

Plan announced for \$2 million drug treatment program

Ken Black, Ontario's Minister responsible for the Provincial Anti-Drug Strategy, recently announced details of a \$2 million treatment initiative.

The funding, which is in addition to the \$50 million already spend by the government each year on drug treatment, will broaden the base of existing drug abuse treatment programs for youth and permit thorough and rigorous evaluation of such programs.

Mr. Black announced that \$1.6 million has been allocated to



ballinger's briefing

durham-york mpp

enhance 11 innovative treatment programs in Ontario and improve access for youth up to 25 years of age.

An additional \$400,000 in funding will go towards extensive program evaluation.

In November 1989, the government announced an innovative, community-based strategy to reduce the illegal use of drugs in Ontario.

This anti-drug strategy is based on the premise that in order to reduce the incidence and impact of illegal drug use, efforts must be concentrated on reducing demand through an emphasis on prevention and education.

Law enforcement and treatment are other important components of the strategy.

The recent \$2 million in additional treatment funding, which

will be used in part to evaluate existing treatment programs, will be helpful to determine the most effective and efficient way of allocating treatment resources.

To complement the funding, a 12-member Treatment Advisory Committee has been established to examine methods of treatment for drug abusers, look at treatment programs and recommend future approaches.

This committee is expected to present a report to the Minister this fall.

Mr. Black is confident that these initiatives will greatly enhance current treatment programs in our efforts to reduce the illegal use of drugs in Ontario, and ensure effective and innovative

program in the future.

On a local note, I was pleased to be a platform guest at the official opening of the Markham/Stouffville Hospital on Saturday March 31.

I also had the pleasure of presenting a commemorative plaque to the hospital on the occasion of the opening.

I was especially pleased that the Minister of Health, the Honorable Elinor Caplan was able to attend the historic event.

If you require any assistance or have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact my office at the following numbers:

Queen's Park, 585-6418, or Stouffville and Uxbridge, 473-5103.

Gormley News

Resident graduates

Congratulations to Miss Marilyn Bryson, who is in the graduating class of Emmanuel Bible College on Saturday, April 21, held at the Faith Missionary Church in Kitchener.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bennett enjoyed Easter Sunday with their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Winger, at Listowell.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Heise spent Easter weekend with their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Nigh in Hamilton.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon McIlroy of Palmerston, were weekend guests of their daughter, Miss Ruth McIlroy.

Mrs. Martha Wideman was a Sunday dinner guest of her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. E.J. Wideman and family, in Uxbridge.

Mr. and Mrs. John Hawkins entertained the members of their family on Easter Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Mark Simpson entertained her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Hawkins, and her three sisters and their families, on Easter.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Baker and boys were guests of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Bennett, at Goodwood on Easter Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Yake and family spent Sunday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Yake.

Mr. and Mrs. Cam Bryson were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Mel Baker on Easter Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ron Elliott visited the Missionary Church in Brampton on Sunday morning.

A special Missions Conference will be held at the Heise Hill church on April 26, 27 and 28. On Saturday, Rev. and Mrs. John Sider, who were missionaries in India, and are now going to Mexico, will be the guest speakers. On Sunday, Rev. and Mrs. Graybill Brubaker, former missionaries to Africa, and he is now the executive director of the Brethren in Christ World Missions Office in Mount Joy, Pennsylvania, will be speaking.

The Torchmen Quartet will be singing at the Missionary Church at 7 p.m. on Sunday, April 28.

This is your invitation to a miscellaneous shower for Mr. Kevin Brillinger and his bride-to-be Ellen McNeil at 7:30 p.m. on May 4 at the Heise Hill church.

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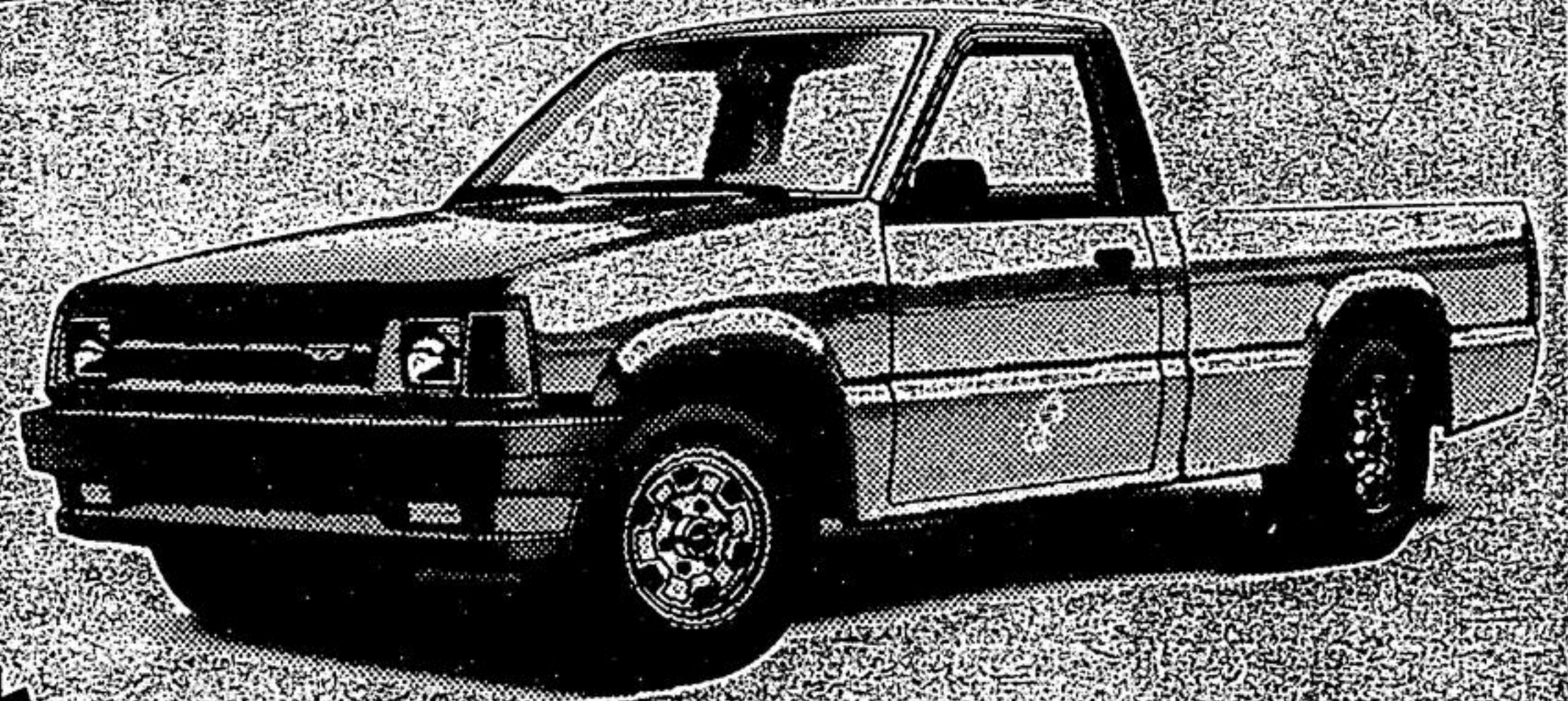
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