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Getting the right green fit

Pickering argues protection can't be one size for all

By Carly Foster
Staff Writer

DURHAM — The Province's proposed Greenbelt Protection Act cannot be a one-size-fits-all solution to development, a group of municipal leaders and planners say.

"Let's not kid ourselves that it's the same everywhere, because it's not," Thomas Melymuk, director of corporate projects and policy for Pickering said of the Act. "One size doesn't fit all."

That suggestion was repeated by representatives from the Region, Pickering, Whitby, Uxbridge and Brock as they made presentations to the Greenbelt task force Monday afternoon at regional headquarters.

The Greenbelt Act, or Bill 27,

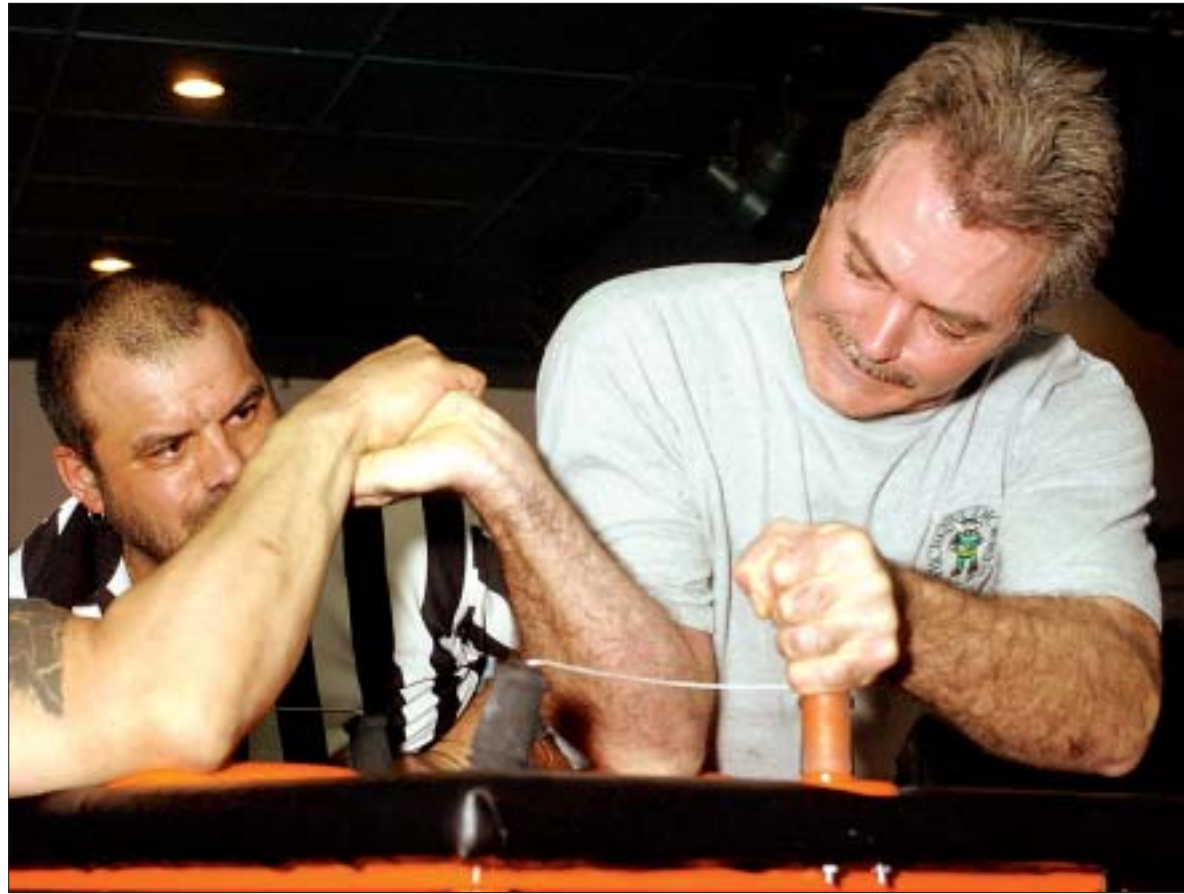
is looking to establish a permanent band of protected land in Ontario. In December, the Province placed a one-year moratorium on development on a greenbelt "study area" that stretches from Niagara and the Niagara Escarpment, through Halton, Peel, Toronto, Durham and into Northumberland.

The task force is to report back to the Province in the fall on how to establish the greenbelt - most of which is privately owned land - where it will be and how much it will cost.

The fact the greenbelt covers such a huge and diverse area was a concern for many in attendance.

"There's no way Niagara is the same as Durham," Regional Chairman Roger Anderson told the task force, which is headed by Burlington Mayor Rob MacIsaac. "There's a big, big

♦ See Anderson page 5



Jason Liebrechts/ News Advertiser photo

Take it over the top

PICKERING — Pickering resident Kevin Tait gives it his all at the Sixth Annual Central Ontario Arm Wrestling Championships. The event was at the Park Place Bar and Grill in Oshawa.

Third party intervenes

Mediator tries to settle police job action issues

By Keith Gilligan
Staff Writer

DURHAM — A "third party intervener" is being brought in to help bring an end to the job action undertaken recently by the Durham Regional Police Association.

The job action is "still ongoing," says association head Doug

Cavanaugh, despite a meeting last week with the police services board in which the two "agreed in principle to have a third-party intervener come in."

The association began the action last month to protest what it considered to be overly harsh disciplinary practices of senior police management. The protest includes using discretion in when to write a traffic ticket and not performing some enforcement duties until concerns are addressed.

Chief Kevin McAlpine was on holiday in Florida when the job action began, so the association met with the police services board.

"We suggested it (bringing in an intervener) as a possible solution and they agreed to it," says police board chairman Doug Moffatt. "Hopefully it will bring some sense to this thing."

"They can sit down and talk to find a solution to this. Our un-

♦ See Chief page 4

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Crime Stoppers looking for Taser-wielding robber

AJAX – Durham Regional Police and Crime Stoppers need the public's help in solving a robbery behind an Ajax high school.

Two young males were walking behind Archbishop Denis O'Connor Catholic High School on March 16 at 5:30 p.m. when a man

armed with a Taser demanded they empty their pockets. The victims gave the suspect some cash and their wallets.

Officers are looking for a white man, 17 to 19 years old, approximately 6-feet tall, and heavily built.

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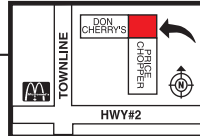
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Ajax hospital nurses join crusade

Concerned legislation will hurt health system

By Danielle Milley
Staff Writer

AJAX - Two busloads of nurses and other staff from Rouge Valley Health System are heading to Queen's Park tomorrow (Saturday) to let the government know how they feel about Bill 8.

The local members of the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) are joining more than 2,000 others from across the Greater Toronto Area to protest the bill, or the Province's Commitment to the Future of Medicare Act, 2004.

Tara Miller, a patient support representative at Rouge Valley and a member of the Local 4365 CUPE executive, said the proposed legislation would mean pay cuts, an end to collective agreements and a loss of benefits for staff.

"It's bad in the aspect of restructuring hospitals and bringing in private companies," Ms. Miller said.

Michael Hurley, president of the On-

tario Council of Hospital Unions (which has planned the rally), has said previously the bill gives the Ministry of Health the power to force hospitals to reduce or consolidate services, contract out health-care services and set aside current contracts.

The provincial government says Bill 8 has three key components. First, it establishes the Ontario Health Quality Council, which will be responsible for reporting on important health-care indicators in an effort to raise the quality of the system. Next, it would strengthen the prohibition of two-tier medicine and finally, it entrenches accountability by having health partners enter into performance agreements with the government.

When the bill was announced in February, Hume Martin, president and chief executive officer of Rouge Valley, welcomed it. He said the hospital had been advocating for funding to be tied to performance agreements.

Ms. Miller said, when similar legislation was passed in British Columbia, wages decreased and hospitals had problems re-

taining staff.

"We all love what we do and we don't want to lose what we fought for," she said.

The group lists a couple of reasons for attending the rally.

"To show that we're fighting it all the way. We want the community support as well because it's also going to be them who is affected," she said.

The rally takes place at noon.

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CORRECTION: THE "SAVE" AMOUNTS ON 3 ITEMS THAT APPEARED IN OUR AD WEDNESDAY MARCH 31/04 WERE INCORRECT. THEY SHOULD HAVE READ: • SAVE \$45 ON ZEBCO BAITCASTER • \$100 ON COOK SET • \$250 ON ALUMINUM ROLLAWAY PATIO SET

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Chief has 'no new information'

◆ Chief from page 1

derstanding of this disagreement is it's mainly a communications problem. If we can facilitate a solution, we'll be happy with that."

Mr. Moffatt says he believes the chief views the move as "positive."

Chief McAlpine referred calls to communications director Dave Selby, who said, "There are no new developments, no new information. Both sides have agreed upon not doing this in the media and not do any more interviews until the negotiations proceed a little bit further."

"We want to concentrate on getting this thing fixed."

"They don't want to see this thing drag out," adds Mr. Moffatt. "If we can find a solution, it's positive."

He does caution, "We're not the employer. We're responsible for carrying out parts of



KEVIN McALPINE
Wants things 'fixed.'

the police act. We've told the association that. It's up to them to work with the management of the police service."

Mr. Cavanaugh says the association welcomes having a facilitator or conciliator.

"Absolutely. We've actually preferred that. I think it's necessary to get over the hurdles we see," he says.

Those include "all the issues we've talked about. I don't think we can resolve these things with the chief."

The mediator or conciliator will "sit down with us, the chief and his staff and the police services board. The process is under way now," Mr. Cavanaugh says.

"We're working out the logistics of it all. We want someone with facilitating or conciliating skills. We need someone like that to keep both sides focused."

A meeting should be held within the next month, Mr. Cavanaugh notes. "I think we're walking on solid enough ground that it's going to happen."

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Anderson wants financial aid

◆ Anderson from page 1

difference when you look at York compared to Durham in terms of development."

The current moratorium and the resulting plan could result in development "leap-frogging" over the Greater Toronto Area into other places, expanding the urban base of commuters even farther into the rural fringe, Mr. Anderson said in a speech on behalf of the Region.

He gave the example of Simcoe County in southwestern Ontario, which has received many develop-



RENE SOETENS
Carries Conservative banner.

Soetens back in political ring

AJAX – René Soetens is returning to the political scene to carry the Conservative banner in the next federal election for the new Ajax-Pickering riding.

Mr. Soetens won the nomination Monday night. A small business owner for more than 10 years, Mr. Soetens is a former member of Parliament, a municipal councillor, community activist and leader.

He's been involved with the Ajax and Pickering hospital, is a founding director of the Ajax Municipal Housing Corporation, and says he supported the improvements of both the Ajax waterfront and Greenwood Conservation Area.

Mr. Soetens can be reached at 905-683-4118.

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ment applications that should have gone to the GTA and called it an unintended consequence of the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Act.

Mr. Anderson stressed the need for financial aid to implement the Act and provide the tools to do it.

"We need levers to motivate and assist the kind of development activity that our official plans envision," he said. "If you're going to change (things), you have to have someone other than the residential taxpayer to absorb it."

Both Pickering Mayor Dave Ryan and Mr. Anderson said the Province should look at the work municipalities have already done, including Pickering's growth management plan and the area official plans.

Critics of Bill 27 say it will result in lawsuits from people who have their land excluded from development.

And while urban boundaries have been excluded from the greenbelt, properties now zoned as rural can expect to stay that way with no hope of future development if they fall within the greenbelt.

Durham has 16 developments that have been frozen because of the moratorium, ranging from a Tim Hortons in Brock to a massive subdivision in the Pickering hamlet

of Greenwood.

Because details of the plan haven't been established, it's hard to know how it will eventually affect Durham.

"I couldn't specify now because I don't know where it's going," said Alex Georgieff, the commissioner of planning. "It's a little fuzzier here because it's such a large land mass. The Oak Ridges Moraine (protection) was a feature."

Mr. Anderson encouraged the task force to extend the public consultation period and to return to Durham with a draft of the final plan.

There will be public open houses and stakeholder workshops on Bill 27 in May and June. Places and times have not been announced.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE

CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
YORK/DURHAM LINE (Y.R. 30)

STEELES AVENUE TO HIGHWAY 7
TOWN OF MARKHAM

The Regional Municipality of York is undertaking a Class Environmental Assessment study to identify any potential roadway improvements required for the York/Durham Line.

The project is being planned under Schedule C of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment. Public and review agencies are invited to provide input and comment for incorporation into the overall planning and design of the boundary road known as the York/Durham Line (Y.R. 30) from Steeles Avenue to Highway 7 between the Town of Markham, in the Regional Municipality of York, and the City of Pickering, in the Regional Municipality of Durham.

To provide details on the study and alternatives being considered as well as to receive input and comment from interested parties, a Public Information Centre will be held in a working session format:

Date: Wednesday, April 7, 2004
Start Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: Cedar Grove Community Centre
7667 14th Avenue,
Markham, ON

The public will have the opportunity to review information on the problem, study processes and objectives, and to discuss the study with staff from York Region and their consultants.

Comments received at this Public Information Centre will be considered in the assessment of alternatives. A subsequent Public Information Centre will be scheduled at a later date to consider the alternatives and any recommended solution.

For further information or if you are unable to attend the Information Centre and wish to provide your views, please contact:

Mr. Peter Cholewa, P.Eng. Project Manager	Mr. W.J. Ford, P.Eng. Senior Project Manager
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Thank you for your participation in this study



Editorials & Opinions

FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 2004 ♦ News Advertiser ♦ DAVID STELL, NEWS EDITOR, 905-683-5110 EXT. 249

Editorial

We can't tolerate intolerance

Attacks on Islamic centre shouldn't happen in today's day and age

Unbelievable. How else to describe the fact we're still dealing with hate and intolerance in the 21st century. Jesus Rules? Get out of my country? Those were the messages delivered, one an intentional fire, the other a simple but hateful phone message, to the Al-Mahdi Islamic Centre over the last week.

That it happens anywhere, in a day and age when so much education toward tolerance is offered, is troubling. That it's targeted at people living in Ajax and Pickering, where 25 per cent of the community is made up of visible minorities, where so much good work goes into celebrating our unique cultural makeup, is more alarming still.

At this point very little is known about the crimes. The first, early last Thursday, occurred when someone set fire to an enclosed area attached to the mosque. Because a caretaker was on site at the time, damage was restricted to about \$5,000.

However, the fact 'Jesus rules' was painted on a closet offered the first hint that this was more than just a random act of violence.

The second clue came over the weekend when a phone message was recorded at the centre suggesting the fire was payback for the 'criminal' actions of the Muslim community and ordered get 'out of my country.' The adult male finished up by offering a 'thank you.'

Coupled with several attacks on the Jewish community in Toronto and York Region of late, it's quickly becoming clear the troubling trend must be dealt with quickly.

Already Muslims, elected officials, and representatives from various religious communities have met locally to discuss the situation. In addition, Pickering council is calling on the Durham Police Services Board to offer a reward for an arrest in the mosque attack.

Pickering and Ajax councils should also step forward with cash rewards, and encourage others to do the same. Make it as appealing as possible for those with information to speak up.

Residents have a role to play too. If you know anything at all about these crimes, call police. If you're worried about recriminations, call Crime Stoppers where you won't have to leave your name, just your valuable information.

No community should have to live in fear, wondering if it's safe to go out. No one should be subjected to such cowardice.

We're almost all immigrants, really

A fire was set at the Al-Mahdi Islamic Centre in Pickering last Thursday.

It didn't do a lot of physical damage, but mosque president Ahsan Butt says it is especially painful that the place of worship for about 250 Shiite Muslims from Durham, Markham and Toronto was the target.

It's unclear who's to blame, but a day later, the centre's answering machine recorded a message in which an adult male says, 'get out of my country.'

The timing is strange. The mosque has been in rural Cherrywood for a decade. Most Pickering residents probably don't even know it's there. If any hatred were



staff writer

to be directed at the local Muslim community, you would think it would have occurred immediately after the Sept. 11. Durham Police Chief Kevin McAlpine, noted that Durham seemed to be in the clear following the terrorist attacks.

"We were so proud after 9/11 that we really didn't have any incidents in Durham and that all of

Mike
Ruta



Letters to the Editor

Marriage should be about love

To the editor:

I respect the personal and religious beliefs about same-sex marriages, but I question the legitimacy of the common arguments against allowing such marriages.

One of the most prevalent is that allowing them would somehow erode the institution of marriage. I have been married for more than 30 years and the strength and meaning of that cannot be lessened by allowing the same opportunity for happiness to others in love, regardless of their sexual orientation.

We are allowed to interpret ancient teachings, modern dictionary definitions and feelings in our own ways, but God is no less God because we perceive Him differently. And marriage is no less marriage because we allow others a different interpretation.

Children do learn by example, that argument is true. Does growing up with two loving, caring parents who happen to be of the same gender do more harm to a child than having male and female parents who yell and fight, teach bigotry, racism and hatred? Children love naturally, they must be taught to hate and fear.

Marriage should not be entered into lightly regardless of whether you are male and female or of the same gender. To do so is what erodes the sanctity of marriage. But when two people are deeply in love and wish to express that through the ceremony of marriage, that can only strengthen the meaning and the reason for such a union.

How can love and commitment ever be wrong? How can we fear and fight against it with more zeal than we do against violence, all in the name of a loving God?

Hold true to your beliefs, by all means yes, but please allow others the same right: it will cause you no real harm.

Donna Baydak
Ajax

our communities, no matter who, pulled together," he said.

So the question is not just, 'who did it?' but, 'why now?'

Regardless, if Canada is the caller's country, he sure could use a history lesson. We are a country of immigrants. Unless you are Indian or Inuit, your family comes from somewhere else. Are Pakistani Canadians less Canadian because the Italians were here before them?

Once you become a Canadian, it's your country, too.

If you have ever attended a swearing-in citizenship ceremony, you know it's a moving experience. People from many lands united in their desire to be Cana-

dian. Some of them have left countries where ethnic and religious violence is common. These people choose Canada because it's a peaceful country to live and build a future.

Mr. Butt has been here for 30 years. His four children were born here and know no other country than Canada. Durham is changing, but sadly, some people remain locked in the past, a past where everyone is named Smith or Jones. Where minorities should be shunned or even attacked.

Surely we're better than that.

Mike Ruta's column appears every third Friday. E-mail mruta@durhamregion.com.

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Teaching the value of an education

Junior Achievement expands ESIS program through all of April

By Jeff Hayward
Special to the News Advertiser

DURHAM – A program to help kids learn the value of staying in school has grown from a week to the entire month of April.

Thousands of Grade 8 students in Durham Region are taking part in Economics of Staying in School (ESIS) month. The program, which encourages student interaction with community figures to learn facts about the 'real world', has grown so much in popularity since its inception here five years ago that it is now necessary to deliver it over a longer period.

Administered by Junior Achievement, Durham District, the program gets input from many school board representatives through steering committees.

"There's so much demand (for this program)," said Brad Savage, development director at Junior Achievement.

He explained the extra time is needed to better co-ordinate community volunteers with increased classroom enrolment. The volunteers are trained by Junior Achievement and then visit classrooms to deliver lessons about the importance to future success by receiving an education. Some volunteers pair up.

"Some of the volunteers learned the hard way not to drop out," he said. "They discovered it isn't such a good way to go."

Robert Cutting, who sits on the Durham District Catholic School Board ESIS steering committee, says volunteers do not lecture the students, but rather encourage them with real examples and learning games.

"If it was a lecture, no one would listen," Mr. Cutting said. "They (volunteers) use examples out of newspapers to show the price of cars and apartments."

Mr. Cutting explained another aspect of the daylong course

is that students have an opportunity to develop job interview skills.

"They might only be in Grade 8, but they'll soon be looking for first jobs," he said. "We ask how are you going to separate yourself from others?"

Mr. Cutting explained the impact on students has been tremendous, noting the program has changed the attitude of many students who previously displayed disinterest with learning. A comment form at the end of the day allows stu-

dents to give their input about the program.

"Some students did a presentation to our board demonstrating what they had learned from ESIS... a board member asked one of the students when they can start working (for us)," joked Mr. Cutting.

Mr. Savage said the volunteer pool is close to being full, however those interested in becoming involved can contact Terri Milburn at Junior Achievement. Call 905-432-2492, ext. 203.

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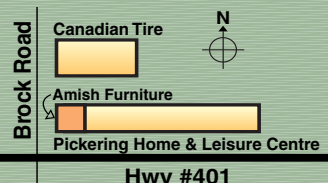
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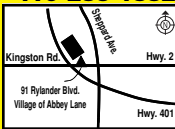
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AJAX – Not only do clocks spring forward one hour this weekend, but it's also the chance to make a potentially life-saving move.

After moving clocks ahead an hour, Ajax Fire and Emergency Services strongly suggests homeowners also check their smoke alarms.

"Maintaining your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors is more than just a matter of common sense," says Ajax Fire Chief Randy Wilson. "It could be a matter of life and death."

There's an estimated 16 million smoke alarms in Canadian homes, but firefighters across the country note a significant number have dead batteries, no batteries, or have simply worn out from age.

"A smoke alarm with dead batteries, or no batteries at all, is com-

pletely useless. A properly working smoke alarm could save your life, and your loved ones," Chief Wilson states.

Over a 10-year lifespan, a smoke alarm has been on the job more than 87,000 hours. After 10 years, built-up dust, dirt and other air-borne impurities can affect the sensor, the chief adds. Regular maintenance and frequent testing help ensure optimal performance.

If you can't remember when you installed smoke alarms, or aren't sure how old they are, it's best to replace them.

Chief Wilson points out many manufacturers include a 'freshness date' to remind consumers when to put up a new alarm. They feature a brightly labelled date sticker inside the cover. You simply write in the date 10 years after the installation date.

For more information, call the fire prevention office at 905-683-7791.





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Ajax and Pickering students buckle up for challenge

Teen driving event tests the skills of more than 160

DURHAM – Engines are revved up and seat-belts are buckled down as Phase 2 of the Teen Driving Challenge kicks off.

Students from 20 high schools in Durham Region will be competing for a spot in the fifth year of the annual competition.

The second phase will test the driving skills of more than 160 students on an interactive driving simulator.

The top two students from each school will compete in the final phase of the Teen Driving Challenge on May 8 at Iroquois Park in Whitby, with over \$1,000 in prizes to be won.

“The Teen Driving Challenge is an excellent opportunity for young drivers to become more aware of their driving abilities and develop a better understanding of the serious issues associated with the operation of a motor vehicle,” said Michael Gregory, a public health nurse with the Durham Region Health Department.

“The goal of Phase 2 is to help students develop safe driving behaviours by allowing them to experience dangerous consequences of their actions on the computer rather than on our roads.”

According to the Ontario Injury

Prevention Resource Centre, motor vehicle collisions are the No. 1 cause of death and disability for young Canadians aged 15 to 24.

The computer simulated driving challenge will take place at high schools across Durham on the following dates:

Monday, April 5: Denis O'Connor C.H.S., Ajax; 10:20 a.m.

Monday, April 5: All Saints C.S.S., Whitby; 11:45 a.m.

Tuesday, April 6: St. Mary's C.S.S., Pickering; 9 a.m.

Tuesday, April 6: Holy Trinity

C.H.S., Courtice; 11:45 a.m.

Tuesday, April 6: Donevan C.V.I., Oshawa; 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 7: G.L. Roberts H.S., Oshawa; 9 a.m.

Wednesday, April 7: Dunbarton H.S., Pickering; 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, April 7: Notre Dame C.S.S., Ajax; 2:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 8: Clarke H.S., Newcastle; 9 a.m.

The Durham Teen Driving Challenge is sponsored by the Durham Region Teen Driving Challenge Coalition.

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Young students speak up and out

Laura Layzell, Chris Araujo top legion speaking event

By Jeff Hayward
Special to the News Advertiser

AJAX – The Royal Canadian Legion in Ajax recently played host to some outspoken young individuals.

Twelve students from local schools gathered at Legion Branch 322, to demonstrate their public speaking skills. Amongst them were Laura Layzell of St. James Catholic School, as well as Chris Araujo of St. Bernadette Catholic School.

Chris, a Grade 8 student, decided to base his four-minute speech on 'useless laws'.

"One of the laws I talked about was how you can't drag a dead horse down Yonge Street on a Sunday,"



LAURA LAYZELL
Public speaking winner.

he said.

Chris topped the Grade 7 and 8 category.

He was trying to improve on a previous stint at an earlier speaking competition, where he didn't fare as well as he would have liked to.

"I was challenging myself," Chris added.

Laura, in the sixth grade, won the Grade 4 to 6 category.

Her speech was on over-scheduled kids, and the pressures they are facing.

"A lot of my friends are stressed out," she said.

She added she enjoys speaking competitions, and plans to participate in more in the future.

"Since I was very young, I like to be on stage," she noted.

Youth education chairman for the Ajax Legion branch, James Moore, said schools become involved by way of an information package sent out from the legion. The branch also played host to the district finals March 27.



DURHAM — Royal Canadian Legion Branch 112 in Whitby hosted students from around the region recently as part of its series of public speaking competitions. Ajax resident Chris Araujo, second from right, was among the competitors. Chris finished first in the Ajax event for Grade 7 and 8 students. He was taking part in the Whitby event with, from left, Keith Crawford, Brad Fegan, Amanda Beck, and Anthony Labriola.

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MAZDA GRADUATE PROGRAM

Region considers rural voice

Northern economic development officer on Durham's agenda

By Carly Foster
Staff Writer

DURHAM – Rural and agricultural communities may soon have a much-needed voice if the Region approves hiring a rural economic development officer.

The much sought-after position has been on the economic development and tourism budget for the past two years and will finally go through if the finance committee and regional council approve it.

Rural municipalities including Scugog are running out of serviced land for development and are dealing with tougher environmental protection at the same time, said Scugog Mayor Marilyn Pearce, who pushed hard for the position.

“Because of legislation like the Greenbelt Protection Act, economic development becomes more and more important because, in order to pay the bills, you need more residential building,” she said.

“With all of these constraints, when it comes to development, how do we move forward with an economic plan?”

On top of that, both staffing and funding have not kept pace with the changing face of agriculture.

“This all came about because the Province saw it fit to eradicate our field services in the rural areas,” said Pat Olive, commissioner of economic development and tourism. “They’ve regionalized it so there’s one person now who looks after seven or eight areas instead of just Durham.”

Ted Watson, chair of the Durham Environmental Advisory Group and a Bowmanville farmer, agreed.

“There are new technologies and techniques and there’s nobody really there (at the Province) to promote it,” he said. “Farms are getting bigger, but the voting power of agriculture when my grandfather was around was quite strong... now almost none exist.”

Residents have to remember that 80 per cent of Durham is rural and agricultural land, and every single municipality has green space in it, Mr. Olive said.

Having one person deal with the provincial and federal levels of government for funding and programs is imperative, Mayor Pearce said.

“We need a rural economic plan...what’s our relationship with the Region, what do you do, how do we pool our scarce resources as a rural community into dealing with other levels of government,” she said.

As well, the person hired to the position should work out of north Durham, said Uxbridge Mayor Gerri Lynn O’Connor.

“It will help us if the person sits in Whitby, but even more if they’re living and breathing and working in the rural area,” she said.

The mayors of Uxbridge, Scugog and Brock are meeting Friday to discuss the rural economic development position, and they hope to make a presentation to the final budget meeting April 6.

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Pay in 24 equal monthly payments, interest free, commencing the first month after installation. On approved credit, only with your Sears Card. Minimum \$200 purchase. \$55 deferral fee and all applicable taxes and charges are payable at time of purchase. When billed, any unpaid portion of your Sears account balance will attract credit charges, commencing the following month. Offer excludes vinyl, hardwood, tile, ceramic and laminate flooring, area rugs and Home Services. Ask for details. Payment options and plan details may be changed or discontinued at any time without notice. Ask about other payment options.

JUST CALL **1-800-4-MY-HOME®** (1-800-469-4663)

24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK. Products and Services from the Company You Trust®.
CALL NOW, TOLL FREE, FOR A NO-OBLIGATION IN-HOME CUSTOM ESTIMATE OR VISIT YOUR SEARS RETAIL STORE. ASK FOR OPERATOR #30.



save **15%**

Installed 30-year or better shingles

Choose from a wide selection of colours and styles. Fully transferable warranty; details in store.



save **40%**

'Sheer Romance' and 'Sheer Fantasy' custom draperies from our 'Ambiance' collection

Skillfully finished in one of Canada's largest custom drapery workrooms.

Sale prices end Friday, April 9, 2004

Installation of window fashions and carpeting is extra. Sears will arrange installation by qualified contractors. Not available in all markets



QUALITY, VALUE, SERVICE, TRUST



Jason Liebrechts/ News Advertiser photo

Walk this way

PICKERING — The Girls Inc. of Durham group, which provides services to young girls in Ajax and Pickering, enjoyed its best fund-raising walk to date, when participants hit the Pickering Town Centre last weekend. Cierra Catarino and mom Lisa helped make the fourth annual Mall Crawl a success.

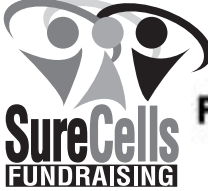
Trace your roots

DURHAM — The April meeting of the Durham Region branch of the Ontario Genealogy Society will be held in the auditorium of Oshawa Public Library.

The April 6 meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. at the

Bagot Street library. Guest speakers are Dan and Ann Delong, talking about use of Internet genealogy resources.

The meeting is open to the public. Call Bessie at 905-723-7460 or Marion at 905-683-2476.



SureCells FUNDRAISING

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RAISE LOTS OF \$\$\$\$

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ALKALINE BATTERIES

- Premium quality alkaline "BATTERIES" comparable to leading brands
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- Air abrasion (No Freezing - No Drilling) for applicable cavities
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Join Us for our "Masters" Weekend Open House

Saturday, April 10th & Sunday April 11th
9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Learn more about:

- The Second Annual Uxbridge Golf Festival (April 30th - May 2nd, 2004)
- Range Memberships
- Lessons & Clinics
- Banquet & Wedding Facilities

Open House Special:

- Register for Golf Camps, Golf Clinics or the Wooden Sticks Range Membership and receive a FREE \$20 Wooden Sticks Gift Certificate. (restrictions apply)
- Redeem this ad for a FREE bucket of balls (weather permitting)

 *Easter Brunch* 
Sunday April 11, 2004
11:30am & 1:30pm
Call for Reservations



WOODEN STICKS

(905) 852-4379

www.woodensticks.com

40 Elgin Park Drive, Uxbridge

Hearing society setting the pins for fund-raiser

DURHAM - Join the fund-raising committee of the Canadian Hearing Society (CHS) in Durham Region at its first bowling fund-raiser.

This event will be at North End Bowl Funworld, 1300 Wilson Rd. N., Oshawa, on Sunday, May 2, from noon to 2:30 p.m.

Each bowler requires a pledge sheet and must collect a minimum of \$30.

All proceeds from this event will go to help CHS, a non-profit charitable organization that provides education, services and support to deaf, deafened and hard of hearing individuals in the Durham community.

This event is open to all. On the day of the event, bowlers must bring pledge sheets and the money with them.

This fund-raiser event will include bowling, pizza, pop, raffles, door prizes and fun.

Teams or bowlers must register by April 5. To register or for more information contact CHS at 905-404-8490 (voice), at 905-404-0468 (TTY), or e-mail office@durham.chs.ca.

To make a donation contact Wendy Szego, administrative assistant at the CHS, at 905-404-8490, ext. 234.

Very highly recommended fish and chips

BALMORAL

Fish & Chips

LCBO Licensed

71 Station St at Commercial Ave, Ajax 905-427-9123



ALL YOU CAN EAT
Tuesday & Saturday

for just **\$6.50**
Chef's Fish, Chips, Bread, Coleslaw, Beets, Gravy, and Soft Drinks. eat in only

LUNCH SPECIAL

includes coffee, tea or pop

fish & chips \$6.25

fish & caesar salad \$6.50

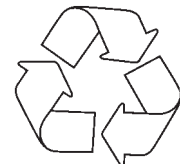
EXTRA 10% OFF with coupon

THE BALMORAL Fish & Chips Restaurant

71 Station St at Commercial Ave
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Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer. Does not include Good Friday.

EAT IN ONLY - EXPIRES APRIL 30/04



Remember the three R's: Reuse, reduce and recycle



easter bunny photos

Now to Saturday, April 10

Join in all the fun and "egg"citement at Oshawa Centre this spring by visiting the big-eared guy, the Easter Bunny. Snap up the moment with an Instant Digital Photo. Photo packages from \$10.99 to \$29.99;

BunnyFun diskettes for e-mailing, creating websites and screensavers. Plus, kids receive a free gift and Fudgee•O Cookie Barz.* Surf our website for Easter songs, games and recipes too. "Hop" to see you here...O,yeah!

Treats courtesy of:



* One per child while quantities last.

SEARS THE BAY ZELLERS FAMOUS PLAYERS STAPLES CHAPTERS SPORT CHEK OLD NAVY

Open Monday to Friday 9:30 am to 9:00 pm,
Saturday 9:30 am to 6:00 pm and Sunday 11:00 am to 5:00 pm
CENTRE CLOSED Good Friday and Easter Sunday

North of Hwy 401, intersection of Stevenson Road and Hwy 2 • 905.728.6231 or 905.686.6408

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plus supplies

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This is a real fire sale!
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Sale monitored by:



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The Lace Place

1698 Bayly St, Pickering
Brock Rd. S./Bayly
905-831-5223

FRIDAY, APRIL 2
ADDICTION: The Serenity Group 12-step recovery program meets at 8 p.m. at Bayfair Baptist Church, 817 Kingston Rd., Pickering. The group deals with addictions of all types, including co-dependency. A child-care program is available. All are welcome. Call Jim evenings at 905-428-9431.
BLAST! BOOK CLUB: An after-school program for children eight to 12 years old is at the Pickering central library branch from 4 to 5 p.m. Hear stories, talk about favourite books, movies and music and make some new friends.

SATURDAY, APRIL 3
TIME, TALENT AND TREASURES AUCTION: Amberlea Presbyterian Church, 1820 Whites Rd., Pickering, hosts the auction beginning at 6:30 p.m. with bidding at 7 p.m. Items include a weekend cottage getaway, professional teeth whitening, a framed gold print, gift certificates, passes to family attractions, handmade crafts, homemade baking and more. Admission is \$5 or \$15 per family. Call the church office at 905-839-1383.
TENNIS SIGN UPS: The Dunmoore Tennis club registration from 10 a.m. to noon, for everyone with the itch to play tennis. Sign up at the Pickering Recreation Complex, 1867 Valley Farm Rd., to be eligible for a lucky draw prize. If you cannot register there, call 905-831-2536 to arrange another date.
GARAGE SALE: The Parkside Public School community holds

a craft/white elephant sale to raise money for a kids' day. Parkside celebrates its 50th anniversary this year and is closing in June. The sale is at the Kings Crescent school from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 5
PARKINSON'S SOCIETY MEETING: The Durham Region Chapter of the Parkinson Society holds its monthly meeting at St. Mark's United Church, Colborne and Centre streets in Whitby. The meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. Guest speaker Denis Ardaugh of Ardaugh Financial Services discusses strategies to reduce income taxes for people with Parkinson's disease. Call 416-410-6498.

RUG HOOKERS MEETING: The Ajax Rug Hookers' monthly meeting is at St. Andrew's Community Centre, 46 Exeter Rd. Ajax, at 7:30 p.m. Anyone interested is welcome. Call Jayne Nevins at 905-686-9315.
BABY TALK: For children from birth to 18 months join the Pickering Petticoat Creek library branch at 9:30 a.m. for songs, books, bounces and giggles galore. Parents and caregivers are invited to bring their babies.

TUESDAY, APRIL 6
CHILDREN'S BEDWETTING SEMINAR: The free public seminar is in the Centennial Building (Gould Room) from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Guest speaker is pediatrician Dr. Sohail Khattack. Centennial is at 416 Centre St. S. in Whitby. To register or for more information, call 1-800-970-

Billboard

APRIL 2, 2004

4224.
MORNING DISCUSSION GROUP: The Ajax Senior Citizens' Friendship Club meets at the St. Andrews Community Centre, 46 Exeter Rd. in Ajax at 9:30 a.m. Local traveller Peter Curley shows slides of the Holy Land. Call Louise Johnson at 905-683-7799.
DURHAM TRILLIUM QUILTERS' GUILD: The group meets at 7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria of Central Collegiate, 155 Gibb St. in Oshawa. Master quilter Jean Boyd presents her trunk show of

quilts. Call Betty Hearn at 905-571-4246 or Dolores Hopps at 905-720-1811.
WISE GUYS AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB: Kids eight to 11 years old can come to the Pickering central library branch from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. for snacks, music, homework help and all kinds of fun games and activities. Learn to use the library and the Internet to find the information you need for school and to brush up on the tough stuff.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7
SINGLE-PARENT SUPPORT: The Ajax-Pickering Chapter of the One Parent Families Association meets at 8 p.m. (8:30 p.m. the second Wednesday of the month) at the Ajax Cricket club

on the northeast corner of Monarch and Clements in Ajax. The meeting is for both custodial or non-custodial parents, whether your children are two or 42. Call 905-666-9262 or visit www.opfa.net.
OSTEOPOROSIS SUPPORT GROUP: The group is for those dealing with osteoporosis and meets at St. Paul's United Church from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Pharmacist Robb Scherz discusses medication for osteoporosis. The church is at 65 Kings Cres., Ajax. Call Odette at 905-831-4471.
BLOOD DONOR CLINIC: The clinic is at the Pickering Nuclear Information Centre, 1675 Montgomery Park Rd. from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Call 1-888-2-

DONATE(1-888 236-6283).
THURSDAY, APRIL 8
BLOOD DONOR CLINIC: The clinic is in the St. Bernadette Church, Parish Hall, 21 Bayly St. E. in Ajax, from 1:30 to 7:30 p.m. Call 1-888-2-DONATE(1-888 236-6283) or visit www.blood-services.ca

FRIDAY, APRIL 9
PICKERING NATURALISTS: The group meets for an outing in the Altona Forest. Many stops are planned to examine the flora and birds. Meet in the St. Elizabeth Seton school parking lot, Stroud's Lane at Rosebank at 1:30 p.m. Bring binoculars and wear waterproof hiking boots. Call Doug Lockrey at 905-666-3897.

Advertising Feature

Don't Buy a Home Until You've Read this Free Report

DURHAM REGION - A new report has just been released which identifies the 6 most common and costly mistakes that homebuyers make before buying a home.

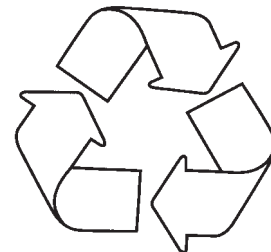
Mortgage regulations have changed significantly over the last few years, making your options wider than ever. Subtle changes in the way you approach mortgage shopping, and even small differences in the way you structure your mortgage, can save or cost you literally thousands of dollars and years of expense.

Whether you are about to buy your first home, or are planning to make a move to your next home, it is critical that you inform yourself about the factors involved before you buy.

In answer to this issue, industry insiders have prepared a free special report entitled "6 Things You Must Know Before You Buy".

Having the right information before hand can undoubtedly make a major difference in this critical negotiation. **To hear a brief pre-recorded message about how to order your FREE copy of this report, call 1-800-515-1698 and enter ID# 3111. You can call any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Call NOW to find out what you need to know before you buy a home.**

This report is courtesy of BRIAN KONDO, Re/Max Quality One Ltd. Not intended to solicit properties currently listed for sale. Copyright ©1998.



Remember the three 'R's: Reuse, reduce and recycle

SALE SPECIAL BARGAINS

ADVERTISING FLYERS

IN TODAY'S News Advertiser

Friday, April 2, 2004 News Advertiser

- Ajax Sobey's Store Ajax
- Bad Boy Furniture Ajax/Pick.
- Bell World Ajax/Pick.
- Best Buy Canada Ajax/Pick.
- Canadian Tire Ajax/Pick.
- Carlton Cards Grand Opening Ajax/Pick.
- Dominion Ajax/Pick.
- Eureka Beam Ajax/Pick.
- Fine Details Ajax
- Food Basics Ajax/Pick.
- Free Topping Pizza Ajax/Pick.
- Future Shop Ajax/Pick.
- Grand & Toy Ajax/Pick.
- Health Plus Nutrition Ajax/Pick.
- Home Depot Ajax/Pick.
- Home Hardware Ajax
- IGA Ajax
- Loblaws Ajax/Pick.
- M&M Meats Pick.
- Natural Dairy Products Ajax
- New Homes Ajax/Pick.
- No Frills Ajax/Pick.
- Office Depot Ajax
- P&G Brand Save Ajax/Pick.
- Payless Drugs Pick.
- Pharma Plus Ajax/Pick.
- Pickering Sobey's Store Pick.
- Pier 1 Imports Ajax/Pick.
- Price Chopper Ajax/Pick.
- Radio Shack Ajax/Pick.
- Royalton Furniture Ajax/Pick.
- Save \$\$\$\$ Salon Pick.
- Sears Ajax/Pick.
- Shop & Save Ajax/Pick.
- Shoppers Drug Mart Ajax/Pick.
- Shorney's Optical Ajax/Pick.
- Smitty's Fine Furniture Ajax/Pick.
- Toys R Us Ajax/Pick.
- Vandermeer Nurseries Ajax/Pick.
- Wheels Scar.
- Your Independent Grocer Ajax/Pick.
- Zellers Ajax/Pick.

* Delivered to selected households only
Remember, all inserts, including those on glossy paper, can be recycled with the rest of your newspaper through your blue box Recycling program. For information on delivering your advertising flyers, call DUNCAN FLETCHER at 683-5110.

Carrier of The Week



Chris

Friday's carrier of the week is Chris. He enjoys playing hockey and computers. He will receive a dinner for 4 voucher compliments of McDonald's.

Congratulations
Chris for being our Carrier of the Week.



Walmart, 270 Kingston Rd. E., Ajax
Walmart, 1899 Brock Rd. N., Pick.
135 Kingston Rd., Ajax
222 Bayly St. W., Ajax
1360 Kingston Rd., Pick.

If you did not receive your News Advertiser/flyers OR you are interested in a paper route call Circulation at (905) 683-5117.
**Hours: Mon. - Fri. 9 - 7:30
Sat. 9 - 4:30, Sun. 10 - 1**

Your Carrier will be around to collect an optional delivery charge of \$ 6.00 between Mar. 24/04 to Mar. 28/04

T O M M Y H I L F I G E R O U T L E T



GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION

COME SEE OUR SPRING COLLECTIONS FOR MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN

SUNDAY APRIL 4, 2004

FIRST PRO PARKWAY CENTRE, PICKERING
Brock Road and Highway 401

There's a little  in everyone

Get hooked on crafty group

AJAX - The Ajax Rug Hookers meet Monday. The group holds its monthly meeting Monday, April 5 at the St. Andrew's Community Centre, 46 Exeter Rd., at 7:30 p.m.

Anyone interested in learning more about rug hooking or the group is welcome to attend. For more information, call Jayne Nevins at 905-686-9315.

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT
AUSTRIAN BAKERY & DELI
HEARTH BAKED GOODS
 Visit us and get a taste of Europe
 Daily Specials from our Lunch Counter!
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Delivering for the Future

What do you call someone who runs their own business, braves summer heat and the winter chill, is on the job in the rain, snow and sleet, is always cheerful and courteous and who brings the product right to your door every time without fail while also trying to conquer the intricacies of math, science and auditioning for the first-chair saxophone in the school band?

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Tomorrow's entrepreneurs, doctors, teachers and craftsmen are today's newspaper carriers. Learn skills that will last a lifetime, and earning a little money on the side couldn't hurt either.

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Radford Dr.
Montebello Cres.
Olsen Dr.
Large Cres.
Hufton Ct.
Griffiths Dr.
Sykes St.
Wickens Cres.
Down Cres.
Dent St.
Oldfield Ct.
Harkins Dr.
Fletcher Ave.
Fishlock St.
Twigg Dr.
Hibbard Dr.
Ingold Ln.
Feam Cres.
Delaney Dr. | Temple West Dr.
Woodcock Ave.
Pennfather Ln.
McGonigal Ln.
Reed Dr.
Dooley Cres.
Andrea Rd.
Wolf Cres.
Parkes Dr.
Howling Dr.
Clarke Rd.
Rangleline Rd.
Ashbury Blvd.
Wright Cres.
Moynahan Cres.
Handley Cres.
McRaie Rd.
Lankester Ln.
Panter Cres.
Frazier Rd.
Pittman Cres.
Clements Rd.
Vanley Rd.
Audley Rd. S. | Bartlett Dr.
Hulley Cres.
<u>PICKERING</u>
Walnut Ln.
Harrowsmith Crt.
Clearside Crt.
Ashford Dr.
Glenview Rd.
Canso Dr.
Delbrook Ave.
Craighurst Crt.
Fairport Rd.
William St.
1331 Glenanna Rd.
Mountcastle Cres.
Conacher Cres.
Wollaston Ct.
Stonepath Cir.
1467 Whites Rd.
Major Oaks Rd.
Redbird Cres.
Deerbrook Dr.
Canterbury Cres.
Rosebank South
Rougemount N
Whitepine | Thicket Cres.
Annland St.
925 Bayly St.
Woodview St.
Garland Cres.
Woodgrange Ave.
Colmar Ave.
Westshore Blvd.
Sparrow Cir.
Hummingbird Ct.
Pinegrove Ave.
Highbush Tr.
Hogarth St.
Duberry Dr.
Parkham Cres.
Heathside Cres.
Beechlawm Dr.
Fairfield Cr.
Liverpool Rd S.
1975 Rosefield Rd.
Aspen Rd.
Marshcourt Dr.
Burnside Dr.
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1370 Fieldlight Cres.
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Parkside Dr. |
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If you've never experienced Black Dog Pub hospitality, our first class "real British pub" atmosphere, quaintness, mature

clientele and the most gracious and hospitable staff are a rare breed that's above and beyond the rest. We have a pub room with the best fresh air system anywhere, a banquet/corporate room and catering facilities.

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We've heard time and again that we're the best place in town to bring friends, clients, family and visitors you really want to impress.



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Win A FREE Backyard BBQ Party
 Complete with your own Black Dog staff! It's free and easy to win! Just enter by becoming a VIP member on our web site. www.blackdogpub.com
 It's a Healthy Dog!

Entertainment
 Sunday, Monday, Thursday, and Saturday Nights

Scotch Nosing & Game Dinner
 Tuesday, April 20, 2004

Run with Ramona Running Club
 Join Ramona, our in-house Boston Marathon runner and get in shape! Beginners, intermediate and advanced runners every Sunday morning starting in May.

\$30 incl. T-shirt, breakfasts, free training, instruction and nutrition. This is a deal!

Annual Spring Golf Tourney
 Deer Creek North Course - June 7, 2004. It sells out fast!

Annual Fall Golf Tourney
 Cedar Brae Golf & Country Club - September 13, 2004

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 This summer enjoy the most gorgeously designed patio you've seen right in your own backyard, but here at "The Dog" complete with a waterfall and floral gardens.

The Black Dog is going Smoke-Free June 1, 2004. Bring your friends and help support our decision. We hope you enjoy the clean air!

If it's fun, it's at The Dog!

What's black and white and read all over?



The answer's right at your fingertips...

News Advertiser

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Kathleen Kinsman

A RICH FEAST OF MUSIC & DANCE FROM IRELAND'S YOUNG CHAMPIONS



April 8 2004 Doors open at 7:00 PM Show starts at 8:00PM
 At the General Sikorski Hall Oshawa
 1551 Stevenson Rd. North, (just north of Taunton Rd.)
 Hosted By Hugo Straney Cash Bar
 Advance Tickets \$45
 for ticket information call 905-579-9494
 Presented by the Durham Irish Association



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APRIL 02 APRIL 03 APRIL 04

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27" COLOUR TV
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\$399 **QUEEN**
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\$599 **QUEEN**
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\$699 **QUEEN**
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\$649 **QUEEN**
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\$1149 **QUEEN**
Box Spring \$299

6 PLY FUTON & BASE



\$149

8 PLY FUTON & BASE



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TWIN BUNKBED



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8 PLY FUTON & BASE



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WOW! **SOFA BED**



\$299
LIMITED QUANTITIES

WOW! **LOVESEAT**



\$138

BLUE BUNKBED



\$269

OPERATED BY MEGA LIQUIDATION

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1615 DUNDAS ST. E., WHITBY

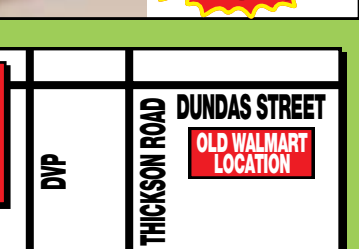
WE ACCEPT:



HOURS:

MONDAY TO FRIDAY
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9AM - 6PM
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9AM-5PM

MEGA LIQUIDATION
EXIT 412 OFF 401
NORTH ON THICKSON RD.
5 LIGHTS RIGHT HAND SIDE



*Pictures not exactly as illustrated. All purchases final sale. Limited Quantities

* Electronic items refurbished or end of line

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PUBLIC NOTICE

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PUBLIC NOTICE

PRESTIGE FRAGRANCES AND MORE WAREHOUSE SALE!

SALE STARTS SAT. APRIL 3RD

NAUTICA
2 pc set \$38.00

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• LIPSTICK • EYELINER
• MASCARA • PENCILS
• LOTIONS • CALGON
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• HEALING GARDEN

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4 pc set \$29.00

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Mens & Ladies 3 pc Gift Set \$35.00

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3 pc set \$17.00

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100ml \$32.00

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3 pc set \$29.00

AMIRAGE YSATS ORGANZA
100ml \$45.00

ADIDAS MOVES
15ml \$5.00

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SWISS ARMY • JOOP • VERSACE • FIFTH AVE
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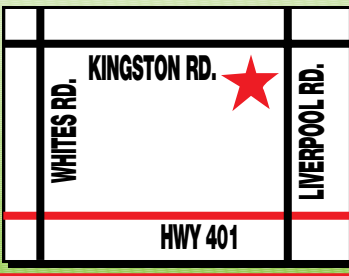
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* Electronic items refurbished or end of line

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Weight group helps teens lose pounds safely

DURHAM – Spring is here and it's time to shed layers of clothes and a great time to shed the pounds as well.

The Youth Centre is offering a Weight Smart group for youth 13 to 19 years old living in Ajax and Pickering. The group is a free seven-week weight loss program designed to slim down in a healthy and supportive manner.

All participants receive both individual and group support in a non-judgmental, caring environment. The program helps set realistic goals on self-esteem, eating behaviours, and

physical activity.

The sessions run at The Youth Centre Wednesdays from 6:30 to 8 p.m. between May 12

and June 23. All potential participants are required to make an appointment for an intake session before May 10. Parents

and guardians are encouraged to attend a one-night education session on a date to be arranged.

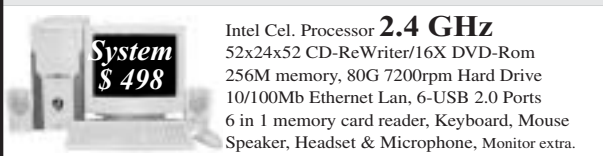
The Youth Centre is at 360 Bayly St. Unit 5, in Ajax. For further information or to register, call 905-428-1212.

Fill up for the good of young kids

DURHAM – Swiss Chalet is celebrating its golden anniversary with a day of charity.

The restaurant chain is donating \$1 from every entrée sold at its franchises Thursday, April 15 to children's nutrition research programs at Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. Swiss Chalet's 50th anniversary is this year.

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Choosing the right one is very important and the best way is by getting a good referral from a neighbour, friend or co-worker. People will usually recommend a company if they had a good experience. Pick two or three contractors, and usually by the initial phone conversation you can determine whether or not you feel comfortable having them come to your home for a quotation.

Calling every contractor and soliciting the lowest possible price isn't the best way to initiate a purchase as important as a new air conditioning system. Remember, you shouldn't have to buy another one for a long time, so make the right choice.

A recent survey of HVAC companies discovered a failure rate of about 37 per cent after just a few years in business.

If a contractor is no longer around shortly after your installation, the free extended warranty they promised is no longer valid. It doesn't sound like such a good deal anymore. When looking for a contractor, make sure to ask these important questions:

1. How long has your company been in business?
2. Do you service your own products?
3. How large is your service department?
4. Do you perform your own installation? (The use of sub-contractors can vary the quality of workmanship tremendously.)

Your sales rep should evaluate your needs based on the comfort level you desire, the contractor's length of stay in your home, energy savings and your budget. The quotation you receive should not be scribbled on a business card or brochure.

Continued on page 22

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Get the cool comfort of air conditioning

Continued from page 20

It should include make, model and capacity in BTUs of the unit, installation and any modifications required to ductwork or wiring. A condensate pump may be required, as well as a list of accessories, such as a humidifier, upgraded filter or programmable thermostat. This is followed by warranties and the price and terms of payment.

With today's technologically advanced products installed by a reputable contractor, your home will be more comfortable and less expensive to cool.

The installation crew should look and act professional and put down drop sheets when they are walking through your home. They should also clean up and dispose of the old unit if necessary. If an unmarked truck is in your driveway, the job is probably sub-contracted. Remember, buyers beware. Finally, system operation and maintenance should be discussed to complete the installation.

With today's technologically advanced products installed by a reputable contractor, your home will be more comfortable and less expensive to cool. So, if your present air conditioner is outdated, prone to costly repairs, or if your energy costs are out of control, the best time to replace it is before the hot and humid weather arrives. Peace of mind is only having to set your thermostat.

If you have any questions or for more information contact Advantage Airtech at 905-683-4477 or visit their website at www.advantageairtech.com

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Bright ideas for the backyard

A well-designed outdoor lighting system uses a combination of different lighting fixtures in various positions throughout the yard to create contrasting dark and light areas and to highlight specific trees or landscape features.

Fiber-optic lighting in a swimming pool or hot tub, for example, can create colourful lighting effects underwater, as well as accenting the perimeter of the pool or hot tub. Fiber-optic cable can also be used to illuminate and add colour to water features such as fountains and highlight the edges of walkways, steps and deck areas.

Low-profile path lights or spotlighting are designed to blend in with the surrounding foliage to create an attractive lighting effect around gardens, bushes, shrubs, walkways and driveways, while 'uplighting' concealed in tree branches mimics the stunning, diffused effect of moonlight that can be used to highlight the exterior of a home and surrounding landscape.

Lighting can add drama and depth that can make your backyard a totally different space than the one you see in the daytime

Recessed lights can be used in stone garden walls, fences and steps, around the perimeter of a wooden deck floor or in a stone or concrete patio. This type of lighting is ideal for creating a dramatic visual display as well as increasing safety and security in the backyard by illuminating obstacles and uneven areas in the yard as well as entranceways to the driveway and garage.

Don't worry about the exterior colour or shape of lighting fixtures. Some are designed to be hidden in foliage or blend in with garden plants and trees, while others such as copper or brass fixtures are designed to stand out as special features of the landscaping.



Lighting can add drama and depth that can make your backyard a totally different space than the one you see in the daytime and now you can choose from any range of colour, intensity, diffusion and fixture to get the special effects you are looking for.

For more information, contact the National Spa & Pool Institute (NSPI) of Canada's Web site at www.nspi.ca. - News Canada

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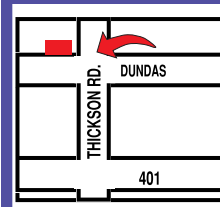
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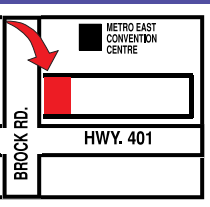
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Go green with grassroots group

Hit the streets and help reduce greenhouse gases

By Carly Foster
Staff Writer

DURHAM – A grassroots environmental project is hitting the streets to get residents to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.

Green Streets Durham is being launched by the Durham Conservation Centre, located in north Pickering. The group is the same one that brought curb-side recycling to the Region.

“Durham was ahead of the game 20 years ago...but has been pretty slow to catch up” when it comes to protecting the environment, said Jack McGinnis, director of the DCC.

So the group is taking to the streets in a grassroots-style campaign of volunteers and word-of-mouth advertising. Its goal is to get residents to reduce their greenhouse gasses by 20 per cent, or one tonne.

The average Canadian produces more than five tonnes of greenhouse gases per year. The

per-person breakdown includes driving (50 per cent), space heating and cooling (29 per cent), water heating (11 per cent), appliance use (7.5 per cent) and lighting (2.5 per cent), according to the Government of Canada’s guide to the One-Tonne Challenge.

And that doesn’t include the half-tonne of greenhouse gases in garbage each person produces annually.

Greenhouse gases affect climate change, the guide says. And climate change has resulted in melting permafrost in the north, declining water levels in lakes and rivers, plus extreme weather events, including droughts, ice storms and floods.

“We can’t go on the way we are,” Mr. McGinnis said. “We have to do things differently, we have to be more careful about the environment.”

Primary volunteers, called “block leaders,” will be taught the basics of the one-tonne challenge, then will fan out in neighbourhoods across Durham to educate their friends, relatives and neighbours on how to reduce their

personal greenhouse-gas emissions.

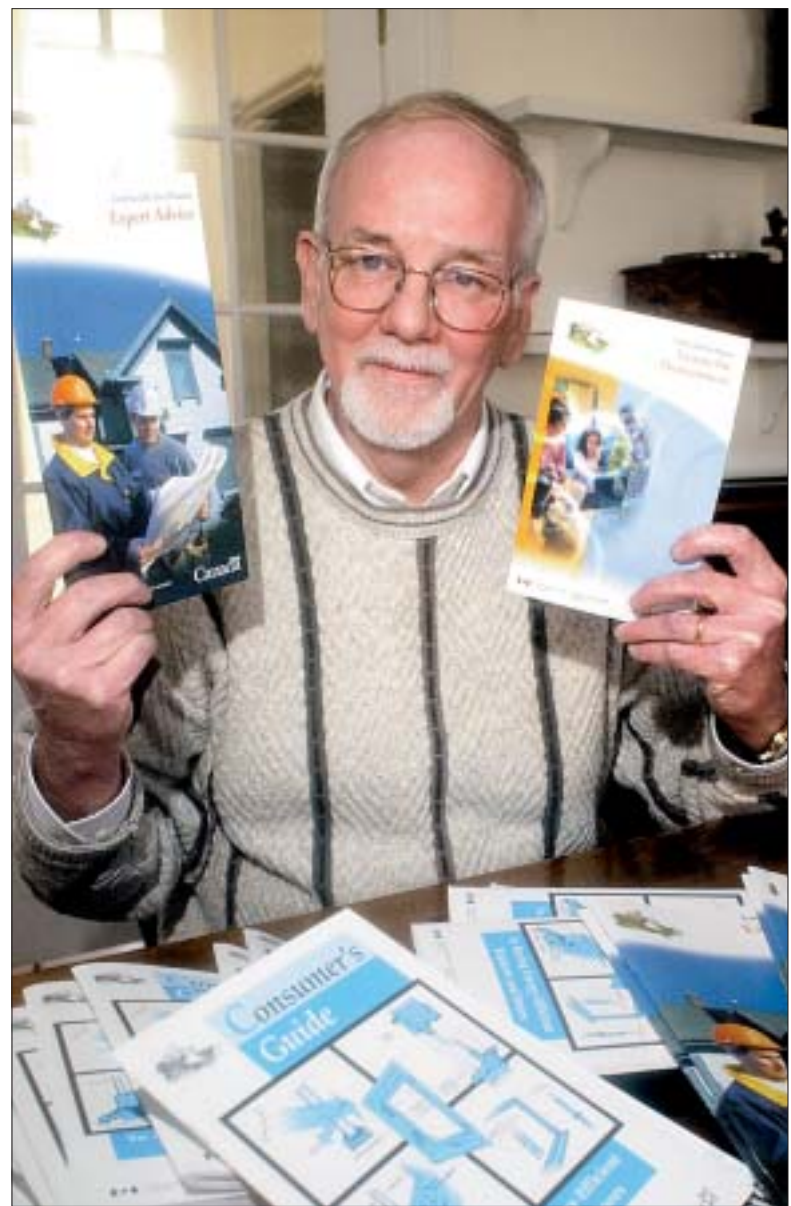
“The most necessary and important actions are the ones taken by residents themselves,” Mr. McGinnis said. “People will pay more attention to information and encouragement that comes from friends and neighbours, rather than some distant organization or government agency.”

Block leaders should be committed to around 20 hours of volunteer work a month over a six-month period. Their goal will be to launch at least 10 local street programs to target 50 to 200 people.

From then on, it will spread, Mr. McGinnis said, using one of his favourite quotes to illustrate how Green Streets will work:

“Never doubt if a small group of thoughtful, committed individuals can change the world. Indeed it’s the only thing that ever has,” said anthropologist Margaret Mead.

For more information on the program, contact Mr. McGinnis at the Durham Conservation Centre in north Pickering at 905-427-0009 or jack@rdc-group.com.



A.J. Groen/ News Advertiser photo
Director Jack McGinnis shows off some of the brochures for the Green Streets Program, which aims to reduce greenhouses gases.

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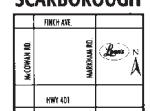
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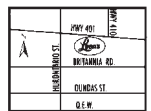
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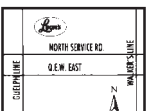
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VON looking for volunteer visitors

New focus for Durham organization

DURHAM – After 90 years of serving Durham, the Victorian Order of Nurses (VON), report it will be unable to provide community nursing in Durham after the recent loss of home nursing contracts.

As a result, VON Durham is looking for volunteers to take part in its volunteer visiting program. By giving up two hours a week, volunteers would spend time with lonely seniors and disabled adults across Durham Region.

As of May 31, the branch will con-

sist of the Volunteer Visiting Program, the WIN Mental Health Program, and the SELECT Group Home Program, as well as the Foot Care clinics, which will continue throughout Durham.

For more information about volunteer opportunities, or how to show support, call the branch at 1-800-263-7970.



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COMMENCEMENT OF DETAIL DESIGN STUDY

Highway 401, Westney Road to Harwood Avenue

W.P. 170-00-00

Town of Ajax, Regional Municipality of Durham

THE STUDY

The Ministry of Transportation (MTO) is undertaking a detail design study for the widening of Highway 401 from 4 to 5 lanes in each direction, from 0.8 km west of Westney Road to 0.45 km west of Harwood Road for a distance of 1.95 km.



The project includes the following:

- Addition of one lane in each direction;
- Reconstruction of approximately 600 m of median wall barrier, including relocation of existing high mast lights;
- Minor modifications to the Westney Road interchange ramps;
- Extension of one box culvert and improvements to another;
- Removal of existing 4.0 m high noise wall and replacement with new 5.0 m high noise wall along an approximately 425 m section on the north side of Highway 401.

The firm of Morrison Hershfield will undertake the study on behalf of the MTO.

THE PROCESS

A TESR for the preliminary design of this project was completed under the *Class Environmental Assessment for Provincial Transportation Facilities (2000)*, and received environmental clearance in September 2003. External agency and public consultation will take place and a Public Information Centre (PIC) will be held later in the detail design phase to allow the public and interest groups the opportunity to discuss the study with the project team. Notice of the time and location of the PIC will be published in local newspapers.

At the completion of the detail design study, a Design and Construction Report (DCR) will be prepared to document the detail design work, the public and agency consultation process and a description of the potential environmental impacts and commitments for mitigation. The DCR will be filed for public and agency information, and notices of viewing locations will be published at that time.

For further information about this study or if you have any comments, please contact:

Mr. Doug Hoffman
Project Manager
Morrison Hershfield Ltd.
235 Yorkland Blvd.
Toronto, Ontario, M2J 1T1
Phone: 416-495-4215
Fax: 416-499-1457
E-mail: dhoffman@morrisonhershfield.com

or
Ms. Lola Vaz
Project Manager
Ontario Ministry of Transportation
1201 Wilson Avenue
4th Floor, Building "D"
Downsview, Ontario, M3M 1J8
Phone: 416-235-5578
Fax: 416-235-4002
E-mail: Lola.Vaz@mto.gov.on.ca

Comments and information regarding this study are being collected to assist the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) in meeting the requirements of the *Environmental Assessment Act*. This material will be maintained on file for use during the study and may be included in study documentation. With the exception of personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

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Run by the Irish sites, it's good for diabetes research

DURHAM - The Emerald Isle is beckoning walkers and runners who want to hoof it for a good cause.

The Canadian Diabetes Association invites residents to join Team Diabetes Canada at the Dublin City Marathon this October.

Known as the 'friendly marathon,' the Oct. 25 event is open to runners and walkers of all levels. The course

winds through the historic city, and the Dublin run generally attracts more than 10,000 international participants.

To take part, participants commit to raising a minimum of \$5,500 for diabetes research and education in Canada. For its part, the Team Diabetes Canada program offers professional training and round-trip air-

fare and accommodations.

Team Diabetes Canada has raised close to \$4 million for the Canadian Diabetes Association in the last three years.

The deadline to register is April 15. To sign up or learn more about the program, call Brian Collins at 416-363-0177, or toll free at 1-800-BANTING.

Aggressive driving blitz nets 507 drivers

Community offices, traffic unit team up

DURHAM - Durham Regional Police officers from the Traffic Services Branch joined forces last week with community police offices throughout the region to target aggressive drivers.

A total of 507 charges were laid over the five-day blitz, of which 419 were for speeding.

Other violations include:

- 27 charges for lacking proper insurance;
- 10 charges with driver's licence infractions;
- 15 charges with licence plate violations
- 13 charges for contravening vehicle-registration regulations
- 3 charges for seat-belt violations;
- 20 charges for miscellaneous other traffic offences.

For more information on this traffic initiative, please contact Sgt. Tom Whiteway of the Traffic Services Branch at 905-579-1520, ext. 5252 or call toll free at 1-888-579-1520, ext. 5252.

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A breaking down of the losses

OPG addresses finances at community meeting

PICKERING – Most of the \$491-million loss shown in the books of Ontario Power Generation for 2003 was “an accounting loss,” says Pat McNeil.

“It’s a pretty significant loss,” said the Pickering nuclear station vice-president during a meeting recently of the Community Advisory Committee in Pickering. “To a large degree, it’s an accounting loss.”

On Tuesday, the company released financial statements covering 2003, which included a \$473-million ‘impairment charge’ for its coal-fired stations. The provincial government plans to shut the coal plants in 2007, so the company has to show the closings as a loss on its books.

Given the “firmness of resolve by the government, we were in no other position but to take the impairment charge,” Mr. McNeil said. “It’s a loss against future earnings.”

Mr. McNeil also spoke about the audit prepared by KPMG, which showed between 1999 and 2003, the company made \$1 billion less than its projections of \$3.097 billion.

“We didn’t make \$1 billion. It’s not a \$1-billion loss,” he said.

Reasons affecting the company’s performance included the delays and cost overruns in restarting the four Pickering ‘A’-side reactors, a drought and higher-than-expected operation and maintenance

costs.

“The challenge was the original business plan struck for the company. It relied on the nuclear optimization plan. We spent \$1.6 billion on improving the performance and physical condition of the nuclear assets,” he said. “Our success at Pickering ‘A’ hasn’t met the plan. The assumption was the operations and maintenance of the nuclear assets would decrease over time.

“A lot of the predictions were based on modelling work.”

The company also had to pay more for fossil fuels, he said, noting both coal and natural gas prices were higher than expected. “That wasn’t assumed in the plan. No one was able to predict the costs.”

At the same time the business plan was approved, “Ontario entered a drought just as we brought the company online,” he said, adding that affected the production of hydro-electricity.

“We have to take steps to improve the nuclear performance,” Mr. McNeil said. “The money we spent on the revitalization, isn’t wasted money.”

Pickering ‘B’ and Darlington have both “increased safety and their generation is three per cent less than target, which in our business, that’s pretty well bang on.”

The refurbished Unit 4 in Pickering is operating at 100 per cent, as are Units 5 and 7, while Unit 8 is at 95 per cent. Unit 6 is on a forced outage and “is going to be out for some period longer. It will be back before summer,” he stated.

Onley delivers inspiration

Marketplace ministry meets for brunch

PICKERING – The Marketplace and Ministry Networking Brunch serves up inspirational guest speaker David Onley in April.

Onley is author of the best-selling novel ‘Shuttle’ and longtime television science and weather specialist.

The faith-based brunch is Saturday, April 24 at The Gathering Place, Pickering Pentecostal Church, 1920 Bayly St. from 10 a.m. to noon.

The first 40 minutes of the networking event are used for conversation and learning about the service providers present.

Tickets are \$15.

For more information, call 905-686-9153 or 905-428-6888.



A.J. Groen/
News Advertiser photos

A couple of real kidders

PICKERING — Students at St. Marguerite Bourgeois were treated to some fancy fun recently when Port Hope author Ted Staunton, above, dropped by for a visit and to read his kids story about a mud monster. Even teacher librarian Iris Hahn got in on the act, wearing her emotions on her sleeve.



Drop-in on support group for help in quitting smoking

DURHAM – The Durham Region Health Department has started a new support group to help area residents quit smoking.

These drop-in quit smoking support sessions are for both men and women who are trying to quit or are considering quitting. Sessions start May 4 and con-

tinue every Tuesday evening until July 6. All sessions will be held at the Health Department Whitby Office, 1615 Dundas St. E. in the Whitby Mall from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

According to a recent Health Department survey, 16 per cent of area residents who are current

smokers were interested in quitting within 30 days of being surveyed, while 43 per cent showed a desire to quit within the next six months.

The Health Department also has resources and information for anyone interested in quitting smoking.

For more information

about the upcoming drop-in sessions or to obtain information on quitting, call the Durham Region Health Department at 905-723-8521 or 1-800-841-2729, ext. 2125.

More information on quitting smoking can also be viewed at www.region.durham.on.ca.



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Entertainment

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Green Division wins a war

Pickering band is a finalist again for Bandwarz show

DURHAM – The final nine is almost complete for this year's Bandwarz finals.

Last weekend, Green Division, with its colourful ska sound, was picked as the last judged finalist for the April 17 showcase.

The Pickering band, a finalist last year, joins SKrAtch3 from Port Hope, Whitby-Ajax band Recall, the Agnostics from Bowmanville, Cobourg and Port Hope, Oshawa's Torsion and R.P.O., from Oshawa and Ajax, Newcastle's One Second 2 Late and Hidden Echo from Clarington in a head-to-head competition to determine the best band.

One more band, considered the fan favourite, will be determined from votes on the Bandwarz Web site over the last eight weeks. That band has yet to be named.

The finals will be held at Le Skcratch Billiard Bar and Grill, in the Midtown Mall, John Street, in downtown Oshawa.

The nine bands will not only compete for the title of Bandwarz champion, but will get a chance to perform for music industry representatives and booking agents. The final showcase will be taped for broadcast on Rogers Television.

The Bandwarz 2004 champion will receive \$1,000 in cash, a prize package from Alcatraz Skates, recording time at Mad Hermit Studios to complete a three-song demo package produced by Wellcraft Music and be part of a showcase at North By Northeast Music Festival and Conference (NXNE). They will also appear on the Bandwarz 2004 show broadcast on Rogers Television.

Tickets for the 2004 Bandwarz final showcase cost \$8 in advance, available at Alcatraz Skates, and \$10 at the door on the day of the show. Doors open at 4:30 p.m.

Bandwarz 2004 is sponsored by Alcatraz Skates, Discover Communications, durhamregion.com, Le Skcratch Billiard Bar and Grill, Mad Hermit Studios, Rogers Television, Rogers Wireless and the Wellcraft Music Group.



Hellboy features a unique cast of heroes, like Abe Sapien, all ready save the world from the forces of evil.

Hellboy breaks loose

The following movies open in local theatres this weekend.

Hellboy

Directed by Guillermo del Toro
Starring Ron Perlman, Selma Blair, John Hurt, Jeffrey Tambor, Karel Roden, Doug Jones, Rupert Evans, Victoria Smurfit, David Hyde Pierce

This is the story of a supernat-

ural action hero based on Mike Mignola's popular 'Dark Horse Comics' series of the same name.

Hellboy was saved by his friend and mentor, the benevolent Dr. Broom and raised in the doctor's Bureau for Paranormal Research and Defense. Along with other extraordinary beings and an FBI agent, he must come to terms with fantastic powers that prove to be both a blessing and a curse. These heroes dis-

cover their abilities serve to benefit mankind but may also keep them forever isolated from the society that only they can protect.

Also opening in theatres this weekend are 'Home on the Range,' 'Walking Tall' and 'The Prince and Me.'

FOR FULL MOVIE LISTINGS, CLICK ON
durhamregion.com

Studio tour has great talent on display in May

Art works shown at homes this spring

By Jessica Verge

Special to the News Advertiser

DURHAM – Spring is in the air and with that comes the chance to enjoy warm weather, budding flowers and the artistic talent Durham Region has to offer.

May 1 and 2 mark the fifth annual Lake Scugog Spring Studio Tour, a free opportunity to view the works of 30 artists at their very own homes, from Oshawa to Port Perry to Seagrave.

"People in the area can get to know some of the local artists," says woodcarver Dan Gallagher, whose one-of-a-kind handmade pieces will be on display.

Mr. Gallagher sees the tour as a chance to give people an inside look at the arts community and know what's going on. It's also a venue for the artists to display their talents in their own homes,

a more intimate setting than any gallery.

But Mr. Gallagher's contribution to the studio tour extends beyond his art. Like the other artists featured, Mr. Gallagher is an organizer of this cooperatively run event. The artists pool their money together to create brochures and fund advertising, then share the responsibilities of making the tour a success.

It's work that Karen Richardson doesn't shy from.

"When artists gather together collaboratively, they have a greater voice," says the watercolour artist.

Ms. Richardson was one of the founding members of the tour. She fondly recalls the outpouring from area artists when the original idea was proposed and is still dedicated to the event.

"It's really a pleasure to be part of such a group," she says.

The Lake Scugog Spring Studio tour, which displays the work

of artists in a variety of media - from photography to jewellery, from pottery to paint - sends out a call for artists in the same summer. Entrants are then judged by a panel of members of the arts community who are not participating, including gallery owners and art dealers, to ensure the professionalism and originality of the art seen on the tour.

Last year, the tour saw approximately 800 visitors. Those interested are invited to pick up a brochure and tour map at various locations throughout downtown Oshawa and Port Perry, including art galleries and libraries, or to visit www.scugogstudiotour.ca for more information. The tour sites, with art on display as well as for sale, are open May 1 and 2 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

To celebrate its fifth anniversary, tour organizers are also offering a free draw for \$200 toward a piece of artwork. Ballots are available at all sites.

Briefly...

Teen band night hits the stage Saturday

PICKERING – Pickering teens are ready to rock tomorrow.

Following on the success of a February show that attracted more than 200 people, the City of Pickering hosts its second free teen band night Saturday, April 3 at the Petticoat Creek Community Centre, 470 Kingston Road.

Doors open for this free show at 7 p.m., with the first band, Apanemia playing at 7:15, followed by Torn Black, Fame Induced Apathy, Fade to Black and Green Division.

The event is free for Pickering teens 13 to 19 years old, but bring your free City of Pickering membership card or get one at the door.

For more information, check the Web at www.cityofpickering.com/teen and go under the teen events link.

Students show off artistic ability this month

DURHAM – Secondary school students from across Durham will be able to exhibit their work at the Durham District School Board's annual art show.

"For Art's Sake" officially opens Thursday, April 1, at the Robert McLaughlin Gallery, 72 Queen Street in Oshawa, and will run until Sunday, April 18.

For more information, contact Susan Pidlubny, the Arts Facilitator of Durham District School Board, at 905-666-6386.

Artists speak out at Durham College-Trent series

DURHAM – Architect William Woodworth and sculptor Sally Thurlow will present their work at the latest Durham-Trent Speakers' Series event on Thursday, April 8 at 5 p.m.

In their presentation, the artists will examine their work and its connections to native spirituality.

The event, hosted by Durham College's Design and Communication Arts department, is sponsored by the Durham College Innovation Fund and Julian Blackburn College at Trent University.

The event will be held at Durham College-UOIT's Oshawa campus, 2000 Simcoe St. N. in UA1240; directions to the lecture room are available at the information desk at the entrance.

Admission and parking for the event are free. For more information, contact the DCA office at 905-721-3111 ext. 2040, or vacmr@idirect.com.

Sports

Scoreboard

All the scores
and more...
See page 36

FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 2004 ♦ News Advertiser ♦ AL RIVETT, SPORTS EDITOR 905-683-5110 EXT. 250

Raiders shoot to keep their crown

Minor atoms limp into Ontario playdowns, but club is confident

AJAX — The Ajax-Pickering Raiders minor atom 'AAA' rep hockey team looks to notch its second consecutive OMHA title at the championships hosted in Ajax this weekend.

But, Raiders head coach Sal Caggiula acknowledges his squad (26-2-2 during the regular season) is in tough at the five-team OMHA showcase, with three of his key players -- Devin Shore, D a r r y l Snelling and Mitch Beet-tam -- out with injuries.

Nonetheless, the Raiders are looking forward to being competitive and putting forth quality efforts in front of their hometown fans.

"We've got a good team concept. We still managed to pull together in the playoffs to qualify, so with some key bounces, you never know," says Caggiula.

The coach says the Hamilton Junior Bulldogs, representing the South-Central Ontario 'AAA' loop, have to be considered the favourites at the 2004 championships, having dominated both league and tournament play this season.

The defending OMHA champion Raiders kicked off play at the championship for 10-year-olds against the Halton Hurricanes today (Friday) at 11 a.m.

Following the opening ceremonies at the Ajax Community Centre's Pad 1 at 5 p.m. today, the Raiders play the Clarington Toros at 5:30 p.m.

The Whitby Wildcats are also competing.

Action continues all day Saturday at the community centre, culminating in the bronze-medal game Sunday at 10 a.m. on Pad 1.

The gold-medal contest is slated for 12:30 p.m., also on Pad 1.



Monarchs' hockey reign continues

St. Mary girls win second straight provincial crown

By Al Rivett
Sports Editor

PICKERING — There were no nerves, no edginess, just a quiet confidence in the St. Mary dressing room prior to its gold-medal winning effort at the provincial girls' hockey championships.

"There was a real calmness in the dressing room," noted Monarchs' coach Dino Caggiula. "Most of the kids had been through this before -- some had been there four times before. The older kids were telling the younger ones that it's about work; it's about focus."

Just prior to taking to the ice Wednesday afternoon at York University in Toronto, the Monarchs' graduating seniors presented the younger players with a banner.

"I don't remember what it said, but it was about carrying on the tradition (of St. Mary girls' hockey). It was a nice gesture from the older kids to the younger kids," says Caggiula. "It showed a lot of leadership."

And, that combination of experienced leadership and youth gelled together perfectly on the ice as the Monarchs captured their second consecutive gold medal at the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations (OFSAA) 'AAA' Girls' Championships.

The third-seeded Monarchs needed a goal by senior forward Nicole Ruta to break up a 1-1 tie and lead the squad to a narrow 2-1 victory over fifth-seeded Notre Dame Fighting Irish of Burlington in the gold-medal contest.

Another senior forward, Amanda Morra, had given St. Mary the lead, but Notre Dame's Nicole Blazenko tied the contest at 1-1.

As they had done in every other game leading up the OFSAA final, St. Mary played a defensive-oriented game, highlighted by another solid outing by Grade 9 goaltender Michelle Bradley. At the same time, the Monarchs converted on their scoring chances.

"I think it was a total team effort -- the way they supported each other and the way they backed each other up -- it was



The St. Mary Catholic Secondary School Monarchs girls' hockey team repeated as champions of the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations (OFSAA) 'AAA' Championships at York University, defeating Notre Dame of Burlington in the final. Team members are Cristin Allen, Michelle Bradley, Katie Caggiula, Quinn Caggiula, Megan Friel, Bree Grenon, Lisa Henein, Caley Hulme, Jessica Judges, Catherine Kerr, Chloe Masse, Amanda Morra, Nicole Ruta, Erin Small, Meaghan Stoneburgh, Stephanie Walsh and Erin Welsh.

great to see," says Caggiula.

"We focused more on team defence. It's tough on the kids because everyone likes to score goals. Everyone bought into team defence and kept their egos at home. No one worried about how many goals they were scoring."

While the Monarchs received the needed leadership up front from Morra and Ruta, the unsung players in the final were defencemen Megan Friel and Cristin Allen, who logged heavy minutes on the blue-line.

"They were like having two quarterbacks out there controlling the game and controlling the tempo of the game," says Caggiula.

The coach admitted he underestimated his troops heading into the provincial showcase, noting the loss of incumbent goaltender and daughter, Quinn Caggiula, to injury, let alone the relative inexperience of his squad, was enough to give him pause regarding his team's chances.

"I felt I underestimated the size of the fight in their hearts," conceded Caggiula. "I don't think we were down a goal the whole tournament; they wouldn't allow that to happen."

The gold-medal victory was as sweet as it comes for his charges, perhaps as sweet as last year's first OFSAA title that ended two years of silver-medal provincial performances previously.

"Both of them are pretty sweet. The thing was, we had the spectre of two losses in a row (in last year's OFSAA final) to deal with, so it was sweet to get the monkey off our backs and prove that we could win.

"This year is sweet, too, but in other ways. People didn't think we could do it without Ashley (Riggs, who graduated last year). It was great to have other kids come through and new stars emerge."

The Monarchs emerged with a 2-1 semifinal victory over their old nemesis and top-seeded Our Lady of Mount Carmel Crusaders of Mississauga Wednesday morning.

Ruta and Stephanie Walsh scored.

Meanwhile, Notre Dame defeated Lakeshore Catholic of Port Colborne 3-1 in the other semifinal contest.

In the quarter-finals early Wednesday morning, the Monarchs blanked fourth-seeded St. Thomas Aquinas of London 4-0. Jessica Judges led the way with a hat trick. Catherine Kerr added a single. Bradley recorded her second shutout at the provincials.

St. Mary earned top spot in pool 'C' during preliminary play. They recorded wins over 19th-seeded Birchmount Park of Scarborough (5-2), 14th-seeded St. Joseph's from Cornwall (6-2), 11th-seeded Loyola of Mississauga (2-1) and, finally, sixth-seeded Markham District High School (2-0).

NOTES: Ruta topped the Monarchs in scoring with eight goals... **St. Mary** won its first OFSAA hockey title last year with a 2-0 victory over Mount Carmel in Brampton.

Jason Liebrechts/ News Advertiser photo

EASTER SERVICES

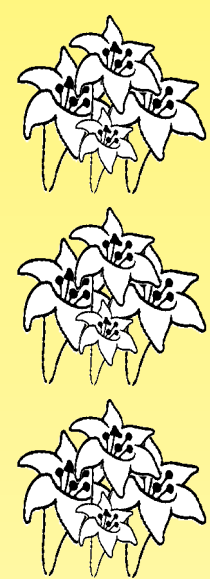
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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7TH
 Christ in the Passover
 Video & Communion Service ~ 7:00 pm
GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 9TH
 Morning Service ~ 10:00 am
EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 11TH
 Baptismal Service ~ 10:00 am
 "A safe place to meet with God and new friends"


EASTER AT
ST. TIMOTHY'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 97 Burcher Rd., Ajax
 (905) 683-6122
Palm Sunday Service
 April 4th, 11:00 am
Easter Service
 April 11th, 11:00 am



AMBERLEA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 The Family Church
 1820 Whites Road, Pickering
 Rev. Dr. Morley Mitchell (905) 839-1383
SUNDAY SERVICE AND EVENTS
Saturday April 3rd
 6:30 pm - Church Auction
Sunday April 4th
 11:00 am - Palm Sunday Service
Thursday April 8th
 8:00 pm - Maundy Thursday Service
Friday April 9th
 9:00 am - Good Friday Breakfast & Worship
 (call for tickets)
Sunday April 11th
 11:00 am - Easter Sunday Service 


St Paul's United Church
 Wheelchair Accessible - Hearing Assistance
Come Celebrate Easter With Us
 April 4th 10:30 am - Palm Sunday Canatata
 April 8th 7:00 pm - Maundy Thursday
 April 9th 11:00 am - Good Friday Worship
 April 11th 6:00 am - Sunrise Service at the lake
 April 11th 10:30 am - Family Easter Service
 65 King Crescent, Ajax
 (905) 683-4740
 www.stpaulsajax.org
 The Church With The Open Arms

HOLY WEEK SERVICES
 at
The Gathering Place
 1920 Bayly Street, Pickering - (905.428.6888)
 (the meeting place for Pickering Pentecostal Church)

 with International Evangelist
Rev. Bruce Alexander
 April 4--11, 2004
 Palm Sunday to Easter
PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 4
 8:00 AM, 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM & 6:00 PM
TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY
 7:00 PM each evening
GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 9
 10:00 AM
EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 11
 8:00 AM, 9:00 AM, & 11:00 AM
 everyone is welcome at The Gathering Place!

St George's Anglican Church
 Pickering Village
 Hwy. #2 & Randall Drive Ajax
 905-683-7981

Sunday of the Passion
April 4
 Blessing & Distribution of Palms.
 9:00 am
 In Historic Church
 10:30 am
 In St. George's Centre
Holy Week
 In Historic Church
Holy Eucharist
Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday
 7:30 pm

Come One... Come ALL
Come see what Christ has done for YOU!
 Easter is a time of giving and fellowship.
 Come be a part of our living church this Easter Season.
 We want YOU to be a part of our celebration.
 This is the day that the Lord hath made!
Friday, April 9th
 Good Friday Communion Service
 Guest Soloist: Valetta Davis
 Starting 10:30 am
Sunday, April 11th
 Easter Sunday Service
 Starting 10:30 am
 Special Easter Sunday Evening Concert
 Starting 6:00 pm
 Come and enjoy some down home country music by
The Parker Trio

Southside Worship Centre
 55 Emperor St., Ajax, Ontario
 Emperor St. & Burcher Rd.
 For more info call 905-428-1985

Actually, Palm Sunday is something completely different.

 Palm Sunday was the start of the most important week in the life of Jesus. Doesn't it rate a place on your calendar? Join us. We'll provide the palms and memories that will last forever. No batteries required.
DUNBARTON-FAIRPORT UNITED CHURCH
 Dunbarton at Cloudberry, Pickering
 905-839-7271
 dfunited@dunbartonfairport.on.ca
 www.dunbartonfairport.on.ca/dfunited
Palm Sunday April 4: Procession of Palms, 10:30 am
Maundy Thursday April 8: Potluck Supper 6:00 pm
 Communion 7:30 pm
Easter (April 11) Sunrise: 7:00 am, Erskine Cemetery Chapel (Fairport at Finch)
Easter Service: 10:30 Baptisms, Re-affirmation of Faith Communion

Holy Trinity Anglican Church
 400 Monarch Avenue,
 Units 1 and 2, Ajax, Ontario
 905-683-3863
 www.holy-trinity-ajax.ca
 e-mail: ht@holy-trinity-ajax.ca
 1954 2004
Celebrating 50 Years of Ministry in Ajax
Sunday, April 4th
 Passion Sunday with the Liturgy of the Palms
 8:30 am: Holy Eucharist
 10:00 am: Choral Eucharist
Thursday, April 8th
 Maundy Thursday
 7:30 pm: Holy Eucharist with Washing of Feet Ceremony / Garden Vigil
Friday, April 9th
 Good Friday
 9:00 am: Family Service - Stations of the Cross
 11:00 am: Solemn Intercession and Meditation on the Cross
Saturday, April 10th
 The Great Vigil of Easter
 7:30 pm: Choral Eucharist
Sunday, April 11th
 Easter Day
 9:00 am: Solemn Eucharist
 11:00 am: Solemn Eucharist

St. Isaac Joques Catholic Church
 1148 Finch Avenue,
 Pickering L1V 1J6
 905-831-3353
PASSION OF THE LORD -
PALM SUNDAY, April 4th Masses
 Saturday, April 3rd, 4:30 pm
 Sunday, April 4th, 8:30 am, 10:00 am,
 11:30 am, 7:30 pm
EASTER TRIDUUM
HOLY THURSDAY, April 8th
 (NO MORNING MASS) Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:30 pm
GOOD FRIDAY April 9th (NO MASSES)
 Modern Day Way of the Cross
 Procession from St. Mary Catholic Secondary
 -10:30 am to St. Isaac Joques Church
 Good Friday Liturgy 3:00 pm
 Station of the Cross 7:30 pm
HOLY SATURDAY APRIL 10th
 (NO MASSES UNTIL VIGIL)
 Easter Vigil 8:00 pm
EASTER SUNDAY April 11th
RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

MASSES	HALL
CHURCH	
8:30 am	
10:00 am	10:00 am
11:30 am	11:30 am
*1:30 pm	
7:30 pm	

 *Please note that the 1:30 pm Mass will be celebrated on Easter Sunday Only.
 Please note Monday, April 12th Mass - 7:30 am
THERE WILL BE NO EVENING MASS & THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ALL DAY.



APOSTOLIC PENTECOSTAL CHURCH
 755 Oklahoma Drive, Pickering

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE - April 9th, 10:00 am
SPECIAL SATURDAY SERVICE - April 10th, 7:00 pm
EASTER SERVICES - April 11th, 11:30 am & 6:00 pm
 Host: **PASTOR A. CASTRO**
 Guest Speaker: **JODY W. BULLARD** (North Carolina)
Easter Sunday Night Concert
 APC Choir & Soloists - All Welcome
 **For more information (905) 420-3935**


Soccer lightning strikes twice

Ajax under-nine club wins bronze and silver

AJAX — Two incarnations of the Ajax United Lightning girls' under-nine indoor soccer team struck for medals in two tournaments at the Durham Indoor Soccer Centre (DISC) over the March break.

One Lightning team played up an age group in the under-10 division against many of the best teams in the province and proceeded to capture the bronze medal.

Following round-robin play, the Lightning and North Mississauga Panthers were tied with identical records, but the Panthers advanced to the gold-medal game on goal differential. The Lightning ended up playing the Pickering Pythons. After competing hard for 36 minutes, the Lightning were rewarded with the only goal of the game in a 1-0 bronze medal victory.

The Lightning started against Oshawa, with the Motor City squad opening the scoring. Ajax fought back to score twice for a 2-1 victory. In the second game, the Lightning tied the Panthers 0-0. Lightning had

most of the play in Panthers' end, but their goalie came up with some big saves.

Later that week, the Lightning team, consisting of some different players, entered the DISC tourney in its under-nine age division, which consisted of girls born in 1995.

In the gold-medal game, the Lightning were defeated by Brampton, thus settling for a silver medal. No score was reported.

In its first game, Ajax dominated to win 4-0 over York United. In Game 2, the Lightning prevailed over Etobicoke 2-0.

Playing for the Lightning teams were Julie Devost, Jordan Thornton, Nadia Ben Hamound, Michelle Blakely, Carlie Stewart, Katleyn Haisely, Shaniqua Meikle, Madeline Iozzi, Katie Evans, Amanda Lunn, Margaret-Mary Campigotto, Paulysha Meikle, Kristen Azuma, Nancy Leathen, Stephanie Rampino, Alexia Sribny and Cassie Sribny.

Any girls born in 1995 and interested in participating in the final phase of tryouts for one of the two outdoor teams should call Paul Meikle at 416-579-7299 or visit the club's Web site at www.ajaxunited-soccer.com.



Celia Klemenz/ News Advertiser photo

Reaching out

AJAX — Portly Piper's Randy Hurst, left, and Dickson Printing's Chuck Tezak go flat out to regain control of the ball during Ajax Men's Basketball League playoff action Wednesday night. Dickson Printing won 54-38.

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905-427-3948

EXIT REALTY ADVANCED

OPEN HOUSE SUN. APRIL 4, 2-4 P.M. 278 TWYN RIVERS DR.

Beautiful 4 bedroom home approx. 3200 sq. ft. of living space. Large eat-in kitchen with walkout. Hardwood floors throughout. Huge family room, pride of ownership.

OPEN HOUSE SUN. APRIL 4, 2-4 P.M. 905 BAYLY ST. UNIT 33

Charming 3 bdrm. end unit townhome overlooks ravine large master bdrm. has walk-in closet & semi ensuite bath, liv./din. rm. & foyer + 1 bdrm. upstairs have new laminate flooring. The bsmt. is finished and has a gas fireplace and w/o to private patio on the ravine, 5 appls. close to GO Train & shops, priced at just \$214,900. Call....

JUNE ROBERTS* for more information 416 284-4751

ROYAL LEPAGE Connect Realty

SAT., APRIL 3, 1-3 P.M. 902 DUNCANNON, PICKERING

RAVINE! RAVINE!

- Pickering's most prestigious location near Finch & Fairport
- Incredible ravine lot, approximately 152 feet deep
- Many upgrades including hardwood floors, ceramics, etc.
- Gorgeous family size greenhouse kitchen with walkout to 12X14 foot cedar deck
- Central Air Conditioned
- Main floor office
- Custom shutters
- Upgraded insulation
- Sprinkler system
- Asking price \$479,900

SUN., APRIL 4, 2-4 P.M. 1027 RATHMORE CRES., PICKERING!

- Fabulous semi on quiet crescent near Dixie and Glenanna
- Premium pie-shaped lot.
- Second floor family room
- Large master bedroom with 3-pc. ensuite bathroom
- Modern family-size kitchen with laminate flooring
- Central air conditioned
- Large professionally finished basement

BARRIE COX* 905-839-7449 www.barriecox.ca

RE/MAX Rouge River Realty Ltd.

\$239,500

ANGELA JOSCH* 905-619-9500

Sutton
Sutton Group Heritage Realty Inc.

OPEN HOUSE SUN. APRIL 4, 2-4 P.M. 70 CUMBERLAND LANE UNIT #108 (Harwood/Lakedrивeway) WATERFRONT CONDO COMPLEX!

Beautiful Breakers Bldg. #70, corner unit. Pristine unit, this bldg. allows pets, 1550 plus sq. ft. with fir. to ceiling windows. Three underground parking spaces. Sunlit, spacious 2 bdrm., 2 bath apt. Impressive master with ensuite & triple closet. Large, greenhouse kit. with ceramics. Open Liv & Din room with wood fir. Generous dining area overlooks garden. Private balcony affords partial lake view. Prime water front condo complex. Please call Angela if you require further information at 905-619-9500. I look forward to seeing you there!

\$229,900

JOHN WILSON* 905-831-3300

RE/MAX FIRST Realty Ltd., Broker

OPEN HOUSE SUN. APRIL 4, 2-4 P.M. 147 CARNWITH DR.

Come take a look at this brand new home loaded with upgrades. Features include: Hardwood flrs. throughout the main floor. Main flr. fam. rm., open concept kitchen w/ upgraded cabinets and breakfast bar. Oak staircase and much more!! See you there!!

\$289,900

RON TAMRAZIAN* 905-619-9500

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Sutton Group Heritage Realty Inc.

OPEN HOUSE SUN. APRIL 4, 2-4 P.M. 3 PANTER CRES., AJAX

South Ajax, renovated top to bottom, 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bathrooms, 4 level backsplit on large lot. New hardwood and ceramic flooring. New windows and doors throughout. \$35,000 spent on upgrades. In-law apartment with separate entrance. Walking distance to lake. For details please contact Ron Tamrazian 905-831-9500. **FREE MOVE with every BUY or SELL.**

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\$477,800

**DON'T MISS THIS ONE!!!
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SATURDAY, APRIL 3, 1-4 PM
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HAVE IT ALL!!!**

ANGELO PUCCI*
905-831-9500

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Heritage Realty Inc.

Enjoy both style and taste in this gorgeous 3 bedroom two storey home with spectacular view of Frenchman's Bay. Imagine docking your boat in your own backyard. Cottage living in the city. Romantic sunsets and family fun... boating, fishing, skating, snowmobiling... a four season getaway at "Home". Looking forward to seeing you.

angelo@angelopucci.com
Professionalism From Start... To Finish



ANN LETOURNEAU*
905-831-9500

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Heritage Realty Inc.

**SUNDAY, APRIL 4, 2-4 P.M.
49 EPPS
(HARWOOD AND FISHLOCK)**

Great 3 bedroom home features a nice open kitchen walking out to deck and fenced yard, family room, 5-pc. ensuite in the master and much more. Drop by and have a look or call Ann Letourneau for a viewing 905-831-9500.



\$379,900

STEVE KOSTKA*
905-839-7449

RE/MAX
ROUGE RIVER
REALTY LTD.

**OPEN HOUSE
SAT. APRIL 3, 2-4 P.M.
1603 LYNMAR CT., PICKERING
(Dellbrook/Melmans)
INGROUND POOL (HEATED 16X37')**

"Absolutely Gorgeous Home". Large pie-shaped lot ** Extensive landscaping ** Large interlock patio ** Deck with roof off kitchen ** Quiet cul-de-sac!! Oak kitchen w/lots of pantry and island (kitchen to die for!). Professionally finished basement (10' ceilings), pot lights - 3-pc. bath, large workshop ** Hardwood flooring ** 60 oz. carpet ** Hurry on this 4 bdrm. all brick home!! Just listed. Check Steve's "Virtual Tour" call Steve now 905-839-7449.



LINDA CHAPMAN*
905-940-4180

ROYAL LEPAGE
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Realty

**AJAX OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY 2-4
158 SMALES
(HARDWOOD/FISHLOCK)**

Bright, elegant, immaculate 3 BR with family room, large kitchen, lots of upgrades. Excellent family neighbourhood. 158 Smales (Harwood/Fishlock) \$279,900.



\$329,000

MIKE ARNOLD*
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**OPEN HOUSE
SAT., APR. 3, 2-4 P.M.
1108 TIMBER CT., PICKERING**

Located in a great neighbourhood close to schools, public transit and on a quiet court, this 4 bedroom home has lots to offer. Mn. flr. fam. rm., mn. flr. laundry rm., large eat-in kit. w/w/o to two tier deck on a large pie-shaped lot. Two car garage. Basement wired for home theatre. Shingled '02. Priced to sell.



\$639,000

CAROLE GREGORY*
905-947-9300

RE/MAX
CLASSIC
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**OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY & SUNDAY 2-4
1473 SANDHURST CRES, PICKERING**

4 bedroom home. A delight to see, a delight to buy. Living and dining room has hardwood floors with oak staircase as well. Eat in kitchen with w/o to gardened fenced backyard. Ceramic floors, 2 car garage with access to house. Walking distance to schools. Bring your barbeque and move in. All appliances and window coverings included.



ANNE SHADDOCK*
905-668-1800

RE/MAX
ROUGE RIVER
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**VERY SPECIAL HOMES!!!
1 CROFT CT., WHITBY
\$309,999
OPEN BY
APPOINTMENT**

Call today. Hard to find Whitby beauty. 4 bdrm., gorgeous family brick, finished top to bottom. On quiet court, deep lot, mature trees. Call Anne Shaddock 905-668-1800.



**OPEN HOUSE
SUN. APR. 4, 2-4 P.M.
14 HENDERSON DR.,
WHITBY**

Pretty! Pretty! Don't wait till Sunday, call today to view this truly special home. 2 staircases, large fam. rm., inground pool, plus room for granny. Call Anne Shaddock 905-668-1800.



MAXINE MANN*
905-471-2000

Sutton
Sutton Group
Heritage Realty Inc.

**OPEN HOUSE
SUN. APRIL 4, 1-3:30 P.M.
395 WHITEVALE RD.**

Come see this beauty in the Hamlet of Whitevale siding to the Seaton Hiking Trail. Country living and a slower pace make this unique community more special by the year, and still only minutes from the city and 407. Beautiful 3/4 bdrm. home with family room and private garden. Asking \$359,900. Call for a private showing Maxine Mann, 905-471-2000, Sutton Group Heritage. www.maxinemann.com



\$156,000

ELVIRA LAROCQUE*
905-683-2100

Century 21
Percy Fulton Limited

**OPEN HOUSE
SUN. APRIL 4, 1-3 P.M.
17 WILLOWS LANE, AJAX**

Fabulous end unit townhome in Pickering Village - clean and bright with walkout basement. Mostly new windows, five appliances. Three bedrooms, two bathrooms, finished recreation room. Available for summer possession. great location close to schools, parks, GO Transit and all amenities.



LESLIE PRENTICE*
905-427-1400

RE/MAX
ROUGE RIVER
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**OPEN HOUSE
SUN. APRIL 4, 2-4 P.M.
2948 RANGELINE ROAD
LITTLE BEAUTY IN LAKESIDE COMMUNITY
\$279,900**

Don't let the modest exterior fool you, this one has it all, open concept, modern features and decor, hardwood, whirlpool tub, glass block accents, on a 50x200' lot in a quiet little pocket steps to the lakefront in south Ajax. All the ambiance of a rural setting minutes from suburban amenities and accesses. A must see.



\$549,900

JOHN ANNIS
Sales Representative
905-668-3800
or
905-668-3800

RE/MAX
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**SUN., APRIL 4, 2-4 P.M.
6573 COCHRANE ST.
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CUSTOM BUNGALOW**

Immaculate custom Keuning Construction 2,400 sq. ft. bungalow on 1 acre of private. 9 ft. ceilings, hardwood floors, open concept. Call John now @ 905-668-3800 for the move of your life.



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905-728-1600

RE/MAX
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**SAT., APRIL 3, 2-4 P.M.
124 RADFORD DR., AJAX
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Stunning 3 bedroom brick home in popular North Ajax location. Close to all amenities. This home boasts a finished basement, fully fenced yard and central air. Move-in condition! For details call Tom Newman* Direct at Remax Spirit Inc. 905-655-SOLD(7653).



DIERDRE MULLEN*
905-430-6655

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Great first time home with a nice backyard. 3 bedroom, all appliances, ceramic & broadloom.



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www.Luizlameiras.com
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information @ 1-877-??



PATRICIA SIMPSON*
905-619-9500

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112 CHAREST PLACE, BROOKLIN
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Need room to grow? This 3 bdrm. home has a lot to offer. Large eat-in kitchen w/ pantry. Mn. flr. fam. rm. w/gas fireplace. Spacious master bdrm. w/ensuite & walk-in closet. Balcony off 2nd flr., 9' high ceilings, cent. air, ceramics, fully fenced yard. Shows very well. Come see for yourself or contact Patricia Simpson at 905-619-9500 or 1-888-790-7511.

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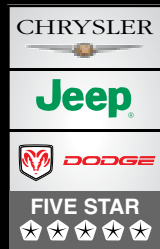
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2003 DODGE INTREPID ES

4 dr., leather seats, 4 wheel disc brakes, 4 spd. auto., 3.5L V6 SOHC 24 valve, pwr. sunroof, pwr. 8 way driver seat, AM/FM/CD. Stk. #P7866*.

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2001 DODGE DURANGO R/T

5.9L V8, auto, leather, 7 passenger, p.w., pdl., tilt, cruise, air, AM/FM/CD cass., fully loaded, 1 owner. Only 51,500 km. Stk. #V7844.

2003 DAKOTA SLT QUAD CAB 4X4

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\$7,500

2003 JEEP TJ #88120

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\$5,000

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