

INCOME TAX RETURNS

(416) 640-1769
640-1778

GEORGE W. BRODIE
Certified General Accountant

157 MAIN ST. W.
STOUFFVILLE, ONT.

Group helps benefit the town

KATE GILDERDALE
Correspondent

Most people have heard of the Stouffville BIA (Business Improvement Area) but may not be aware of the organization's precise role in the workings of the town.

Sandra Stronach, who has been chairman of the BIA for the past three years, agrees that a public education program is overdue.

The group has decided to rent a booth at the Chamber of Commerce's first Home Show, which takes place at the Rec Complex May 4-6.

Business Improvement Area

"We would like people living in Whitchurch-Stouffville to realize that the BIA isn't a group of people being helped by the municipality," explains Mrs. Stronach. "We pay our own share of both business and property taxes and we're just a group of merchants who got together by forming an organization with the government."

There's a misconception that the BIA is the only beneficiary of such undertakings as the recent

street improvements, spearheaded by the organization and assisted by the provincial government's PRIDE grant, she says.

"But it's good for the whole town because it enhances our downtown area and that's where people like to come."

A BIA is an association of business people who join together to promote their mutual interests. It covers a specific geographic area and can only be established through a bylaw, passed by municipal council at the request of the local business community.

Once a BIA is established, every business within the area automatically becomes a member and contributes to the organization's budget.

The main function of the BIA is to enhance the environment of the area it operates in.

Although some BIAs have paid professional staff, many, like Stouffville's, are run on a purely volunteer basis.

Each organization is run by a board of management appointed by the local council, and the board prepares the annual budget which is submitted to the municipality for approval.

When approval is received, council adds a special levy to the business tax of each business within the BIA area, which funds the organization's programs.



DURHAM

WEIGHT RESTRICTION REGULATIONS

will be in force on roads under the jurisdiction of the Regional Municipality of Durham effective February 26 to approximately April 27, 1990. Vehicle loads are restricted to FIVE TONNES per axle in accordance with Durham Region By-law Number 251-89.

Signs will be erected on all Regional Roads to which these Weight restrictions apply.

W.A. Twelvetrees, P.Eng.
Commissioner of Works
Regional Municipality of Durham

Soccer Registration

Saturday
March 3rd.
1990
at
The
Rec
Center
10 a.m.-3 p.m.

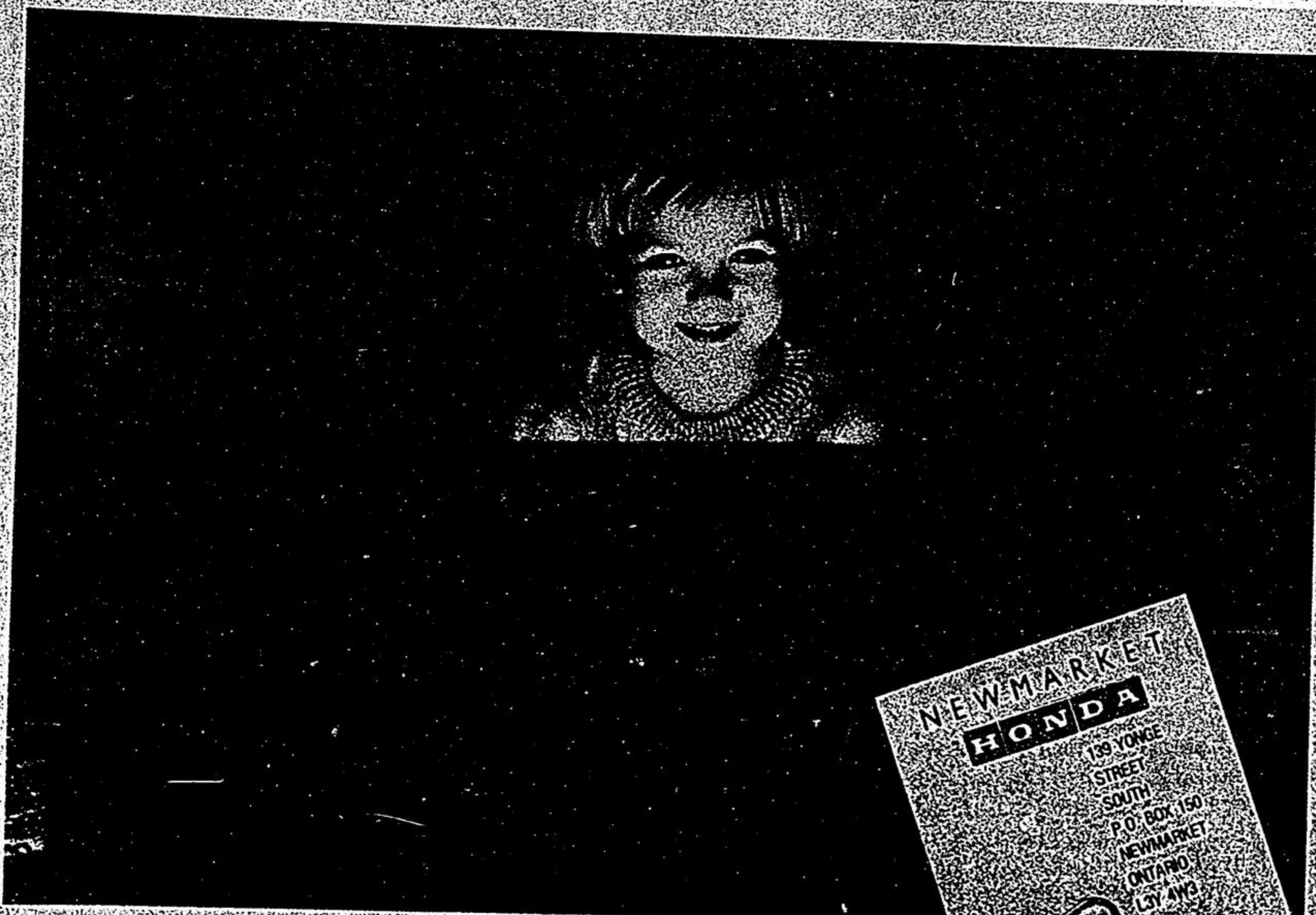


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