

## News follow

# Bobby Shaw stays optimistic after tragic crash

TRACY KIBBLE  
Staff Reporter

Seven-year-old Bobby Shaw closed his eyes and made a 'wish' with all his 'achy-breaky' heart.

And several weeks ago his wish came true with the help of the Star Light Foundation, an organization which arranges exciting adventures for disabled children who want to fulfill their dreams.

Bobby wanted more than anything to meet country music superstar, Billy Ray Cyrus — and that he did: Rexdale-based Star Light Founda-

tion sent Bobby and his sister and legal guardian, Melanie Provis to a Cyrus concert several weeks ago in Darien Lake.

After the concert, Bobby and Melanie were escorted backstage to meet the star of the show himself.

"He talked to me for a half an hour. He's a really nice guy," Bobby said this week as he sat playing in the sunshine outside his sister's home on the outskirts of Stouffville.

Cyrus autographed just about everything that would absorb pen ink for Bobby, and

boosted the youngster's spirits just by taking the time to meet with him, Melanie said.

Bobby is a happy, contented and shy little boy who doesn't remember much about the fatal car crash that took the lives of his mother, Lynn and five-year-old sister, Amanda just more than one year ago.

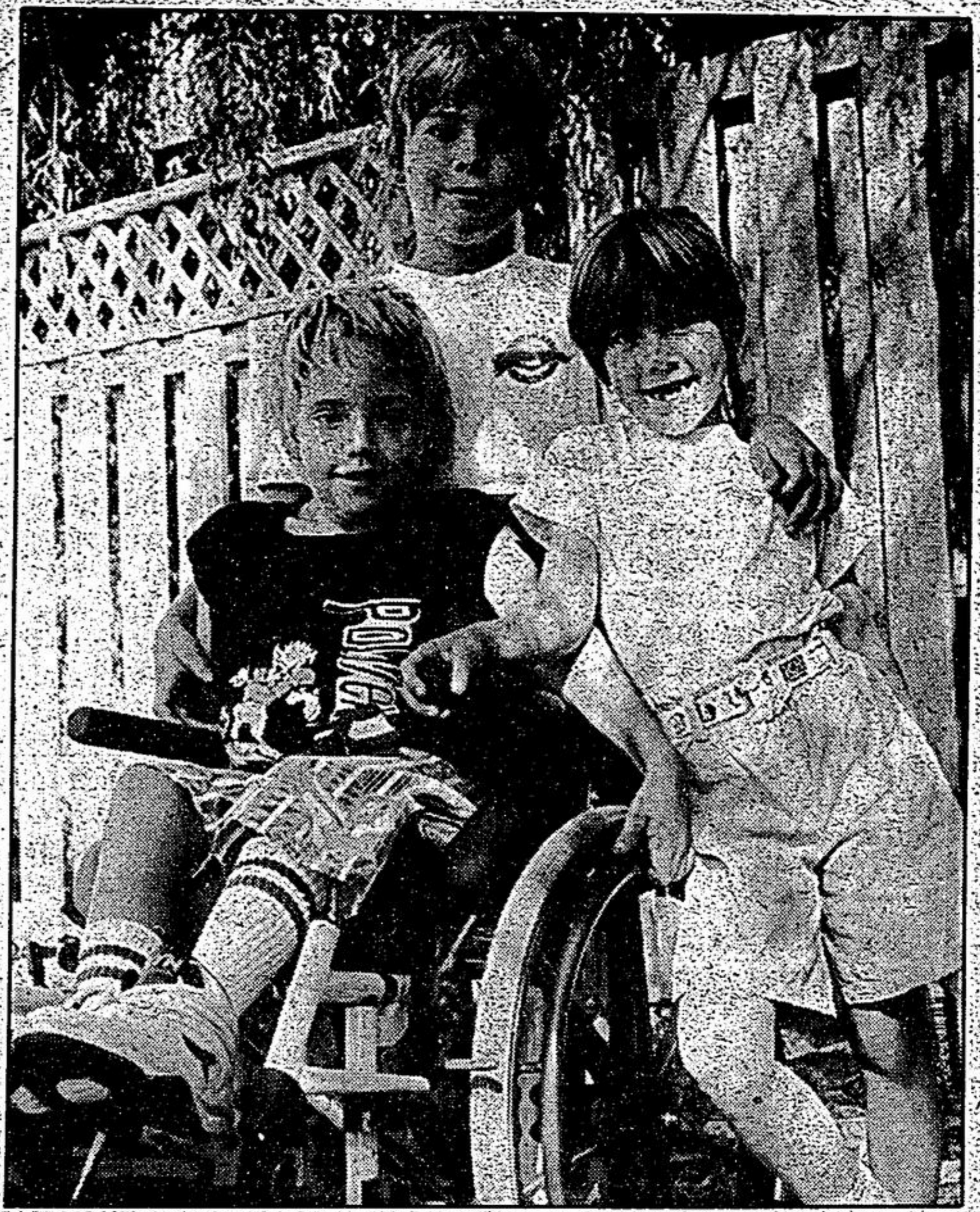
Bobby and his family, formerly of Uxbridge, were travelling along Brock Road in Claremont when an empty gravel truck collided head-on with their car, killing his family.

Bobby, who suffered extensive head and back injuries, was air-lifted from the scene to Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children where he remained in critical condition for about a week before making strides to recovery.

After he began to show considerable progress, the hospital arranged for Bobby to receive therapy at the Hugh MacMillan Rehabilitation Centre in Toronto where he still goes periodically.

Bobby spends the majority of his time in a wheelchair due to his paralysis, but next May he'll be fitted with a body brace and a walker to help him stand up and walk.

The July 29, 1992 crash changed Bobby's life forever, and while it has left him without the use of his legs, the optimistic youth looks to the better things.



Photo/LORI EMMERSON

Bobby Shaw, with nieces Jennifer and Cheyanne, now lives with his older sister Melanie, in Glasgow just outside Stouffville.

He's excited about attending Goodwood Public School next month where he'll enter Grade 3, and like most kids, won't

miss an episode of television show Full House.

If ever there was a happy ending to a sad story, this is it.



Stouffville's Bobby Shaw, 7, met country musician Billy Ray Cyrus recently at a concert in Darien Lake, New York. Shaw was injured just over a year ago in a fatal car accident which killed his mother and five-year-old sister.

## Airport land tenants uneasy as sell-off looms

JULIE CASPERSEN  
Staff Reporter

Tenants on surplus airport land in Markham could wait three years until their homes are sold while others in Uxbridge could be displaced next spring.

The federal government announced Wednesday that 5,100 acres of land expropriated more than 20 years ago is now on the market. The 10 parcels of property dotted around a block of land are no longer needed for the proposed Pickering Airport which may or may not be built.

Transport Minister Jean Cor-

beil said the sale of land along the western boundary will be delayed three years until the Rouge Valley Park concept is finalized. Land to the south won't be sold until The Interim Waste Authority decides on dump locations in York and Durham regions. One of the choices is a piece of property in southeast Markham with another four sites located to the east of Markham in Pickering.

Airport land tenants were told last summer of the upcoming sale after the land was deemed surplus in the 1992 federal budget, but the timing of the sale

was unknown until last week.

"The shoe's finally dropped," said Bryan Hurlé, head of the Committee for the Pickering Airport Community (C-PAC).

Hurlé lives on airport land in Markham that is not included in the property on the market. He said some people in the Uxbridge area "could be moved out by next March" while the tenants in Markham will have a three-year wait until their homes are up for sale.

Much of the land is considered class A farmland in the Rouge River watershed and the Oak Ridges Moraine, and Save the

Rouge Valley System proposed the surplus property be included in plans for the Rouge Valley Park and turned into a forest.

The properties will be selling at market value and the province and municipality have first choice. Tenants can then make an offer to buy their rented property and if they agree to a five-year commitment will receive a 15 per cent price reduction.

This deal is not acceptable to C-PAC which plans to make the sales process difficult for the government, Hurlé said. He met with Transport Canada officials

Thursday to lobby for a change in the sales method, but feels no headway was made.

"Twenty-one years ago they blew the community out. (The government) has not shown a lot of humanity to the tenants," Hurlé said. "Now we have a new community here. It functions. It's been rebuilt."

According to C-PAC, up to 40 tenants are original owners of the expropriated land, and some can't afford to re-purchase it. Others are senior citizens or single parents.

"People are scared. Where are we supposed to live?"

## Metroland takes Canada Post to federal court

The Tribune, through its parent company Metroland Printing, Publishing & Distributing Ltd., is taking Canada Post Corporation to court over a practice that denies private-sector companies equal access to locked apartment mailboxes for the delivery of advertising flyers.

Metroland, in conjunction with the Canadian Daily Newspaper Association (CDNA), Netmar Inc. and Les Messageries Publi-Maison Ltée., Aug. 24 filed an application for judicial review in the Federal Court of Canada.

Management of The Tribune and other Metroland newspapers say Canada Post has exceeded its statutory jurisdiction and exploited its access to locked apartment mailboxes to acquire an unlawful monopoly over the

delivery of unaddressed flyers to these mailboxes.

In documents filed with the federal court, Metroland argues Canada Post's self-proclaimed monopoly is not sanctioned under Canada Post's legislated mandate, which gives Canada Post a monopoly only for the delivery of letters.

The application states Canada Post deliberately uses this unlawful monopoly to gain an unfair advantage over the Tribune, and its sister Metroland community newspapers and co-applicants.

"Canada Post's exploitation of its access to locked mailboxes provides them with an unlawful advantage over private-sector companies," said John Baxter, President and CEO of Metroland.

"Their self-proclaimed monopoly denies The Tribune

and other distributors equal access to locked apartment mailboxes, while they abuse their mandate to facilitate their own financial gains."

"Such unwarranted extension of the Canada Post mandate has already cost Metroland newspapers and our co-applicants millions of dollars in lost business," Baxter said.

"The potential for future losses in the private sector is enormous if Canada Post continues unfairly to exploit its monopoly over access to locked apartment mailboxes."

The Tribune and its co-applicants are seeking an order from the federal court to prohibit Canada Post from continuing to undermine fair competition in the household distribution industry through its exclusionary practices.

They are also asking the court to grant interim relief pending the hearing of their

application for judicial review which is expected to take place later this year.

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