

Technology

York Region enters fast lane of information highway

By **JOHN LAMBERSKY**
Correspondent

York Region is stepping onto the information highway. Last week, the region

announced that it has set up a site on the world wide web. The Internet site will include information about the region's programs and services, including: economic

development, growth management and planning, health services, and social services. "The web site has been set up to provide people on the Internet with quick

access to information about the region, as well as giving citizens an effective communications tool for questions about the regional services," explained a region spokesper-

son. Also included on the web page is a calendar of upcoming regional council meetings and recent council decisions. You can find York region's web site at www.region.york.on.ca

Growth apparent

York Region saw remarkable growth in several key areas in 1996, according to a report from the Economic Development Committee. Among the growth sectors last year (with percentage increases over 1995 in brackets) were:

- housing starts (28 per cent) at 5,365 units;
- resales of single detached homes (183 per cent) for a value of more than \$2 billion
- taxable assessment (2.8 per cent);
- total population (2.8 per cent or 17,000 people) to 614,000;
- York Region's share of the total GTA population, now at 13 per cent;
- total estimated value of all construction, based on building permits at \$1.105 billion (9 per cent).

Celebrities off to jail April 1

Some of your favorite local personalities will be on trial in April — but it's all for a good cause.

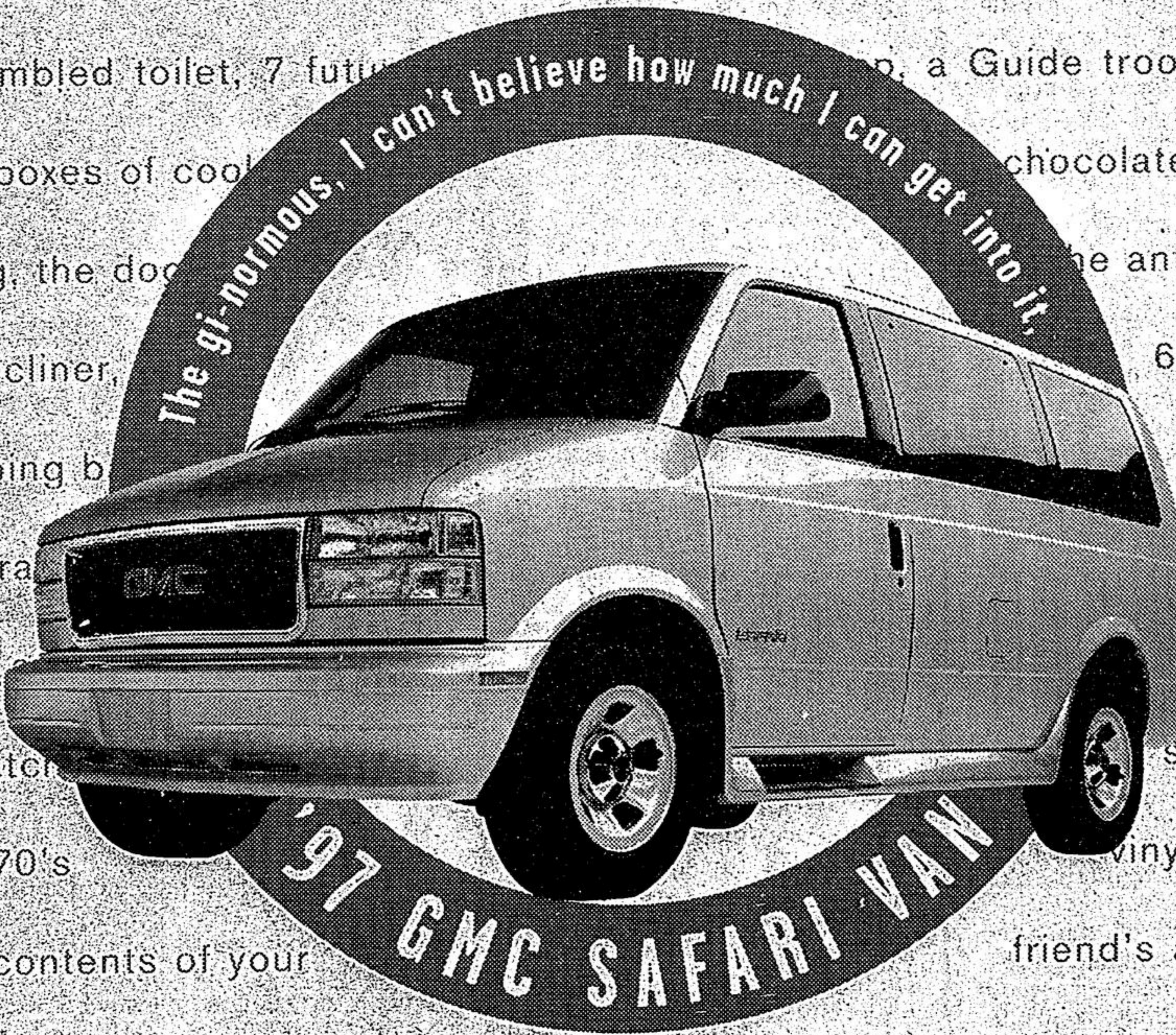
The second Markham-Whitchurch-Stouffville Cancer Society Jail-N-Bail event is set to take place April 1. The event has 48 local politicians, business people, and well-known persons committed to raise funds for the Canadian Cancer Society.

"Jailbirds will be given prison garb, photographed, and locked-up in a co-ed cell. They will appear before 'judges,' who will hear the fun and purely fictitious charges," reported fundraising chair Liz Lightfoot. "Lawyers from the offices of Paul Mingay, Marvin Bongard, and Lachlan Catnach have agreed to sit in judgement, determining whether the jailbirds have collected enough pledges to post bail." Lightfoot added. The Jail-N-Bail event takes place at Markville Shopping Centre from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Call 294-5925 to pledge support for your favorite jailbird.

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