

Computer diagnosis accurate - YTA told

Eight doctors from the Stanford Medical School were recently forced to swallow their pride when a computer-generated diagnosis of 10 meningitis cases was rated more acceptable than any of the doctors.

That's what Dr. George Luger, a Professor of Computer Science at the University of New Mexico, recently told 180 members of the York Technology Association in a recent seminar about a new phase of computer technology called Artificial Intelligence. The seminar was the first in YTA's Spotlight on Technology series.

Currently being used by the Japanese to develop computers, Artificial Intelligence mathematically analyzes data

and weights assumptions to reach a conclusion.

To illustrate the practical uses of these knowledge-based systems, Dr. Luger used two programs — Mycin and Prospector.

The Mycin program was deemed more accurate than the eight Stanford doctors by eight infectious disease experts from around the United States.

Prospector is being used in resource exploration to evaluate data from soil analyses and land studies to pinpoint natural resource deposits like oil and natural gas.

Under development for 20 years, Artificial Intelligence will eventually be applied to business and military applications.



Standard Trust opens

Standard Trust on Markham's Main Street officially opened its new offices recently with a ribbon cutting ceremony. Doing the honors are Susan Gustafsson; Brian O'Malley, president

Standard Trust; York North MP Tony Roman; Lachlan Cattagah; Alen McNicholl, Standard Trust branch manager; and Barb Andrews. — Sjoerd Witteveen

Task force to look at jobs and education

The Ontario Liberal Task Force on School and Work will be conducting its third hearing on Tuesday, February 26, from 1:30-9:45 p.m. at the Thornhill Community Centre.

The Task Force was set up to investigate the problem of youth unemployment and the apparent failure of the educational system to prepare our young people for changing job markets.

Representatives from the community, from business and labor to education and manufacturing, are invited to make submissions to the Task Force. Their views, concerns and personal "success stories" will serve to help the Task Force formulate a workable "school-to-work" policy.

Task Force Co-Chairman MPP Sean Conway (Renfrew North) will be joined by Ron Maheu, Liberal Candidate for York Centre to hear submissions. Mr. Maheu, who wants to ensure a secure future for our children, was instrumental in bringing the Task Force to the riding.

"Schools are not training our students for the specific jobs in the marketplace today," says Mr. Maheu. "There has to be much more emphasis on skills training relevant to the work force rather than relying on the traditional 20 year old curriculum presently in effect," he says.

Mr. Maheu feels the Conservative Government has not adequately addressed this issue. He says, "At a time when changes in Ontario's education system and implementation of youth employment projects should be top priority, the Government continues to underfund educational/training institutions and cancels job creation programs."

"Government and business have to share the responsibility for job creation and job training," says Mr. Maheu. "Greater co-operation between business, government and educators combined with increased funding for new educational programs will certainly reduce soaring youth unemployment and give Ontario's young people the best opportunity to succeed in the workplace," he says.

Mr. Maheu says the people who make submissions to the Task Force will provide insight into the school-to-work problem and will assist the Task Force in finding solutions.

The Task Force looks forward to hearing a variety of submissions from all sectors. For more information about making submissions, contact; Ms. Carol Beckman, Policy Analyst, Queen's Park, Tel. 965-3976.

New spaghetti house opens in Markham

Opening in two weeks, the Old Village Spaghetti House at 346 Main St. will offer diners Eurothentic Italian cooking, says owner Vera Pollo.

The 38-seat restaurant will be licensed and Mrs. Pollo says her husband, Lorenzo, has a few "secrets up his sleeve" as far as recipes go.

Featuring a full-range of Italian dishes, the restaurant will also offer homemade hamburgers, french fries, onion rings and veal and sausage sandwiches. A take-out service is also offered.

Opening a restaurant is something the Pollo's have

always wanted to do. According to Mrs. Pollo, the time was right and so was the location.

The restaurant will open at 11 a.m. for lunch and close at 1 a.m.

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Business guide termed Regional reference tool

The first comprehensive listing of York Region industries has now been completed.

The York Region Industrial Reference Guide, containing information on more than 1,800 industries or industrial-related firms, is expected to be a valuable business tool. For those in York Region, the 128-page directory offers a line of communication to buyers and sellers, suppliers and consumers, services and clients.

For companies and individuals outside York, the directory provides an overview of the Region's industrial sector and is expected to attract more companies to York's corporate neighborhood.

Regional Chairman Eldred King, in his introduction, termed the guide a "useful, comprehensive and timely publication that will both inform the rest of Ontario about York Region and help us sell ourselves to ourselves".

In addition to the directory listings, the reference guide

includes editorial materials outlining the economic development prospects for each of York's nine municipalities, as well as statistical information on the Region and the municipalities.

Mr. King congratulated the directory's publisher, Fred Gerard of Alcoma Communications, for an outstanding co-operative effort between private enterprise and government. The chairman noted the directory was produced at no cost to the Region, but with the Region retaining full editorial control.

Copies of the directory are being distributed to all industries listed; York's nine municipalities; federal, provincial and local trade and development offices; members of federal and provincial governments; Canada's top 100 industries; and targeted industrial development prospects.

Direct sales of the directory are being handled by Alcoma Communications of Markham. Individuals or companies wishing to obtain copies may contact Alcoma at (416) 474-1895.

DID YOU KNOW...

That 70.3% of adults in the Markham/Stouffville area read the Economist/Tribune compared to only 23% who read the Toronto Sun? **Now You Know.** (Source: Kubas and Associates study, March 1984. Details on request.)



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