

News Advertiser

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Sports, B1

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Briefly...

Pickering: Here's your chance to get rid of some clutter and help ward off West Nile virus at the same time.

In co-operation with Miller Waste Systems, the City is picking up old tires at curbside at no cost to residents during the week of May 19 to 23.

The pick up is part of a region-wide co-ordinated effort to manage West Nile virus issues. Tires have proven to be ideal breeding grounds for the type of mosquito known to carry the virus.

If residents are aware of old tires on public properties such as ditches, streams, parks, or valley lands, they can report it to the City's customer care centre at 905-420-4666 or for north Pickering residents, 905-683-7575.

Ajax: Learn how to insure your enterprise, while picking up helpful networking tips.

Mothers.for.Mothers, a Pickering-based group, hosts 'business insurance and the entrepreneur' with guest speaker Andrew Brown, of Brown, Pineo, Van Kempen Insurance, Wednesday, May 21 from 6 to 10 p.m. at Carruthers Creek Golf Centre.

David Cohen from the School of Promotional Marketing will also be on hand and will discuss 'networking as an effective marketing tool'.

There will also be a question and answer period, opportunities to mingle and promote your business, and a light meal.

Cost is \$30.
Carruthers Creek is at 650 Lakewood Rd.
For more information, e-mail mothersformothers@rogers.com or call 905-831-9204.

What's On...

Pickering: Grab your binoculars and get ready to stop and smell the flowers.

The Pickering Naturalists meet at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, May 18 to examine the plant life and beauty of flowers.

Bring botanical references and binoculars. Park on Concession 7 in Pickering, just west of Westney Road or in the Claremont Conservation Authority parking lot.

For more information, call Doug Lockrey at 905-666-3897.

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Ron Pietroniro/ News Advertiser photo

Now that's the spirit

PICKERING — Wissam Seaifan gives it his all Saturday during the Spirit of the Community event at Esplanade Park. The day of fun activities and games was designed to raise awareness about child and home safety. Wissam was trying his hand at the free throw event.

City looks at access for all

Committee members will ensure Pickering conforms

By Lesley Bovie
Staff Writer

PICKERING -- Here's your chance to make Pickering a better place to live -- for everyone.

That's why Debbie Blake sits on the City's accessibility advisory committee, which is currently looking for new members with positive suggestions for Pickering.

"The whole point of my being on the committee is that I can really help make where I live more accessible," said Ms.

Blake, who has a mobility disability due to an illness similar to multiple sclerosis.

Under the Ontarians with Disabilities Act, passed in December 2001, municipalities with a population of more than 10,000 must set up an accessibility advisory committee (AAC).

Members, the majority of which must be disabled as required by the Act, review any new municipal building and any future renovations to existing buildings through the site plan process.

The ACC also helps the City prepare an accessibility plan due this September, as well as review any new and existing municipal bylaws, and purchases.

♦ See Pickering page A5



DAVE RYAN
'An ideas committee.'

Is there a doctor in the house?

City lobbies to have Pickering designated 'underserved'

By Lesley Bovie
Staff Writer

PICKERING -- Marcia Dixon had no idea how difficult it was to find a family doctor in Pickering until hers retired in January.

"I was shocked," she said. "He gave me a list of 10 doctors accepting new patients and I still can't find one."

Ms. Dixon admitted she didn't act upon the list right away but started her search recently when the need to seek a doctor's opinion hit.

"I've been to a couple of walk-in clinics but it's not the same," she said. "My daughter is 19 and my doctor was the one who told me I was pregnant with her. That's how long I've been going to that doctor."

The Rouge Valley Health System, with sites in Ajax and

Scarborough, gets calls almost daily from people like Ms. Dixon, said Hume Martin, president and chief executive officer.

There are seven doctors listed on Rouge Valley's Web site as accepting new patients, but Mr. Martin pointed out those physicians are spread across the hospital's entire catchment area, which includes west Durham and Scarborough. Physician-patient ratios in Pickering are above Ministry of Health and Long Term Care guidelines.

The ministry states there should be roughly 1,380 patients for each doctor in the Province. In Pickering, there are 2,293 patients for every physician. In Ajax, the number sits at one doctor for every 1,569 patients.

Statistics from the College of Physicians and Surgeons suggest Pickering needs at least 18 more family physicians to service the community adequately, said Mr. Martin.

♦ See Pickering page A2



Jason Liebrechts/ News Advertiser photo
Marcia Dixon, with son Chris, is having a tough time finding a family doctor and it seems she's not alone. The City is lobbying the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care to declare Pickering underserved for family physicians.

Durham considers West Nile rules

Pickering residents would have role to play with new bylaw

By Jacquie McInnes
Staff Writer

DURHAM — Durham municipalities are considering a bylaw that would require residents to keep their properties clear of stagnant water and other mosquito breeding grounds as a preventive measure in the fight against the West Nile virus.

"We're looking at something similar amongst (Durham) municipalities," says Ross MacEachern, manager of environmental health. "We are working with them on it now. Ultimately the decision would

be with the local municipalities as to whether they want to adopt and enforce it."

West Nile virus (WNV) is an infection carried by some types of mosquitoes, which can lead to minor or serious illness in humans, possibly including encephalitis - inflammation of the brain.

A recent study by the Canadian Medical Association on southern Ontario victims of WNV, suggests the disease can have debilitating effects even for those who are not immune-compromised or elderly as previously believed.

Of 64 patients from Toronto, Peel and Halton, 57 had encephalitis or neuromuscular weakness, five contracted aseptic meningitis and two had fever related to the virus. They ranged in age from 26 to

♦ See Most page A5

Pickering goes on the lookout

Community, Police launch Road Watch in Ajax, Pickering

By Keith Gilligan
Staff Writer

PICKERING — Speeders and other dangerous drivers should be on the lookout, as the public is now watching them.

Road Watch has come to Ajax and Pickering, the last communities in Durham Region to join the volunteer-based program.

Anyone who sees someone speeding or engaging in other dangerous driving practices

can let Durham Regional Police know by filling out a Road Watch form. The owner of the offending vehicle is then informed by letter about the incident.

Durham police Chief Kevin McAlpine noted during the kickoff ceremony in Ajax Monday, that police hear more about speeding and other road-related infractions than they do about more serious crimes.

"Traffic is a community problem and it deserves a community response," said Sherry Whiteway, the inspector at the Ajax-Pickering police branch.

Now-retired Inspector Greg Reid brought the first

♦ See Residents page A2

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Police Chief Kevin McAlpine, left, and coordinator Philip Reed were on hand for the launch of Road Watch in Ajax and Pickering.

Residents on Road Watch

◆ Residents from page A1

Road Watch program to Durham, when it was introduced in Whitby in 1998. Constable Phil Reed noted Whitby had three accidents involving personal injuries in March, while Ajax and Pickering average 45 a month. "I know it's a bigger population," he said, "We hope we can bring that figure down. I think this may be the start to that." Pickering Mayor Wayne Arthurs said Road Watch is a chance for "the community to take ownership. There's a lot more serious crime out there, but none that affects us as much as happens in our neighbourhoods."

Ajax Mayor Steve Parish added, "I think there's nothing more important in our community, in Ajax and Pickering, than the safety of our streets." It's a primary responsibility of local councils, he said. Education and enforcement are the keys, Mayor Parish noted, but added, "Neither by and of itself can solve it." He said Road Watch is "a piece of the puzzle" to solving speeding and dangerous driving. Allan Knight and Lesley Buchan are co-chairmen of the local program. There are about 25 volunteers. Mr. Knight said boxes will be placed around the two communities with report

forms. Anyone "seeing somebody do something wrong can fill out a report form," Mr. Knight stated. Volunteers on a regular basis go around and collect the forms and give them to police. An officer would write a letter to the owner of the vehicle about the incident. "Often, a vehicle seen doing something isn't driven by the owner. Often it's the children," Mr. Knight said. If a second offence is caught, the vehicle owner gets a letter and a phone call from police. With a third offence, there's another letter and a visit by the police.

Pickering to lobby for low-doctor designation

◆ Pickering from page A1

At the request of Rouge Valley, City council is now lobbying the ministry to declare Pickering underserved for family physicians. Such a designation allows for recruitment incentives and other supports for family doctors who set up their practices in underserved areas. Of Durham's eight municipalities, Brock Township has been designated since 1996, while Scugog, Uxbridge and Clarington have all been declared underserved within the past year. Ajax council has not been approached about a similar lobbying campaign. "I think it's needed in Pickering," said Mr. Martin. "One of the most significant health issues we face is the need for better community-based health services." A lack of family physicians adds stress to local hospitals because patients without a doctor end up walking into emergency departments for care, he said. Rouge Valley recently started a hospitalist program in Ajax made up of about three local family doctors to help such patients. On the other side of the coin, hospitalist programs "further deplete the pool of family physicians" since those doctors usually give up their practices to take part, said Dr. Diamond Alidina. Some of those patients end up at his urgent care family practice on Kingston Road in Pickering. The group practice consists of seven doctors, who see more than 15,000 patients. Although often faced with requests, none of them is in the position to accept new patients, he said. "I think something has to be done on a provincial level," added Dr. Alidina. "Family physicians are underfunded. There's no incentive to become a family physician. There's little remuneration and high overhead." Fee schedules have changed in such a fashion that family doctors only make about 65 per cent of what specialists make, as compared to 80

to 90 per cent a few years ago, said Dr. Alidina. Establishing a family practice is "a hard thing to do" for young doctors fresh out of medical school and in debt from paying years of tuition. His oldest daughter, Zahra, has chosen to join his group practice part-time this July, but Dr. Alidina said it just so happens she likes family medicine having watched both her parents practice. Pickering council is just learning about the problem, not normally being directly involved in the delivery of health-care services, said Mayor Wayne Arthurs. "It wasn't anticipated," he said. "I would think basic family health care would be reasonably available here." His wife recently lost her own doctor to the hospitalist program but hopes to find a new one through relatives. Pickering's lack of family doctors is "troubling", said Ajax Mayor Steve Parish, adding "when it comes to medical servicing, the boundary (between Ajax and Pickering) is pretty artificial". He was surprised to find Ajax just over the ministry doctor-patient standard. With the hospitalist program now in place, those numbers may actually be a little bit higher, added Rouge Valley officials.

NOTICE

ASI Group Ltd. (ASI) of St. Catharines is applying to the Ontario Ministry of Environment (MOE) to provide supplemental effluent treatment to assist with control of zebra mussels within Ontario Power Generation Inc., Pickering A Nuclear Power Generation Station raw water supply system.

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Questions regarding this application may be forwarded to ASI: James Mook, Biofouling Control Operations Manager, Ecological Services Group, Telephone: 905-641-0941 Email: jmook@asi-group.com

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We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused our valued customers. Thank you

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Oshawa Whitby This Week

Trustees OK new bus arrangement

But some express reservations over deal with public board

By Mike Ruta
Staff Writer

DURHAM — The on-again, off-again joint busing talks between Durham's school boards are on again in earnest -- and Catholic trustees have some reservations.

The Durham Catholic District School Board, at Monday's meeting, approved in principle a transportation consortium with the Durham District School Board. A similar motion will come before public trustees next week.

The Province, following the release of the Rozanski report on education funding, gave the boards about \$250,000 to look into setting up and administering joint busing in Durham. The boards already share busing in north Durham and Pickering, and for several years have spoken of expanding that to the whole region to save money. Most of the impetus in the past has come from the public board, with the Catholic board far more reluctant to take the plunge.

North Durham Trustee Fred Jones supports the move, but warned there would be a strong, negative public reaction.

"I think we can look forward, this board and the public board, to some public backlash," he said, adding if and when the two boards form one system, a service provided in the past by one board might not be provided any longer.

Oshawa Trustee Joe Corey said he had "many concerns" about the report staff presented to trustees.



FRAN PEREIRA
Doesn't want schools disrupted.

"We're saying nothing about input from the community," he said. "And the trustee's role is to set policy, not the consortia."

He referred to a line in the staff report, prepared for the boards' joint services committee earlier this year, that states, "in the long term, the transportation consortia would require its own policy, achieved through the harmonization of both policies."

"The change in policy would require input from the community," said education director Patricia Manson. "It's our intent to move through this process with the consortium working through these problems and not creating problems."

Oshawa Trustee Kathy LeFort's question, 'who would be in charge in a merged system,' remained unanswered. Staff at the boards plans to

seek legal help to develop a governance model.

The staff report noted the board's policies are "very close in content." Both bus elementary students who live more than 1.6 kilometres from schools. At the high school level, the public board walking distance is 3.2 kilometres, while Catholic board students walk if they live four kilometres or closer.

However, the boards measure distances differently and there are other variations in their policies.

Pickering Trustee Fran Pereira said she doesn't want schools disrupted "again and again and again" with bell time changes. The report to trustees notes, "the amount of savings would depend on how many bell time changes/adjustments would be performed."

"We've already changed a number of bell times in Pickering to accommodate shared transportation there," she said.

Business superintendent David Visser said it's unknown how much money the boards could save, but that any money redirected to the classroom is a good thing.

The boards are hoping to have their transportation staff under one roof in the fall, said Mr. Visser. Ms. Manson sounded less confident of that deadline, while board chairman Mary Ann Martin thought it was too optimistic.

"We do know that we have one of the best transportation departments in Ontario... so we don't want to in any way take away from what we do," she said.

The board is not going to jump into merging systems without a full understanding of the implications, she said.

The two boards bus about 28,200 students on 556 vehicles roughly 47,000 kilometres every day.

Secondary teachers 'appear pleased' with new contract

Strong ratification of new contract; board vote next

By Mike Ruta
Staff Writer

DURHAM — High school teachers here have ratified a tentative contract agreement with the Durham District School Board.

More than 1,000 local members of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF) took part in school votes Friday, approving the two-year deal reached with the board last Saturday, said Peter Tumey, the OSSTF's District 13 pres-

ident. The participation level represents about 75 per cent of the local membership. Mr. Tumey would not say how many members voted in favour of the agreement.

"We don't give away the number; it was a strong ratification," he said. "So it appears the secondary teachers are pleased with the settlement."

Mr. Tumey said teachers welcomed the salary component of the deal, which he said puts them at wage parity with teachers in the Greater Toronto Area.

Trustees were to ratify the deal at their next board meeting, May 20. Mr. Tumey said he had pushed for an earlier date, noting until they approve it the deal is not official.

"We'd like to clean up everything; there's still a pink listing standing,"

he said.

The bulletin to OSSTF members, advising them not to seek a position with the board, was put in place on April 15. A teacher who violates the pink listing faces sanctions from the union.

Mr. Tumey said removing the letter "would help our staffing".

He replied "all the better" when told trustees planned to hold a special board meeting to ratify agreements with OSSTF, the Elementary Teachers Federation of Ontario and the Canadian Union of Public Employees.

Board communication manager Mary Brown said Tuesday a special board meeting was being planned for tomorrow night. However, it had not been confirmed at press time.

Funds will boost community policing

By Jeremy Le Page
Staff Writer

DURHAM — There will be no shortage of kibble for Justice, the three-year-old police dog, joked Whitby-Ajax MPP Jim Flaherty.

He, along with Pickering-Ajax-Uxbridge MPP Janet Ecker and Durham MPP John O'Toole, presented Durham Regional Police with a cheque for \$683,166.34 Friday. The money will cover half the cost of 43 front-line officers the service has hired under the Community Policing Partnerships grant program.

Chief Kevin McAlpine says the money will help the police force keep its current ratio of one officer per 750 citizens.

"We'll maintain that as a minimum," he says, adding five years ago, that number was about one officer per 900 citizens. Response time is better now, too, he says.

As well, Chief McAlpine notes, with current staffing, a domestic call is more likely to take two hours of an officer's time, rather than up to 10 hours several years ago.

"Our business is getting more complex every day," he says. "(But) we don't seem to be having trouble recruiting... we're not running a skeleton crew."

Murder trial delayed

DURHAM — Final arguments in the first-degree murder trial of a Pickering man accused of poisoning his pregnant wife have been delayed till next Tuesday.

Crown and defence lawyers were scheduled to begin closing addresses Monday in the case of Ganesh Raghunauth, 31, however, the trial was adjourned due to the presiding judge, Justice Robert Scott, being ill. Final arguments are now sched-

uled to begin Tuesday in Superior Court of Justice, followed by Justice Scott's instructions to the jury and deliberations.

The prosecution contends Mr. Raghunauth fatally poisoned his wife Hemoutie (Geeta) Raghunauth, 28, with cyanide Mother's Day May 14, 2000.

He has pleaded not guilty and the defence claims she committed suicide.

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Durham police mourn officer's unexpected death

DURHAM — Durham Regional Police are mourning the death of a constable who collapsed after competing in a marathon in Ottawa on the weekend.

Constable Stephen Neill, 39, of the village of Brooklin in Whitby, had just completed the half-course circuit of the annual National Capital Marathon on Sunday when he complained of physical discomfort at the finish line.

Despite the efforts of emergency medical personnel at the scene, he died.

The cause of death was not immediately known and an autopsy was to be performed.

Const. Neill joined the Durham force in 2002 after almost 20 years with Toronto Police. He originally was stationed out of the Oshawa Community Police Office and



STEPHEN NEILL
Collapsed after marathon.

earlier this year joined the Nuclear Security Division, working at both the Darlington and Pickering nuclear plants.

He is survived by his wife Jacqueline, a Toronto Police officer.

Durham Sergeant Jim Grimley, who worked just last week with Const. Neill, said he and other colleagues were stunned by the news.

"It was a shock. Anyone who got to know him over a short period of time formed the same opinion. He was a very outgoing and very friendly guy. It's a real tragedy," said Sgt. Grimley. Just last Friday, he recalled, Const. Neill talked about planning to apply to the force's elite tactical support unit.

Bob Boychyn, chairman of the Police Services Board, and Chief Kevin McAlpine expressed sympathy to the officer's family in a statement.

Visitation is at the Oshawa Funeral Service, at 847 King St. W., Thursday from 2-4 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Friday.

Holdup crew sought by police

PICKERING — A three-man holdup crew forced a Mac's Convenience clerk into a cooler at gunpoint Monday - the latest heist by masked thugs criss-crossing the region.

The armed trio, suspected in as many as 10 robberies across Durham over the past few weeks, burst into the store at 1105 Finch Ave., about 11:40 p.m., Durham Regional Police said.

One bandit ordered a handgun ordered the victim inside the cooler and "threatened to shoot him" if he tried

to escape, said Sergeant Paul Malik.

The other two then stuffed cash, cigarettes and lottery tickets into bags before all three left the store. The victim wasn't injured.

A police dog tracked the suspects' scent to a street south, where it's believed the robbers got into a getaway vehicle, said Sgt. Malik.

He said the trio likely staged eight to 10 other recent heists. In every case, a robber held a gun to the victim's head while two others scooped up cash.

The bandits, who also previously struck in Oshawa, Whitby and Ajax, always wear balaclavas and gloves and carry bags, said Sgt. Malik.

He said police are concerned the robberies are becoming more violent.

The suspects are described as black males in their late teens or early 20s and wear dark clothes, masks and gloves. Anyone with information about the case is asked to call police at 905-683-9100 or Crime Stoppers at 905-436-8477.

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Request for Proposals

A collaborative project is underway in Durham Region to address the projected shortage of skilled tradespersons. The project requires retaining the services of an:

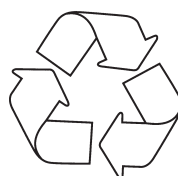
Interviewer - Skilled Tradespersons and Employers/Trainers

To receive a copy of the Request for Proposal document contact:

Sue Gillett
Apprenticeship Project
Durham College Skills Training Centre
1610 Champlain Avenue
Whitby, ON L1N 6A7
905-723-5812
apprenticeship2@sympatico.ca

or go to www.driltb.com

An Information Meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 20th from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. at Durham College Skills Training Centre in the Main Boardroom for all interested parties. Reservations are required and can be made through Sue Gillett.



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Hume Martin
President and CEO
Rouge Valley Health System

They and their families have made the sacrifices necessary to carry us through the daily battles. And to ultimately win the war against SARS. There is no doubt. We will win.

In recognition of the extraordinary, compassionate care best exemplified by our nurses at Rouge Valley Health System during **National Nurses Week**.

We salute your selfless acts of heroism in the name of patient care. These heroes wear masks, gloves - and yes - comfortable shoes.

As the Health System ramps up patient activity, more visitors will be allowed into the facility. Screening procedures will remain in place for some time yet. The Scarborough SARS Assessment Clinic, currently located at Rouge Valley Centenary, will permanently close Friday, May 16, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. For more information, please call (416) 281-7282.



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Lesley Bovie/ News Advertiser photo
Prem Noronha-Waldriff, left, Debbie Blake and Ward 1 City Councillor Dave Ryan make up part of the five-member accessibility advisory committee charged with examining accessibility issues in Pickering.

Pickering has been 'proactive' on accessibility issues

◆ Pickering from page A1

"This is not a complaints committee. This is an ideas committee," added Ward 1 City Councillor Dave Ryan, who chairs the five-member group.

But Pickering started to address the issue of accessibility in its facilities well before the legislation was passed, pointed out Coun. Ryan. The City's race relations and equity committee decided in 2000 it needed to expand its mandate to look at potential barriers and established an accessibility audit committee.

A detailed audit was undertaken of all 22 existing facilities in Pickering against the current accessibility standards for new buildings. Staff put themselves in wheelchairs and donned blindfolds in some cases to examine facilities from the perspective of a disabled individual.

The audit found deficiencies in all of the City's buildings, said Coun. Ryan. It also made several recommendations, including the establishment of an accessibility action plan and an accessibility action committee.

Council responded by providing an annual budget item of \$25,000 for retrofits and physical upgrades. Among the improvements so far are more accessible parking in front of

the Civic and recreation complexes; a new ramped entrance, power doors and accessible washrooms at the West Shore Community Centre; and hearing assisted devices for the council chambers.

Teletypewriter capability has also been added at the Ajax Pickering Transit Authority, Pickering Recreation Complex, Customer Care Centre and Pickering Library to allow hearing impaired individuals the ability to use phone services there.

"I'm really proud of the fact Pickering has taken a proactive approach," said Coun. Ryan, whose personal pet peeve are the heavy doors to the City's council chambers.

"This building is accessible. You can get into it," he said, of City Hall. "There are ramps in the council chamber but no power opener on the doors to the chamber. Something like that seems so obvious but it met the code back when the building was built."

Ms. Blake said she recently had trouble accessing a door to the upper level of the Pickering Recreation Complex.

"Accessibility means I can do it by myself," she added.

The ACC meets once a month from September to June. Applications are available through the City councillors' office at 905-420-4605.

Most West Nile action has to come from residents

◆ Most from page A1

87 with a mean age of 61. According to Ryan, "the patients were predominantly active, middle-aged or elderly people living independently in the community." Only seven of the patients had compromised immune systems prior to getting the virus. Ten of the patients died. Collectively they spent 1,856 days in hospital and many required home support when they were released from the hospital.

In light of the serious impact of the virus, the Province has committed additional money to preventive measures including larviciding, a pellet-form pesticide that targets mosquito larvae. The Region has committed almost half a million dollars to its WNV action plan that has a strong emphasis on larviciding to avoid the necessity to spray more environmentally-damaging adulticide (pesticide) later in the season. But much of the action needs to come from the residents themselves, Mr. MacEachern says.

It is important for the public to understand most often the mosquitoes carrying the virus are "urban dwelling, container-breeding mosquitoes," he says. Many of the places where the virus-carriers are proliferating are on private property in areas like old tires, derelict pools and ponds, old flower pots and wheelbarrows.

The proposed bylaw could be similar to one introduced in Newmarket that requires residents to take corrective action within days of receiving notice. This differs from regular property standard orders that generally give much more time to the property owner to remediate the site, he explains.

The health department recommends:

- Remove standing water where mosquitoes could lay eggs;
- Empty and clean bird baths

twice weekly;

- Chlorinate rain barrels or cover with mosquito screening;
- Remove all discarded tires. Fill in low depression lawn areas;
- Drain water from pool and chair covers;
- Keep grass, shrubs and hedges trimmed;
- Make sure drainage ditches are not clogged;
- Do not wash grass clippings, raked leaves or other organic material into roadside catch basins;
- Turn compost frequently;
- Wear shoes, socks and light-coloured clothing with long sleeves and full-length pants, especially during evening, night-time or dawn;
- Use insect repellent containing DEET on exposed skin in accordance with Health Canada safety tips.

The Region has begun its dead bird surveillance program and is also asking residents to report dead crows, ravens and birds of prey like hawks, eagles and owls. Crows are the most common bird affected by WNV in Durham Region, Mr. MacEachern says.

"If residents are unsure of the species, they're asked to call the health department where public health inspectors are available to offer assistance," he adds. The health department does not pick up birds that are not suitable for testing but will still take the report. Residents are asked to dispose of the carcass by using a shovel, plastic bag and rubber gloves and burying the carcass several feet deep.

During last year's surveillance five birds in Durham tested positive for WNV. Six mosquito pools in the region tested positive for the disease last year and two people tested positive. They recovered without suffering serious illness.

For more information or to provide a dead bird report call 905-723-8521 or 1-800-841-2729, ext. 2188.

O'Toole says sorry

Durham MPP didn't know what 'flipping the bird' meant

By Jennifer Stone
Staff Writer

DURHAM — John O'Toole says he didn't know what a reporter meant when he asked him if he'd "flipped" an NDP MPP "the bird" during debate in the legislature Monday.

Durham's MPP was caught on camera Monday afternoon, making an obscene hand gesture at NDP House Leader Peter Kormos.

Then, when surrounded by media outside the chamber, he denied he had done it, only to apologize minutes later in the legislature, when it became clear his gesticulation and accompanying grimace had been caught on the legislative broadcast service videotape. The gesture came as Mr. O'Toole was making his argument in a debate about whether his party was in contempt of the legislature by delivering its March 27 budget outside the house, at an auto-parts plant in Brampton.

He says Mr. Kormos had interrupted him during the response he spent



Durham MPP John O'Toole apologized yesterday for his actions at Queen's Park Monday.

a great deal of time preparing, and that's what led to his reaction.

"I was very engaged and when they're heckling you, it's very hard to stay focussed on your remarks," says Mr. O'Toole. When he left the house for a break, Mr. O'Toole says he was scammed by the Queen's Park media, and was caught off-guard when a reporter asked if he had "flipped the bird" at Mr. Kormos. "I expect-

ed to be scammed on my response."

His initial response was a denial, though Mr. O'Toole says it's because he was unsure what he was being asked.

"The fact is, I didn't know what he meant by flipping the bird," he maintains, adding he had "never been scammed before" and lacked the media training to feel comfortable in the situation.

When the videotape of proceedings was reviewed, and Mr. O'Toole was confronted on his behaviour, he apologized in the house, he says.

The incident was "unfortunate and embarrassing," says Garry Minnie, Durham Riding's Liberal candidate in the upcoming, though yet un-called, provincial election.

"I think that sometime in the future there will be an election, and the people of Ontario and the people of Durham will have their chance to express their views," says Mr. Minnie.

Durham's NDP candidate, Teresa Williams, says she feels the incident reflects the Progressive Conservative government's tenure in office.

"If it wasn't such a disgrace, it would almost be laughable," says Ms. Williams. "Their party has given us the finger for eight years; he just did it openly."

Mr. O'Toole says he hopes his constituents will accept his apology.

"I guess we're always held to a higher standard in political office," says Mr. O'Toole. "I apologize to my constituents and the people of Ontario. I hope my previous seven-and-a-half years will stand in some sort of stead."

"I got caught in my own entanglement and I do apologize."

Durham groups get grants

Trillium hands out more than \$944,000

DURHAM — Durham Region groups are in the money, thanks to the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

More than \$944,000 in grants was donated to organizations in Durham, Haliburton, Northumberland, Peterborough, and Kawartha Lakes. Local groups receiving the grants are:

- Epilepsy Durham Region: \$24,400 over eight months to help the agency define the needs of clients and potential clients and

formulate an implementation plan to increase visibility, expand service delivery, and develop partnerships.

- Rose of Durham Young Parents Support Services: \$170,800 over three years to build the resource base of the organization by increasing visibility, attracting new volunteers, and identifying and accessing new sources of funding.
- West Durham Minor Lacrosse Association: \$25,000 over one year to introduce a new spring field program of lacrosse and expand the existing box program.
- Ajax Budokan Judo Club: \$25,000 over one year

to purchase equipment and renovate the facility to create change rooms.

- Eastview Boys' and Girls' Club, Oshawa: \$57,500 over six months to increase program participation and install air conditioning/ventilation systems on two levels of the facility.
- G.L. Roberts Community Collaborative, Multi-cultural Council of Oshawa/Durham: \$224,700 over three years to provide social and recreational programs and services to residents of south Oshawa, at G.L. Roberts.
- Oshawa Gemini Gymnastics: \$75,000 over one year to enhance existing

recreational programs and to increase programs for children with disabilities through the installation of accessible washrooms and purchasing equipment.

- Great Canadian Town Band Festival, Orono: \$60,000 over two years to support this annual festival, which celebrates Canadian musical heritage by featuring bands of national and local importance in a three-day event in June.
- Uxbridge Music Hall Theatrical Performance Improvement Project, Uxbridge: \$43,600 over one year to enhance the Uxbridge Music Hall, by replacing its lighting system.

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Ontario Sustainable Energy Association (OSEA)
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Editorials & Opinions

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2003 ♦ News Advertiser ♦ TONY DOYLE, NEWS EDITOR, 905-683-5110 EXT. 254

Editorial

Budget discussion blues proof of poor decision

Tories should have never agreed to non-legislature delivery

It might have been a poor recommendation from his advisers; it might have been a desire to do something completely different.

Whatever it was, Premier Ernie Eves is the person left responsible for what might be the worst decision he has made in his 14 months as Tory leader.

That call was the plan to release the budget outside the legislature. On March 27, Mr. Eves made history when he strode to the podium at a Magna auto parts company in Brampton with Finance Minister Janet Ecker to present the provincial budget.

It was the first time, and may end up the only time, the budget has ever been presented outside the legislature. Instead of opposition members across the aisle, instead of a lively debate on the merits of the budget in the days after its delivery, the document was delivered before an invitation-only crowd that clapped in all the right places and offered nary a discouraging word.

It simply didn't have to be this way.

Premier Eves wanted to have a budget delivered before the end of the fiscal year, which meant it had to be presented by March 31. That could have occurred in the legislature if he had not extended the winter recess to April 30, when the throne speech was delivered.

His idea to present the budget at Magna drew the wrath of fellow Tory and Speaker of the legislature Gary Carr, who made it clear he believed Mr. Eves was showing contempt for the democratic process.

But Premier Eves either didn't care about the Speaker's position or believed it would all blow over in time. It hasn't.

More than six weeks after the speech, the issue of what was in the budget has virtually fallen off the map, while the question of where it was presented remains firmly in the news.

It is almost as if Mr. Eves went looking for a bizarre issue with which to cause himself additional political problems. Surely he should have understood the political opposition delivering the budget at a private company would engender.

Premier Eves and his MPPs should support a bill currently under debate which would prohibit any future provincial budget from being delivered outside the legislature.

That would be the proper way to conclude this debate.

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This week's question:

Should the federal government make a financial commitment to the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER)?

♦ Yes ♦ No

Cast your vote online at

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Last week's question:

Do you support the provincial government's proposal to rescind mandatory retirement at the age of 65?

♦ No 53.5 per cent
♦ Yes 46.5 per cent

Votes cast: 155

The way we were



McGillivray family

George McGillivray, a noted Scottish gentleman, purchased a stone house in Audley in 1840 and called it "Burnside Farm". The fieldstone house still stands at 786 Taunton Rd. E. Twelve of his children were born in Audley. In 1870, the McGillivrays moved to Whitby after purchasing a large estate called "Inverlynn". The most noted of the children was Florence Helena McGillivray (1864 - 1938), a famous Canadian painter. Some of her work hangs in the National Gallery of Canada in Ottawa. This photo was taken circa 1871 and includes: back row: Charles, Mary, John, Catherine, George Jr., and Adelaide; centre row: Mr. and Mrs. McGillivray; second row: Caroline, Norman, William, Donald, and Elizabeth; and front row: Florence and Theodore.

Photos supplied by the Heritage Ajax Advisory Committee on behalf of the Ajax Community Archives. For more information about either, please call Brenda Kriz at 905-619-2529 ext. 343.

OK, THE REAL TRUTH AND THIS TIME I'M NOT LYING...



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Letters to the Editor

New local hospital parking rates just not reasonable

To the editor:

All the health-care workers at Rouge Valley Ajax and Pickering hospital should be recognized for continuing to provide excellent services despite the problems and additional workload caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS)-related precautions.

However, a great big 'boo-hiss' to the administration of the hospital for its gouging of the already over-taxed public. In mid-April, parking at the hospital cost \$5 -- exorbitantly overcharging for an unpaved lot. Recently, however, the parking has jumped to \$7, a 40 per cent increase. I attended the fracture clinic recently -- was in the hospital for a total of 15 minutes -- that works out at \$28 per hour for parking. Not even Toronto with its crazy prices can compare.

To the hospital administration: stop gouging the public, particularly those visiting the

sick, injured or dying relatives. Remove the parking fees until you are prepared to do something with the mud and potholes in the parking lots, and then make the charges reasonable.

Philip B. McMullen,
Ajax

Tory moves slowly erasing seniors from society

To the editor:

Last fall, the provincial government tried to raise the rent for seniors in nursing homes by 15 per cent. This made seniors angry.

Now Finance Minister Janet Ecker is seeking their votes by detaching them from the general public; she wants to remove the education portion of property taxes for seniors. Even though seniors benefit from the economy driven by current and future citizens whose education is paid for by taxes, they won't have to pay the taxes.

Presumably they won't be able to vote for school board trustees either. Seniors will be partly disenfranchised. That's

Ms. Ecker's wisdom for Ontario: the detached society.

Glenn R. Brown,
Pickering

Seniors don't want break at students' expense

To the editor:

Re: 'Throne speech good for seniors,' editorial, May 2.

The promise to refund to seniors the education portion of their property taxes begs this question: Will this promise serve to further underfund our public school system?

As a senior in the under-\$25,000-a-year income bracket, I would welcome a tax break, but not from that source.

I am very grateful for the public school education my son received. Although I was in the workforce for 46 years, I know I have yet to pay for his education.

My father, age 93, shares this view regarding the education of his four children.

I have yet in my travels in the seniors' community to find support for this tax break.

Gloria Wilks,
Pickering

With friends like these...

Ernie Eves can't even find support among traditional allies

One barrier to Premier Ernie Eves winning an election is so many of his friends are mad at him.

The Progressive Conservative premier keeps hearing he is no leader, lacks backbone, flip-flops, betrays his cause, wastes money and has no vision of where he wants to go: these are all comments by some who normally support the Conservative party and not by opponents.

The Canadian Taxpayers Federation, which advocates keeping down government spending and taxes, protested Mr. Eves's presentation of a budget in a makeshift TV studio instead of the legislature to evade scrutiny, saying it was an affront to electors and criticized him as fiercely as the opposition parties.

When Mr. Eves postponed for a year the plan by his predecessor, Mike Harris, to cut income tax, the federation said he broke a trust and it could not have confidence he will keep campaign promises.

After the provincial auditor found huge waste in government, the taxpayers group called it a nightmare and said the Tories should "remember this is not their money. It belongs to taxpayers."

The National Citizens Coalition, which expresses a conservative view, complained Mr. Eves betrayed Tories by such acts as postponing tax cuts and urged members to hold off donations until he acts more like a conservative.

The news media that normally supports the Tories in their editorials and speaks for many

Eric Dowd at queen's park



Eric Dowd

Conservatives have been highly critical of Mr. Eves. The Toronto Sun asked "where was the premier while the severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) controversy was exploding around us," and called him a wimp for his handling of the issue.

The newspaper said Mr. Eves "miscalculated badly when he delivered his budget in a factory instead of the legislature," and, when Mr. Eves explained his party had difficulty communicating, suggested "when a party is experiencing a failure to communicate, it usually starts at the top."

One Sun columnist said Mr. Eves is scattered and undisciplined and lacks an over-arching vision of where he wants to take the province and "the majority of Tory supporters yearn for a time when they knew who their leader was and what he stood for," meaning Mr. Harris.

Another said Mr. Eves risks defeat because he has alienated the Tory core vote by acts such as delaying tax cuts and abandoning plans to privatize the hydro transmission network and allowing hydro rates to be set by the marketplace. Instead, he is providing taxpayer subsidies to keep rates artificially low, which could discourage building new generating facilities and cause a power shortage.

A third declared, "voters are embarrassed. We want our man to be more like his mentor, Mike Harris, who had an agenda and

stuck to it."

A fourth Sun columnist found, most ominous of all, the Toronto Star, which mostly supports the Liberals, "seems to approve of Mr. Eves and this is a reason for Conservatives to start worrying."

The Toronto Post, normally pro-Tory, complained Mr. Eves "reverses any government policy about which 50 per cent plus one of Ontarians express even the mildest concern.

It called Mr. Eves spineless for abandoning selling the hydro transmission network and refusing to let the marketplace set hydro rates.

The Post said Mr. Eves is governed by polls and "unlike Mr. Harris, who was motivated by his own convictions, Premier Eves's only goal is to squeak through the next election. Whether he does or not, Ontarians will be feeling the economic effects of his weak-kneed decisions for many years to come."

One Post columnist predicted direly Mr. Eves will not last long as premier, but will be remembered because his policies on hydro will bring about "the worst fiscal catastrophe in Canadian history."

The Globe and Mail, which supported Mr. Harris in the 1999 election, accused Mr. Eves of not being a leader on SARS and doing little to restore confidence, ease apprehension, dispel misconceptions and raise the spirits of residents and health-care workers.

Most of these critics of Mr. Eves probably will discover on balance they have more in common with his party than others in an election, but they may not come back to the fold with the passion they had before.

For decades, Eric Dowd has been covering provincial politics as a freelance columnist based out of Queen's Park.

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Letters Policy

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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ATTEND PUBLIC MEETINGS AT CITY HALL

DATE	MEETING	TIME
May 14	Race Relations & Equity Committee	7:00 pm
May 15	Pickering Museum Village Advisory Committee	6:00 pm
May 15	Statutory Public Information Meeting	7:00 pm
May 20	City Council Meeting	7:30 pm
May 21	Committee of Adjustment	7:00 pm

All meetings are open to the public.
 For meeting details call 905.420.2222 or visit the website.

Last Call for Invitation to Perform Applications at
CANADA DAY

Tuesday July 1st, 2003 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm

Family Entertainers Application Forms with demo tape or CD will be accepted until

Thursday May 15th at 4 pm.

Application information is on the website cityofpickering.com in the event section, or call or visit the Civic Complex 905.420.4660 ex.2098 or ex.3250

WEST NILE VIRUS UPDATE

The City of Pickering is participating in a region-wide coordinated effort to manage West Nile Virus issues. Information and links to other websites can be found at the City of Pickering website at cityofpickering.com under the "What's New?" banner.

One immediate project that the City is undertaking involves assisting residents with the disposal of used vehicle tires. Tires have proven to be ideal breeding grounds for the type of mosquito that is known to carry the West Nile Virus. Old tires will be picked-up on your regular garbage day at curbside at no cost to residents during the week of May 19, 2003. If citizens are aware of old tires on public properties such as ditches, streams, parks, valley lands, etc., they can be reported to the City of Pickering Customer Care Centre at 905.420.4666 for removal.

City of Pickering Tenders

Tender for Surface Treatment on Audley Road T - 4 - 2003

Sealed tenders will be received by the undersigned department for the above no later than 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 21, 2003

This contract is for the supply of the required materials, labour, machinery, tools and appliances required to place a Double Bituminous Surface Treatment and Emulsified Asphalt Slurry Seal on Audley Road in accordance with terms, conditions and specifications prepared by the City of Pickering and as directed.

The bidder must **include with the tender submission** a bid deposit of five thousand (\$5,000.00) dollars or a bid bond in the amount of ten percent (10%) of the total tendered amount available for sixty (60 days) from date of tender closing; and an original Agreement to Bond form ensuring that 100% performance and 100% labour & materials payment bonds can be supplied.

After tender closing for evaluation a bidder will be required to provide a copy of their Health & Safety Policy, Current Cost and Frequency Report issued by WSIB; current Certificate of Clearance issued by WSIB; certificate of insurance - \$ 5,000,000 Comprehensive Liability including premises and all operations.

This is not a conclusive listing of requirements - it is solely the bidder's responsibility to review the tendering document for full requirements.

Tendering packages are available upon a non-refundable payment of \$35.00 per set by cash or cheque made payable to the City of Pickering by contacting Supply & Services tel 905.420.4616, located on the 2nd Floor of the Pickering Civic Complex.

Seniors Month Big Band Event

Sunday June 1st

Tickets are \$2 for those 55 years plus

George Lake Big Band will be performing for your listening and dancing pleasure

Coffee, tea and treats will be available

Senior of the Year Award Presentation will take place

Tickets available at Pickering Rec Complex, PCCC, ESCC

Call 905.420.6588 for more details

YOUTH FREE YOUTH Fest

from **Ajax & Pickering (13-19 yrs.)** Friday, May 30th, 2003
 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm
 Ajax Community Centre

What's going on

Break Dancing
 Free activities,
 Henna tattoos,
 inflatables, BBQ,
 NBA 2 Ball Competitions
 Come on out and have some fun

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905.427.8811

City of PICKERING 905.420.6588

YIMCA 905.839.8011

the youth centre 905.428.1212

Tender for Parking Lot and Road Improvements Tender No. T - 9 - 2003

Sealed tenders will be received by the undersigned department for the above no later than 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, May 21, 2003

The work consists of the supply of the required materials, labour, machinery, tools and appliances required to place a 50mm HL-3 asphalt overlay at the Pickering Recreation Complex Parking Lot and a 50mm HL-8 base asphalt and a 40mm Top coarse asphalt overlay on Amberlea Road and Pickering Parkway in accordance with terms, plans and specifications prepared by the City of Pickering.

The bidder must **include with the tender submission** a bid deposit of five thousand (\$5,000.00) dollars or a bid bond in the amount of ten percent (10%) of the total tendered amount available for sixty (60 days) from date of tender closing; and an original Agreement to Bond form ensuring that 100% performance and 100% labour & materials payment bonds can be supplied.

After tender closing for evaluation a bidder will be required to provide a copy of their Health & Safety Policy, current cost and Frequency Report issued by WSIB; current Certificate of Clearance issued by WSIB; Certificate of Insurance - \$5,000,000 Comprehensive Liability including premises and all operations.

This is not a conclusive listing of requirements - it is solely the bidder's responsibility to review the tendering document for full requirements.

Tendering packages are available upon a non-refundable payment of \$40.00 per set by cash or cheque made payable to the City of Pickering by contacting Supply & Services tel.905.420.4616, located on the 2nd Floor of the Pickering Civic Complex

MUNICIPAL LANDS DEEMED SURPLUS FOR PURPOSE OF SALE

Please note that on February 17, 2003, the Council of The Corporation of the City of Pickering passed Resolution #16/03, item 3, deeming Blocks 7, 8 and 9, Plan 40M-1599 (Glen Eden Court - Hwy #2 and Dixie Road) surplus to the needs of the Corporation and declaring them for sale.

A map showing the location of the property is set out below.

For any information concerning this matter, please contact Denise Bye, Property & Development Services at 905.420-4660 ext. 2052.

Youth Coordinator Courtney Vassell

is the City of Pickering's newest DJ sensation! Courtney has recently won the Panasonic/Technics DMC Championships and has qualified for the Canadian National Championships in Montreal this July. Courtney's DJ talents have also been featured on various television programs and most recently on Much Music. Courtney is an excellent, enthusiastic person who takes great pride in what he does. Courtney's Dj'ing talents are something you don't want to miss, stop by and check it out!

For more information on courtney and the DJ program, please contact 905.420.2370

Tender for Rosebank Bridge Replacement and Road Reconstruction Tender No. T - 1 - 2003

Sealed tenders will be received by the undersigned department for the above no later than 2:00 pm

Friday, May 23, 2003

The work is for the supply of the required materials, labour, machinery, tools and appliances required to remove the existing bridge crossing Petticoat Creek and replace it with a new bridge in accordance with the design drawings and specifications prepared by Chisholm, Fleming & Associates and as directed by the City.

This contract is for the supply of the required materials, labour, machinery, tools and appliances for the relocation of existing watermain which will be in conflict with the new bridge construction, for the installation of a storm sewer and appurtenances and for the excavation required of the existing road base in preparation for concrete curbs, sidewalks, asphalt paving, grading and sodding of the boulevards in accordance with plans and specifications prepared by the City of Pickering on behalf of the Region of Durham.

The bidder must **include with the tender submission** a bid deposit of five thousand (\$5,000.00) dollars or a bid bond in the amount of ten percent (10%) of the total tendered amount available for sixty (60 days) from date of tender closing; and an original Agreement to Bond form ensuring that 100% performance and 100% labour & materials payment bonds can be supplied.

After tender closing for evaluation a bidder will be required to provide a copy of their Health & Safety Policy, Current Cost and Frequency Report issued by WSIB; current Certificate of Clearance issued by WSIB; Certificate of Insurance - \$5,000,000 Comprehensive Liability including premises and all operations.

This is not a conclusive listing of requirements - it is solely the bidder's responsibility to review the tendering document for full requirements.

Tendering packages are available upon a non-refundable payment of \$100.00 per set by cash or cheque made payable to the City of Pickering by contacting Supply & Services tel 905.420.4616, located on the 2nd Floor of the Pickering Civic Complex.

CITY OF PICKERING HOLIDAY OPERATING HOURS CIVIC COMPLEX (CITY HALL)

Monday	May 19	CLOSED
CITY COUNCIL MEETING		
Tuesday	May 20	7:30 pm
RECREATION COMPLEX		
Friday - Sunday	May 16 - May 18	Regular Hours
Monday	May 19	CLOSED
RECREATION COMPLEX POOL		
Friday - Sunday	May 16 - May 18	Regular Hours
Monday	May 19	CLOSED
DUNBARTON POOL		
Monday	May 19	CLOSED
RECREATION COMPLEX ARENA		
Monday	May 19	CLOSED
PICKERING MUSEUM VILLAGE		
Friday - Monday	May 16 - May 19	CLOSED
GARBAGE & RECYCLING		
Friday - Monday	May 16 - May 19	Regular Pick up
AJAX & PICKERING TRANSIT AUTHORITY		
Friday - Sunday	May 16 - May 18	Regular services
Monday	May 19	CLOSED
PICKERING SPECIALIZED SERVICES		
Friday - Sunday	May 16 - May 18	Regular services
Monday	May 19	CLOSED
EMERGENCY SERVICES		
City of Pickering Emergency Telephone Number is 905.683.4319		
PICKERING PUBLIC LIBRARIES		
Sunday	May 18	CLOSED
Monday	May 19	CLOSED

The City of Pickering invites you to participate in a **Community Presentation and Media Conference** about our **Growth Management Study and the Removal of Planning Authority from the City**

Wednesday, May 14, 2003
 11:00 am
 City Hall Courtyard

The first event of the Museum's season celebrates the arrival of spring!

STEAM-UP & OPENING

Sunday, May 25th
 12:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Located between Brock Rd & Westney Rd just off Hwy #7
 Call 905.683.8401 or visit cityofpickering.com/museum

ONTARIO POWER GENERATION

Request for a list of bidders is to be in writing, faxed to Supply & Services, 905.420.5313.

Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.
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 Corporate Services Department
 Supply & Services, 2nd Floor
 One The Esplanade
 Pickering, Ontario
 L1V 6K7

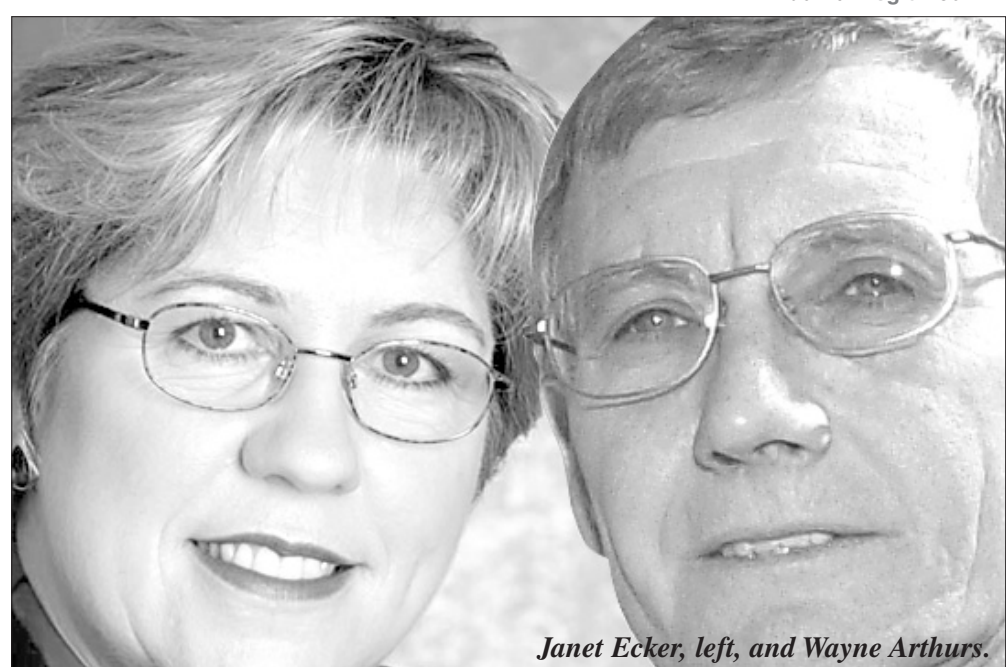
Vera A. Felgemacher, C.P.P., CPPO, CPPB, CMMI
 Manager, Supply & Services

The campaign has begun

PICKERING-AJAX-UXBRIDGE

By Keith Gilligan/ Staff Writer

Anticipation is high that Premier Ernie Eves will call a provincial election within the next few weeks for late June. We have prepared profiles of the nominated candidates so that readers can get some insight into who is running for a place at Queen's Park.



Janet Ecker, left, and Wayne Arthurs.

JANET ECKER PC (incumbent)

DURHAM -- The Progressive Conservatives want to continue on with their plan.

"We're running to keep doing the job we've been doing for more economic growth," said Janet Ecker, the Tory candidate for Pickering-Ajax-Uxbridge. "We want to keep taxes down, the economy growing, so we can invest in schools, hospitals and infrastructure.

"It's the plan we've been working on, creating over one million new jobs. Home ownership is up, investment is up, even with SARS, and it promises to stay up."

Ms. Ecker is seeking her third term as an MPP, having been first elected in the Tory sweep of 1995. Since her election, her cabinet posts have included community and social services, education, and currently, finance.

When the Tories were first elected, "we had an economic plan to lower taxes, pay down the debt, make key investments in primary areas of health and education," she said. "We're running to keep the plan working."

There's also "finishing the job on (Hwy.) 407", expanded transit and

GO service and "finally to stop union disruption in our schools," Ms. Ecker noted. As finance minister, she's presented "two balanced budgets and cut taxes to small businesses, individuals and seniors."

Continued expansion of the Rouge Valley Ajax and Pickering hospital is an issue, as is protecting the agricultural preserve in north Pickering. "We want to make (the proposed) Seaton (community) a model of smart growth development."

She supports the recent ministerial order freezing development on the preserve. "The Ontario government has been very consistent since Day 1. We promised to get out of the land bank business," Ms. Ecker said, adding that's why the government sold land it owned in north Pickering.

The Province, City and Region all signed the agreement, she said.

"We all made a promise and that promise should be respected. We sold the land to farmers for agricultural dollars. We could have sold it to developers for top dollars," Ms. Ecker noted.

The Seaton lands are "designated for development and we agree. Development should be sustainable smart growth."

An election is "like a self-evaluation," Ms. Ecker added. "I expect it to be a good fight, a good feisty fight."

Wayne Arthurs Liberal

DURHAM -- Experience.

"I've got a lot of municipal experience, a lot of governance experience," Pickering Mayor Wayne Arthurs lists as one of the reasons he's running for the Liberal Party in the next provincial election.

"In my view, it's time for a change" at the provincial level, added Mayor Arthurs, running in Pickering-Ajax-Uxbridge riding. He'll be up against Janet Ecker, a two-term Progressive Conservative MPP and cabinet minister.

Issues that stand out include health care and education, which he called "key to the province". In addition, "The state of our communities and towns is in the worst shape," and energy issues need to be addressed not only in Pickering with the nuclear plant, but across the province.

In the recent provincial budget, there was no money for the Rouge Valley Ajax and Pickering hospital or for the Uxbridge site of the Lakeridge Health Corporation, he said, adding Durham Region has agreed to give \$3.5 million to the Ajax hospital and he's on the committee to raise \$13.5 million in the community for the facility.

Mayor Arthurs said education is a concern in the riding and across Durham. Former education minister David Snobelen once said a crisis was needed in education so that reforms could be done, he noted.

"Seven years later, they've delivered on it," said Mayor Arthurs. "Take your pick (on a crisis). We have it right here. This riding is a microcosm of the province."

The energy field, including the problems at the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station, is another issue that needs addressing, he said.

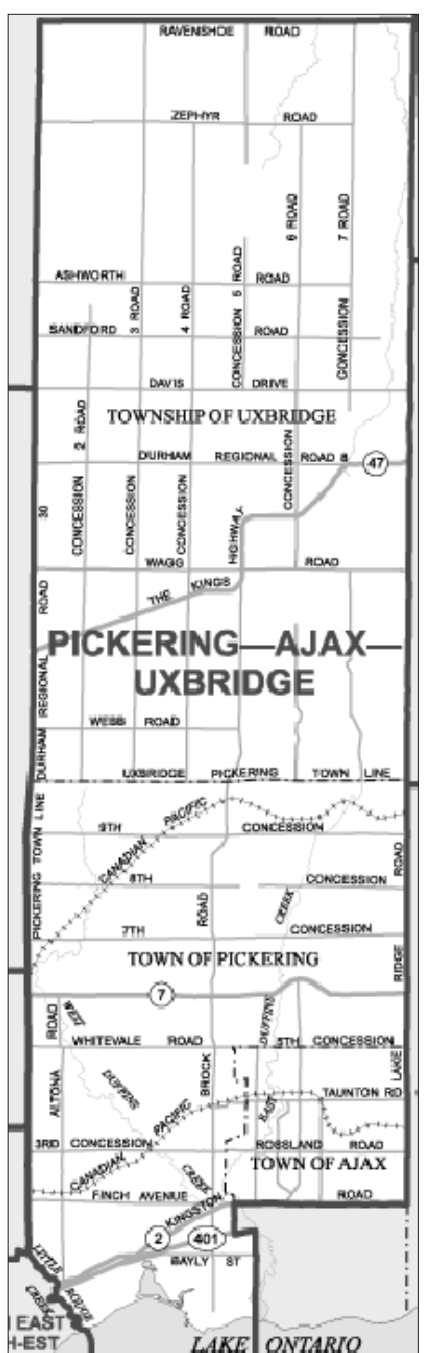
"It's pertinent to Pickering, the energy issue is critical across Ontario. We've been in the middle," Mayor Arthurs noted.

He asked for a review of the Pickering station in 1997, the year the 'A' side was laid-up, but says then energy minister Norm Sterling refused.

"The Province said 'No', but the federal government undertook one. Six months ago, the premier called for a review of the Pickering Nuclear Generating Station. Six months later, he hasn't called one. We need to call for a review of the energy policy of the government," he said.

Mayor Arthurs plans to run for re-election municipally if a provincial election hasn't been called.

He's been the mayor since 1988 and been on council since the early 1980s.



NDP working on its pick

DURHAM -- The New Democratic Party has a prospective candidate in mind, but riding members still have to make it official.

Doug Gray, the Pickering-Ajax-Uxbridge riding association president, said the executive has selected a candidate, but an official nomination meeting still has to be held. He anticipates that will be done by the end of May.

Join the discussion at durhamregion.com

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Blue box gets its fill in June

Next month, our late bloomer will finally go on a growing spurt! Durham council passed a proposal last week to expand the blue box program in Pickering, Ajax, Whitby and Oshawa.

- New materials will include:
- All plastic bottles with a screw top. That means no more hunting for the elusive No. 1 inside the recycling logo. These include all food/beverage, shampoo, vitamin, and dishwashing liquid bottles, etc. The only bottles not acceptable are those that contained motor oil or pesticides;
 - Empty aerosol cans;
 - Empty paint cans with lids removed;
 - All ridged aluminum foil. Previously it was just the pie plate, but now square and rectangle shapes are included;
 - Drinking boxes; and
 - Waxed gable-topped milk and juice containers.

You can acquire more blue boxes from Miller Waste Recycling on Squires Beach Road, or hampers, small crates, and study boxes with handles will do. Keep all paper in a separate container. When setting it out at curbside, place either your flat, bundled cardboard-boxboard on top or one of your other blue boxes to prevent it from blowing away. Include all stationery, receipts,



Lorraine Roulston recycler's corner

junk mail, envelopes, softback books, notebooks, gift wrap (not foil), greeting cards, magazines, newspapers and inserts. Do not use plastic shopping bags and please remove any paper clips, spiral bindings, plastic film covers or sleeves, and carbon paper. It is always a good idea to rip up signatures and personal information.

Durham keeps its paper standards high by not accepting pulp paper egg cartons, drinking trays and paper towels. The fibres on these items are already very short and bring down the quality of recycled paper. Instead, put them into your backyard composter. New residents need to know that the only glass accepted is food/beverage containers. Don't include drinking glasses, headlights, mirrors, windowpanes, etc.

Weak markets are preventing margarine/yogurt tubs, light plastic food containers, plastic film, and Styrofoam from being included. To help

our Baby Blue take another giant step, purchase items with recycled post-consumer content and avoid packaging that you cannot recycle.

Under the Waste Diversion Act 2002, Waste Diversion Ontario (WDO) was formed to create corporate-shared blue box funding to help municipalities. Its formula is based on the number of items a municipality collects, together with its population, density and area. The more items collected for recycling, the more WDO money available. Over the next three years the WDO plans to include scrap tires, used oil, electronics, fluorescent tubes, and organics.

In March, the WDO announced the appointment of Durham's Glenda Gies as full-time executive director. Ms. Gies brings a wealth of experience from her work in the field of waste management since 1978. She is acquainted with the WDO program, as she was involved in the initial development of shared funding options for Ontario's blue box program when the Recycling Council of Ontario initiated this process several years ago.

Lorraine Roulston is a Pickering-based freelance columnist, covering the latest in community recycling and waste reduction initiatives. E-mail her at roulstonlp@sympatico.ca.

This Week and the News Advertiser Presents *Here's My Card* Business Card Directory

Our Community Professionals (Pressrun 7,500 copies)

Pressrun 7,500 copies Delivered to 2 year old homes within this Region in our Newspaper Friday, June 13, 2003

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Ajax - 4,000 New Homes

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*Excluding promotional goods, ends & items already on sale. Sale in effect May 14-June 1, 2003, on in-stock merchandise only. No special orders. Look for the red sale tags.

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Built for life in Ontario

Children's Aid gets a little extra help

Donation helps families cover costs

By Rob Tolson
Special to the News Advertiser

DURHAM — Life will be a little richer for some Durham kids thanks to a local retailer.
The Durham Children's Aid Society (CAS) recently welcomed a donation of \$26,611 from regional Canadian Tire stores and the Cana-

dian Tire Foundation for Families. Foundation for Families representatives visited the Durham CAS, located in Oshawa's Midtown Mall, to hand over the money, to be shared by the CAS of Durham, Halton, York and Peel regions.
"We know about the work that Children's Aid does," said Gordon Cressy, Foundation For Families president.
"Canadian Tire is about building families, too, and our foundation has had a focus on that."

Jim Dubray, executive director of Durham Children's Aid Society, said CAS was grateful to have such a partner.
"At a time when the agencies are looking for support from the community, Canadian Tire's donation is a welcome gesture," he said.
"We appreciate having you (Canadian Tire) as a partner in our activities."
Society donations help children who come from needy families. Some of them can't afford extras

like joining sports teams, clubs or paying for lessons to nurture and further any talents they may have. The Foundation for Families donation will provide a few of those important extras to the children served by the four CAS.
Support from the community has been so great that the CAS has created a new committee for community funds.
Canadian Tire is expected to make an annual donation to the CAS.

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Sports & Recreation

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2003 ♦ News Advertiser ♦ AL RIVETT, SPORTS EDITOR 905-683-5110 EXT. 250

Powering up
Soccer team wins
tourney title...
See page B2

It's a first: Rock turn up an Ace for victory

New senior lacrosse club downs Arthur for inaugural win

By Al Rivett
Sports Editor

DURHAM -- The Ajax-Pickering Rock senior 'B' lacrosse team earned its first big milestone in the franchise's short history: It's first ever league victory.

Less than 24 hours after being spanked by the undefeated Brooklin Merchants 11-5 in Whitby Saturday night, the Rock rebounded to defeat the Arthur Aces 8-6 at the Pickering Recreation Complex Sunday afternoon in Ontario Lacrosse Association (OLA) Senior 'B' Lacrosse League action.

The Rock (1-2) suffered a complete, third-period meltdown against the league-leading Merchants, who recorded their fifth win in a row, allowing the hosts to pull away in a contest that was otherwise close through two periods.

Against Arthur (2-2), however, the Rock players learned from their mistakes, putting forth a complete 60-minute effort.

"It was big for us to get a win under our belts," said Rock general manager Paul St. John. "They played a full 60 minutes."

Sunday's game was close through two periods with the Rock and Aces tied 5-5. In the third period, however, the Rock responded with a trio of goals while limiting Arthur to a lone marker.

As for the loss to the Merchants, the Rock trailed 6-5 after two periods, but a short-handed marker early in the third followed by two power-play goals completely took Ajax-Pickering off its game.

"We just ran out of gas in the third period," offered St. John. "The guys got tired and I think their size kind of wore us down."

Most important, in Sunday's game against Arthur, the Rock continued to decrease their trips to the penalty box, receiving a season-low 30 minutes in infractions. In Saturday's game against Brooklin, the Rock spent 75 minutes in the sin bin.

The penalty minutes "have come down, which is good," said St. John.

Rock team captain Brad Cann led the team offensively against Arthur, bagging three goals and three assists. Veteran Brandon Laforme scored twice and added an assist. The goal of the night belonged to Pat VanHooser whose backhand shot found the top corner of the net. VanHooser also chipped in with an assist. Rob Milnes and Jeff Farmer added single markers. John Derochie had four assists and Paul O'Grady added one helper.

Milnes scored a pair of goals against the Brooklin Merchants, while Dan St. Aubin, Eddie Fines and Derochie added singles.

The Rock have an extended break before playing their next contest, at the St. Clair Storm Saturday, May 24 at 7 p.m. The next home game is against the Mohawk Stars at the complex on Saturday, May 31 at 7 p.m.

NOTES: In addition to the Merchants (5-0), the expansion **Kitchener-Waterloo Kodiaks** remain undefeated at 4-0. At the other end of the scale, the **Ennismore Shamrocks** (0-4) and the **Stars** (0-4) are still searching for their first wins.



Ajax-Pickering Rock players Chad Martin, left, and Brad Cann, right, punish an Arthur Aces player during Ontario Lacrosse Association senior 'B' league action in Pickering Sunday afternoon. The Rock earned their first ever win, 8-6, over the Aces.

Rock dumps coach three games in

Management not happy with systems under former bench boss

By Al Rivett
Sports Editor

DURHAM -- Only three games into its inaugural Ontario Lacrosse Association senior 'B' season, the Ajax-Pickering Rock has opted for a coaching change.

Head coach Keith Begley was released of his duties Monday afternoon, less than 24 hours after the squad earned its first victory of the season, 8-6 over the visiting Arthur Aces at the Pickering Recreation Complex Sunday afternoon.

General manager and co-owner Paul St. John takes over the coaching reins for the remainder of the season.

St. John said it was a lack of systems on the floor that cost Begley his job.

"I think we need to teach a little bit more," said St. John, who also lowered the boom on assistant coach Steve Gomes. "We don't have any systems in place and I don't like to see that."

St. John said he asked Begley,



KEITH BEGLEY
Released from coaching duties.

coaching for the first time at the senior 'B' level, to stay on as an assistant coach. He declined.

"It's too bad. He's a super guy, but I just feel we need to teach these kids,"



PAUL ST. JOHN
"We need to teach a little bit more."

said St. John.

For his part, Begley noted a training camp and three games was not enough

♦ Please see Rock, B2

Once again the Mayne man

Pickering runner rebounds solidly from injury-plagued freshman season

By Al Rivett
Sports Editor

PICKERING -- After enduring a freshman season racked with injury and self-doubt, a Pickering athlete has got his U.S. collegiate career back on track.

Long-distance runner Ian Mayne finished a strong sophomore track and field campaign with the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Mocs with several top-three finishes at high-profile meets.

After injuries forced him to red-shirt (ineligible to compete) his freshman season, it was a triumph for Mayne to come back strongly this season.

"I was excited to get back to being healthy and have a good season," said Mayne, who finished his second year of pre-med studies at the university and returned home to Pickering a week ago.

"It really builds your confidence a lot. When you come out of high school you're at the top, but going to university, you have to start all over again and build up. I knew I would have to build it back up (after injuries forced him to red-shirt). I knew that through



Pickering long-distance runner Ian Mayne, in third place in this photo, later runs past the two frontrunners to capture first place in the 1,500 metres at the Snowbird Relays at Florida State University in Tallahassee last March. The Florida win was one of several good results for Mayne this year while competing for the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Mocs.

hard work the good results would come. I knew I would have to be patient at first."

The cornerstone of his solid season with the Mocs, who compete in the Southern Conference, was the Snowbird Relays, hosted by Florida State University in Tallahassee last March. The meet was a big one, with athletes from 18 schools taking part.

There, he stayed in touch with the two rabbits at the front of the pack,

passing them in the late stages to win the 1,500 metres in a time of 3:59.

"I stayed back and relaxed and I felt good. Near the end of the race I passed them and never looked back," said Mayne, 20, a St. Mary Catholic Secondary School graduate.

The Florida meet wasn't his only success. He finished with all-Conference honours following a third-place finish in the 3,000-metre steeplechase at the Southern Conference Outdoor

Track and Field Championships in Boone, North Carolina May 18 and 19.

"I was very happy with it," he said of that result. "I picked that race up this year and I plan on making it my specialty race."

Mayne noted Bill Gautier, the track coach at UTC, recommended he try the event, which includes jumping hurdles and water hazards. He picked

♦ Please see Mayne, B2

Sports Briefs

MAY 14, 2003

St. Mary junior girls' soccer team shutting down opponents

PICKERING -- The St. Mary Catholic Secondary School Monarchs junior girls' soccer team continues to reign supreme. The Monarchs posted three victories in as many games in recent Lake Ontario Secondary School Athletics (LOSSA) action.

In their most recent conquest, St. Mary downed the Uxbridge Tigers 1-0 Monday afternoon. Shannon Guesaldo netted the winner and Alex Martin earned the shutout.

Last Wednesday, the Monarchs edged the Pickering High School Trojans 2-1. Melissa Egan and Jennifer Michalicka scored for St. Mary; Krystle Wiltshire had the Trojans' goal.

The Monarchs blanked the Archbishop Denis O'Connor Catholic High School Chargers 3-0 last Tuesday. Cristin Allen scored twice, with Danica Kotsopoulos adding a single.

Quarter-horses are at the post

AJAX -- The quarter-horses are ready to blast out of the starting gate for the first time Sunday.

The start of the 2003 season of quarter-horse racing at Picov Downs is Sunday, May 18 at 1:30 p.m. Admission and parking are free.

The track is on Hwy. 2, east of Harwood Avenue.

For more information, call 905-686-0948.

Kids can sail into new program

PICKERING -- Youngsters can be introduced to sailing at an upcoming program organized by an area yacht club.

The Pickering Yacht Club is offering a youth group program throughout the summer for children ages eight to 12. The program provides youngsters with a learning experience of marine culture and sailing.

Registration is Saturday, May 17 from 10 to 11 a.m. and Tuesday, May 20 from 7 to 8 p.m. at the club, 1295 Wharf St., at the bottom of Liverpool Road.

Enrolment is on a first-come, first-serve basis.

For more information, call Nanette Kruze at 416-819-2880 or e-mail at nkruze@marine16.com.

Lawn bowling season opens Saturday

PICKERING -- Tie up those laces and get ready to bowl.

The Pickering Lawn Bowling Club opens for the season Saturday, May 17 at 10 a.m., at the club, 910 Liverpool Rd. S., in Pickering. A barbecue is planned to celebrate the opening.

For more information, call 905-420-0004.

Women can get in touch with football

DURHAM -- The Durham Touch Football League is looking to start a women's league and is seeking team entries.

The league run out of Ajax Mondays and Wednesdays with game times around 6:30 p.m.

The league uses a one-hand touch format with six offensive players against seven on defence, with kicking/passing converts and field goals.

For more information, call Bill Moore at 905-683-4935 or e-mail at moores43@rogers.com.

Cycle group rolls out the fun

DURHAM -- Put the pedal to the metal with Touring Concept Cycle Group.

The recreational, non-competitive road bicycle club is seeking members over 18. There are Sunday rides on planned routes, weekend and annual summer trips, and many social times year-round.

For more information, call Dawn at 905-430-5436 or visit a Web site at www.durhamcycling.com.

Sign on for summer hoops camp

AJAX -- Got game? Maybe so, but it never hurts to improve it.

That's why Notre Dame Catholic Secondary School is hosting its first ever summer basketball camp.

Run by Notre Dame Cougars basketball coach Shawn O'Hare, the camp is Aug. 11 to 15 at the school, 1375 Harwood Ave., north of Rossland Road.

It's for boys and girls ages nine to 14. Campers receive a T-shirt and awards at the end of the week.

Registration has started, but those interested can sign up on Monday, May 26 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the school.

For more information, call 905-686-4300 ext. 6922.

Pickering makes impressive entrance

Power boys earn title in first taste of Ontario league

PICKERING -- The Pickering Power boys' under-15 Ontario Youth Soccer League team kicked it into overdrive to capture West Niagara Invitational Tournament crown. The Power were definite underdogs in the tournament, which featured many of the teams they will face in their inaugural season in the OYSL ranks this year. Pickering is

the only boys' under-15 OYSL team in Durham Region -- having earned a berth after winning the Central Soccer League championship last summer.

Leading up to their first tournament, the Power had the benefit of a solid training session in Jamaica over the March break. The week-long camp had the net benefit of getting the team further along in its preparation for the outdoor soccer season.

Pickering faced North Mississauga in the final, a team they had lost to earlier in the tourney. Both

teams were playing their third game in a six-hour span, so endurance played a big role. With the game seemingly destined for overtime, Pickering's Joshua Thirloganathan scored with an 18-yard volley with only minutes to go to clinch a 2-1 win and the championship.

North Mississauga opened the scoring on a penalty shot. Pickering turned up the heat when Benny Yi crossed to Thomas Rivas who buried the ball to tie the game at 1-1.

The Power faced Glen Shields in a hard-fought semifinal tilt. Mathew Groves' signature free kick and Luke Stedmons goal led Pickering to a 2-1 victory.

In the quarter-finals, Pickering edged Erin Mills 1-0 on a picture-

perfect, free-kick goal by Fabrizio Savarino.

Pickering opened the tourney with a 3-0 victory over the Scarborough Blizzards. Andrew Landry scored twice with Thirloganathan adding a single. In Game 2, Pickering dropped a 1-0 decision to North Mississauga.

Pickering received an all-round team effort en route to the championship, starting with outstanding goalkeeping from Ryan Henriques and Mathew Ruston, the defensive line play of Jesse Trajkovski, Thomas Burger, William Rodrigues, Devon Munch, Jayden

Geense and Mathew Lym, midfielder Steven Axe and wingers Mark Ward and Miguel John.

Local soccer fans can follow the team's successes by visiting its Web site at www.eteamz.com/pickering-boysU15OYSL.

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Mayne the man for Mocs

◆ Mayne from page B1

it up right away. "I kind of had a knack for it right off the bat. It has definitely been a great experience."

Other strong showing in the outdoor season included a sixth-place finish in the 5,000 metres at the Alabama Relays in Tuscaloosa, Alabama in March.

During the indoor season, Mayne finished seventh in the 3,000 metres at the Southern Conference Indoor Track and Field Championships in Johnson City, Tennessee in February. Also in February, Mayne finished second in the 3,000 metres at the Blue Raider Indoor Track and Field Classic at Middle Tennessee State University at Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

While running as a member of the UTC Mocs men's cross-country team, Mayne helped the team to a sixth-place finish in the South Conference this year.

He said attending school and running track has been a positive experience since being signed to an athletic

scholarship two years ago. The Mocs, over the years, have attracted a strong Canadian contingent of athletes.

Mayne noted two Canucks just recently graduated from the track and field team and two others remain, including Colin Sullivan, the younger brother of Canadian Olympic long-distance running specialist, Kevin Sullivan.

If that weren't enough Canadian content, Mayne has his girlfriend, Shannon Wightman, also of Pickering, attending UTC on an academic scholarship. Wightman is a member of the university's 'Sugar Mocs' dance team, which has competed nationally and performs at football and basketball games.

"It's very nice to have a Canadian contingent here," he said. "We all work really hard and we come down here with a purpose and we want to succeed."

Mayne will work this summer in the medical field at Rouge Valley Centenary hospital in Scarborough to augment his medical studies.

Rock release head coach

◆ Rock from page B1

time to implement the kind of systems the young team needs to compete.

"I think it's early, but it's his team," noted Begley.

To the contrary, St. John said there has been time and with only 16 games in the season before playoffs, it's now or never.

"By now, we should have had some systems in place, but it didn't happen. We should be a lot more organized on the floor. I didn't see a lot of things I thought I would see at this time," he said.

"We have an opportunity to be in the top four in the league, but we won't with the way we were playing."

Asked about the Rock posting a win only three games into the regular season, St. John was dismissive, saying the Aces were missing a key player and Ajax-Pickering should have won by much more than a two-goal margin.

St. John said the timing was right for a coaching change as the team has close to two weeks off before its next game, May 24 on the road in Wallaceburg against the St. Clair Storm.

St. John hopes to keep the Rock's other assistant coach, Kevin Robinson, on the bench with him through the remainder of the regular season.

At press time, however, there was no indication as to whether Robinson would stay with the team.

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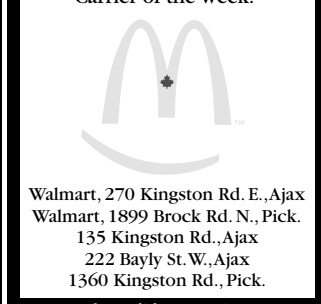
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ADVERTISING FEATURE



Oshawa's Derek Gillespie finished in a tie for fourth at a Canadian Tour stop in Mexico over the weekend and now sits 12th on the money list.

Gillespie ties for fourth in Guadalajara Classic

Oshawa's Derek Gillespie carded a final round 66 to finish tied for fourth at the Canadian Tour's Michelin Guadalajara Classic in Mexico over the weekend.

Gillespie shot 68-72-69-66 to finish four strokes back of the winner, earning \$5,887. Gillespie is now earned \$5,887 so far this season to sit 12th on the money list.

Brooklin's Jon Mills is 26th on the order of merit with \$4,686 in earnings, Oshawa's Kevin Jones is 56th with \$1,725 and Whitby's Eddie Maunder is 95th with \$472.

The tour makes another stop in Mexico this week before returning to Canada for an event in Sault Ste. Marie June 23-29.

The Brooklin Redmen are holding their annual golf tournament on Friday, May 23 at Cherry Downs G.C. in Pickering.

The 8 a.m. shotgun start costs \$125 per player, which includes golf, cart, prize and lunch. For more information, call Jennifer

CHIP SHOTS

Roy at 905-728-1258.

Ross Griffiths will certainly remember May 5, 2003. That's the day the Lakeridge Links member aced the 7th hole at his home club. Griffiths used a 6-iron on the 148-yard hole and the memorable shot was witnessed by Stan Forshaw, Dave Abrams and Brian Blakey.

Sylvan Learning Centre is 'up to par' in

creating awareness on the links between nutrition and learning. A charity golf tournament and silent auction sponsored and organized by Sylvan Learning Centre on behalf of Durham's Child Nutrition Project, will be held on Friday, May 30th.

"Last year, over 11,000 children-youth in Durham region accessed a nutrition program supported by Durham's Child Nutrition Project. The money raised from this golf tournament will be used to help us meet our mission of assuring every child in Durham has the opportunity to attend school well-nourished and ready to learn," says Stephanie Miskew, co-ordinator of Durham's Child Nutrition Project.

The tourney is at Oakridge Golf Club, with tee times starting at 11 a.m. The cost is \$100 per golfer, which includes cart, dinner, range and prizes.

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Red team coach Russ Hutchison talks briefly with camp hopefuls before a scrimmage on Sunday morning. The players were taking part in the Pickering Boyer Pontiac Panthers' annual junior 'A' rookie camp at the Pickering Recreation Complex. The two-day camp attracted about 80 players.

Ron Pietroniro/News Advertiser photo

That was fast

Winder impressed by speed of campers

By Al Rivett
Sports Editor

PICKERING -- The coming season's version of the Pickering Boyer Pontiac Panthers looks promising indeed, judging by the array of talent on the ice at last weekend's rookie camp, notes the club's new head coach and general manager.

The OHA Ontario Provincial Junior 'A' Hockey League club's camp featured 80 wannabe Panthers at the invitation-only affair at the Pickering Recreation Complex Saturday and Sunday. The players were split into four teams with four on-ice sessions each day, including two games each morning and two each afternoon.

"Oh yeah, I was really impressed," noted John Winder of the talent pool. "I hope that some of these guys will catch on with the big club."

The bulk of the camp was filled with players, mainly 16-year-olds, from the Greater Toronto Hockey League (GTHL), along with some hopefuls from the area 'AAA' programs from Ajax/Pickering, Clarington and Whitby, said Winder, adding about 25 per cent of the camp roster was filled with Durham-area kids.

Winder commented the camp was marked by solid all-round play, but what stood out was the speed of the players and the pace of the camp, which was exceedingly quick.

"It was very high-paced. Some people commented on how quick the pace of our camp was," said Winder, adding scouting director Glen Snyder did a solid job of putting the camp together. "It went really smoothly. We told the boys that we didn't want to know what they've got in terms of



JOHN WINDER
Calibre of players impresses coach.

fighting. We wanted to see what they brought to the ice. There was a lot of hard hitting, nice playmaking and whatnot. There was a really good crop to pick from."

Most exciting for Winder were a number of 16-year-olds from Ajax and Pickering who had left the area in order to play with GTHL clubs several years ago.

"To the best of my knowledge, 90 per cent of them were at the camp and they all look like good prospects."

The only catch, said Winder, is that in order to play for the Panthers these local players would have to be released by their teams and also by OP-JAHL club affiliates with those GTHL teams. Although getting their releases are stumbling blocks, he's confident arrangements can be made.

Winder is also philosophical about the calibre of the rookies at camp. "They haven't played a shift at the junior level as yet. And, the true test of their abilities will come when they

skate alongside the returning players at the Panthers' training camp in August.

"Putting them out there with the veterans will tell us another story again," he said.

Winder expects that of the 80 players, approximately 35 to 40 will be invited back to the main camp, expected to start at the complex Aug. 18.

PANTHERS' POST-SCRIPT: Winder has named some of his staff for the 2003-04 season. **Frank Robinson**, a longtime minor hockey coach in the Ajax and Pickering area, was named director of player development. Joining returning assistant coach **Al Avery** is **Joe Sullivan**, a veteran assistant with the **Peterborough Bees**...

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Just ask Anna Squires (left) of Pickering who paid her carrier and won a \$1,000 Shopping Spree in the Ajax/Pickering News Advertiser's collection draw, which she has chosen to spend at Sears. The carrier on this route, Stacey, also received a \$25.00 bonus. Congratulating Mrs. Squires is Alka Aggarwal from the News Advertiser. 2nd prize winner of a \$100 Shopping Spree is Ann Queen (not shown) of Ajax, which she has chosen to spend at No Frills and our 3rd prize winner of a \$50 Shopping Spree is Edward Mulgrew (not shown) of Ajax, which he has chosen to spend at Home Depot.

To enter the draw for your chance to win a \$1,000, \$100, \$50 Shopping Spree, just pay your carrier the \$6.00 optional delivery charge and send us your ballot which is located on your "Thank You" coupon, before noon on Monday May 26, 2003.

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PICKERING TOYOTA

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

A solid pitching performance by Matt Firth helped the Notre Dame Catholic Secondary School Cougars of Ajax extend their undefeated streak to three games in Durham high school baseball. Firth registered nine strikeouts and worked a complete game en route to posting a 6-1 victory over the St. Mary Catholic Secondary School Monarchs in action last week.

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But this year, we have an even greater reason to thank not only our nurses, but all of our healthcare staff. Over the past month, our staff and physicians "went above and beyond" during the extraordinary circumstances created by the SARS outbreak. We would not have expected less, but we could not possibly have expected more.

On behalf of the Lakeridge Health Board of Trustees and the Executive Team

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2003 ♦ News Advertiser ♦ TONY DOYLE, NEWS EDITOR, 905-683-5110 EXT. 254

Raising the standard

Pickering High students turn in performances worthy of national attention

By Lesley Bovie
Staff Writer

AJAX — Things are pretty upbeat lately at Pickering High School.

For the first time ever, the school's music department is taking part in Musicfest Canada 2003, held May 20 to 25 in Toronto.

"To be able to go to Musicfest you need to achieve a gold standard," explained Naomi Skinner, an OAC student who sits on the music executive committee.

"Last year was the first time we had ever been given a gold standard but we had already committed to going to Halifax. So to be able to go this year is really exciting for us."

Representing Pickering High School are the senior concert band, the senior jazz band, and the senior jazz choir.

Both the senior concert band and senior jazz choir achieved gold standards earlier this spring at the Regional Music Festival, while the senior jazz band was able to requalify for Musicfest with a silver, having earned a gold last year.

More than 300 ensembles, made up of more than 10,000 young musicians from all over North America, are expected to take part in the annual festival. Approximately 60 of those students are from the Pickering High music department, which is headed up by teachers Heather McKeown, Amy Warren, and Yolanda Van Grootl.

The department has been gearing up for Musicfest for some time, hosting fund-raisers as far back as last fall.

"Our initial goal was to raise \$4,000 to cover the entrance fees," said Ms. Skinner.

"Because Musicfest is in Toronto, we're going to bus ourselves

down and back each day instead of staying overnight. We expect about another \$1,000 in busing costs."

The fund-raisers started with a music marathon in November, and continued with a Christmas concert, a car wash earlier this month and a spring concert May 15.

One of the most successful fund-raising events to date was a jazz café in February that raised \$1,500.

"We've also had significant donations from Volkswagen Canada and the local Optimist Club," said Ms. Skinner, who has played clarinet for four years at school.

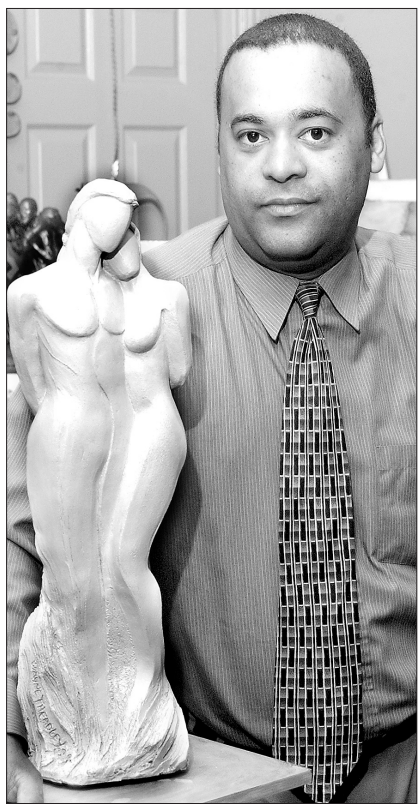
Even though Musicfest grades participants "against themselves" rather than each other, she not only expects a few butterflies but welcomes them.

"You need nerves to keep you on your toes," she said. "It gives me a goal."

"Instead of saying at our end-of-the-year concert, 'Look Mom and Dad at what we did,' this year it will be 'Look Ontario at what we've done!'"



Jason Liebrechts/ News Advertiser photo
Stephanie Scott, left, and Lesley Hawkins were working hard recently to prepare for the Musicfest Canada 2003 event in Toronto next week. The two are students at Pickering High School, where the senior concert band, senior jazz choir and senior jazz band all performed well enough to earn a spot in the showcase.



Wayne Headley's work traditionally taps into personalities with his sculptures. He was recently the featured artist at a show in Ajax.

Capturing the good in subjects

Wayne Headley aims for positives in his sculptures

PICKERING — Wayne Headley tries to bring out the best in people through his work.

The Pickering sculptor was the featured artist at the Art and Soul Gallery last month.

Sculpting has been Headley's hobby, or passion as he refers to it, for the past 16 years. His attitude is reflected in his creations.

"My sculptures represent the positive and see the good in humans, rather than all the negative in this world," he said.

One of his featured works is 'Sweet Expectations'. The piece is of an expectant mother looking down at her stomach.

'Harmonizing in E' is another feature. Headley refers to the piece as more contemporary, compared to some of his others. The musical theme generates positive feelings, said Headley.

'Freedom in View' is about the Underground Railroad, and represents hope.

Headley is also the designer and creator of several awards, including the Canadian Race Relations Lifetime Achievement Award, recently given to Lincoln Alexander.

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Don't Dress for Dinner

Confusion abounds in new stage play

By Christy Chase
Staff Editor

DURHAM — A French comedy, complete with mistaken identities and confusion, is the next production at Class Act Dinner Theatre.

'Don't Dress for Dinner,' by Marc Camoletti, runs from May 15 to June 28 at the dinner theatre in Whitby.

"It's a prequel to 'Boeing Boeing,'" explained director Rocky Varcoe. "This was written in French and adapted to English. This was written to happen before 'Boeing Boeing' but it was actually written after."

'Boeing Boeing' focused on Bernard and his attempts to juggle his three air stewardess girlfriends, complicat-

ed by faster jets and the arrival of his old school friend Robert.

'Don't Dress for Dinner' was first produced in 1991 in London, England. In the play, Bernard is preparing to entertain his Parisian mistress Suzy for the weekend, after packing his wife Jacqueline off to her mother's home. He's invited his best friend Robert along for an alibi. But it turns out Robert and Jacqueline are having an affair and the gourmet chef Suzette is mistaken for the mistress.

"It's a foolproof plan but what could really go wrong? Everything," Varcoe said.

Playing Bernard is Mike Woodbridge, from Scarborough. Jacqueline is played by Linda Chapman of Ajax, Robert by David Lepp of Port Perry, Suzette by Kesta Graham of Scarborough and George, Suzette's husband, by Barry Neilson of Whitby.

Varcoe said the cast, in rehearsals since March 30, is a good one.

"They're all pros. They're all really strong. They all came prepared and they take direction well."

He said Lepp is one of the strongest actors in Durham Region and Neilson is a mainstay of Class Act's productions.

For Varcoe, co-owner of Class Act, the comedy marks his debut directing a play with adult actors.

Rehearsals have been going well and the cast is more than ready for the May 15 opening night, he said.

The play actually opens two nights before for performances booked by local corporations, he noted.

The play will follow a buffet dinner each performance night at the theatre, 104 Consumers Dr., Whitby. For ticket information, call 905-668-2229.

Exercise is spot on for aspiring writers

DURHAM — The Writers' Circle of Durham Region would like to invite writers of all levels of talent for an afternoon of on-the-spot writing exercises facilitated by area writer Susan Lynn Reynolds.

The event is June 14, from 12:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Rotary Sunrise Lake Park, Whitby.

Reynolds, a fiction writer and an accredited workshop leader, has been facilitating writing-on-the-spot groups for

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PALM BEACH MEGA TAN seeking full time or part time staff for days evening & weekends for Pickering location. Apply in person to 1550 Kingston Rd, Pickering.

PART-TIME ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Pickering Aerials Gymnastics Club is seeking a Part-time Administrative Assistant to provide administrative support to the Head Coach while working with other members and parents to ensure excellent communication and organization within the Club. This position reports directly to the Club's Head Coach. Bookkeeping and payroll experience a must. The Administrative Assistant will be required to work approximately 9-13 hours per week with an hourly salary of \$12.00. Mail resume to: PACG 1095 Kingston Road, Pickering ON L1V 1B5, or email: pacg@on.abn.com

510 General Help
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Needs assistant. Must have vehicle and be willing to travel. Call Mike 905-579-6650.

COURIER DRIVERS needed to start immediately. Experience preferred. Full/part time, good pay. Call (905)427-8612 Monday-Friday between 9a.m. to 3p.m. Cars or vans, seniors welcome.

D.L.C. RESIDENTIAL Services is seeking 1 Full time and 2 Part time CYW/DSW's to work with severely delayed children and youth with developmental disabilities and autism in the Scarborough area. Experience with complex and aggressive behaviours essential. Positions available immediately. Driver's license required. Shift work including evenings and weekends necessary. Criminal reference check and pre-employment medical necessary. No phone call please. Only those selected will be contacted. Fax/email resumes to 416-281-4529, debdlc@on.abn.com

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510 General Help
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\$15.00/hr. Avg. Full Training Provided Managers Required
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PHONE CHAT LINE needs P/T operators to work from home. Must have great voice & be over 18 years. Call (416)445-1549.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE labourer required for Whitby company. Drivers license and experience an asset. Starting \$10.00/hr. Full-time, Monday-Friday. Call (905)261-8474.

510 General Help
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HAIR STYLIST or barber chair for rent. Excellent location hair salon in Pickering. Call Linda 905-427-4110 for info.

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MATURE ESTHETICIAN wanted Bring resume to:Yvonne's Esthetic Boutique, 125 Athol Street, Whitby: 905-666-4715

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AIR CONDITIONING Service Technician. Full-time position available. Applicant must hold refrigeration license + either O2 or OBT2. Minimum 8yrs experience on residential heating & Cooling equipment. Top wages, benefit package, RRSP contributions. Clean driving record, neat appearance. Fax resume to: 905/885-1108 or call (905)885-8216. Port Hope area.

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ELECTRICIANS 4th and 5th term apprentices, required for downtown Toronto historic site restoration. Call Larry 905-683-8299

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FRAMER AND LABOURER needed for work in Durham Region. Must have experience and own vehicle. Call 905-728-7012.

LICENSED MECHANIC required for Chrysler dealership in Port Perry. Call Don 905-985-7354

LOCAL EQUIPMENT rental company requires qualified mechanic. Electrical, hydraulic and propane experience an asset. Please forward resume fax (905)683-0750

MECHANIC REQUIRED for car repair, certified, Class 'A' contact. Must have own tools. 8a.m. - 5p.m. Monday - Friday. Call Pearl Auto (416)884-3839 or (905)655-3500

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525 Office Help
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT (Pickering) - contract position to cover maternity leave. Min. 3 years office experience. Proficient in Microsoft Office. Strong organizational and customer service skills plus the ability to prioritize workloads are also required. Mon.-Fri. 9am-5pm. Excellent working conditions. Fax resume to: 905-420-7342 or email info@medicalpharmacies.com

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325 Auctions 325 Auctions 325 Auctions

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249 Coming Events 249 Coming Events

30th Anniversary Calling all Graduates, Colleagues & Friends to celebrate with us **SOCIAL & OPEN HOUSE** Cardinal Newman Catholic Secondary School, Scarborough on Friday May 23rd 7:30 pm (416) 393-5519 www.cardinal.newman30.com
FAMILY PHYSICIAN Dr. Patricia Pawarao has joined the Medical Practice at the Loblaws Market Place, Pickering and is currently accepting new patients For appointment please call 905-420-0041

260 Tenders 260 Tenders

INVITATION TO BID Bids for services listed below addressed to: The Distribution Manager This Week Newspaper 865 Farewell Ave. P.O. Box 481 Oshawa Ont. L1H 7L5 Will be received until 5:00 p.m. Friday May 16/03. Contract commencing May 21, 2003. Work consists of counting, bundling and dropping off papers, flyers, catalogues and other products to specific locations in Scugog Township. Bid Packages Available at: 845 Farewell Ave. Oshawa Lowest or any bids not necessary accepted

260 Tenders 260 Tenders

THE DURHAM DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD TENDER SEALED TENDERS will be received in the envelopes provided by the undersigned before 11:00 A.M. Local Time on the specified closing date. TENDER TOS-13 Interior/Exterior Painting at Various Locations CLOSING DATE: Thursday, May 29th, before 11:00 a.m. MANDATORY SITE MEETING Thursday, May 22, 2003 at 9:30 a.m. Commencing at G. L. Roberts C. V. I. 399 Chaleur Ave., Oshawa (905) 728-7594 Tender documents will be available from the Purchasing Department The lowest or any Tender will not necessarily be accepted. D.M. Homeniuk, C. P.P., CPPO Manager of Purchasing The Durham District School Board 400 Taunton Rd. East, Whitby, Ontario L1R 2K6 (905) 666-6442

261 Legal Notices 261 Legal Notices

NOTICE OF SALE Goods and/or vehicles will be sold by Bates Family Auctions, on May 29, 2003 at 33 Hall Street, Oshawa, Ont. at 6:00 pm to satisfy outstanding charges for storage rental incurred by the following: DANIELLE BROWN JOHN CALDWELL LORRAINE SMITH JACQUELINE WILLIAMS CORRADO SPATARO SARA NAZARKO DOUG BORDENKO DOUG REDSHAW CARL CAPRIO ANTHONY DEROCHE BRIAN ARSCOTT DEBRA WOOD Dated in the City of AJAX, in the Province of Ontario, 8th May 2003 SENTINEL SELF-STORAGE CORP., #475 Harwood Avenue North Ajax, Ontario L1Z 1L8

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282 Places of Worship 282 Places of Worship

COME & WORSHIP Is a regular Friday feature in the News Advertiser. (Copy deadline is Wednesday noon for the Friday paper.) To advertise all your Church Events, News and Upcoming Special Services. Call Janice Samoyloff at 905-683-0707. Or fax your information to 905-579-4218 or Email to: jsam@durhamregion.com

320 Garage/Yard Sales 320 Garage/Yard Sales

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268 Personals 268 Personals

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Wednesday prepared to give its best effort at CAW picnic

By Rob Tolson
Special to the News Advertiser

DURHAM — Lately a lot of old bands from the 1960s and 1970s have been getting back together to relive their old glory days.

Wednesday, a band that received a gold record in 1973 for their hit single remake of 'Last Kiss', have also decided to give it one last try.

After a 25-year hiatus, Wednesday will be back for a special performance at this year's CAW picnic (closed event except for CAW members).

"One of the union reps was a big fan of the band and asked if we want-

ed to play the picnic," said Randy Begg, drummer for the band.

In the '70s, the Oshawa-based band was on the Canadian label Skyline Records. They released a total of three albums, the last in 1977.

"We played across Canada and into the US," said Begg. "We never made it off the North American continent, but we've been just about everywhere (in North America)."

Bret Piekarz, who plays keyboards for the band, is a new member to Wednesday, but they wanted him to join when they first started.

"We asked Bret 25 years ago to join the band, but he had other commitments," said Begg.

Other members in Wednesday include Mike O'Neil (rhythm guitar-lead vocals), John Dufek (bass), and Paul Smith (lead guitar).

The band have had only had about a handful of practice sessions, but are already sounding like they did in their hey-day.

"We've had about six rehearsals and it's going great," said Begg. "We're a little older and a little wiser. We'll see how this show goes, if it's well-received then we might be interested in playing some more shows. If you're in the area drop by, it will be a good time."

"You'll get a chance to see a bunch of old guys on stage."

Cinefest Durham screens 'Russian Ark'

DURHAM — The final film in Cinefest Durham's 2002-2003 season focuses on the Hermitage, the famous art museum in St. Petersburg, Russia.

The movie, 'Russian Ark,' will be shown May 29. The film journeys through 300 years of Russian history in a single take, using a special digital camera.

The narrator, director Alexander Sokurov, finds himself in the past after an accident he can't remember. He's at the Winter Palace, as the museum was known when it was home to Russia's imperial rulers, in the early 1700s during a ball. He meets a French diplomat who visited the palace during a different time period.

The camera sweeps through corridors and rooms, from one century to another, but not in historical order. Viewers will see contemporary tourists, view the last of the tsars, Nicholas II and his family, and pass through the Soviet era.

The film will be shown at 7 p.m. at Famous Players in the Oshawa Centre. Tickets are \$6 with proceeds going to the Oshawa Public Library. The box office for Cinefest at the theatre closes at 7 p.m. sharp. Latecomers will not be able to purchase tickets at the Famous Players box office.

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STEP 1
Simply dial the above number on a touch tone phone only.

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STEP 2
Listen for the name you are looking for. The listings are recorded by surname first.

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STEP 3
When you hear the name you want, press 1 to hear details of the funeral arrangements.

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STEP 4
If you miss any information, press 1 to replay the details.

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STEP 5
If you want to go back to the main directory of names, press 2 and repeat from Step 2.

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SPRAGGS, Eileen Margaret (McDonald) Eileen died peacefully at Ajax Hospital on Friday, May 9, 2003. She was born in Buckingham, Quebec on June 29, 1918 and raised in Colbalt, Ontario. She worked in Ottawa in the naval offices during the war. In 1946, she married Edward Spraggs and moved to Toronto. She had resided in Ajax since 1949. Eileen was the beloved wife of Edward Spraggs who died in 1997 and dear sister of Millie Hughes of Haileybury. Loving mother of Bob (Laura), Ken (Lise), Nancy (Richard deceased), Rick and Ernie (Diana). She was the devoted grandmother of Andrew Mary, Kenny, Matthew, Kevin, Ian, and Erin. Eileen was a teacher at Central Collegiate in Oshawa. She was a charter member of St. Bernadette's Catholic Women's League and Regional Chairperson of the Durham Region Catholic Women's League. She was also the President of the Retired Teachers of Ontario (District 28 - Durham Region), and a founding member of the Ajax Library Board. Her passions included Irish music, card games, traveling and sharing family stories. Eileen will be missed by family and friends. Visitation was held at **MCEACHNIE FUNERAL HOME**, 28 Old Kingston Rd., (905)428-8488, in Ajax on Sunday 2-4 and Monday 2-4 and 7-9. The Funeral mass was held at **St. Bernadette's Catholic Church** on Bailey Rd. in Ajax on Tuesday at 11am. The burial will take place at Resurrection Cemetery in Whitby, ON. Donations can be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation

256 Deaths 256 Deaths 256 Deaths

WHITNEY, James William - James William Whitney of Myrtle Beach, SC died Monday, May 12, 2003 at his home after a four year battle with cancer. Born May 20, 1941 in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, he was the son of the late Thomas Whitney and Eileen Mullens Thomson. Mr. Whitney was a retired sales manager in the automobile industry. Surviving are his wife, Felicity "Flip" Whitney; sons, Sean Whitney and wife Nikki of Eastend Saskatchewan Canada and Jim Whitney and wife Meghan of Surfside Beach; grandchildren, twins Jaymes and Dayna of Canada; sisters, Eileen Hsieh and Dorothy Whitney both of Toronto, Carol Mutiger of Oshawa, Ontario and Cathy Thomson of Kilbride, Ontario and brothers, John Whitney of Marietta, Ga. and Thomas Whitney of Burlington, Ontario. **GOLDFINCH FUNERAL HOME**, Murrells Inlet, SC is in charge of arrangements. In memory of Jim, please make memorials to your local cancer society. An online guest-book is available at www.goldfinch.ca.

256 Deaths 256 Deaths 256 Deaths

Check us out on the internet @ durhamregion.com

Eight Women hits the screen as film circuit season wraps up

AJAX — The Ajax Film Circuit is ending its season with a special presentation. On Wednesday, May 21, 'Eight Women' is to be premiered at the Ajax Cineplex Odeon at 7 p.m. The movie is about a mistress of the house named Gaby, who finds her husband dead in bed, and it is clear that one of the eight women is a culprit. Movie combines 1950's Hollywood musical with classic Agatha Christie murder mystery. Advance tickets are available at all three Ajax Public Library branches

for \$6.50 each or for \$7 at the theatre box office on the day of the show. The film circuit will return with a new selection of eight films in September from Canadian, independent and foreign filmmakers. Season passes are \$48 and will go on sale May 21. The film circuit is presented in co-operation with the Toronto International Film Festival Group by the Friends of the Ajax Public Library. The Ajax cinemas are at Kingston and Pickering Beach roads. For more information, call Ian Leckie at 905-427-1522.



Mike Ruta/ News Advertiser photo

Making beautiful music

PICKERING — Sisters Joy and Subria Lapps, who attend Ajax High School, perform at the school's recent employers' appreciation breakfast to celebrate the partnership between the school and its co-operative education partners. The breakfast, held at Annandale Golf and Curling Club, recognized almost 90 local and area businesses that took part in the program this school year.

Writers' Circle serving up breakfast, ideas

DURHAM — The Writers' Circle of Durham Region would like to invite the community to a breakfast meeting. The meetings take place at the Iroquois Park Sports Complex at 50 Victoria St. W. (at Henry Street), Whitby. They run from 8:30 to 11 a.m. Members pay \$12 while guests are charged \$15. Your place must be reserved no later than the Wednesday prior

with the breakfast co-ordinator at 905-259-6520. On June 14, the featured guest will be Bowmanville native Amy Logan, co-editor of AWOL: Tales for Travel-Inspired Minds. Logan is also the full-time publicist for the International Festival of Authors and Harbourfront Reading Series in Toronto. On July 12, the meeting gives an opportunity to showcase the talent of members.

Billboard

MAY 14, 2003

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14

MEDITATION: Learn how to meditate Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. at the Duffin's Creek Co-Op, 1555 Finch Ave., Unit 76 in Pickering. Classes are free and new members are welcome. Call 905-420-7252.
AJAX PICKERING TOASTMASTERS: The club meets each Wednesday at the Pickering Nuclear Information Centre, Brock and Montgomery Park roads, to work on communication, leadership, public speaking and other skills. Meetings begin at 7:15 p.m. Call Marsha at 905-686-4384 or Leithland at 905-509-8584.

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS: Speaking of MS is the topic of a meeting from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. in Room SW117 (South Entrance) at the Oshawa Campus of Durham College, Simcoe St. north of Taunton Rd. Information on travelling with a disability, planning a holiday and bringing mobility aids. 905-428-0087 (Dolores).

THURSDAY, MAY 15

OVEREATERS: Overeaters Anonymous meets every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at LaS-torta, at the north end of Liverpool Road, next to Manresa Retreat House, Pickering. It's a 12-step program. Call Edith days at 905-686-3834 or Mary evenings at 905-428-8660.

SENIORS' ACTIVITIES: The Ajax Seniors' Friendship Club offers carpet bowling, snooker, and pool every Monday and Thursday at 9:30 a.m. at the St. Andrew's Community Centre, 46 Exeter Dr., Ajax. Call Ed or Sylvia at 905-428-8297 for bowling or Jack at 905-683-9696 for pool.

FRIDAY, MAY 16

ADDICTION: The Serenity Group meets at 8 p.m. at Bayfair Baptist Church, 817 Kingston Rd. for a 12-step recovery meeting. The discusses addictions of all types, including co-dependency. Child care is available if needed. Call Jim evenings at 905-428-9431.

CROCHET AND KNITTING: The Ajax Seniors' Friendship Club meets every Friday at 9:45 a.m. for these and other crafts. The club supplies most materials, with items going to the seniors' bazaar. Meetings are in the St. Andrew's Community Centre, 46 Exeter Dr., Ajax. Call Peggy at 905-686-1573.

EUCHRE: The Pickering Village Seniors Club plays every Friday at 1 p.m. at the club, 29 Linton Ave. The cost is \$1. Call 905-683-7053.

SATURDAY, MAY 17

LAWN BOWLING: Pickering Lawn Bowling Club to open for the season at 10 a.m. for players at the Pickering Lawn Bowling Club, 910 Liverpool Rd. S., Pickering. BBQ to follow. Call 905-420-0004.

SUNDAY, MAY 18

SPRING WILDFLOWERS: The Pickering Naturalists meet at 9:30 a.m. to examine the plant life and beauty of flowers. Bring botanical references and binoculars. Park on Concession 7 in Pickering, just west of Westney Road or in the Claremont Conservation Authority parking lot. Call Doug Lockrey at 905-666-3897.

MONDAY, MAY 19

CARNIVAL: Immanuel Christian School in Oshawa presents its eighth annual Victoria Day spectacular at 5:30 p.m. at 849 Rossland Rd W. There is a jumping castle, face painting, food, carnival games, prizes, bicycle inspection and a rodeo. Fireworks begin at 9 p.m. Rain date is Saturday May 24. Call 905-728-9071.

HOLIDAY MONDAY FIREWORKS: Pickering Village United Church hosts its fifth annual, free neighbourhood fireworks display. The sky lights up at dusk (around 9 p.m.) at the church, located at 300 Church St. N. in Ajax. Bring your own lawn chairs. Snacks available at a refreshment stand.
DAILY LUNCHESES: The ladies auxiliary of Royal Canadian Legion Branch 606 in Pickering offers lunches Monday to Friday from noon to 1:30 p.m. Everything is \$4 and under. The auxiliary accepts takeout calls. Call 905-839-2990.

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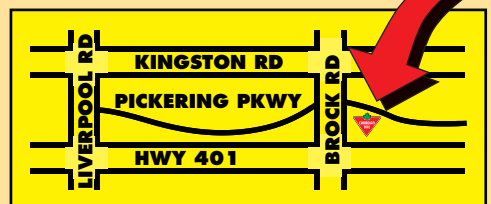
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