann Martin in an interview after the meeting clarified that all international trips, regardless of the manner of travel, are off.

The Durham District School Board in a press release Monday stated it had "decided in the interest of safety for students and staff that all student travel outside Canada before April 30 will be cancelled.

"At that time, the international travel situation will be reassessed."

Operations superintendent Mark Joel said in an interview the cancellations affect roughly 320 students, and include five of the eight bus trips that were to have taken place before the end of the school year.

"Students' safety is important and we don't want to jeopardize our students or our staff," he said.

Students at Eastdale Collegiate and Vocational Institute in Oshawa were to have gone on two trips in the coming weeks, to Ohio April 9 to 13 and Boston

between April 23 and 27.

Dunbarton High School students in Pickering planned to be in New York City from April 16 to 20. And students at Cartwright High School in Scugog were to fly to Costa Rica in three weeks.

Mr. Joel said a May 1 to 4 trip to Boston by Dr. F.J. Donevan Collegiate Institute students in Oshawa is "on hold at the moment," as are other trips after April 30.

"Things can change in a month and we'll be discussing this at board," he said. "We don't want to cancel everything to the end of the year in case things sort out in a few weeks."

He said the board is working with individual schools and travel agencies on a case-by-case basis to see what arrangements can be made regarding cancelled trips.

"Some places will give refunds, some places will give vouchers, some will delay trips," said Mr. Joel.

Paul Pulla, the Catholic board's secondary schools su-

perintendent, said at Monday's meeting, "the only trip at this point in time is to the United States and the school is Notre Dame" Catholic Secondary School in Ajax.

The public school board's decision stood after a special board meeting held last Thursday night.

Oshawa Trustee Kathleen Hopper in an interview said she returned from a trip to learn of the travel ban and thought it went too far. She called for the meeting after e-mailing other trustees, some of whom also had concerns.

It was decided at the meeting students, parents or school administrators, who feel strongly a particular international trip should go forward, would be given the opportunity to appeal to the board's administrative council and ask that the their trip be reconsidered.

The boards also cancelled international trips following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, lifting the travel bans at the start of the current school year.



PATRICIA MANSON
'The United States is a country at war.'

Several charged in police pot bust

DURHAM — Durham Regional Police charged 35 people and seized \$613,362 worth of pot during a drug investigation dubbed Project KOCO.

During the two-month operation KOCO (Knock Off Cannabis Operations), drug enforcement officers focused on the distribution and sale of dope being grown at illegal indoor factories across the region, police said.

Growers of all levels, traffickers and users were targeted as part of the probe.

Sergeant Paul Malik, police spokesman, said the intent of the investigation was to "reinforce the fact that, contrary to the recent perception of marijuana's alleged legality," anyone caught growing, dealing or using pot for non-medical purposes will be "investigated, charged and prosecuted."

He said police executed 18 search warrants, arrested 35 persons and laid 108 charges, including production, trafficking and simple possession of pot.

The blitz included undercover buys and the dismantling of a number of "large commercial/residential marijuana grow operations," Sgt. Malik said.

Police seized 2,680 pot plants in various stages of growth and \$161,500 worth of sophisticated growing equipment during the project. Two labs were uncovered in commercial units on Cobble Dick Road in Orono and Wentworth Street in Oshawa, while residential grow operations were also found on Ritson Road South (three), Highbrooke Court, McMillan Street, Harmony Road South and Heartland Crescent in Oshawa, Carmichael Drive in Whitby, Charlton Crescent in Ajax and McMann Crescent in Courtice.

One drug factory on Ritson Road South was discovered after Oshawa Fire Services responded to a fire in a basement apartment.

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Spring forward and check smoke alarm batteries this weekend

DURHAM — Attention anyone who sleeps: it is time to check your smoke alarm batteries.

"When you change your clocks, you change your (alarm) batteries," says Kent MacCarl, fire chief of Whitby Fire and Emergency Services.

The clocks move ahead one hour on Sunday, April 6 at 2 a.m. It's recommended you move your clock ahead one hour before going to sleep on Saturday night.

"Canadians should get in the habit of replacing their batteries each time they change their clocks," says David Weeks, director of marketing at Duracell Canada. "Batteries can last longer than one year, of course, but unless owners make a regular, conscious effort to replace them, they may forget in the future."

"You never know when you buy a battery," Chief MacCarl says, adding some may last longer than others. Along with switching batteries every time clocks are changed, Chief MacCarl suggests testing alarm batteries monthly. Also, alarms should be installed on every level of a home and outside all sleeping areas.

The Office of the Fire Marshal suggests putting an alarm in rooms where individuals sleep with the doors closed, as well. And an alarm should be gently vacuumed every six months, and the age of an alarm should also be considered, as they do wear out, explains Chief MacCarl.

But since most fires occur while people are asleep, he says there is no question smoke alarms save people's lives.

So does developing a fire escape plan, especially when children are involved, says Chief MacCarl. Although he says there's no sufficient proof to suggest children aren't as apt to wake up at the sound of an alarm, he says youngsters need to be taught to identify the sound. Many children have never heard an alarm before, he explains, while others may associate the sound with a familiar situation such as toast being burnt.

Identification is key, says Chief MacCarl.

"The concern is that people should practise their fire escape plans," he says. "Push people to practise, that's our key message." A fire drill should always be practised in the day, prior to the exercise, so the children understand the procedure.

Chief MacCarl says in the case of a young child, or someone who doesn't respond to a fire alarm (such as an individual with a hearing impairment), a family member or housemate should be designated to wake that person in the case of emergency.

But fire alarms should not be neglected.

States the Ontario Fire Code: "Smoke alarms shall be installed between each sleeping area and the remainder of the dwelling area, and where the sleeping areas are served by hallways, the smoke alarms shall be installed in

the hallways."

According to the Ministry of Public Safety and Security, fire deaths in the province have declined 42 per cent since 1997. But in 2002, 95 Ontarians died in fires.

"Every fire death still troubles me," says Fire Marshal Bernard Moyle. "The challenge ahead is to continue this downward trend and reduce losses even further, as many of these residential fires are still preventable."

Eighty-eight per cent of fire deaths occur in peo-

ple's homes, say Ministry statistics.

Chief Ken Kelly, president of the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs, says: "We continue to see fires and fire fatalities that could have been prevented if the smoke alarms had had working batteries. We just have to keep getting this same message across: 'change your clocks, check your batteries.'"

For more information about fire safety, contact your local fire department or visit www.gov.on.ca/OFM.



Kent MacCarl reminds area residents to change the batteries in home smoke alarms when they change clocks this weekend.

Take Internet surfing to the next step

PICKERING — Learn different techniques for accessing the Internet.

An advanced Internet demonstration program is taking place Saturday, April 12 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., in the auditorium at the Pickering Public Library's central branch, One The Esplanade.

Participants learn advanced features of search engines and how to effectively access multimedia content on the Internet with sound, animation and movies. The program is free.

For more information or to register, call 905-831-6265.

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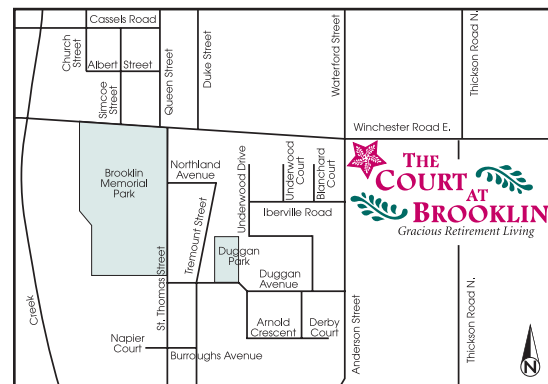
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Durham centre has new vision

Support and training for blind and deaf

By Jacquie McInnes
Staff Writer

DURHAM — A new business will give Durham residents with vision and hearing disabilities the tools to live in a sighted and noise-filled world.

The Durham Regional Vision Centre opened March 1 to train people with disabilities to use devices that can assist them at work and home.

Deborah Wilson, a licensed Assisted Device Program (ADP) trainer and the operator of the centre, had hoped to receive licensing and funding from the provincial government to open an ADP centre to service Durham Region and the surrounding area. Currently, the closest ADP licensed centre for Durham residents is in Scarborough.

After receiving a letter from Health Minister Tony Clement saying no funding for additional centres is available, Ms. Wilson decided to open a vision centre anyway. Although it will not be licensed to pre-

scribe assisted devices through OHIP, the centre will provide additional training and support for those who are learning to use the technology. As well, Ms. Wilson says, she can offer recommendations for devices to those people who don't qualify for OHIP funding.

"There is such a need here. I'll be providing training for low-vision, blind and deaf people. There will be workshops organized and a summer camp for low vision and blind kids. It will be a one-week computer camp using the latest technology," she says. The centre will also offer a Braille embosser service where books can be translated into Braille or people can learn how to use the embosser.

Ms. Wilson has worked in the field for 25 years and expects to work closely with ophthalmologists and optometrists in the region. As well, she will be working with local school boards and corporations to make classrooms and workplaces more accessible.

No referral is required for the service. The centre is located at 22 King St. W. in Oshawa. For more information, call 905-571-5020.



Maura D'Costa (left) visits the Durham Regional Vision Centre with her seeing-eye dog, Driver, as the centre's Deborah Wilson looks on. The centre opened March 1 in Oshawa.

OPG fund-raiser postponed

DURHAM — The Ontario Power Generation Breath of Hope Relay has been postponed.

Due to the outbreak of severe acute respiratory syndrome in Ontario and the number of people quarantined in and around Toronto,

The Lung Association has decided to postpone its fund-raising relay, which was scheduled for tonight (Friday) at the SkyDome in Toronto. A new date has not been set.

For more information, call 416-864-9911.

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Important Information on the West Nile virus

Fighting the West Nile virus.

Ontario's 7 point action plan.

The West Nile virus is a mosquito-borne virus that poses a health risk. Most infected people show mild symptoms but for a rare few it is serious, possibly fatal. It is not an airborne virus like the Flu or a cold. It is transmitted through the blood.

Following the Government's commitment in its 2003 Budget to invest \$100 million over five years to help stop the spread of West Nile virus, the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care is launching an aggressive seven-point action plan.

Here are some of the details of this seven-point action plan.

1. New lab capabilities: Faster results for faster treatments.

Timely reporting of test results is essential for patient treatment and data collection. Therefore, we are adding new staff and equipment to provide new provincial testing capabilities, reducing the time it takes to get West Nile virus test results.

2. Tracking the virus: Responding faster to protect public health.

Effective May 1, 2003, West Nile virus will be both a reportable disease and a communicable disease under the Health Protection and Promotion Act reporting to the local medical officers of health. This means that there is a formal and required reporting mechanism for cases of the disease. This information will give your local medical officer better information to take whatever actions are needed to protect public health.

Additionally, we will be tracking the migration of the virus through dead crows and ravens, mosquito breeding areas for larvae pools, as well as horses.

3. Public Education: Informing you of the best ways to protect yourself and your family.

Educating the public on how to protect themselves from mosquito bites, reducing mosquito breeding grounds around the home and informing healthcare providers of new issues regarding the transmission of West Nile virus (organ transplants or blood donations) is essential for all of us. We will ensure that you are kept informed of developments with West Nile virus and advised on how to protect yourself and your family.

4. Mosquito Control: Controlling bugs means less chance of being bitten.

Funding is being made available to every Public Health Unit for larviciding (pesticidal products called larvicides are placed in stagnant water where mosquitoes prefer to lay their eggs) and, as a last resort, adulticiding (or what is commonly referred to as pesticidal spray). Public health units will make the decision on what control activities will be carried out, with the ministry cost-sharing the costs of these activities.

5. Early Warning: Helping you be prepared.

A pilot project is being implemented for an early warning system to better track the outbreak of the virus and to be able to make more timely decisions on its management.

6. Community Exposure Study: Letting you know how fast and far West Nile virus is traveling.

Many people bitten by infected mosquitoes don't show any signs of serious illness. So in Halton region, we're gathering data on how many people were infected in 2002. This information will help us determine how widespread the disease has become.

7. Research: Keeping abreast of the latest information.

We will continue consultations with community groups and with national and international professional organizations to maintain an ongoing flow of information with physicians and patients with West Nile virus symptoms. This will also enable us to have the latest information on mosquito control techniques, disease surveillance methods and results, and successful public education approaches.

Mosquito season will soon be here. We will be keeping you informed on West Nile virus. For more information, visit our web site or call our InfoLine.

1-877-234-4343
www.health.gov.on.ca

TTY: 1-800-387-5559



Jason Liebrechts/News Advertiser photo

Dollars and cents

PICKERING — Our Lady of the Bay Catholic School students collected more than 75,000 pennies as part of the school's annual fund-raiser for Share Life. Here, James Beecroft and Nicola Moretti line up 50-cent rolls in the gym to get a sense of the amount collected.

Disabled in Durham get job-hunting help

Employment network sponsors series of focus groups across region

DURHAM — The economy's ups and downs can play havoc with anyone's employment. But for the disabled, finding the right job can be challenging.

The Durham Region Employment Network (DREN) is sponsoring a series of consumer focus groups across

the region during April. DREN wants to hear from anyone with a disability who is currently receiving employment services, who has received employment services in the past or who is either working or not in the workforce.

The network also wants to hear from anybody who would like to work but has not yet received assistance.

The following consultation locations and dates are:

- Ajax-Pickering on April 7 from 4-6 p.m. at the Pickering Central Library, 2nd floor meeting room, 1 The Esplanade, Pickering.

- Port Perry on April 16 from 4-6 p.m. in the Fire Hall training room, 30 Crandell St.

- Beaverton on April 22 from 4-6 p.m. at the Community Employment Resource Centre, Old Town Hall, 397 Simcoe St.

- Oshawa-Whitby on April 23 from 4-6 p.m., Greater Oshawa Chamber of Commerce, 44 Richmond St. W., Oshawa.

- Uxbridge, April 24 from 4-6 p.m. at the North Durham Resource Centre, Testa Professional Building, 2 Campbell Dr., Suite 201.

Call 905-720-1777 or visit www.dren.org for more information.

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Durham Business Times

Flaherty fears for future of trade

Minister worries Canada's stance on war could have negative economic effects



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Durham Business Times

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Provincial plan for Durham gets mixed review

By Jacquie McInnes
Staff Writer

DURHAM — A new provincial vision for central Ontario needs a clearer view of Durham, according to local politicians and planners, who say a draft plan gives short shrift to this region's needs.

Cleaner air, shorter commutes, lower taxes and economic prosperity are the ideals of a plan created by a provincially-appointed panel of politicians and community leaders from across central Ontario, including Whitby Mayor Marcel Brunelle.

But whether the plan will meet those goals for Durham Region is a matter for debate, says Regional Chairman Roger Anderson. The panel's current draft report "considers the Province as being west of Markham Road," he says.

Mayor Brunelle, the only east-end representative on the 18-member panel, says he recognizes the report may have missed some essential infrastructure ingredients for Durham's future. The Whitby mayor says he is taking these concerns to his fellow panel members but adds

he does not believe the oversights were intentional.

"A lot of work has gone into this. The final report has not been written so people shouldn't jump off bridges," adds Mayor Brunelle, who says the panel has created "a picture" and now missing elements can be added into it.

The Central Ontario Smart Growth zone extends around the west end of Lake Ontario, from Niagara in the south to Waterloo and Wellington in the west across Dufferin, Simcoe and Kawartha Lakes and Haliburton to the north, east to Peterborough and Northumberland.

Durham's response to the Smart Growth panel's draft report notes:

- key planned and existing Durham transportation elements including the Taunton/Steeles cross-boundary connection and the Pickering Airport were missed in the report and should be acknowledged;
- significant investment in transit and economic corridors to support growth to Barrie and to the western part of the

GTA is recommended and Durham Region should be given similar attention;

• the "vision, principles, values and directions" of the report are very broad and general and the next step should be to develop a series of actions to ensure the recommendations are implemented.

"All of these visions and directions have been around for some time," says Nestor Chornobay, Durham's director of strategic planning. "Really the key is what are you going to do to make them happen? Implementation is the key."

Scugog Mayor Doug Moffatt says the panel's vision of transit needs to be expanded to include road maintenance and repair. He points out for rural areas of the province, including much of his municipality, public transit will never be an option but their transportation needs shouldn't be ignored.

The panel's intent to preserve farmland is good but "futile" unless economic policies are created that provide an incentive for farmers to work their land instead of selling it for development, the Scugog mayor adds.

The big question is how the vision will be funded, says Clarington Mayor John Mutton. "It needs sustainable funding. The gas tax would be a reliable source of revenue."

Mayor Brunelle says the vision just offers options and once the panel reports to the Province this spring, it will be up to the Province to decide what, if anything, comes from it.

Anyone interested in viewing the panel's report or getting more information can go to the Smart Growth secretariat Web site at www.smart-growth.gov.on.ca



MARCEL BRUNELLE
Panel has created a picture.

Sobeys workers on strike

By Jeremy Le Page
Staff Writer

DURHAM — The garbage bins shoot red flames as the workers pace the entrance at the lakeside Sobeys warehouse.

"We're willing to go the distance," says one voice.

"It will be a long battle," yells another.

The workers have been on strike since early Monday morning because of "wages, benefits, and contract language," they explain.

"They gave us one offer," says Rob Robbins, a three-year employee of the Sobeys Whitby Retail Support Centre. "They said take it or leave it, and this is where we are."

The workers - which number about 500 - are part of the Canadian Auto Workers Local 1090 in Ajax. Formerly a third-party distribution centre for Sobeys (owned by Ryder), the distribution centre was purchased by the grocery chain last May. Sobeys Ontario operates 127 IGA stores, 35 Sobeys stores, 46 Knechtels, 45 Foodlands, 64 Price Choppers, and 58 Food Town stores. Other

distribution centres in the province are not included in the labour dispute.

"We put together a complete contingency plan," explains Duncan Reith, president of operations for Sobeys Ontario. He says Sobeys has sufficient resources throughout the country to handle the stoppage of work at the Whitby plant during the strike. And he says the retail stores will not be affected by the dispute. "Our focus is on meeting the needs of our customers," Mr. Reith adds.

As to the possible length of the strike, or contract details, he has no comment. These details "should be left at the table," he explains.

Mr. Robbins says he and other workers received a letter on Sunday, the night before the contract deadline, suggesting if they didn't accept the standing Sobeys offer, the employees would be forcing a strike situation.

Negotiations between the parties are ongoing.

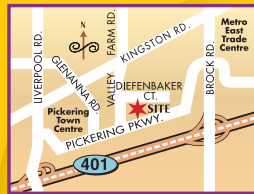
Local 1090 representatives did not return phone calls.

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Stu Sheperd (Colin Farrell) finds himself confined to a phone booth when a serial killer with a rifle threatens to shoot him if he hangs up. 'Phone Booth' opens this weekend in theatres.

Farrell dials up trouble in Phone Booth

Diesel's A Man Apart in other new films

The following movies open in local theatres this weekend

PHONE BOOTH

Directed by Joel Schumacher
Starring Colin Farrell, Forest Whitaker, Katie Holmes

A phone call can change your life, but for one man, it can also end it.

Set entirely within and around the confines of a New York City phone booth, Stu Sheperd is a low-rent media consultant who is trapped after being told by a caller -- a serial killer with a sniper rifle -- that he'll be shot dead if he hangs up.

A sudden and shocking act of violence near the booth draws the attention of the police, who arrive backed with a small army of sharpshooters. They believe Stu, not the unseen caller of whom they remain unaware, is the dangerous man with a gun.

As afternoon turns into evening, Stu, the embodiment of an unethical, self-serving existence, must now undertake a sudden and unexpected moral evolution.

He must dig deep into his soul, find his strength and attempt to outwit the caller, taking the game to

an even more dangerous level.

A MAN APART
Directed by F. Gary Gray
Starring Vin Diesel, Larenz Tate, Timothy Olyphant

Agent Sean Vetter is a drug enforcement agency operative fighting the drug wars along the U.S./Mexican border.

After a major player from the Baja Cartel is imprisoned, a new mysterious figure known as Diablo wrests control of the entire operation.

When Vetter's wife is murdered in a botched hit, he and his partner must join forces with the jailed Cartel boss to hunt down the dangerous and elusive new player.

WHAT A GIRL WANTS

Directed by Dennie Gordon
Starring Amanda Byrnes, Colin Firth, Kelly Preston

Daphne, a spirited young American girl, travels to London in search of her long-lost father, an influential aristocratic politician.

As Daphne attempts to prove that love can conquer all, her impulsive behaviour creates an uproar in high society, where her unique style threatens to undermine the relationship she has waited her whole life to experience.

FOR FULL MOVIE LISTINGS, CLICK ON durhamregion.com

Pickering native highlights benefit concert

PICKERING — Music and spring will be in the air at a benefit recital for the Durham Region Lung Association.

Sopranos Kelly Backwell and Patricia Castanos, two local musicians, will entertain with music by Mozart, Menotti, Strauss and Rachmaninoff at the 8 p.m. concert, Saturday, April 12 at Dunbarton-Fairport United Church in Pickering.

Both women recently graduated with honours with degrees in vocal performance from Wilfrid Laurier University and both, as singers, know how important healthy lungs are.

They also have seen the Lung Association at work. Castanos' father developed asthma in the past few years and Backwell's husband has lived with asthma all his life. Because of this connection, they are hosting this benefit concert.

Castanos, of Whitby, began her singing career in church, took lessons and took part in high school productions. She has also been a soloist with the Durham Philharmonic Choir and teaches music locally.

Backwell, who grew up in Pickering, has been performing since she

was eight. She was elected as president of the music association at Laurier in 2001/02.

She's currently applying to graduate programs in Canada and the United States.

After the recital, there will be a reception, with a performance by the Hamstrings of Durham.

Proceeds go to the association. Tickets are \$10 and available at Alexander's Music Studio in Pickering, Walter's Music at the Oshawa Centre and the association's Durham office, 1627 Dundas St. E., Whitby.

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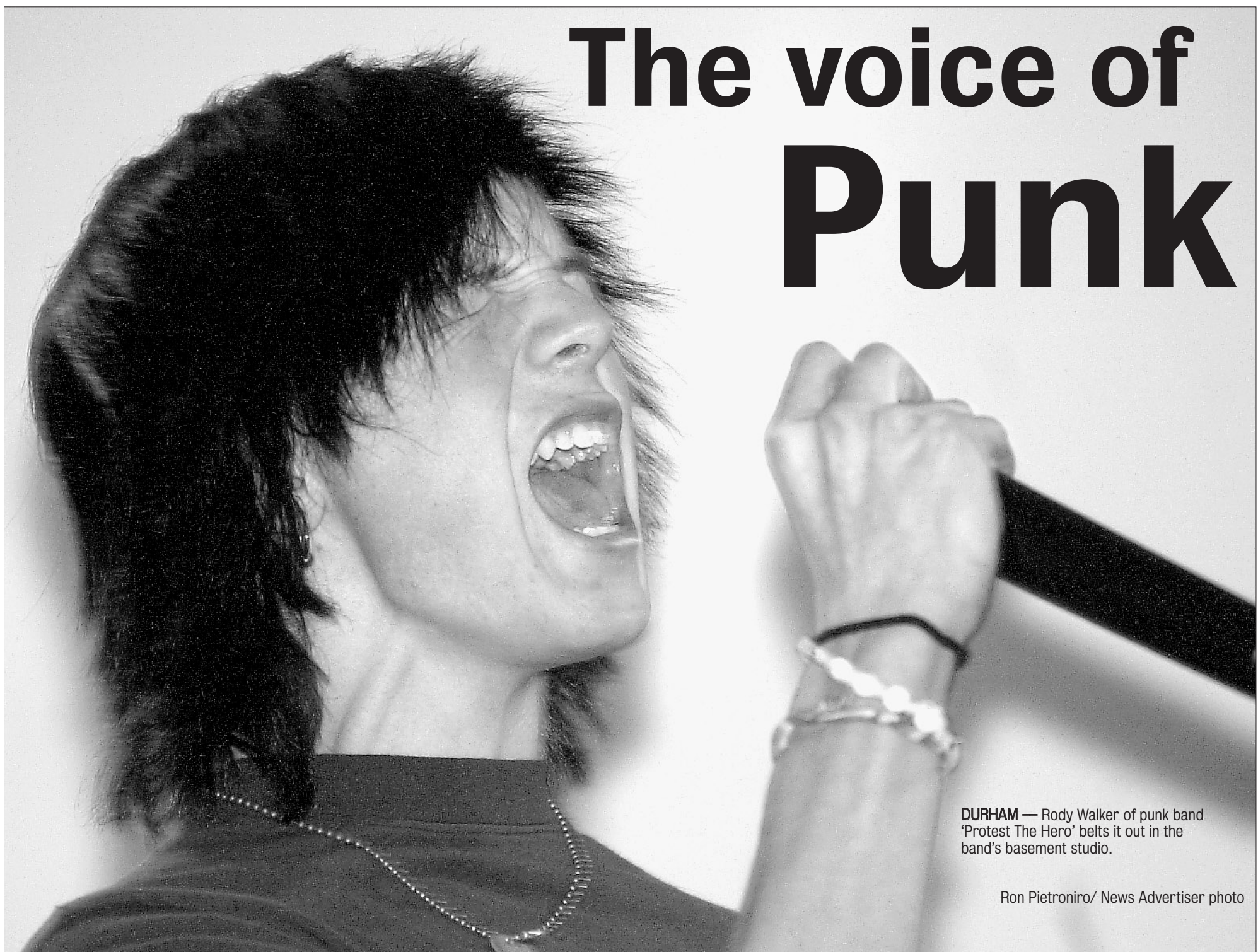
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The voice of Punk



DURHAM — Rody Walker of punk band 'Protest The Hero' belts it out in the band's basement studio.

Ron Pietroniro/ News Advertiser photo

By Jeremy Le Page
Staff Writer

Durham Region is a hotbed for bands with something to say

AJAX — It Smells Like Revolutionary Spirit. And it sounds like punk music.

So the distortion-drizzled sound of the guitars and pounding bass drum convince one's brain.

Punk music in Durham started this way - underground - and will continue this way, even after the spotlight on the area's music scene fades like a final wave of applause.

It seems like a bold statement, considering the music of such Ajax natives as Sum 41, Not By Choice, and band members of pop-rocker Avril Lavigne continue to rise on the charts. But the word 'Ajax' - made trendy by music mags and disc jockeys throughout the continent - is just part of a giant underground music scene in the region.

"I think the more punk it is, the more underground," says Not By Choice guitarist Glenn Dunning, 26, adding the local scene has always included bands from all over the Greater Toronto Area.

"I'm not sure how many bands are in Ajax anymore... But playing in Ajax was cool... I love Ajax."

Vancouver-based music promoter Gary McDonald is from Ajax. His company, Frontside Promotions Group, works with Canadian bands including Not By Choice, Sum 41, Gob, and Swollen Members. He says the concept of punk music originat-

ing in a suburban setting such as Ajax is not a shock. He compares it to past suburban punk movements in the late 1970s and '80s, such as Orange County, California (where bands like Agent Orange and Social Distortion gained popularity).

"The town (Ajax) itself has taken on more of a suburban

tion.

"Ajax was the Chameleon," he explains about the club, now closed and instead rented out as rehearsal space. "It was an amazing, brilliant 10 years... It was more about local bands... A big group of friends."

And Mr. Spicoluk knows both spectrums of the music business.

For years he has played with Closet Monster, self-producing albums and playing small shows across Canada, with little spotlight from the mainstream media. But recently, for six months, he went on tour with Avril Lavigne's band, just to "see what it was like".

The fact he's back with Closet Monster (whose former guitar player Jesse Colburn, still plays with Lavigne), he explains, speaks volumes about his experience in the music industry.

"Once I was there, I lost touch," he says about the experience of playing arenas and appearing in videos. "It's a big circus. You lose touch with real people, real issues."

He rejoined Closet Monster, he adds, because he "wanted to be an artist."

However, Mr. Spicoluk says he doesn't judge others quite so critically, explaining everybody's situation is different.

"The only people who can

know if they're selling out are the artists themselves," he adds.

Closet Monster's drummer, Chris McCartney, says the mainstream music industry is anchored in promotion. He says 'Corporate Media Death Squad', a song on Closet Monster's newest CD, 'Killed the Radio Star', delves into the band's philosophy about the entire music industry.

"Any band could be huge," he explains. "Some of the bands I've seen on tour can wipe the floor with other bands who are successful." He says Closet Monster is in a good place now, and is gearing up for a long tour of Canada and Europe.

Geoff Bennett plays with the group The Mark Inside (not so much a punk outfit as rock, he says). He says the main venues for bands in the region are either Toronto clubs or the Dungeon, a 400-plus capacity nightclub located in Oshawa on Bond Street.

"Pop punk is big here," he explains, adding the Durham scene is far from declining.

But Mr. Dunning says Not By Choice, despite a lot of punk influence, is really "just like a pop-rock band with explosive parts." He says his band, despite mainstream success, still keeps creative control of its music and

gets to play a lot of good shows.

"Playing bigger venues is wicked, but we play a lot of smaller clubs too," he explains, adding that although he respects the political theme of many current bands, it is not the focus of Not by Choice.

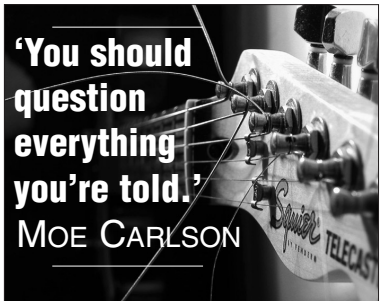
But Protest the Hero, from Whitby, says its music is all about asking questions, and challenging the status quo. With songs like 'These Colours Don't Run,' and 'I'm Dmitri Karamazov and the World is my Father,' the band is full of heavy musical rhythms and political lyrics.

"A lot of people, in general, don't care about what's going on," singer Rody Walker explains. A young band, with the average age of the five members between 16 and 17, they say getting their message out to other youth is important. A new Protest the Hero CD, the 'Calculated Use of Sound', is expected to be released soon.

"We're focusing on getting that released... then doing a slew of shows," says drummer Moe Carlson. He says the band has learned a lot about politics by listening to other punk bands, and hopes Protest the Hero has a similar influence on its audience.

"To a lot of people politics is what's on CNN," Mr. Carlson says. "But you should question everything you're told."

Mr. Spicoluk agrees. "I wish there was some banner I could hold up that just said to people: Ask more questions."



Underdog claims title

Ajax, Pickering musicians rock final of annual Bandwarz event

By Rob Tolson
Special to the News Advertiser

DURHAM — The war is over, at least at E.P. Taylor's in Oshawa, and a local group has emerged victorious from an intensive battle of the bands.

Blues Underdog, made up of Ajax and Pickering residents, took home top prize on the final Saturday of the nine-week extravaganza, Bandwarz 2003.

The last band to perform at the March 29 final, fans and other band members danced and cheered Blues Underdog on to glory.

"We loved playing Bandwarz," said bassist/guitarist Jeff Ledger. "It was great. The money, the food, we got on TV, everything. We should have one of these every day."

Ironically, placing second in the competition was Whitby band One Short, the Bandwarz winner in 2000. Placing third was the high-energy, politically charged, rap-core styling of Ajax's Sin 7. Other finalists included Bowmanville's Truth Syrum, Pickering's Meadowvale, Green Division of Pickering, Tenfold, which features Ajax and Pickering musicians, and Warden, a Toronto band.

Blues Underdog brought with it a different flavour from the rest of the music being played at the competition. The band describes its sound as urban-rock fusion.



Rob Tolson/ News Advertiser photo

Najja 'Calibur' Crest and Alfred 'Viste' Patricio had the crowd dancing and cheering Saturday night as they won the finals of the annual Bandwarz competition.

The other band members are Najja 'Calibur' Crest (vocals), Alfred 'Viste' Patricio (vocals), Shernette 'Miss Amoye' Evans (vocals), Candice Philip (vocals), Brian Bracken (guitar/bass/vocals), Jeff Roberts (percussion), and DJ Darren 'Farma D' Farmer (turntables).

The band was awarded \$1,000, two days of recording time at a studio, and a pair of Etnies shoes each.

In addition to the free studio time, the band plans on using the \$1,000 for more recording. It hopes to put out a 10-song demo CD along with a music video by late summer.

The winners were prepared for the finals and practised five days a week for the last couple of weeks.

"We came to win," said Ledger. "We thought we had a good chance, but had no idea

the other bands would be this good."

Blues Underdog is made up of members from five different bands of different genres that have been playing the local music scene for about eight years. They have been together as a band for only 10 months, but in this short period they have played more than 15 shows.

"We just did Canadian Music Week and Chart Magazine did a review on us," said Patricio. "They said we rocked them so hard..."

Blues Underdog is currently trying to organize a tour, and is performing at the Reverb in Toronto Friday, April 4 and July Friday, 4, as well as participating in the New Music Festival in Vancouver.

For more information on the band, visit its Web site at www.bluesunderdog.com.

SHOW GUIDE & EVENT DIRECTORY

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Friday April 18, 9am-9pm
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Black Whites out opposition in annual basketball classic

Pickering High's Singh sings in trey shooting; McLaughlin dunker captures crown

By Al Rivett
Sports Editor

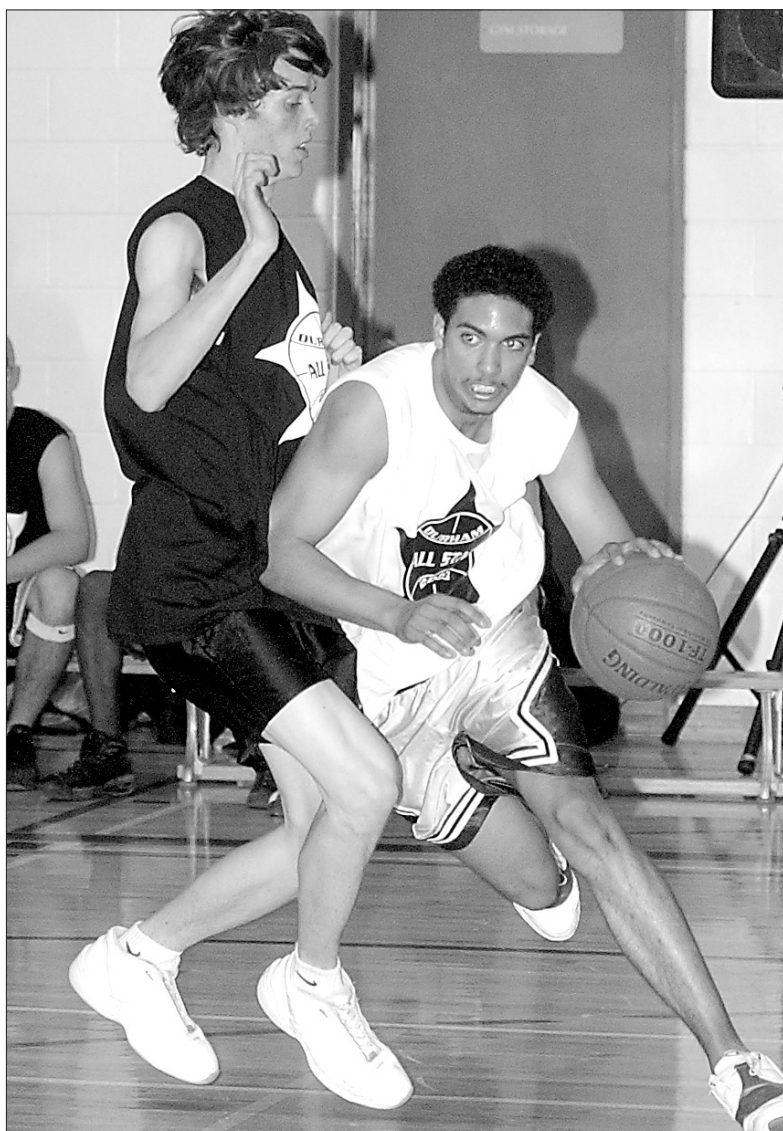
DURHAM — An overflow crowd came out to see the best high school hoops players in the region put on a show and was treated to that and more.

And, although the denizens were restless over some ragged play in the early going, they got their money's worth later as the players heated up and provided a solid basketball exhibition.

St. Mary Catholic Secondary School in Pickering was the site of the annual Durham Region senior boys' all-star game Tuesday night. All schools, save Anderson Collegiate in Whitby, sent their brightest and best to participate in not only the all-star showcase, but also a three-point shooting contest and the popular slam-dunk competition.

This year, the traditional east-versus-west format was eschewed in favour of coaches drafting 15 players on to both Team White and Team Black. The move was made to avoid another blowout. Team Black, which trailed the entire first half, answered the call in the second to post a 90-84 victory.

The early going was fraught with turnovers, air balls and the like, but once the nerves and rust were worked out, the contest morphed into end-to-end action, some deadeye three-point shooting and a little showboating by the players.



A.J. Groen/ News Advertiser photo
Tom Budai moves past defender Tim Cruickshank during the Durham all-star basketball game in Pickering Tuesday.

Team White led by as many as nine with six minutes to go in the opening 20 minutes, high-

lighted by eight consecutive points from Keith Godding of the Archbishop Denis O'Con-

nor Catholic High School Chargers of Ajax. Team Black closed the gap to a two-point deficit at the interval, 38-36.

Team Black overtook Team White with about four minutes to go when Sinclair's Matt Parfitt nailed a three-pointer for a 76-74 lead. Back-to-back jumpers by Team White's Stallone Sylvester of G.L. Roberts tied the game at 81-81 with just more than two minutes to go. Matt Tosoni of Whitby's Father Leo Austin then put back a rebound to restore Team Black's lead and they never looked back.

Dave Jackson, of the Lake Ontario Secondary School Athletics (LOSSA) 'AAAA' champion Pickering High School Trojans, who coached Team Black along with fellow Pickering coach Ron Parfitt, said his team recovered nicely from the scrambly first half.

"I told them to put more pressure on the ball and get out and run," he said, talking about the turnaround in play.

Jackson was a big proponent of the new all-star setup.

"It was a good game and a lot better format than east against west. It turned out to be a lot closer game and it was good for our kids to play with and against other players, rather than the guys they've played with the whole year," he said.

Godding, the game's most valuable player, led all scorers with a 20-point performance. He credits his teammates with doing all the work to get him the ball in the right spot.

"I was there where the ball was. A lot of the guys were working for all the loose balls," he said.

He acknowledged nerves played a role in his team's early troubles in the contest, but said it picked up its play noticeably

in the second half.

"Although they were bigger than us, we were confident that we could run with them," he said.

Navin Singh, of the Trojans, captured the three-point shooting contest. Singh tossed up 16 points (balls were worth one or two points) out of a possible 25 in the first round to be one of three finalists, along with Bowmanville High School's Jodie Thomas and Josh Heinmen of Ajax's J. Clarke Richardson Collegiate, both with 17.

In the second round, Singh and Thomas posted identical 13 scores, with Heinmen the odd man out at 11. In the tiebreaking shootout, Singh won 13-11.

Singh, an OAC student at Pickering High, was kept out of the contest a year ago with a family commitment.

"Everyone came out to have fun and it was good competition too," said Singh. "I just tried to focus on shooting the ball and concentrate on each ball."

Chris Blackman of Oshawa's McLaughlin Collegiate was the slam-dunk champion after throwing down a series of spectacular jams to win in a landslide. Tom Budai of Oshawa's Eastdale Collegiate and Tim Cruickshank of Port Perry High School were finalists.

GAME NOTES: One of the slam-dunk contest judges was Pickering High School grad **Kirk Salesman**. Salesman played for the Canadian national basketball team in 1996 and 1997 and the Northeastern University Huskies from 1996 to 1998 before joining Quincy University in Illinois. He played in a pro league in South America this year. Last November, Salesman suited up with the GT Express all-star team that played NCAA squads...

Bantam Knights claim championship

Impressive season capped off with perfect playoff record

AJAX -- The Ajax Knights minor bantam select hockey team captured the York-Simcoe League championship with a convincing 5-1 victory over the Whitby Wildcats Thursday night.

Jordan Brook paced the Knights' attack with a two-goal effort. Joe Trentadue, Kevin Haggarty and Brandon Manio added single markers. Goaltender Lee Taylor made

24 saves for the win.

The victory concluded a successful season for the Ajax bantam selects, who finished in first place in the York-Simcoe league with a 20-3-1 record. The team led the league in goals scored and fewest goals against. They went undefeated throughout the playoffs to win the championship. The squad also earned tournament victories in the Oshawa NASC event in February and at the 30th annual Pickering Select Tournament earlier this month. The Knights sport an overall record of 43-7-1, including 13 shutouts.

Team members are captain

Chris Harrington, Jordan Brooks, Phillip Griffin, Kevin Haggarty, Garrett Konecny, Bryan Low, Brandon Manio, Michael Nobile, Kevin Pilon, Evan Pitcher, Mitchell Shanks, Mark Sorichetti, Joseph Trentadue, Jared Turcotte, Alex Welch, Ben Giddings and goaltenders Kyle Gordon and Lee Taylor.

Guy Pilon coaches the team, assisted by Brian Pitcher, Larry Brooks and Abner Manio. The trainer is Denis Trottier and Sylvia Welch is the manager.

The season concludes for the Knights with the Kingston C.A.L. Tournament April 11 to 13.

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Generals face stiff playoff test in 67's

By Brian McNair
Staff Writer

DURHAM — After they survived a long roller-coaster ride in the first round of the playoffs, one can't help but wonder if the Oshawa Generals have enough left to slay Goliath.

Goliath, in this case, being the Ottawa 67's, the Generals' opponent for a best-of-seven Ontario Hockey League Eastern Conference semifinal that gets under way tonight at the Civic Auditorium at 7:35 p.m.

The 67's ran away with the conference with a 44-14-7-3 regular season record, finished as the fifth-ranked team in the country, are coached by legendary Brian Kilrea and have a potent offence led by OHL scoring leaders Corey Locke (63-88-151) and Matt Foy (61-71-132).

ished sixth in the conference at 34-30-2-2, are to pull off a major upset, they'll need to ride the momentum of Tuesday's thrilling 4-3 overtime win over the Peterborough Petes in Game 7 of the quarterfinals.

"I think we've got a better appreciation of what type of commitment is necessary to win," says George Burnett, coach and general manager of the Generals. "Maybe we can grow a little bit here. I know our next opponent is a pretty formidable one, but we're excited about the challenge."

Oshawa will also need more top-notch play from Chris Beckford-Tseu, who is starting to garner a reputation as a money goalie. Although officially a rookie this season, Beckford-Tseu stood tall in a playoff defeat to the Belleville Bulls a year ago and made

several key saves in Games 6 and 7 against the Petes.

"It's an exciting time of year," says Beckford-Tseu, who had an up-and-down regular season. "It's a brand new season and anything can happen. You've just got to be ready to play every night."

Clearly led by the line of Locke, Foy and Scott Shepard, the 67's are deeper up front than some give them credit for, with the likes of Lou Dickenson, Matthew Albiani and Rodney Bauman, and have one of the top defencemen in the country in Brendan Bell, who had a team-leading plus-50 in 55 games.

If the 67's have a weakness, and that's a big if, it could be between the pipes, where rookie Lukas Mensator struggled slightly in a 4-1 opening round win over the Mississauga Ice Dogs.

"We were fortunate to get out (of the first round) in five," says Kilrea, who earned his 1,000 career regular season win this season, an unprecedented feat in junior hockey.

"We better play better because I know Oshawa will be ready," Kilrea adds. "If they can knock out a tough Peterborough team, you know they're at the top of their game."

The 67's lost only three games at home all season - once to the Generals - and have home ice advantage in the series, even though it opens in Oshawa. Games 2 and 3 are Sunday (6:30 p.m.) and Monday (7 p.m.) at the Ottawa Civic Centre, Game 4 at Oshawa's Civic Auditorium next Wednesday at 7:35 p.m.

The 67's won the regular season

series 4-2, outscoring the Generals 24-15.

"Obviously it's going to be a tough matchup and we've got to bring our best game if we're going to have any success against them because they're a good hockey team and they've got a lot of power up front," says Generals' centre Nathan Horton, who scored the series winner in overtime against the Petes.

"It's going to be pretty big for us," Horton adds. "Hopefully we come up to the task."

GENERALLY SPEAKING: If needed, Game 5 is in Ottawa Friday, April 11 (7:30 p.m.), Game 6 in Oshawa Sunday, April 13 (6:35 p.m.) and Game 7 in Ottawa Monday, April 14 (7 p.m.).

Women wanted for slo-pitch league play

AJAX -- Women are asked to pitch in this coming season.

The Ajax Women's Slo-Pitch Association is looking for individual and team entries for 2003.

Women aged 19 and older are being recruited to play in the established slo-pitch league, which starts play May 5. The season ends in mid-September.

For more information, call the league's hotline at 905-426-4842 and leave a message.

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- Atom — Steve Horner 905-683-6758 — 7:00pm Pad#2
- Minor Peewee — Norm Rogers 905-839-7229 — 7:10pm Pad#3
- Peewee — Trevor Nkiwane 905-831-6218 — 5:30pm Pad#2
- Minor Bantam — Ian Fletcher 905-420-5524 — 7:30pm Pad#1
- Bantam — Bill Carroll 905-427-6156 — 8:30pm Pad#2
- Minor Midget — Tom Riggs 905-420-0099 — 8:40pm Pad#3
- Midget — Wayne Macdonald 905-427-7328 — 9:00pm Pad#1



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P195/60R15	\$122.95	\$112.95
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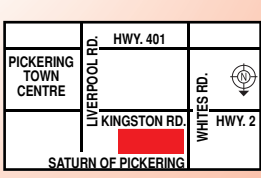
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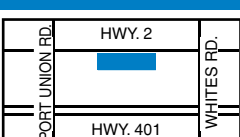
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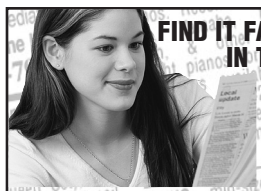
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PLUMBERS or 3rd-5th year apprenticeship needed immediately full-time. Clean abstract required. Heating & drains an asset. Call 905-725-7549

525 Office Help

BOOKKEEPER - experienced, for manufacturing company in Scarborough. Computer skills in A/R, A/P, G/L, to trial balance and gov't remittances. Knowledge of ADP Payroll system an asset. Good salary and benefits. Fax resume to: 416-293-6561; Only prospect-ed candidates will be contacted by telephone.

CERTIFIED ParaLegals, 5 years experience, manage cases start to finish. Fax cover letter, resume and salary expectations to Box 219, 905-426-7756

OSSO ELECTRIC SUPPLIES Inc. has an Accounts Payable Position available at our Head Office location. Office experience and computer knowledge required. A/P experience would be an asset. Must be a quick learner and able to work with others. Fax Resume to 905-432-2947 or email to info@ossoelectric.com

PART TIME OFFICE/Promotional Assistant - Metroland Durham Region Media Group requires a part time office and promotional assistant. Duties include data entry, general administration, news processing and promotional help at local consumer shows. Must be an experienced computer user with strong communication and typing skills. Knowledge of Microsoft Office an asset. Email resume (in Word or PDF format) to: Helena Kranjec, Online Producer:hkranjec@durhamregion.com

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RN, FULL TIME and part time, oral surgery. Come join our team. Benefits. Monday - Friday, no weekends. Ajax/Oshawa. HARPs an asset. Send resume to Dr. Fenwick, 40 King St. W., Suite 502, Oshawa, Ontario, L1H 1A4 or fax to (905) 434-2357. No phone calls please.

RECEPTIONIST NEEDED for young growing company in Pickering. Full time position, Monday-Friday 8am-4:30pm. Duties to include filing, minor bookkeeping, phones. Entry level position, will train. Please deliver resume to 1020 Toy Ave., Pickering, Attn. Matthew.

SENIOR LEGAL SECRETARY to cover maternity leave for Oshawa law firm 5 days per week commencing June 16th, 2003. Civil litigation and family law experience essential. Send resume by April 21st to: Greer, Sella & Zochodne, P.O. Box 917, Oshawa, L1H 7N1, attention Linda.

537 Holistic Health

HOUSEKEEPER/MANNY, liveout, Finch/Whites area. Mon-Fri, 7:15am-6pm. Cleaning/cooking/errands. 3 boys (14, 11, 9 yrs). Driver's license a must. 905-839-1627

530 Sales Help & Agents

2-4 EXP. MORTGAGE Agents wanted IMMEDIATELY. Experienced only please. High commissions paid, no territories, self starters. Located in Whitby. Car a must. Please fax resume to 905-436-8626 or call 905-436-9292 for appointment

EXPERIENCED SALES Consultant - Needed for a busy custom window covering store. Experienced in selling shutters, blinds and draperies is a must. This is a commissioned sales position with the potential earnings in excess of \$75,000 a year. References required, must have use of own vehicle. Please fax your confidential resume to 905-728-5198. Candidates will be notified by April 15th.

532 Retail Sales Help

BUCK OR TWO, Canada's largest dollar store retail chain is recruiting for a full-time Store Manager for their store located at Westney Heights Plaza, 15 Westney Road North in Ajax. Buck or Two stores offer their customers a fun shopping experience because they consistently offer better values and a superior selection of merchandise! If you are an energetic individual with leadership and customer service skills and want to be part of a winning team then please fax us your resume with salary expectations to 905-738-0680. Our thanks to all but only qualified candidates will be contacted.

535 Hospital/Medical/Dental

A FULL TIME PHARMACIST is required for a prescription pharmacy in the Glazier Medical Building in Oshawa. We offer a competitive salary and benefit package, excellent hours and a professional work environment. Reply in confidence to Rita Winn by email at ritawinn@lovelldrugs.com or fax resume to 905-723-1421 or call 905-723-2276

ARE YOU A DENTAL HYGIENIST - Looking for a part time career with the opportunity to grow. We are a fully computerized office in Whitby looking for a hygienist who is detail orientated and patient focused. If this sounds like you please call 905-665-2353.

FULL-TIME DENTAL Assistant/Receptionist required for busy Ajax office. Evenings and Saturdays are required. Byte/Dentrix computer knowledge an asset. Fax resume to (905)683-2980

DENTAL Assistant/Receptionist - Required for Pickering office. Must be experienced/HARP certified. Please send resume in confidence to 1550 Kingston Rd. Suite 1078, Pickering L1V 6W9.

DENTAL RECEPTIONIST desired for family practice. Full-time, no weekends, experience and a strong customer service background are invaluable. Please fax resume to: 905-623-0898, Attn: Michelle.

FULL TIME Dental Receptionist and Full Time Certified Dental Assistant required for busy family practice in east Oshawa. Some evenings and Saturdays. Experience a must for reception position, new grads welcome for assistant position. Please fax resume to 905-436-3480 or mail resume to Dr. Stephen Murray & Associates, Kingsway Village Shopping Centre, 1300 King St. East Oshawa, Ont. L1H 8J4

HYGIENIST NEEDED for Port Hope dental practice, full time, one evening. Experience preferred. Call Tracy (905) 885-5314

CERTIFIED LEVEL II PDA shifts include days, evenings and weekends. Email resume to slake@on.aibn.com or drop off at 255 King St. E., Oshawa attn Shelley

PART TIME/FULL Dental Assistant required for Pickering office. Call 905-420-6226.

RMT NEEDED for busy wellness centre with waiting list. Pregnancy & pediatric interest an asset. apply in person: 1-400 Dundas St. West, Whitby.

RN'S AND RPN'S, shift nursing and community work. Fax Resume to (905) 666-0038 or email: recruitment@thehealth-pros.com

RN, FULL TIME and part time, oral surgery. Come join our team. Benefits. Monday - Friday, no weekends. Ajax/Oshawa. HARPs an asset. Send resume to Dr. Fenwick, 40 King St. W., Suite 502, Oshawa, Ontario, L1H 1A4 or fax to (905) 434-2357. No phone calls please.

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550 Domestic Help Wanted

HOUSEKEEPER/MANNY, liveout, Finch/Whites area. Mon-Fri, 7:15am-6pm. Cleaning/cooking/errands. 3 boys (14, 11, 9 yrs). Driver's license a must. 905-839-1627

565 Volunteers

VOLUNTEER BOARD MEMBERS NEEDED

Durham Region Community Care is seeking a community minded volunteer resident of Ajax-Pickering to serve on the Board of Directors. Community Care provides home support, mental health and respite services to more than 8,000 clients throughout the Region.

Prospective board members should have an interest in community health care and experience in organizational leadership.

Please submit a letter by April 17, 2003 stating your interest and experience to: Ms. Mary Norton, Chair Recruitment and Development Committee Durham Region Community Care Oshawa Centre

419 King Street West, Suite #605 Oshawa, ON L1J 2K5 Fax: 905-404-2241 E-mail: drcca@web.net

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110 Apartments/Condos For Sale

OWN NEW IN BOWMANVILLE \$699/month

Suites from \$99,990. Bowmanville's finest location. \$500 initial deposit, combined income required \$30,000. Limited quantity available. Appliances included.

Steps from GO service. 25 minutes east of T.O., exit at Waverly North off the 401. Just south of Hwy 2. Call 905-697-0513 THE KATLING GROUP A GREAT INVESTMENT

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100 Houses For Sale

BEAUTIFUL CENTURY home, approx. 2100 sq. ft., 90% renovated inc. upgraded plumbing, wiring, oak kitchen, 2 baths, full height basement, G/H, G/H, large principal rooms, 3 large bedrooms, new 24x34 garage, in Castleton, \$189,000. 905-344-7033 or lkober@vicerooy.com

NORTH EAST OSHAWA, Well maintained, 3 bedroom semi, large lot with mature trees, newer roof, furnace windows, driveway. Part finished basement, gas heating, nice area. Must see, priced to sell \$154,900. call Ted 905-213-1615.

2000SQ FT. 4-BDRM, 3 bath, 2 years old, backing onto park, lots of upgrades, ceramics, hardwood, cac, cvac, gas f/p, jacuzzi, \$265,000. OPEN HOUSE, 50 Penhurst Dr., Brooklin, April 5 & 6, 12-4p.m. 905-655-4376

WHITBY, GORGEOUS 2000 sq.ft. 4-bedroom, 3 bathroom home. 2-storey, corner lot. Lots of upgrades. \$265,000. Call (905)668-8705 for appointment to view.

PRIVATE SALE? Online ad. 6 digit pictures and professional sign. \$299.95 no commission. www.bytheowner.com 1-888-239-4190

MONTAGUE, PEI summer retreat or year round 2 storey home, 2 baths, large country kitchen, many renovations, large treed lot w/private back yard. Five minute walk to town marina. 15 minute drive to sandy beach at Pamure Is. 10min drive to 2 renowned 18 hole golf courses at Bredenell. \$89,000 Phone (902)838-4532 weekdays after 6pm, anytime weekend. Pictures upon request. snc

120 Out-of-Town Properties

P.E.I. TWO 10 ACRE lots on quiet paved country road. 7 acres clear, 3 wooded with brook running through wooded area. 10 min. to Panmure Island Beach, 15 min. from (2) 18 hole renowned golf courses at Burdell. \$49,000 each. Phone (902) 838-4532 weekdays after 6 p.m., anytime on weekends. snc

135 Lots & Acres

P.E.I. TWO 10 ACRE lots on quiet paved country road. 7 acres clear, 3 wooded with brook running through wooded area. 10 min. to Panmure Island Beach, 15 min. from (2) 18 hole renowned golf courses at Burdell. \$49,000 each. Phone (902) 838-4532 weekdays after 6 p.m., anytime on weekends. snc

145 Indust./Comm. Space

AVAILABLE immediately. Park & Bloor, commercial unit, 1,425 sq. ft. Good location. call 905-579-5077 or 905-571-3281 after 5.

BOWMANVILLE/OSHAWA/WHITBY - Commercial/industrial space available. From 200 to 20,000 sq. ft. Great locations, ample parking, air conditioned units. Retail/Office space available in prime West Whitby. Pad site also available. Call John Shevchuk, Royal LePage Frank Real Estate (905) 623-3393.

INDUSTRIAL UNITS - close to Oshawa Centre, bay with roll up door, accessible for trucks, plus side door, ample parking. Storage, 24 hour access. Available immediately, short lease considered. 905-576-2982 or 905-626-6619.

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145 Industrial/Commercial Space

INDUSTRIAL UNIT, 7 car fully equip. Oshawa, body shop. spray booth air compressor etc. 4,000 sq.ft. Also drive-in door units, from \$495. For sale 8 unit industrial building, owner financed great investment. 905-725-1171

150 Office & Business space

AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY, Veltri Complex, Bowmanville. 68 King Street East. Office/Retail Rental Space. Parking & Wheelchair Accessible. 3 spaces available: 390-sq.ft to 760-sq.ft. & 2495-sq.ft. For more information call: 905-623-4172

WHITBY DOWNTOWN, store or professional office for sub-lease, bright, good condition, good parking, approx. 500 sq. ft. \$700 inclusive. Available immediately. Call 905-666-8222 between 10a.m.-5p.m.

155 Stores For Sale Rent/Wanted

STORE FOR LEASE downtown Whitby on Brock St close to 4 corners. Inquiries call 905-430-8327 Available May 1st

160 Business Opportunities

JUMP WHAT AN opportunity! Magnetsigns is one of the fastest growing franchise networks in Canada. We are looking for someone to own & operate a Magnetsigns Franchise in our area. Call 1-800-219-8977 ext. 3 or visit www.magnetsigns.com

\$\$\$ GOVERNMENT FUNDS \$\$\$ Grants and loans information to start and expand your business or farm. 1-800-505-8866

170 Apts. & Flats For Rent

1 BEDROOM - AJAX. Large apartment in great location. Separate entrance, parking, laundry facilities. \$750 inclusive. Available April 15th-May 1st. Wendy 416-818-9255

1-BDRM BASEMENT. Whitby's Otter Creek. Suitable for single non-smoking, no pets, parking, laundry, express-view. \$750/month. References. Avail. immediately. Call Chris (905)668-1866 leave msg. snc

1-BEDROOM BASEMENT Wilson/King Oshawa. Clean. \$650/monthly inclusive. Fridge, stove, microwave, laundry facilities, parking. Non-smoking/no pets. Avail. immediately. First/last. Call (905)723-5494

2 BEDROOM furnished basement apartment. BrockRd/Hwy#2. OPG employees most welcome. Avail. now, \$1000/month, or rooms can be rented separately, first/last. 905-686-6884

3 BEDROOM main floor of house for rent. \$1,100 per month all inclusive. Ajax area. Available June 1st. Ist/last. references, prefer no smoking. (905) 426-7965

160 Business Opportunities

BUSINESSES WANTED

We are interested in growing our business into new areas by acquisitions or partnerships. If you have a Durham Region / Northumberland County area business that would benefit from more promotion, we may be interested in talking with you.

Our interest is primarily, but not restricted to, businesses in the areas of publishing, distribution, printing, customer fulfillment, consumer and trade shows, and advertising agencies.

Please write to: File #825, c/o Oshawa This Week PO Box 481, Oshawa, ON L1H 7L5 Email: morebusinesswanted@hotmail.com describing the nature of your business with addresses / phone numbers to contact you. We will only contact businesses of interest.

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170 Apartments & Flats For Rent

OSHAWA, NEAR downtown, totally renovated second floor, 1-bedroom apt, separate entrance in a 2-unit house. \$650+ heat/hydro. Also large renovated 1-bedroom with parking, separate entrance \$750+ heat/hydro. (905)471-0995 email: dmetcalfe65@rogers.com

OSHAWA, upper-house, all inclusive, open-concept, living/dining room, 1 bedroom, w/o deck to ravine, laundry, cable, parking, \$875/mo. Avail. May/June 1, 905-438-8956

PICKERING - immaculate one bedroom basement apt. Laundry-fac, large-bathroom, kitchen/living/dining area. Utilities/cable included. May 1st. No pets/smoking. \$680/mo. Grace 905-428-8740.

PICKERING - Liverpool/Bayly, 2 bed. basement available May 1st. Sep-entrance, air, 2-parking, shared-laundry, near Go. No smoking/pets. \$800/mo/first/last+1/3 utilities. Evr. 905-619-1677.

PICKERING - ONE BEDROOM basement apt. separate entrance, 4 appliances, suit single person. Including utilities and cable \$775/mo. 905-839-3069

PICKERING BROCK RD/ Major Oaks. 2-bedroom basement apartment, available \$950/month including utilities, parking. Separate entrance, share laundry. No smoking/pets. (905)619-3249

WHITES RD. & 401 1 bedroom basement apartment, separate entrance, \$650 inclusive, first/last. Avail. immediately. No pets, no smoking. 905-421-9968

PICKERING, 1865 Glenanna Rd., 3 bedroom apts., close to shopping, schools, daycare, GO, 4 appliances, heating, air, carpeted, large suites. From \$1100. Available April 1st. 905-831-1250

PICKERING, WHITES/401, large 2-bedroom basement apartment, separate entrance, 4 appliances, security, laundry, vac, a/c, non-smoking/pets. First/last, references \$1050. Available immediately. (905)420-9949.

REGENCY PLACE - 15 Regency Cres., Whitby. 50+ Adult Lifestyle Apt. Complex. Clean quiet building, across from park. Close to downtown. Daily activities incl. All utilities included. Call 905-430-7397. www.restar.ca

185 Houses For Rent

Lakefront Solitude
Pickering, Private Beachfront retreat amongst towering tall trees. 2 bedroom + den, open concept glass design, suits professional/couple. \$1395.00 + utilities
Joe Pitino, Re/max First Realty Ltd. • 905-831-3300

AJAX, 62 DANIELS CRES. 3-bdrm, 1-1/2 baths, 2-storey, garage, deck, a/c, c/w, fridge/stove/dishwasher, laundry, no basement \$1500+60% utilities. ALSO 1-bdrm bsmt, fridge, stove, laundry, separate entrance, parking \$550+40% utilities. Available immediately. Call Bo Gustafson, Sutton Group (416)783-5000

AJAX, PICKERING VILLAGE, newly renovated 2-bedroom detached bungalow, ravine lot, 4 appliances, close to all amenities, \$1100, Avail. June 1, First/last/ref. 416-457-1755.

FURNISHED EXECUTIVE SUITE Short or long term, Oshawa. 3 bedrooms, fenced yard, parking, \$1850/month all inclusive. Available immediately. 905-723-1348

HOUSE FOR RENT PARK RD. Close to Lake. 3-bedroom, May 1st, references, credit check, no pets/smoking, \$1050 plus utilities, 905-263-8414.

OSHAWA, Simcoe North of Taunton, 4-bedroom detached, almost new, appliances, air conditioning deck, garage, fenced yard \$1400 plus, May 1, Condo/ly Management 905-428-9766

PICKERING - CLEAN, 3 bedroom, 3 baths, backing to forest, family room w/gas fireplace, garage, laundry, 6 appliances, c/vac, rough basement, lawn and snow care, new paint, 6 years old. Professional couple, no pets/smoking, April 15. \$1,625 per mo. plus utilities. (905) 831-3315.

PICKERING PARKWAY, 3-bdrms, garage, appliances, laundry, deck, across from park. No smoking/pets. \$1350 plus utilities. Available immediately. 905-775-5222

WHITBY - 3 bedroom house, double car garage, walkout basement. In quiet court. First/last required. Available June 1st \$1400/mth plus utilities. 905-985-0146.

190 Townhouses For Rent

CARRIAGE HILL - 122 COLBORNE ST. E., OSHAWA - 2 & 3 bedrooms available. Close to school and downtown shopping. (905) 434-3972. www.realstar.ca

NORTH OSHAWA - very clean 3 bedroom, walkout basement. 4 appliances, exterior maintenance, pool, and garage included. \$1175+utilities. Available May 1st. Leave message 416-358-8492.

WHITBY Bradley Estates - 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 5 appliances, air, freshly painted, parking, garage available May/June 1st. \$1250 +utilities. 416-992-8541

TAUNTON TERRACE - 100 TAUNTON RD. E., OSHAWA 3 bedrooms w/out garage. 3 appliances, hardwood flooring Outdoor pool, sauna, Children's playground Close to all amenities. Fenced backyard. 905-436-3346. www.realstar.ca

192 Rooms For Rent & Wanted

FURNISHED room \$100 week. Non-smokers, private home, parking, cable, laundry, suitable for working person. N.E. Oshawa. Call Rita (905)579-9499.

AJAX - LARGE ROOM, \$400 per month. No pets/smoking. Available immediately Call Cell (416) 407-2107

AJAX, shared accommodations. \$550 & \$450 inclusive. Large room has balcony. In new home by-the-lake. Laundry, cable, internet. Available immediately & May 1. Call (905)426-7613

WHITBY Basement - 2 rooms & upper level 1 room avail. immediately. Suit female. Each \$425/month inclusive. Call 905-665-6946

HARMONY/OLIVE 2 rooms for rent in non-smoking family home, share facilities, parking, cable, tv., near all amenities. \$100/week per room. References required. Available immediately. Suit mature & employed individuals. (905) 436-7938, (905)404-4647

LOOKING for mature male preferred to share furnished rooms in bungalow, across from O.S.C. T.V. cable, laundry, parking \$120/wk/first/last. 905-723-5325.

194 Shared Accommodation

AJAX BEAUTIFUL new home to share. Suits friendly responsible female (preferred). No pets, no smoking \$500/month plus shared utilities. Immediate, first/last/ref. 416-835-1090.

WHITES RD./401, Share 4 bedroom, 2 storey house with 3 other working males. Finished Recrooms, fireplace, laundry, all appliances, parking, \$450, (416) 804-4867

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Lakefront Solitude
Pickering, Private Beachfront retreat amongst towering tall trees. 2 bedroom + den, open concept glass design, suits professional/couple. \$1395.00 + utilities
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OSHAWA, Simcoe North of Taunton, 4-bedroom detached, almost new, appliances, air conditioning deck, garage, fenced yard \$1400 plus, May 1, Condo/ly Management 905-428-9766

PICKERING - CLEAN, 3 bedroom, 3 baths, backing to forest, family room w/gas fireplace, garage, laundry, 6 appliances, c/vac, rough basement, lawn and snow care, new paint, 6 years old. Professional couple, no pets/smoking, April 15. \$1,625 per mo. plus utilities. (905) 831-3315.

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AJAX BEAUTIFUL new home to share. Suits friendly responsible female (preferred). No pets, no smoking \$500/month plus shared utilities. Immediate, first/last/ref. 416-835-1090.

WHITES RD./401, Share 4 bedroom, 2 storey house with 3 other working males. Finished Recrooms, fireplace, laundry, all appliances, parking, \$450, (416) 804-4867

300 Market Basket

ACRES OF BLESSINGS MENNONITE MEATS
The Healthy Wholesome Tastes of Drug-free Beef, Poultry, Pork, Sausage. Plus Homemade Jams, Chutneys & Preserves.
Oshawa Newtonville Port Hope
Hwy#2 Hwy#401
1513 Hope Clarke Rd.
Winter Hours: Fri. 10 - 5, Sat. 9 - 4
1513 Hope Clarke (East Town Line) Rd. Newtonville
Call 1-888-257-9995

310 Articles For Sale

SHEDMAN WOODEN SHEDS
761 MCKAY RD. PICKERING
• Gable • Barn • Cottage
• 5-Sided • Garage

761 McKay Road, Unit #1
Pickering, Ontario L1W 3A3
Phone: 905-619-2093
Fax: 905-619-3366
View: www.shedman.ca

310 Articles For Sale

PIANO/CLOCK SALE Roland digital pianos, Samick pianos. All Howard Miller clocks. Large selection of used pianos (Yamaha, Kawai, Heintzmann etc.) Not sure if your kids will stick with lessons, try our rent to own. 100% of all rental payments apply. Call TELEP PIANO (905) 433-1491. www.telep.ca WE WILL NOT BE UNDERSOLD!

AFFORDABLE APPLIANCES HANK'S APPLIANCES. Fridges \$100/up, stoves \$150/up, washers & dryers \$350/pr. Washers \$175/up, dryers \$150/up. Stackable washer/dryer \$499/up. Portable dishwasher \$175/up. Dehumidifiers \$100. Chest freezers \$175/up. Large selection of appliances. Visit our showroom. Parts/sales/service. 426 Simcoe St. S. Mon-Fri 8-6pm, Sat 9-5pm, Sun 11-4pm. (905)728-4043.

ALL SATELLITE SERVICES. Dundas Electronics, 601 Dundas St. W. Whitby. Call (905)665-7732.

AMIGO 3-WHEEL SCOOTER, good condition, \$350. 905-655-5161

ANTIQUE OAK diningroom set, table, 2 leafs, 4 chairs, sideboard, medium colour, excellent condition, asking \$1500. Also Mason Jars, 905-725-9582

BED, QUEEN PILLOWTOP, orthopedic Mattress set, Never Used, still packaged, cost \$1025, sell \$450. 416-741-7557

BEDROOM SET, 8pce cherry-wood. Bed, chest, dresser, mirror, night stands, dovetail construction. Never opened. In boxes. Cost \$9000, Sacrifice \$2800. 416-748-3993

BOAT MOTOR & TRAILER \$3500 (to be negotiated). Small bar fridge \$125 brand new. Call Kevin 905-571-2086

BRAND NEW dirt bike trailer. Custom ramps front and rear. Easy loading for small pickup truck. No need to unload bike off truck. Brand new tires. Rides good. All wired and ready to go. \$1,000 Contact John (905) 263-4285.snp

A KING pillowtop mattress set. New in plastic, cost \$1600. Sacrifice \$650. 416-746-0995

A-1 CARPETS & HARDWOOD SALE - 20 oz. Commercial carpet, installed with pad \$285 (30 yds.). Berber carpet installed with pad from \$375 (30 yds.). Special Buy - 40 oz. Nylon carpet, neutral colours \$10.50 yd./\$1.16 sq. ft. Hardwood flooring 3/4" thick from \$4.95 sq. ft. Other great deals available. Free shop at home service. Durham to Northumberland area. SALLIAN CARPETS 905-242-3691 or 905-373-2260.

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COMPUTERS: Bits and Bytes Computer Services, March Special PII/350 Tower complete system only \$255.00, PIII/500. Desktop complete system \$375.00, P200 Tower complete system \$185.00. Complete systems starting at \$150.00. All systems internet ready, w/w15 Monitor, kb and mouse. Limited quantities. Warranty. Lay-away plan. Other accessories. Call (905) 576-9216 or www.speedline.ca/bitsandbytes

COUNTRY DINING SET, 6 chairs, buffet and hutch, used only once for takeout Chinese food. Bought at Wilson's Furniture for \$4,800. Will shed a tear selling for \$1,800. Call and I will email photos. Day (905) 428-5010. Eve. (905) 263-8687.

DINING ROOM SUITE, hardwood table, 4 chairs +2pc. china cabinet \$800; many pieces Pinwheel crystal. \$4+ up; sofa +chair excellent condition \$500; 6pc. solid oak bedroom suite \$3000; also much more. 905-697-3102

DINING ROOM TABLE and six chairs, plus side or sofa table, \$4000 new, will sell for \$1,500. Pure wood Persian rug. Excellent condition. 905-434-1679

DININGROOM 13 PCE cherry, 8 chairs. Buffet, hutch, server, dovetail construction. Still in boxes. Cost \$11,000. Sacrifice \$3000. (416)746-0995.

DININGROOM SET, Vilas Rock Maple, 6 chairs, glass hutch, buffet base, table, good condition, \$2500. 905-683-2923.

FOR SALE! SHOPCRAFT 10" band saw with blades, excellent shape. Great for home hobbyist. \$200. Sony PS2, one controller, vertical stand, 32 mb zip disc memory, swing away golf. \$275. Call Greg (905) 987-0536.

FULLY AUTOMATIC computerized wheel balancer, 110 volt, asking \$1,000 obo. Call Don 905-623-3737

HOT TUB - reconditioned 7 person, 3 pumps with blower, 240 volts, LCD display, \$4500 firm. Call 905-743-6152.

HOT TUB, 1998 Infinity Spa, model Atlantis, 5-person. Sierra granite finish, natural cedar skirt, ozonator, hard cover. \$3400. (905)619-1677

Light OAK DINING SET, 6 chairs, table with extension, large hutch with buffet, excellent condition \$1500 or nearest offer. (905)576-1041

WEDDING GOWNS for sale - new and previously enjoyed gowns, all sizes. Wedding gowns also taken on consignment. Call Sheila after 5 p.m. or weekends 905-697-1676

MIZUNO TOUR XP golf clubs, RH, cavity back, full set, new grips, excellent shape with new carry bag w/stand, and pull cart. \$400 firm. After 6 p.m. 705-328-0402. Days 705-242-2896.

310 Articles For Sale

MOTORIZED GOLF CART Electronic Kaddy "Phoenix", w/ remote control, Hill-Tamer wheel. \$1,000; Hard-sided GOLF CLUB TRAVEL CASE 2SKB-4816W \$100; INDIAN RUG, "Super Rajput" 9'8"x13'8", ivory colour w/foral, professionally cleaned, sanitized. 905-655-7141

MOVING - sofa & chair, kitchen corner set, piano, Call after 4 pm. 905-430-3028

PAIR OF BEAUTIFUL tri-light table lamps, silk beige shades with brass/marble stand & base. Various collectors plates - please call (905)725-3170. (snp)

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RENT TO OWN new and reconditioned appliances, and new T.V's. Full warranty. Paddy's Market, 905-263-8369 or 1-800-798-5502.

RESTAURANT ESPRESSO Machine & coffee grinder \$1500. Call Manon or Bernard 905-668-8839

SATELLITE SALES & Service. Installation kits \$40. Satellite Installations from \$120. (905)426-9394 (Ajax.)

SHED FOR SALE 10x16, blue vinyl siding, wood floor, excellent condition, asking \$1500. 905-263-4720

SKI-DOO (440 eng) \$250; Universal \$250-obo; Recliner \$50; full-sized washer/dryer; Foxstax flat machine hardcase w/remote. Call 905-435-9544

SOFA +LOVESEAT 2yrs. pd \$2400 sell \$750; harvest table +chairs \$400; 7pc bedroom 3yrs \$900; fridge 5yrs \$350; stove \$300; stacking washer-dryer, 2yrs \$550; maple pedestal table, chairs +corner hutch \$850; pine armoire \$300; washer \$200; dryer \$200. 905-260-2200

SOFA BED, rust \$100. Loveseat, med. Brown \$100. Rocker recliner, med. Brown \$50. King coil box & mattress set \$200. 905-373-6062.

SONY TRINITRON TVs 27" \$350, 20" \$250; RCA home theatre in wooden cabinet \$6" \$200; Luxman stereo system 12mu, amplifier, cassette, disc, equalizer, tuner, 2 Hitachi +2 Synergy speakers \$750; Pioneer laser disc, 5-CD player \$300. 705-277-3657

STORE FURNITURE: pine bookcases, store counter/jewellery cases, reception/computer desk with hutch & file cabinet, various other store displays. (905)420-1612.

TECH COMPUTERS March Special: 1.7 Celeron basic systems starting at \$1,080 gst & pst included. 2 year warranty. For other deals please visit our website on the internet members.rogers.com/techcomputers or call 905-706-5679

STORAGE TRAILERS AND storage containers. 24 ft. & 22 ft. Call 905-430-7693.

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TOOLS, TOOLS, TOOLS for all trades, antique, collectables, user, kitchen collectables, scientific instruments, much more. Sunday April 6th. Tools of the Trades Show/ Sale, 2699 Brock Rd. N. Pickering, Ont. 10-3:30. \$5. 919-293-3171 or 613-839-5607.

315 Articles Wanted

ANTIQUES, actively buying single pieces or complete estates. In business 29 years in Oshawa. 905-718-1808 Murray or Doreen

316 Vendors Wanted

VENDOR SPACE Available for the Gardeners' Marketplace in the This Week 5th Annual Garden & Landscaping Show, April 11, 12 & 13 at Children's Arena. For information call Serina Mayberry at 905-579-4473 ext. 2262

324 Arts and Crafts

NEEDLE CRAFT. Custom patterns from photos, pictures or imagination! Counted cross stitch graphs w/colour chart listings symbols for DMC colour & skeins needed. \$25 incl S&H Stitchery Creations Oshawa 905-432-2542

370 Pet, Supplies Boarding

PUPPIES, Shepherd X, Lab X, Lhasa, Jack Russell, Shitzu, Boston Terriers, Doberman, Am Eskimos, Chows, also kittens. 905-831-2145.

316 Vendors Wanted

5TH ANNUAL Garden & Landscape Show Children's Arena Oshawa April 11th, 12th, 13th Vendor space available. Call Sharon Dickson 905-579-4400 ext. 2285 to reserve your booth. Sponsored by Oshawa Whitby This Week *****

ONLY 8 VENDORS NEEDED The Oshawa This Week Home Show March 28 - March 30. New format. Call 905-579-4400 Wendy ext. 2215 or Devon ext. 2236

WANTED - HOME SHOW VENDORS for the Whitby This Week Home Show Whitby Iroquois Sports Complex Victoria and Henry St. April 17th-20th, Pad #3 sold out Pad #4 selling out fast! Limited space. 905-579-4400 Devon ext. 2236 or Wendy ext. 2215

370 Pets, Supplies, Boarding

5 AMERICAN red nose PIT BULL TERRIER puppies for sale. 9 weeks old, first vaccinations, chocolate and white, tan and white, very cute, \$200. Serious inquiries only TO SUITABLE HOMES ONLY. Call 905-355-2632.

CKC REG LAB PUPS, yellow or black. Males/females. Vet checked, dew claws removed, microchipped, 1st needle, dewormed. Ready April 15. (905)576-7126

CKC-REGISTERED GERMAN shepherd puppies, large-boned, outstanding temperaments. Championship lines. 1st shots, vet-checked, tattooed & dewormed, family raised. Call 705-786-0322

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LABRADOR RETRIEVER pups, adorable bundles of love. Tenderly home-raised. Parents hips certified. CKC registered, shots. 905-985-8021.

PUPPIES, BLACK LABS, mother chocolate Lab, father German Sheppard. Only 3 left. Ready to go. \$200 each. Call Eileen 905-623-9971 Bow-manville

SPRINGER SPANIELS -Black/White, Males/Female, Parents Reg'd, Home-raised with children, Paper training started. Excellent hunting dogs & great companions. Ready April 4. \$350. Phone-905-720-0903

400 Cars For Sale

\$8,299 OBO 1997 HYUNDAI TIBURON FX. Standard. Deep purple. Well maintained and in great shape for 139,000km. Call Brian 905-683-5403

1965 AND 1969 Mustang coupe's, 65' has 200 6 cyl. auto, very nice shape, originally Florida car, certified \$8,750. '69' has 302 8 cyl. auto, runs great, solid, good project, requires paint and some restoration \$4,800. (705) 340-5550. Lindsay.

1980 GRAND PRIX, no rust, no emissions needed, 132,000 km, as is \$1500. obo. Need exhaust work. Great car, runs well. Call 905-623-9316

1987 NISSAN MAXIMA, 3 litre engine, V6, 160,000kms, all options, \$2350 certified. \$1900 as is or best offer. call 905-725-1007.

1988 DODGE DAKOTA, Runs great, passed E-test, \$1,500 OBO. Call 905-885-5342 after 6 pm.

1990 CHEV CAMARO IROC Z, black, original owner, 130,000km 905-435-9916

1990 TOYOTA TERCEL DX, 166,000kms, 1 owner, am/fm cassette, 2 dr., safety checked, \$3000. Call (905)426-9292

1996 DODGE NEON 2.0L, 4-cylinder motor, automatic, 4-door, clean, very good condition, excellent running vehicle, low insurance rates. Certified/Emissions, 1 Year Warranty Included. \$3995. 905-718-5032 dealer

1994 BONNEVILLE S.E. 3.8L, V6, loaded, key less entry, red exterior/grey interior, G.M. rebuilt engine 1999, excellent condition, asking \$6000. Call 905-668-6778

1995 OLDSMOBILE 88 LSS sports sedan, leather, bucket seats, console, p/w, p/l, air and more. Mint condition. Only 98,000km certified, e-tested. Original owner, asking \$9,995. 905-623-7142.snp.

316 Vendors Wanted

5TH ANNUAL Garden & Landscape Show Children's Arena Oshawa April 11th, 12th, 13th Vendor space available. Call Sharon Dickson 905-579-4400 ext. 2285 to reserve your booth. Sponsored by Oshawa Whitby This Week *****

ONLY 8 VENDORS NEEDED The Oshawa This Week Home Show March

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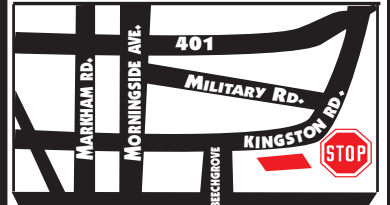
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