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Suspect in custody

Pickering teen in court after two dead in Ajax

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Raising a stink

Pickering residents fight big pipe

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School Days

Pickering's Sir John A in the spotlight



JASON LIEBRECHTS / METROLAND

Lakeridge CEO Kevin Empey says he'll go to the Province to seek additional funding to deal with Lakeridge's \$10.8 million deficit, but the Province says the well is dry. The Central East Local Health Integration Network, which distributes Provincial funding to local hospitals, says funding is sufficient.

How local is the LHIN?

SOME ARGUE SERVICES PUSHED AWAY FROM DURHAM

BY JENNIFER STONE
jstone@durhamregion.com

DURHAM -- It covers an area that stretches "from Victoria Park to Algonquin Park", but for Durham residents, as far as health services go, it's considered "local."

The Central East Local Health Integration Network (CE-LHIN) is part of a system of 14 such

bodies across the province. They were created by the Province to co-ordinate and fund health care at a more local level. But some within the health care sector worry that the co-ordination and centralization of services the CE-LHIN is mandated to work toward could, in fact, push services further away from Durham residents.

The Central East body "is one of the largest

LHINs," Tariq Asmi, of the Growing Communities Health Care Alliance (GCHA), said. "It goes from Victoria Park to Algonquin Park."

The CE-LHIN covers all of Durham Region, Kawartha Lakes, Haliburton Highlands and Peterborough County, as well as part of Nor-

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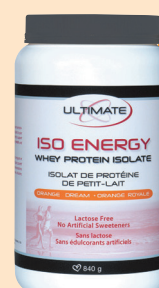


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Central East body is 'one of the largest LHINs'

CENTRAL from page 1

thumberland and a sliver of Toronto's east end. It receives funds from the Province, and, its mandate is to divvy up the money across its enormous geography, according to local needs.

The geography of the LHIN may actually be partially masking a problem that, even when somewhat obscured by averages, is quite evident, said Mr. Asmi, whose organization represents 17 acute-care community hospitals and mental health facilities, including those in Durham. Its board of directors is made up of hospital CEOs and board chairmen. The GCHA, based on an audit done by Pricewaterhouse Coopers, suggests residents in the CE-LHIN receive "\$194 less per resident (in annual health care funding) than the rest of Ontario." That's when areas not experiencing population growth, or even decreasing in size, are fac-

tored in.

"The numbers we talk about actually underestimate the pressures in hospitals like Lakeridge and Ajax-Pickering," since they are averaged with low- or no-growth areas, Mr. Asmi said.

The Province recently attempted to address the problem, providing \$100 million over four years for hospitals in Ontario's fastest growing communities. Of that, the CE-LHIN got \$4.5 million and his calculations indicate Lakeridge should have received \$3 million of it, Mr. Asmi said.

"Unfortunately, when it came to distribution of the money, the LHIN came up with their own formula, so Lakeridge received about \$900,000," Mr. Asmi said.

Receiving the \$3 million would have gone a long way to help Lakeridge deal with its \$10.8 million, and growing, deficit, he noted.

"We have to acknowledge the government's commitment," Mr.

Asmi said. "But, there's been an issue with the execution. A lot of communities that are low-growth or not growing received money. This was meant for growth."

The money was allocated across the CE-LHIN as a "system," said the agency's CEO Deborah Hammons.

"We are treating our LHIN as one acute-care network," she said. "The growth spending was spent along those lines, treating all of our hospitals as a system."

The money given to Lakeridge was earmarked by the LHIN specifically for a stroke program, a need the LHIN felt was "extremely important to address," Ms. Hammons said.

The CE-LHIN recently released its Clinical Services Plan, which centralized a number of types of treatment, such as vascular and thoracic surgeries. The plan also hinted at a number of other clinical services, including emergency

rooms, which could see the same strategy undertaken in future.

It's meant to ensure residents across the LHIN can access services, Lakeridge Health Corporation CEO Kevin Empey said.

"The LHIN is trying to do a fundamental thing to help all of the residents -- equalization of access," he said.

That's fine, unless it means people wind up with less than they had before, Durham MPP John O'Toole said. He is part of a large group, including many Clarington doctors, concerned about continuation of acute care services at Lakeridge Health Bowmanville - including the ER, which doctors have said is currently at risk.

"I would be opposed to the regionalization of health when it meant diminishment of services in a community," Mr. O'Toole said.

Community input on the Clinical Services Plan will help determine how residents feel about central-

ization, Ms. Hammons said.

"We'll find out what people have to say about that when we get their feedback," she said, noting the LHIN and its hospitals are in the midst of speaking to hospital boards about the plan.

Legislation stipulates Lakeridge Health cannot cut clinical services without permission from the CE-LHIN.

LHINs were put in place to ensure local interests were protected, said Steve Erwin, a spokesman for Ontario Health Minister David Caplan.

"There used to be complaints that decisions came from a person at a desk at Queen's Park," Mr. Erwin said.

Putting the 14 LHINs in place was meant to ensure decisions were made closer to where the needs existed, he said. Increasing the number of LHINs to make them smaller would just create another level of bureaucracy, he added.

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Accused in Ajax clash remains in custody

Two Toronto teens killed by van

BY JEFF MITCHELL
jmitchell@durhamregion.com

OSHAWA -- A young man arrested after two youths were struck and killed by a vehicle during a melee Friday in Ajax remains in custody following a brief court appearance Monday.

The frightened-looking 17-year-old Pickering boy said little when he appeared in an Oshawa court. His lawyer, Kathryn Wells, requested his case be held over.

The youth, whose identity is protected under the Youth Criminal Justice Act, was arrested Friday following a chaotic confrontation among several young people in Ajax that left two Toronto teens, aged 15 and 17, dead.

Police said the teens were run down by a vehicle after a clash among youths from Durham and Scarborough at Hermitage Park, in the Church Street and Hwy. 2 area, spilled onto Griffiths Drive Friday afternoon.

Sources say the clash was pre-arranged and the dispute arose from comments flowing back and forth on online forums. A physical confrontation led to the stabbing of one youth, who was treated at hospital and will recover.

Two Toronto males were struck by a van that then went out of control and sheared off a tree before coming to rest against a utility box. The boys were rushed to hospital but succumbed to their injuries.

Shortly after the incident, Durham cops arrested the



MICHAEL JURYSTA PHOTO

The remnants of a tree lay on Griffiths Drive after it was struck by a van last Friday. Two Toronto teens later died from their injuries after being run down by the van. Below, Durham Regional Police officers canvas the neighbourhood.

alleged driver of the van. He's charged with two counts each of criminal negligence causing death, dangerous driving causing death and failing to remain at the scene of an accident.

The young man was led into an Oshawa bail court shortly before noon Monday, wearing a black winter coat and jeans. The slightly-built young man was barely audible when Justice of the Peace Jack Le Blanc asked him for his name and birth date.

At Ms. Wells's request, the JP ordered the young man held over for a bail hearing March 18.



ENVIRONMENT

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We're all in this together.

Laying sex assault charges could mean more victims come forward

Hearing stories may give others 'courage'

BY KEITH GILLIGAN
kgilligan@durhamregion.com

DURHAM -- In 2007, Durham Regional Police arrested a man and charged him with three counts of sex assault stemming from incidents that allegedly happened in the 1970s and 1980s.

After the man was charged, three more women came forward to say they were also molested by a man.

Erin Kuri, an adult counsellor

with the Oshawa-Durham Rape Crisis Centre, said it's possible the laying of historic sex assault charges could spur a victim to come forward.

Hearing of other women coming forward may "give them the courage" to reveal an incident, Ms. Kuri said. Some women may suppress a past assault, she added.

"It depends, if it happened a long time ago. They want to forget about it. They'll focus on their life, they may have a family. They don't want to focus on it (past abuse).

"To come forward, they have to do it," she said. "To come forward, it takes a lot of courage. They're not willing to live their life in suffering

“

To come forward, it takes

a lot of cour-

age.” -- Erin Kuri, adult

counsellor, Oshawa-Durham Rape Crisis Centre

”

anymore. To disclose it is better than what they're dealing with.”

A woman could be dealing with depression, anxiety or flashbacks, she said. "It's different for everybody," she said, noting some women may just be hitting the right time "in their lives to deal with something emotionally."

Perhaps their children have grown up or they've heard something that would get them to come forward.

"Maybe their children or grandchildren are the same age as they were when they were abused. It could be something in the news or they've just gotten to a point in their lives where they are ready to change their life," Ms. Kuri said. "They're ready to do something

proactive."

Each year, the centre holds a Take Back the Night event, with victims speaking. A woman may hear a "survivor tell her story" and that will spur the woman to come forward, she said. "They'll feel less isolated. It does give them courage to hear women fighting."

Sometimes, a woman may feel they wouldn't be believed, she said. "Over the years, sex abuse has become less stigmatized. It's still stigmatized" but less so, she said.

"Now they'll come forward, they're more willing. They know it's not their fault," said Ms. Kuri.

Page 6 - Today's editorial

Celebrate your inner goddess at Women's Day event in Ajax

AJAX -- Women across Durham are invited to celebrate International Women's Day at the McLean Community Centre in Ajax.

This year's theme, "Celebrating your inner goddess", signifies women's rights, empowerment, freedom and achievements.

To celebrate the day, many free activities will be available for women and children, including make-up application, manicures, drumming, belly

dancing and face painting. The celebration will run from 1 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, March 8 at the community centre, 95 Magill Dr., Ajax. For more informa-

tion call the Women's Multicultural Resource and Counselling Centre of Durham at 905-427-7849 or The Denise House at 905-728-7311.



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Residents raise a stink over odour control plant

BY REKA SZEKELY
rszekely@durhamregion.com

DURHAM -- Pickering residents came out en masse to last week's regional works committee meeting to protest a proposed sewage odour control facility (OCF) slated for their community.

At least 75 people turned out to the standing-room-only meeting, where more 40 people spoke in opposition to the OCF, which is to service an expansion to the York Durham Sewer System. The system brings sewage from York through Durham to be treated at the Duffin's Creek sewage plant. An expansion would allow for future growth in York.

Resistance against the OCF has now spread beyond the Cherrywood West subdivision, which is 300 metres north of the proposed site, located in the hydro corridor north of Altona Road and Finch Avenue. Residents' main concerns are being unable to enjoy their properties because of bad odours emanating from the OCF and a drop in property values. Some also expressed health concerns.

Rick Nicolussi's presentation drew the most attention. On Family Day, he drove up to see an Ottawa OCF. There had been talk of an organized field trip for a group of residents to see that OCF to assuage their fears. However, what Mr. Nicolussi saw made him even more nervous. He said the odour was so bad, he had to hold his breath, run up to take a photo of the filter, which is out in the open, and run back.

"I could not remain close to the facility for any amount of time."



LAURA STANLEY PHOTO

It was standing room only for the nearly 75 people who turned out for the Durham Region's works committee meeting about a proposed odour control facility in Pickering.

Mr. Nicolussi also talked to a nearby neighbour. "(He said) that facility stinks continually, we can no longer open our windows for fresh air ... as a result of the odours we'll be moving soon."

Another man reported sometimes the stink is so bad, it burns the eyes.

Regional councillors wanted to know if York and Durham were going to use the same biofilter as Ottawa.

Staff confirmed Ottawa is using a biofilter; however, the Pickering facility would have an enclosed biofilter and it would have an additional carbon filter to further reduce odours. Pickering councillors at the meeting joined the residents in arguing that the OCF should be located in York. However, that would add between \$65 million and \$125 million to sewer expansion.

Consultants also argued it would have more impact on the environment. Ultimately, councillors chose to allow the environmental assessment to proceed.

Regional Chairman Roger Anderson requested a list of facilities that use comparable odour technologies and asked staff and works committee members to investigate the sites before the next works committee meeting.

Correction

Incorrect information appeared in a column in the Feb. 27 issue of the News Advertiser. Some residents in south Ajax are opposed to construction of a trail through the greenbelt. The News Advertiser regrets the error.



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WE THINK...

email responses to newsroom@durhamregion.com

Be vigilant when your child is with an authority figure

It's surely every parent's worst nightmare: to hear that someone in authority has been charged with committing a sexual assault on their child.

Recently, there has been a rash of such reports in Durham: Pierre St. Germain, 44, of Newcastle, an Oshawa hockey coach, is charged in connection with a sexual exploitation complaint involving a female player; a 34-year-old Bowmanville woman who teaches in Whitby is charged with sexual assault and sexual exploitation involving a 14-year-old boy, after a woman and the boy were found engaged in a sex act by officers patrolling rural Clarington. Most recently, private music teacher Allen Curtis, 41, of Oxford Street,

Oshawa, is alleged to have committed sexual offences against three girls, aged 14 to 16, on separate occasions.

It should be noted none of the allegations in these incidents has been proven in court.

But for the parents and their children, the damage has been done and the trust between an authority figure and their child has been broken.

The pain must be excruciating for the families involved.

Their world is irrevocably altered and the belief that their child should be safe whenever he or she signs up for music, sports or any other activity has taken a mortal hit. For all parents exposed to sto-

ries like these questions abound. They have natural concerns about who to confide in, where to turn to.

The experts say that hearing the stories of those who have suffered sexual assault may give others the courage to come forward.

In other words, repeat sexual assault offenders may finally be brought to justice because someone has come forward and reported an assault.

At that time, people who have suffered assaults in the past may decide it is time they came forward to deal with their own wounds.

In the case of Mr. Curtis, as the investigation of the latest alleged assault took

place, two other girls came forward with allegations they were touched by the man inappropriately between January 2005 and September 2008.

For parents, the key element is to be vigilant and to keep the lines of communication open with their children. Ask questions.

Make sure the person in authority keeps the relationship on a professional level.

Parents should keep a close eye on coaches, teachers and instructors.

Make sure such people in authority are certified and have had police checks. And be certain you are comfortable at all times that your child is safe and secure. That's all that really matters.

LIGHTS

Pickering street lights shouldn't be on day and night

To the editor:

For the past month or longer, there have been two street lights on 24/7. Another has the shield that holds the bulb hanging open.

I first spoke to a Veridian employee who told me I have to contact the City of Pickering who in turn would contact them. I called the City (customer service) and they asked for my name, address and phone number, which I gave them. I told them the problem and was informed I should get a pole number after giving them street names and approximate locations.

I then contacted Councillor Doug Dickerson. He thanked me for calling and stated, "I am on the Veridian board and I will take care of it."

I also spoke to Councillor Bill McLean regarding this issue and guess what, the lights are still on, but no one is home. With these street lights being on 24/7 will it not affect how much I have to pay for hydro?

Harry Selby
Pickering

ENVIRONMENT

Green roofs control storm water

To the editor:

As urban areas continue to expand, storm-water runoff has become a concern that cannot be taken lightly.

Newly built housing developments and commercial spaces typically result in a

reduction of green space and an overabundance of concrete. Green spaces are not just pretty to look at; they also play a critical role in the absorption of heavy storm water.

On the positive side, there are ways to help prevent storm-water runoff in urban

areas. Green roofs are an excellent choice. They are beautiful to look at and extremely beneficial in the absorption of storm water. After a storm a green roof will hold the majority of the rainfall, allowing small amounts to run off. Green roofs can reduce 60 to 70 per cent of storm-water runoff,



which will help prevent floods and sewer backups during major storm events.

However, green roofs also have a disadvantage. The roof must have adequate reinforcement due to the weight of the soil, plants and the amount of storm water the roof will incur.

The advantages certainly outweigh the disadvantages. With this in mind, new construction should take into consideration the benefits and start using green roof technology.

Tyler Jardim
Pickering

STUDENT

Reader sides with student in GO incident

To the editor:

Re: Pickering student wants apology from GO bus driver, Feb. 23

I agree 100 per cent with the student. She showed her ticket after boarding, but was ejected from the bus in tears, by the driver, who said "Get off my bus."

I was not aware drivers owned the bus they drive. If the driver had a daughter who was left at the side of the road, he would scream bloody murder.

By purchasing a student pass, there is an assumed contract between GO Transit and the rider. In my opinion GO Transit has breached that contract.

GO Transit is a publicly funded corporation. It exists to provide a service in return for payment via the ticket in a safe, clean, courteous manner. I would expect GO Transit would have this driver polish his people skills and offer an apology.

After all, we are the customer.

Rick Foster
Whitby

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letters that do not appear in print may be published @ newsdurhamregion.com

School Days

Mike Johnston
Managing Editor
mjohnston@durhamregion.com
newsdurhamregion.com

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JASON LIEBRECHTS/METROLAND

PICKERING -- Sir John A. Macdonald Public School is big on promoting eco-friendly issues. Some members of the school's eco team are, clockwise from top left, Sara Call, Madison Johnston, Erika Martin, Choniecy Cyrus, Olivia Joseph, Julia Rolling and Reanne Bremner.

SIR JOHN A. MACDONALD PUBLIC SCHOOL

Awesomeness rules day

Site is one of the older, but cooler ones around

BY TERRELL SPENCER

Sir John A. Macdonald is definitely one of the older schools around, but it is definitely the coolest one. It might not have new shiny floor tiles or new desks, but it is definitely a school with lots of excitement. Firstly, our teachers are awesome!

We are lucky to have French- and English-speaking teachers. Also, they're awesome because they aren't so strict. For example, my teacher, Mlle Saati, isn't strict, she's just firm and fun. She loves to do fun science experiments and always has something interesting to say. All the teachers are organized and

“The work at our school isn't too hard, or too easy. If I don't understand something, they are there for us.”

Terrell Spencer

are fun to play with. When we kids get too rough, the teachers explain to us our wrong actions and then we don't do it again.

The work at our school isn't too hard, or too easy. If I don't understand something, they are there for us. At our school, we have a tutoring program after school that helps us with things we don't understand. Secondly, our school has a lot of activities, like Junior S.T.A.R. (Students Together Against Racism). This is a program that teaches us about racism and how to be

leaders.

We had our whole school get involved in something called diversity dolls. Every student worked on decorating a doll that showed different students' ethnicity and culture. The dolls are awesome and I think everyone needs to come to our school and see them.

We also have many sports teams like soccer, floor hockey, volleyball, basketball and folk dancing. I was on the soccer team for two years in a row. It was so much fun having Mr. Cain and Mr. Naud as our

coach. They were always helping us to work on our skills and teaching us good sportsmanship.

Something new is happening at Sir John, we are becoming an ECO school. I think this is an awesome program. The ECO team goes into each class to see how good that class is at conserving energy and recycling. One of our school goals is the boomerang lunch, which means that we have to take the garbage from our lunches back home so our parents can place it in the compost bins.

I really can't wait until summer because I get to play soccer all day with my friends and spend time with the family, but the sad part is that I miss my friends at school and miss all the cool people who take care of us and who try to make our school a better place!

Terrell Spencer is a student in Grade 5 French Immersion.



Sir John A. Macdonald Public School in Pickering.

Language no barrier at Sir. John A. Macdonald

Public school was the first in Pickering to offer French immersion

PICKERING -- Sir John A. Macdonald Public School was established June 26, 1965.

The school received its name from the first prime minister of Canada, Sir John Alexander Macdonald. It was Vincent Massey, who at that time was governor general, who opened our school.

The very first principal at Sir John A. was Mr. Rudy Hubert.

The school underwent many changes. For example, the library was built as an extension to the school in the 1970s. Moreover, the gym portion was added in the '80s. It was Lennis Trotter who was the architect for our large gym.

In 1977, Sir John A. Macdonald was the first school in Pickering to offer French immersion. Students were travelling from all over Pickering in order to come to this school. This was an exciting change for students, parents and staff members.

Soon after, under the administration of John Hamilton and Brad Savard, the school celebrated the 50th anniversary of the school foundation. All the students and staff members participated and co-ordinated an assembly for this joyous occasion.

Fast facts:

Address: 777 Balaton Ave. Pickering
Phone number: 905-839-1159

newsdurhamregion.com



JASON LIEBREGTS / METROLAND

Keep peeling

Josiah Bowman, left, and Mitchell Fancey grate and peel potatoes for potato pancakes as Sir John A. Macdonald Public School. Grade 1 and 2 students learned measuring and math in a tasty way.

Head to the village on PA days

PICKERING -- Located right off Hwy. 7, the Pickering Museum Village's (PMV) PA Day Heritage Camp just might be what parents have been looking for. The camp provides games, crafts and themed activities for kids on this year's Professional Activity days. Activities will include: making hot chocolate, popping corn over an open fire, a winter hike, games and crafts with a winter nature theme. It will run from 9 a.m. to 3:15

p.m., and is \$32 per child. If parents wish, they can make use of the extend-a-camp option for an additional \$32. This allows parents to drop their children off as early as 7 a.m. and pick them up as late as 6 p.m. Children must be dropped off and picked up at PMV (2356 Concession Rd. #6), which is off Hwy. 7, and three kilometres east of Hwy. 407. Space is limited. Call 905-420-4621 or visit cityofpickering.com to register.



Utility and infrastructure location investigation at Finch Avenue, City of Pickering

ROAD CLOSURES

WORKS DEPARTMENT PUBLIC NOTICE

Residents and businesses are advised that Finch Avenue, from Rosefield Road to Brock Road, in the City of Pickering will be closed for utility and infrastructure location investigation, as detailed below.

Road closure

- WHERE:** Finch Avenue from Rosefield Road to Brock Road, City of Pickering
- WHEN:** March 14 to March 21, 2009
- WHY:** To determine underground utility and infrastructure locations in support of the proposed Southeast Collector Trunk Sewer project.
- NOTE:** Local access only during this closure. Detour routes will be posted to direct traffic accordingly.

The investigative work is to assist the design of the proposed project to increase capacity of the Southeast Collector Trunk sewer, crossing both Regional (York/Durham) and local municipal boundaries (Pickering/Markham). Please note that unfavourable weather conditions may influence the work schedule.

Local area residents will have access to their driveways whenever possible, however significant traffic delays should be expected for the duration of the investigation. Residents are asked to exercise additional caution for the safety of the workers.

We realize that the road closure will be disruptive to you, and we sincerely appreciate your patience and understanding in this regard.

For questions, please contact one of the following project team members. Project information is posted on the Regional Municipality of Durham's website as noted below. (www.durham.ca/studiesandprojects)

David Nagy	Alvaro Baca
Regional Municipality of Durham	Regional Municipality of York
905-668-7711 ext. 3497	905-830-4444 ext. 5091
david.nagy@durham.ca	alvaro.baca@york.ca

The Regional Municipality of Durham Works Department
605 Rossland Road East, Whitby ON L1N 6A3
Telephone 905-668-7711 or 1-800-372-1102
www.durham.ca

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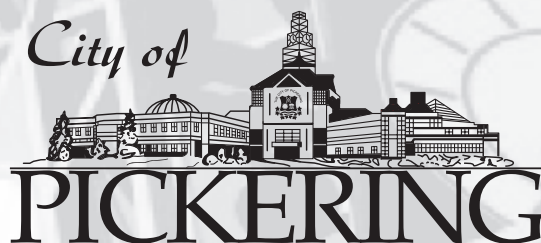
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Customer Care Centre 905.683.7575
Direct Access 905.420.4660
TTY Access 905.420.1739



cityofpickering.com

ATTEND PUBLIC MEETINGS AT CITY HALL

DATE	MEETING	TIME
Mar. 4	Committee of Adjustment	7:00 pm
Mar. 5	Advisory Committee on Race Relations & Equity	7:00 pm
Mar. 9	Executive Committee	7:30 pm
Mar. 19	Waterfront Coordinating Committee	7:00 pm
Mar. 23	Council Meeting	7:30 pm
Mar. 25	Committee of Adjustment	7:00 pm
Mar. 25	Accessibility Advisory Committee	7:00 pm
Mar. 26	Library Board - Central	7:00 pm

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

In Your Words & Expressions

The Pickering Advisory Committee on Race Relations & Equity with the Durham District School Board and the Durham Catholic District School Board invited students from grades 2 to 12 to submit a written or creative arts piece to the statement **"Imagining our diverse community where we are all treated with dignity, fairness and respect..."**

Contest Winners: WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS

Grade 2 - 5

1st Joren Romaniuk, Gr. 4
2nd Aliyah Clarke, Gr. 3
3rd Arianna Dossa, Gr. 3
HM Sara Kassem, Gr. 4

Grade 9 +

1st Andrea Suthakaran, Gr. 11
2nd Alex Jebson, Gr. 9

Grade 6 - 8

1st Linnea Kalchos, Gr. 8
2nd Emma Sharp, Gr. 8
3rd Mackenna Wood, Gr. 8

Contest Winners: CREATIVE ARTS SUBMISSIONS

Grade 2 - 5

1st Eshwari Nanjappan
& Nealob Kakar, Gr. 5
2nd Danyal Maqbool
& Ashley Corkin, Gr. 5
3rd Mahnoor Khan
& Julie Regis, Gr. 5
HM Mechaela Alfonso, Gr. 3

Grade 6 - 8

1st Michael Allison, Gr. 8
2nd Julia Santiago, Emma Price
& Danielle Mitrevski, Gr. 6
3rd Kris Hernandez, Gr. 6
HM Tavia Bakowski, Gr. 8
Honourable Mention:
Emily Anna Goodwin, Gr. 9

Please join us as students share their winning entries at the **2009 Race Relations Forum on Wednesday, March 25, 2009 at 7:00 pm in Council Chambers, One The Esplanade, Pickering.**

Visit our website for event details or the winning entries



**Saturday, April 11
at 10 am**

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Royal Canadian Legion,
Branch 606 proudly present the 2009 Easter Parade

Free lunch & children's activities at the Legion following the parade. 1555 Bayly Street (East of Sandy Beach Rd.)

Information & parade applications online at
cityofpickering.com/greatevents

It's COMING!

The Spring & Summer
City Services & Leisure Guide
will arrive *Wednesday, March 18*

Registration Begins

March 19 for aquatics &
March 23 for programs

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select the Click to Reg logo.



Call 905.420.4621 for Registration Information

Proposed Sign By-law

The City of Pickering is seeking comments from the public regarding a proposed sign by-law, which will replace the existing sign by-law, passed in 1987.

The draft by-law may be viewed on the City's website at cityofpickering.com or a copy may be obtained in person at the Pickering Civic Complex, Clerk's Division, 2nd Floor, between the hours of 8:30 am - 4:30 pm Monday through Friday.

The City of Pickering will hold a public open house on Thursday, March 26, 2009 from 7:00 - 9:00 pm at the Pickering Civic Complex, One The Esplanade, Pickering, Ontario, to solicit public input regarding the proposed sign by-law. Staff will be available to answer questions and receive comments. Written comments are also welcome. Please direct comments or questions to dbye@cityofpickering.com, or 905.420.4660 ext. 2052 or by mail to:

Pickering Civic Complex
Attention: Denise Bye
One The Esplanade, Pickering, ON L1V 6K7

A message from Pickering Fire Services

Fire won't wait! Plan Your Escape

Develop a home fire escape plan now and practice it regularly. Make sure that every family member knows two ways out of every room.

Fire Safety information available online at cityofpickering.com,
by email: fire@cityofpickering.com or by phone: 905.839.9968

Sunday Afternoon
Big Band
Featuring The George Lake Big Band
- light refreshments provided
Entertainment Sponsored by... Chartwell Select
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Sunday, March 29 2:00 - 4:00 pm
Pickering Recreation Complex • 1867 Valley Farm Road

Tickets on sale Monday, March 9

Pickering Recreation Complex 905.831.1711
East Shore Community Centre 905.420.6588
For details call 905.420.6588 or check the city website

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West Shore Community Centre



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FREE BUSSING
for Arts & Sports Campers



**Wednesday,
March 18
10 am - 2 pm**

March Break Fun!

Experience the winter trail "Settler Style". Stops include log sawing, nature activities, outdoor games, and cooking over an open fire. Dress for the weather, and plan to stop in our soup cafe at the end of your trek. A special trail for those with a compass!

Backwoods Players present their Annual Dessert Theatre

SPOON RIVER Anthology

Performances take place at Brougham Hall on
March 27, 28 & April 4 at 8:00 pm, March 29 & April 5 at 2:00 pm.
Tickets are available for \$15 at Pickering Museum Village,
Pickering Recreation Complex, or by calling 905.683.8401



It's no old wives tale, it's just 10
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and watch for the bell tower.

cityofpickering.com/museum 905.683.8401

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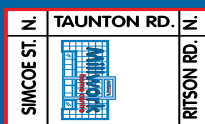
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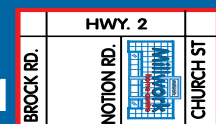
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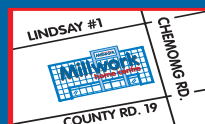
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Pickering set to flick switch for Earth Hour

The lights go out in the city on March 28

PICKERING -- The City of Pickering is one of 680 cities across the globe already committed to turning the lights out for Earth Hour.

At 8:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 28, the City will turn off non-essential lighting at all municipal buildings where feasible for one hour. This year's campaign is featuring "the first global election between Earth and global warming."

Basically, those who switch off their lights will be voting for Earth, and those who leave them on will vote for global warming. The results will be presented to world leaders at the Global Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen 2009.

Pickering Council decided at its latest meeting to vote for Earth in Earth Hour 2009.

Mayor Dave Ryan, in a press release, said by participating in Earth Hour, it's a great way for Pickering to continue to lead the

Cooking with the Youth Centre this march break

PICKERING -- Ajax and Pickering teens aged 13 to 19 are invited to strap on their aprons and head to the kitchen.

Youths can practise cooking skills at three free sessions where they will learn how to make easy meal items with a registered dietician. Participants will learn tips for healthy eating and how to get involved in planning meals at home.

The program is offered over three afternoons on March 16, 17 and 18 from 1 to 3:30 p.m. at the East Shore Community Centre, 910 Liverpool Rd. S., Pickering. Pre-registration is required.

For more information or to register call the centre at 905-428-1212 ext. 239 or e-mail amyn@theyouthcentre.ca.

way in sustainability.

"Earth Hour is a brilliant campaign that has resonated with millions of people globally," he said. "However, if we are to become true agents of change, we must incorporate these types of actions into our everyday lives."

Pickering is encouraging all households, businesses and institutions to participate in the event as part of the Sustainable Pickering Challenge. To register or for more information, visit www.earthhour.org.

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Wednesday March 4, 2009

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* Kosho Ryu Martial Arts Centre	Ajax
* Lowes	Ajax
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* Real Estate	Ajax/Pick.
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6 Harwood Ave. S., Ajax

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Ajax and Pickering Locations

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Highest and lowest scores across Durham

Ajax

▲	St. Francis de Sales:	8.6
▼	Southwood Park, Bolton C. Falby:	3.8

Pickering

▲	St. Anthony Daniel:	8.9
▼	Elizabeth B. Phin:	5.3

Whitby

▲	Pringle Creek:	8.5
▼	St. Paul, St. Bridget (Brooklin):	5.4

Oshawa

▲	Dr. S.J. Phillips, John XXIII:	8.2
▼	Glen Street:	2.0

Clarington

▲	Ontario Street (Bowmanville):	7.1
▼	Courtice North (Courtice):	2.7

Uxbridge

▲	St. Joseph (Uxbridge):	7.8
▼	Scott Central (Sandford):	5.6

Scugog

▲	Immaculate Conception (Port Perry):	9.7
▼	Cartwright Central (Blackstock):	2.8

Brock

▲	McCaskill's Mills (Cannington):	5.1
▼	Thorah Central (Beaverton):	2.5

EDUCATION

Port Perry school tops in region

Fraser Institute releases annual report card

DURHAM -- Once again, instead of doing the grading, schools are getting graded with the annual release of the Fraser Institute's report card on Ontario elementary schools.

Scores are determined by each school's performance on the province-wide Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) tests in reading, writing and math for Grade 3 and 6 students. But Durham's public school board won't be putting much stock into the Fraser report.

"I think the ranking can be detrimental," said Luigia Ayotte, Durham District School Board's superintendent of programs. "All this does is take the raw (EQAO) data and ranks."

The results in Durham were all over the map. Immaculate Conception Catholic School in Port Perry came in with the highest score, a 9.7, rising from an 8.0 last year. The school has been improving in rank since 2004. Oshawa's Glen Street Public School came in lowest at 2.0. However, the school showed an improvement from last year when it received a 0.7.

The board knew from EQAO results, as well as from its own diagnostic testing, that Glen Street Public School needed extra supports; the Fraser offers none of the meaningful information that the EQAO provides, she added.

Overall in Ontario, 24 schools achieved a perfect score of 10. Most of the schools are located in the GTA. On the bottom end of the scale, seven schools received zeros. The report ranked 2,778 Ontario elementary schools this year, including public, Catholic and French schools.

"I feel the Fraser report is quite limited," Ms. Ayotte said, adding it only looks at the EQAO results and gender gaps. "There are other things that go into the making of good educating of students."

Instead of including parents' average level of education for each school, the Fraser Institute's report card included average incomes this year.

"My response to that, it doesn't matter what the income ... our job as educators is to make sure every student gets the best education possible," Ms. Ayotte said. The highest average income schools did not score the highest

marks. In Ajax, Eagle Ridge P.S. parents' average income was \$118,200, but the school scored a 7.4. At top school, Immaculate Concep-

tion, the parents' average income was \$61,500. However, the lowest ranked school also had the lowest average income of \$26,700.

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I think the ranking
can be detrimental.”

-- Luigia Ayotte, Durham
District School Board

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Whitby Mental Health Centre

Introduction of Paid Parking System

Whitby Mental Health Centre (WMHC) has announced the implementation of a paid parking system effective April 1, 2009. The system will apply to vehicles parked at 700 Gordon Street in Whitby.

Revenue generated from paid parking will be applied direct to hospital programs and services. Pay and display parking stations, managed by Precise ParkLink Inc., will be located throughout the 700 Gordon Street parking lot, accepting coins, Visa, MasterCard or American Express credit cards. Parking rates are applicable as of April 1, 2009. Visitor pay and display rate is \$2.00

per hour up to a maximum of \$8.00 per day. Frequent visitors will have the option of purchasing daily permits at a discounted rate of 10 visits for \$50.00 or 20 visits for \$80.00. Frequent visitor cards can be purchased at WMHC switchboard (Building 1, Level 2) More information about WMHC's parking policy can be found at www.whitbymentalcentre.ca.

Whitby Mental Health Centre (WMHC) is a public hospital that provides a range of specialized mental health programs in Durham Region, York Region, Scarborough, Toronto, Haliburton, Northumberland, Peterborough Counties and the City of Kawartha Lakes.

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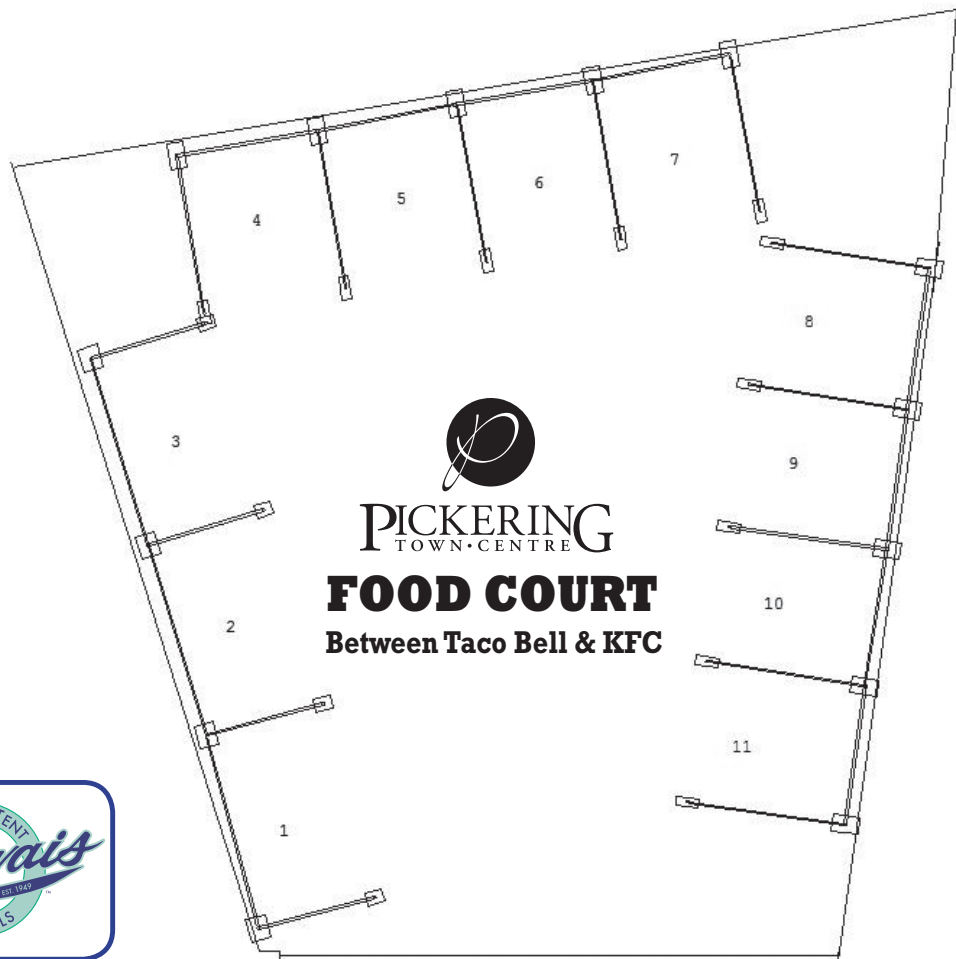
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Durham seeks input on strategy

Four open houses in the Region in March, including Pickering meeting

DURHAM -- A series of open houses are being held later this month on a long-term transit strategy.

Durham Region Transit is hosting the events to gather input as it moves on to the next stage of the strategy. Durham wants to develop a plan for rapid transit and the long-term strategy will try to anticipate transportation demands from 2031 to 2056.

"The long-term strategy will identify new service and technology needs in advance, like bus rapid transit and new green technologies.

The strategy will lead Durham Region into the future and develop a transit system that fully meets the needs of residents and businesses," Phil Meagher, DRT's deputy general manager, operations, said in a press release.

The first open house is set for Tuesday, March 24, from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Beaverton Community Centre, 176 Main St., Beaverton.

The second is on Wednesday, March 25, again from 6 to 9 p.m., at the Newcastle Community Hall, 20 King Ave. W., Newcastle.


Vendors Alley at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology, 2000 Simcoe St. N., Oshawa is the site of the third transit session, on Thursday, March 26, from 2 to 7 p.m.

An information table will be set up at the Pickering Town Centre from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 28.

The centre is at Liverpool Road and Hwy. 2.

The cost to develop the strategy is being paid by the provincial and federal governments.

For more information, visit www.durhamlongterm-transitstrategy.com.



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ART IN THE SCHOOLS

Minister plugs new Greenbelt art contest at Ajax school visit

BY KEITH GILLIGAN

kgilligan@durhamregion.com

AJAX -- Matthew Mawby and Melissa Fernandes have been studying the Greenbelt at school and they had a chance to show off what they'd learned.

Matthew and Melissa, Grade 5 students at St. Patrick Catholic School in Ajax, showed Jim Watson, the provincial minister of municipal affairs and housing, the importance of the Greenbelt last week.

Watson was at the school last Thursday to promote an I Love the Greenbelt art contest for elementary and secondary school students.

Speaking to the 27 Grade 5 students of teacher Kathleen Hardy, Watson said the Province wants to "protect forever and ever" the Greenbelt.

The art contest coincides with the fourth anniversary of the creation of the Greenbelt, a swath of 1.8-million acres stretching across a portion of Ontario, from the Niagara Escarpment through Durham Region to Northumberland County.

Matthew, 10, said his artwork was a landscape showing birds, trees, plants and a sunset.

"I like it because it helps preserve nature, trees, plants and animals," Matthew said of the Greenbelt. "It's very special for him to come to our school and talk about the Greenbelt."

Her class is doing a unit on energy and energy conservation, incorporating global warming and the Greenbelt into that, Hardy said.

Melissa, 10, also included a sunset in her artwork.

"I think they're really beautiful."

While studying the Greenbelt, Melissa was surprised at "how big it is and how many farms there are. I was surprised there are over 7,000 farms.

"I didn't know how many different animals that are there," Melissa said.

In size, the Greenbelt is larger than P.E.I., Watson said.

"So, we've protected a whole lot of space for trees and animals."

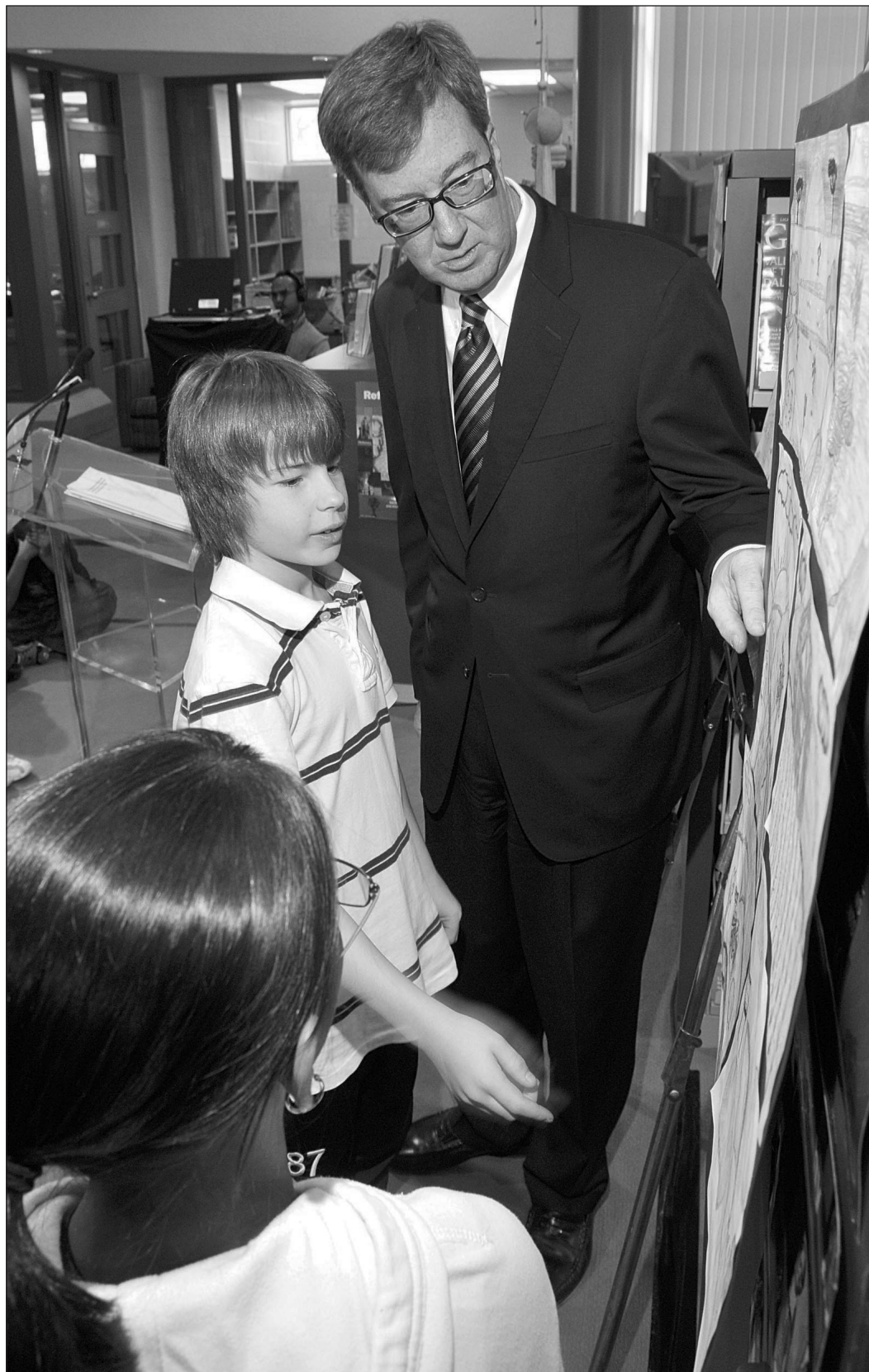
The Town "has been a great supporter of the Greenbelt," Ajax Mayor Steve Parish said, noting all land in Ajax north of Taunton Road and east of Audley Road is in the Greenbelt.

"The future of the Greenbelt is right here," he said of the students. "They will be voters and if they support it, it will be in good hands."

For the art contest, submissions should showcase elements of the Greenbelt, such as recreation, wildlife, activities or food from the Greenbelt.

The deadline is March 30 and the winning entry will be announced in June.

For more information on the contest, visit www.mah.gov.on.ca.



AJ GROEN / NEWS ADVERTISER PHOTO

To celebrate the fourth anniversary of Ontario's greenbelt, Jim Watson, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, was at St. Patrick Catholic School to launch new awards for original art. Looking at some submissions with the minister are Matthew Mawby and Melissa Fernandes.

FILM

Catch 'Happy Go Lucky' in Ajax

AJAX -- The Ajax Film Circuit is screening 'Happy Go Lucky' on March 11.

Mike Leigh's film will be shown at 7 p.m. at the Ajax Cineplex Odeon, 248 Kingston Rd. E. (at Salem Road), Ajax.

Tickets are \$7 if bought in advance from the Ajax Public Library (Main or McLean branch) or \$7.50 at the door.

No Circuit membership is required.

ART SHOW

Durham artists exhibit in Mexico, Toronto this winter

DURHAM -- A group of local artists is going international this winter.

This month, four members of the IRIS Group will have their works on display at a group exhibition at the Kunsthau Sante Fe Gallery in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico. Laura Hair, Margaret Rodgers, Sally Thurlow and Wendy Wallace have works in Deviant Detours, an exhibition produced by the Red Head Gallery in Toronto.

Artists of the Red Head Gallery reflect on the fragility of the natural landscape, social environment and methods of communication. Rodgers focuses on urban regeneration, Thurlow on memory, Hair on organic form and Wallace on urban landscape as cultural symbol.

Rodgers and Thurlow will help with the installation and opening while Wallace will close the exhibition.

Rodgers and Thurlow have been invited to talk at the Instituto de Cultura de la Ciudad de Leon. Wallace will give a talk at the University of Guanajuato.

The exhibit runs to March 29.

Closer to home, the IRIS Group exhibits at the Red Head Gallery, 115-401 Richmond St. W., Toronto, in Edge.

The artists, Rowena Dykins, Hair, Maralynn Cherry, Holly McClellan, Mary Ellen McQuay, Rodgers, Thurlow and Wallace, have created interpretations of edge and themselves representing artists in the GTA edge communities, along Hwy. 401. This exhibit runs March 4 to 28 with a reception March 6 at 6 p.m.

IRIS was formed in 1996 as a forum to raise levels of access for women in the arts, to share ideas and offer support.

NCAA HOCKEY

Pickering's Wakefield in running for top hockey award

PICKERING -- A Pickering player on the University of New Hampshire women's hockey team has been acknowledged for her outstanding season.

Jenn Wakefield, a sophomore forward on the fifth-ranked University of New Hampshire Wildcats, is among the finalists for the Patty Kazmaier Award, which goes to the top female hockey player in U.S. college hockey.

The Dunbarton High School graduate, a sophomore at the university, leads the nation in both power-play (13) and game-winning (nine) goals. She ranks third nationally in goals per game (1.07) as well as second in shorthanded goals (four) and 12th in points per game (1.63). Wakefield registered 32-17-49 totals this season, leading her team in power-play goals, shorthanded goals, game-winning goals, points and shots. She is also second in shooting percentage (.179) and fourth in plus/minus (+17).

UNH (22-5-5, 16-2-3 WHEA) ended the regular season with a 13-game winning streak en route to winning its sixth consecutive Hockey East regular-season title.

TRAMPOLINE

Robinson bounces to triple gold at Ontario Cup event

AJAX -- An Ajax trampolinist soared to three gold medals while competing at the second Ontario Cup qualifier in Toronto last weekend.

Brandon Robinson, a member of the Skyriders Trampoline Place under the direction of national and Olympic team coach Dave Ross, competed at the national youth category at the Ontario Cup event.

There, he earned gold in the national mixed synchro event with partner Mariah Madigan, of Toronto. His second gold came in the national synchro event with partner Greg Tomczak of Mississauga. His final gold came on individual trampoline.

Although he swept all three categories in his division, Robinson had already qualified for nationals after the first Ontario Cup qualifier held earlier this year.

He'll now compete at the Canadian National Junior Trampoline Championships in Hamilton in late May.

VOLLEYBALL

Pickering's Landis a star

Local volleyball player leads Humber to gold

BY SHAWN CAYLEY

scayley@durhamregion.com

OSHAWA -- Despite being considered one of the top female volleyball players in the OCAA, Pickering's Landis Doyle was genuinely surprised when a little hardware came her way last week.

Doyle, a 20-year-old graduate of Dunbarton High School, was named the OCAA women's volleyball player of the year during last week's awards banquet in advance of the championship tournament at Durham College in Oshawa.

"I didn't expect it, to be honest," Doyle said during the OCAA championships. "It's humbling I guess. I don't want to take all the credit for it. I didn't get it on my own. My team helped me get it and my coaches (too). I don't think I would have earned it without my team."

Doyle's Humber Hawks brought home some hardware from Oshawa as well with a gold medal after a 3-1 win against Nipissing Saturday night at the Campus Athletic Centre. They will head to North Bay for the National Championships March 12-14.

Dedication and desire to succeed, says Doyle, have been the consistent elements that have allowed the Hawks to soar this season.

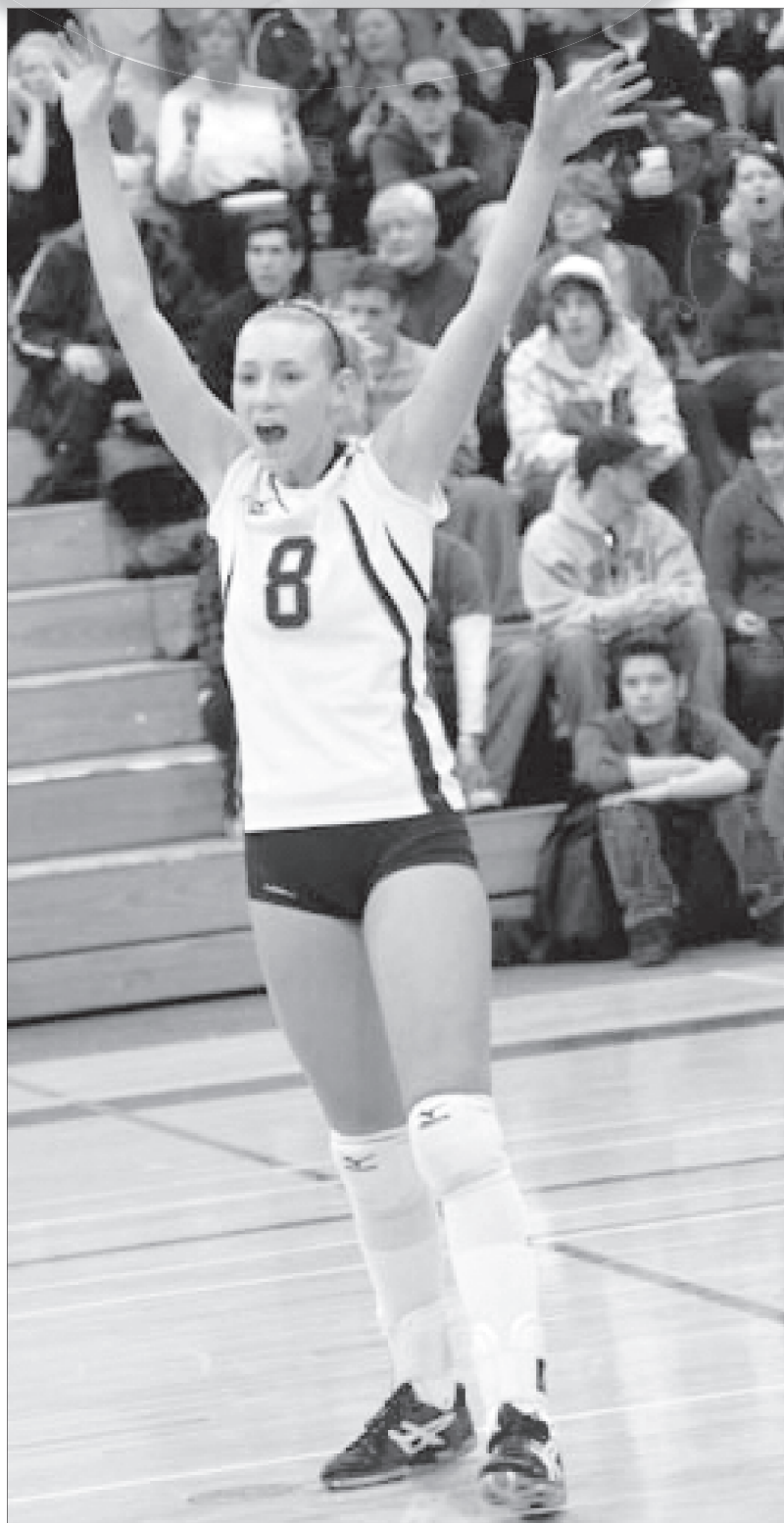
"Hard work every night at practice," commented Doyle, who averaged 4.22 points a game as Humber dominated their way to a perfect 20-0 regular season. "We run our butts off and work hard trying to stay consistent ... we're really deep in talent and we try to have it show on the court, not individually, but as a team."

As for the key to her success, chalk that one up to pure love for the sport.

"I just love playing the sport. I just want to go out and play hard every game," Doyle explained.

Doyle first hit the court in elementary school, but really got going in the sport at the club level, joining the Durham Attack before attending Dunbarton.

She is about to finish her third season at Humber and, in addition to her player of the year nod, earned a nomination as an All-Canadian.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Landis Doyle, of Pickering, was named the OCAA women's volleyball player of the year. She led her Humber Hawks to the provincial title, and will now seek gold at the National Championships in North Bay.

Ladouceur started as a Rock, and finished as one

Former Ajax-Pickering Sr. B player calls it quits

WHITBY -- Over his 10-year career in the National Lacrosse League, Dan Ladouceur never changed his style of play or the team he suited up for.

In the end, both are admirable and respected legacies.

The end came a couple of weeks ago when Ladouceur, the 6-foot-6, 245-pounder nicknamed 'Big Dog,' retired from the Toronto Rock.

"I think the writing was on the wall with the coaching change,"

says the 35-year-old of the change behind the bench when Jamie Batley took over from Glenn Clark just three games into the season.

"The new coaching regime was coming in with a different style. Any time you change coaches, they have their own idea of what they need for personnel to implement their system.

"They wanted a different style of defence than I have or am able to provide in the run and gun, where as I traditionally have been and always will be a stay at home guy."

When the Whitby resident received a call from Mike Kloepfer, Director of Lacrosse Oper-

ations, with the news that the club wouldn't be able to offer him much floor time, and asked if he was interested in going to another team or retiring as a Toronto Rock, Ladouceur says the decision was an easy one.

He started as a Rock, and retired as a Rock. His Rock roots also extend into Ajax-Pickering, where he spent time playing with the Sr. B Rock.

"The ability to stay with one franchise my entire career has been a source of pride for me," he says of opting for retirement.

"To maintain your value and the fact they want you in their organization, that you're good for the organization brings a sense

of pride."

Ladouceur began his career with the Rock in 1999, earning five championship rings along the way. The highlights include 2000, winning both the NLL title with the Rock and Mann Cup championship with the Brooklyn Redmen, as well as the NLL title in 2005 when the Rock, considered underdogs, proved the naysayers wrong.

Including playoffs, Ladouceur played 150 games all told, scoring six times and adding 12 assists. His career penalty minutes total over that time is 447, which stands as a league record. It's a mark he's not ashamed of.

"I played the role and did what

needed to be done and it ended up in a whole lot of penalty minutes," he says. "I did what had to be done and I'm proud about that. Say what you want about it. I was asked to do a job and I did it.

"Goal scorers are measured in goals and guys who do other jobs are measured in other ways."

The 14-year veteran of the Durham Regional Police plans to take some much-deserved time off from training, with plans to coach his daughter's minor lacrosse team, as well as join Team Ontario again this summer in some sort of coaching capacity.

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prime and sub-prime customers, which are progressively higher risks than the near-prime customer. This customer is typically concerned with monthly payments and getting approval. They are typically driven to dealerships through advertising that acknowledges people with poor credit and offers financial sources for them. Auto buyers with blemished credit may wonder how they can get approved to buy a car. The answer is 'sub prime' auto financing. When seeking a 'sub prime' auto loan the question shouldn't be just, "How do I get approved?" The better question to ask is, "How do I get approved for the best 'sub prime' auto financing available.

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Attack Black girls golden at Challenge Cup

DURHAM -- The Durham Attack 15U Black girls' volleyball team was the golden girls of the Challenge Cup event in Brampton recently.

Twelve of the top under-15 girls' teams in the Ontario Volleyball Association met at Mayfield Secondary School for the day of competition.

Amid fierce competition, the Attack earned a measure of revenge over a strong Maverick Ambush squad from Ottawa in the gold-medal final. Durham Attack took the first game 25-21. The second game was a point-by-point battle and finished with a 25-23 win for the Mavericks. Durham Attack dug deep and came up victorious, taking the third game 15-11.

Earlier in the season, the Mavericks had beaten the Attack at the 16U McGregor Cup.

Durham Attack took the first pool-play match against DRVC 15 Blue 25-20 and 25-22. Impact 15U came to the court for the second match determined to win, and win they did with scores of 25-22 and

25-23. When the dust settled, the three teams in the pool were tied for matches won, so points were counted and Durham Attack ended up first in the pool by three points.

In the crossover playoff game against Titans Nemesis, the first game went to the Titans 25-23. Durham Attack took the second 25-16 and after an amazing serving run, came from behind to take the tie-breaker 15-12.

Next up was Storm Thunder from Aurora, which always represents a fight to the finish. This match followed a familiar pattern as the first game went to Storm 25-12, the second to Attack 25-16 and the tie-breaker went to Attack 15-12.

Attack Black players and coaches are John Dean, Shannon Dean, Chantal Cormier, Carrol Anne Walker, Olivia Henderson, Amanda Vitums, Ashleigh Andzel, Rayan Bourne, Lisa Elliott, Kevin Hellyer, Dave Horne, Nicole Vandenheuvel, Sara Horne, Becky Wilson and Riana McNeill.

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Attack bow out in four straight

Ajax optimistic about future success

By Brad Kelly
bkelly@durhamregion.com

AJAX -- In the end, the Ajax Attack had everything going for it except one vital characteristic needed to win in the playoffs.

Experience.
That was the word head coach Carey Durant rolled out as the one thing his team lacked in the Ruddock Division semifinal series against the Kingston Voyageurs. After rolling through the Bowmanville Eagles in four games of their best-of-five opening round series, the Attack was swept away by Kingston in four straight, bowing out on home ice Saturday by a 5-0 count.

"Not having any playoff experience, I think that we obviously geared ourselves up quite a bit for Bowmanville and then obviously had a little bit of a letdown in the first couple of games we played against Kingston," said Durant, looking back over the series.

It didn't take long for the high of win-

ning the first playoff series in franchise history to evaporate against the division leaders from Kingston, who jumped all over the Attack in the opening two games of the best-of-seven with wins of 11-1 and 9-1. The Attack regrouped and came up with strong effort in Game 3, edged 4-3, before getting blanked in Game 4.

Durant noted that his young hockey club could have played better against Kingston, but was a little overwhelmed and not used to the grind of junior hockey playoffs.

The fifth place finish and playoff series win this season will serve as a strong building block moving forward.

"I'm so proud of our team, the whole organization," praised Durant, who intends to be back behind the bench next season. "Our ownership is good, the general manager on our team has done an outstanding job and so have the assistant coaches.

"Our success this year was collectively shared as a group. Everyone pitched in."

Kingston now awaits the winner of the other division semifinal between Peterborough and Lindsay, which was extended to a seventh and deciding game on Tuesday (after our deadline).



PHOTO BY MICHAEL JURYSTA

Ian Watters, of the Ajax Attack, soldiers on in the Kingston crease despite being surrounded. The Kingston Voyageurs won the game 5-0 and swept the best-of-seven Ontario Junior Hockey League playoff series.

TRAMPOLINE

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PICKERING -- A Pickering Athletic Centre power tumbler earned a podium spot after competing at the 2nd Cup event in Etobicoke on Feb. 14.

Five provincial-stream power tumblers from the Pickering club competed at the meet. Topping the Pickering contingent was Stella Medley, who finished third overall in the provincial 'C' age 13/14 age group.

Jaime Stipetic earned sixth-place over-

all while competing in the Level 'B' age 14-and-over age group.

Alexandra Sanidas finished 10th and Robyn Barefoot was 11th overall in the provincial 'C' age 15-and-over age bracket.

Mia Chevelleau placed 16th overall in the provincial 'C' age 11 division.

Power tumbling athletes at the Pickering Athletic Centre are coached by Meaghan Millar.

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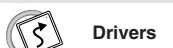
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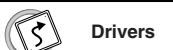
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Death Notices

LANG, Roger Richard - passed away at Ajax Pickering General Hospital on February 24th, 2009 at age 79. Roger, beloved husband of Christine for 54 years, loving father of Brenda (Mike), Bruce (Patti), Carol (Bruce), Maria (Ken), Denise (Rick), David (Maureen) and Glenn (Sue). Proud and loving Papa of Monica (Andrew), Warren, Keith (Kristan), Neil (Tanya), Jake (Christine), Kevin, Kristin, Shannon (Dave) Laura, Michael, Matthew, Jason, Natasha, Devin, Scott, Melissa, David, Christopher, Rebecca, Emily and Richard. Great Grandfather of Nathan, Kaitlyn, Holly and Ella. Roger will be sadly missed by his extended family and friends. The family wishes to express their gratitude to Dr Baker and the 2 East staff at Ajax Pickering Hospital for their care and compassion for Roger. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Ajax Pickering Hospital, Maternal Newborn Services, 580 Harwood Avenue South, Ajax would be greatly appreciated. Friends will be received at ACCETONE FUNERAL HOME, 384 Finley Avenue, Ajax, Ontario on March 7th, 2009 from 10 a.m to 12 p.m. A Celebration of Roger's life will take place at 12 p.m in the chapel of the funeral home, a reception will follow.

WILKINS, Terry - Passed away after a brief illness on Sunday March 1, 2009 at Lake-ridge Health Oshawa in his 69th year. Beloved husband of Dorothy Wilkins (nee Miller). Loving father of Mike (Julie) and Stephanie (Scott). Terry will also be sadly missed by sisters Wendy, Nancy, and Kathy, extended family members, and friends. The family will receive friends at the **McEACHNIE FUNERAL HOME**, 28 Old Kingston Road, Pickering Village (Ajax), 905-428-8488 on Wednesday from 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. Funeral Service at **St. Paul's United Church** (65 Kings Cres., Ajax, ON) on Thursday March 5, 2009 at 11:00 am. Should family or friends so desire, donations to St. Paul's United Church or the Canadian Cancer Society would be greatly appreciated by the family. A book of condolences may be signed at www.mceachnie-funeral.ca

DEATH NOTICE LISTINGS

For Audio on current deaths, call 905-683-3005
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Don & Greg Corneil Auctioneers
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(705) 786-2183 for more info. or pictures go to: www.theauctionadvertiser.com/DCorneil
open for viewing Thursday from 8:30am to 4pm and 7pm to 9pm and Friday morning at 9am

Generals clinging to playoff spot

Northern trip yields pair of losses

BY BRIAN MCNAIR
bmcnair@durhamregion.com

OSHAWA -- The Oshawa Generals let an excellent opportunity to solidify a playoff spot slip past this weekend.

Playing up north against two of the weaker teams in the Ontario Hockey League, the Generals came away empty-handed, falling 4-3 to the Sudbury Wolves Friday and 3-2 to the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds Saturday.

The loss to the Wolves was particularly damaging, as it allowed Sudbury to move two points ahead of the Generals in the Eastern Conference standings.

So, with six games remaining for all three teams, the Wolves are in seventh place with 56 points, followed by the Generals with 54 and the Peterborough Petes with 53.

In other words, Sunday's game at the General Motors Centre is shaping up to be one of huge playoff implications, as the Generals and Petes square off at 6:05 p.m.

But Chris DePiero, head coach and general manager of the Generals, isn't ready to look that far ahead, with games Thursday in Barrie and Friday at home against the Belleville Bulls.

"Our whole approach has been about going step by step, game by game," says

DePiero. "It's not about what game is three games from now or two games from now. Right now we have to worry about the Barrie Colts and, from our perspective, that's all that counts at this point. I don't want to get too far ahead and the guys don't want to get too far ahead."

DePiero was pleased enough with the effort turned in this past weekend, especially on Friday, when the Generals peppered 46 shots at Wolves goalie Andrew Loverock Friday, 20 alone in a desperate third-period comeback bid.

But, despite a two-goal, three-point night from Brett Parnham and a power-play goal by Jeff Brown with 12:15 remaining, the Generals couldn't overcome a 4-2 Wolves lead built on a pair of goals by Matt Dias in the second period.

It was another tight game Saturday, as the Greyhounds snapped a 1-1 tie with two goals early in the third period before Alexander Denezhkin scored the final goal for the Generals with 7:32 remaining.

"Unfortunately it's a break here and a break there that right now we're not getting," explained DePiero, who believes all four of the games during a current losing streak could have gone the other way.

GENERALLY SPEAKING -- Michael Zador made both weekend starts, facing 38 shots Friday and 36 more Saturday... **Robert Kousal** scored his seventh goal of the season Saturday, a power-play marker that opened the scoring... Brett Parnham now

has 43 goals, second in the OHL behind former teammate **John Tavares**, who has 52... **Jeff Brown** had three weekend points, giving him 14 in 13 games in February... **Victor Terreri** assisted on Kousal's goal, his first point in five games a General.

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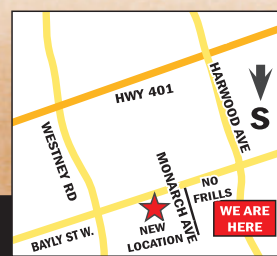
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