

# Local man awarded for heroism

By **JOAN RANSBERRY**  
Staff Reporter

A Stouffville resident has been formally recognized for an act of heroism.

On Tuesday, Whitchurch-Stouffville Mayor Wayne Emmerson made a presentation to Guy Castonguy, a Stock Transportation school bus driver.

Two weeks ago, while on his bus route in Markham with 29 children aboard, Castonguy was stopped at a railway crossing in Markham when he spotted an elderly man in a wheelchair stuck on the tracks. A train was approaching.

Castonguy jumped from the bus, grabbed hold of the wheelchair, lifted and with all his might, jumped. At that point, the freight train whizzed by. The force from the train blew Castonguy, and the man in the wheelchair over without injury.



Guy Castonguy, left, of Stock Transport receives an award of recognition Tuesday from Mayor Wayne Emerson for going beyond the call of duty in helping a man in a wheelchair stuck on a railroad track crossing.

Photo/STEVE SOMERVILLE

# Eastern Gate receives first residents

By **JOHN LAMBERSKY**  
Correspondent



From left Cathy Hope, Eastern Gate Retirement Community Admissions Co-ordinator, first residents Wayne and Diana Henderson, and Paul Hope, Eastern Gate Retirement Community Administrator, stand before their new home at Eastern Gate in Stouffville, the first to move in.

Photo/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

The first two residents of Eastern Gate Retirement Community have moved in this week.

The couple, Diana and Wayne Henderson, lived in Vondorf until they moved into their new home at Eastern Gate last week.

The two are newly retired: Diana just left her job on Friday as a clerk at CIBC; her husband Wayne left his job last January as an inventory controller at Wajax, an equipment company.

The couple are pleased with their new home. They had been looking for a suitable community for two years when they saw an ad for Eastern Gate in a newspaper last February.

"I knew right away that it had everything I wanted," said Diana Henderson.

"Stouffville is a good location because we are still only a half an hour from the city," said Diana.

She added, "It is also within close walking distance to all the amenities."

While the land housing the project was owned by the Stouffville Pentecostal Church, the housing complex is non-denominational, officials have stressed.

Have your say: Here's what residents of Markham and Whitchurch-Stouffville said when asked, Do you support the amalgamation of the nine York Regional municipalities into a single city? (same wording as telephone poll)



**MIKE ATKINSON, MARKHAM**

Definitely. It will cut down on waste and overspending. The wild, woolly days of York Region are over. We have to step into the nineties. Now it is like Silicon Valley north, whereas before it was just a two-horse bedroom town of Toronto.



**TAURUS CHAN, MARKHAM**

Basically I support it. The government here compared to my former government in Hong Kong is too structured. You have to go through too many departments to get answers. But a problem could be that the geographical area is too big.



**VAL VIEGAS, MARKHAM**

I think we have to go that way because of duplication of municipal services. You have many little kingdoms. They can still exist as municipalities. But as far as planning, roads, sewage and the lot goes, it should be as a city.



**BETH BOYD, STOUFFVILLE**

If it will save taxpayers money, cut down on administration costs and we don't lose out in our services, then I'm all for it.



**MICHELLE MILLER, STOUFFVILLE**

Yes, on two conditions. Number one, that they truly save money, and number two, that they put the good of all people above the bureaucrats.

# Condo development appeals to 50-plus

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expected to come from York Region, said Forhan Jr. For many, being able to move to a "smaller home" with little upkeep, adjacent to a golf course with a country club and still remain in the "home community" is expected to be viewed as a real plus, Forhan Jr. added.

Because it's a condominium setup, all outside maintenance will be done for the residents.

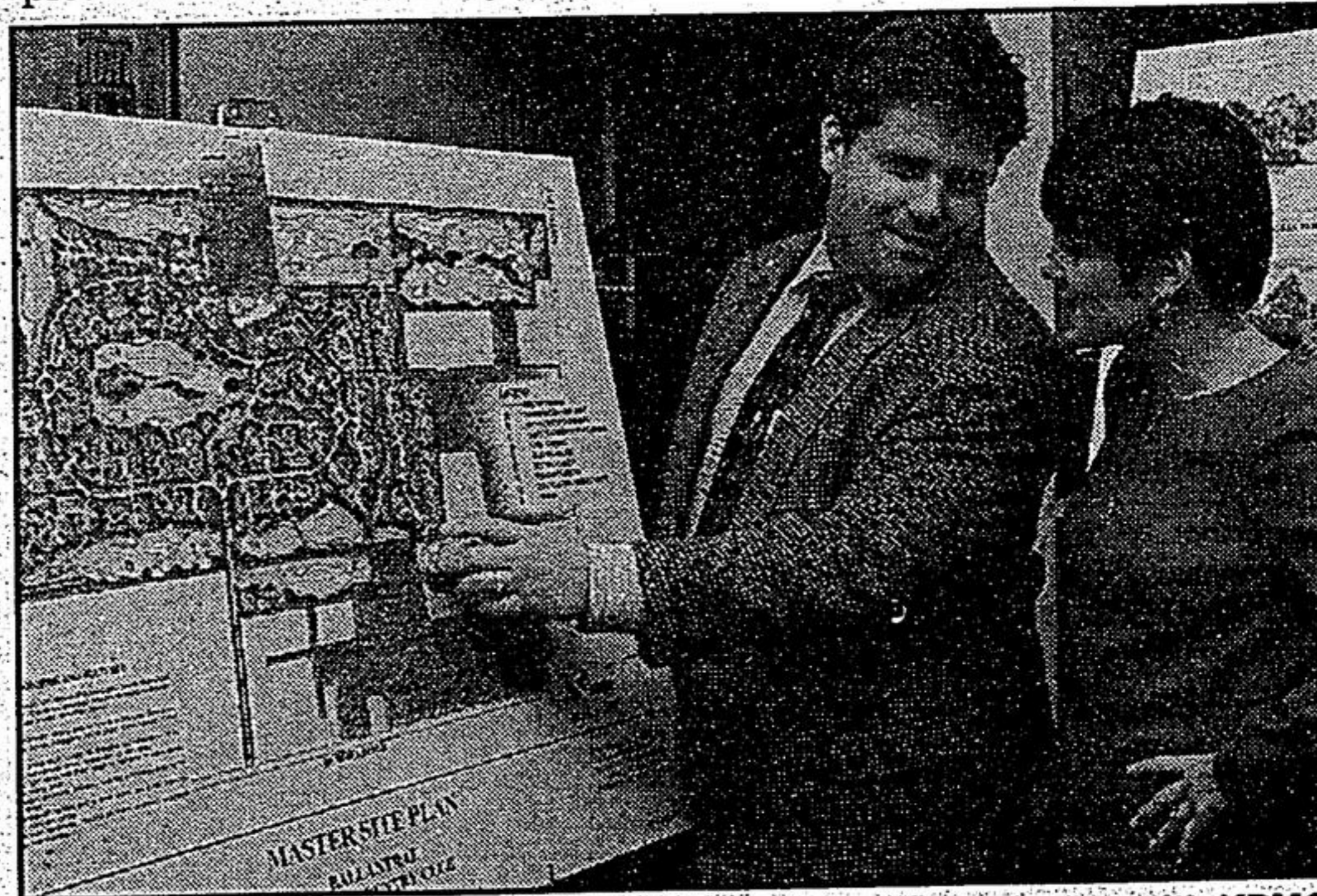
They own the homes. They own the lots, but the outdoor upkeep is "looked after" on a contract basis, organized by the "condominium association," stressed Bob Forhan Sr. "People don't have to worry about

cutting their grass anymore." The Ballantrae development will include a clubhouse offering a range of indoor amenities. A swimming pool and tennis courts will be part of the picture.

An extensive open-space system includes gardens and trails fit for jogging or strolling. "They're all designed to promote year-round active and passive use," said Forhan Jr.

One out of every three Canadians is 50 plus. This development in Ballantrae will be a role model. More are expected to spring up across the province, said Forhan Jr.

"This is the first of its kind in the Greater Toronto Area.



Bob Forhan Jr. makes a point to Meg Davis, senior consultant with KPMG Consulting of Toronto as the pair takes a look at plans for the adult lifestyle community planned for Ballantrae.

Photo/STEVE SOMERVILLE

# Indoor pool one step closer

The plan to build an indoor pool in Stouffville is one step closer to reality.

On Tuesday, Whitchurch-Stouffville Council gave the nod to include an indoor swimming pool when striking the 1997 budget. The budget will come down on March 18. Cost of a pool has been estimated at

between \$1 and \$2 million.

The game plan is to put the pool on the five-year capital budget. This means that the pool will likely be built by the turn of the century. It's expected that the facility will be located at either the recreation complex on Ninth Line or near the local high school.

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