

# Sudden summer storm was truly 'electrifying'

They say that truth is stranger than fiction. What you are about to read,

rural routers is the truth, as odd as it may sound.

Just a few summers back, a local rural router, "John" decided in the early evening hours to stretch out on the bed and read a good book.

His wife and children were in other parts of the house and all was well — for then.

The sky became overcast and the wind began to blow. There was a definite hint of a summer storm to come.

Quickly, the last of the light disappeared as rain started to pour from the sky.

John felt all the more cozy snuggled in bed with the comforting sound of rain pounding on the roof.

Living in the middle of open acreage, the house lit up with lightning striking sometimes as,



## Rural Route Ruth

Ruth LeBlanc

John says, too close for comfort.

What happened next is rather shocking.

By the bed John was resting on was an open window. In a split second John saw lightening come through that open window and hit him in the legs.

It was quick, it was electrifying and he couldn't believe what had happened.

He stood on jelly-like legs and walked unsteadily to the find his wife and kids in the living room. Telling them what happened they all

laughed and thought he was pulling their legs.

Soon enough as he hobbled around saying he couldn't feel his thighs, they finally took his seriously.

At the hospital they confirmed that he had indeed been struck by lightening while lying in bed.

Lucky guy that he is, there have been no after-effects and no permanent damage to his limbs.

John says it wasn't that painful when it struck and he can only laugh now and see how fortunate he was to escape without injuries.

The only limbs that have been struck by lightening around the LeBlanc house is the old red maple in the backyard.

Since we have lived in our rural roost for the past 12 years, it has been hit three or four times, never losing a limb, just splitting the trunk.

Bodies of water are everywhere in the country, it seems. They seem to attract storms the way pic-

nics attract ants.

If you have never experienced a sudden summer storm in the country, you don't know what you are missing.

The sky lights up and within seconds lightening strikes, sometimes shaking the windows in their frames.

For years our dogs would know when a storm was approaching before we did.

They would begin panting and pacing, their eyes wide open in terror.

Soon after we were introduced to, as an acquaintance Bruce calls them, "doggies' little helper" — an animal valium.

Now they are old and gray and one has totally lost its hearing.

As one lies oblivious to the house shaking, the other hides his head under the bedskirt, feeling protected.

Ah, summer in the country, wouldn't have it any other way!

**CANADIAN TIRE**

We wish to draw your attention to the following in our current '75 Years Summer Living Spectacular' flyer.

**PAGE 1** Motomaster Hand cleaner, 38-1000-6. Copy should read: Save 34%, NOT 51%

**PAGE 8** Mop & Pail Wringer Kit, 46-9652-4. Copy should read: Save 12%, NOT 23%

**PAGE 10** Item 6. Hook & Loop tonneau covers, 41-2440x. Copy should read: Save 20.00, NOT 20%

We sincerely regret any inconvenience we may have caused you.

note 328-97 zones: misc.

# TAMAGOTCHIS

are here!

We've got 'em!  
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(Uxbridge location only)

**DOLLAR PLUS BARGAIN CENTRE**

28 Toronto St. S., Uxbridge

## 852-0310

**TOWN OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE**

## NOTICE

**1997 FINAL TAX BILLS**

**1st Instalment Due - August 22, 1997**

**2nd Instalment Due - October 24, 1997**

**FINAL TAX** bills have now been mailed. Ratepayers who have not received their bills should make immediate application to the Municipal Tax Department. Failure to receive a tax bill does not eliminate the responsibility for payment of taxes nor the penalty charges for late payment.

**TAX PAYMENTS** may be made by mail, on in person at the Town Office and at most Financial Institutions through tellers, banking machines and by telephone. Banking fees may apply. After hours tax payments may be made in the drop box at the front entrance door of the Municipal Office.

**TOWN OFFICE HOURS**  
MONDAY TO FRIDAY 8:30 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.  
640-1900 895-2423

Box 419, 19 Civic Avenue, Stouffville, Ont. L4A 7Z6  
Ruth Armstrong, Tax Collector A.M.C.T., C.M.T.C.

## POOL PROBLEMS?

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Over 30 Years Experience

## Focus on Faith

# Volunteers needed by numerous area organizations

**A.N.D. Canada**  
Association for the Neurologically Disabled of Canada provides in-home therapy and rehabilitation

programs for disabled children and adults with cerebral palsy, learning disabilities, brain injury, developmental delay, stroke and autism. For more information call

1-800-561-1497.

tions, and office assistants. Contact Blue Hills Child and Family Services 905-773-4323 ext. 315.

**CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH**  
131 Main St., Unionville 474-0183  
Summer Service - 10:00 a.m.  
Creation: A Fantastic Experience  
A warm welcome awaits you.

**BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
20 Union St., Unionville ~ 477-1731  
(Near Hwy. 7 & Main)  
Worship - 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday School cancelled for summer.

**Special Friends**  
Volunteers needed to work with children with social and emotional needs. Volunteer opportunities are available as 'special friends', tutors, drivers, workshop presenta-

**DA Facilitators**  
Volunteer facilitators are needed for Depressed Anonymous Self-Help groups. The ideal facilitator has had personal experience with depression and works well as part of a team. For more information call Canadian Mental Health Assoc. at 416-777-2115. THEN 905-898-7467.

**CENTENNIAL COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
A FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH  
A growing Church in a growing Community

11:00 a.m. Worship Service  
"The Legion of Doom" - Part 2  
(A Study of Demons)  
by Pastor Mark Lowrie

8178 McCowan Road (just south of Hwy. 7)  
Markham, ON Tel: 905-475-7695

**MARKHAM MISSIONARY CHURCH**  
Evangelical Missionary Church of Canada  
Sunday Summer Schedule

10:30 a.m. - Worship Service  
6:30 p.m. - Home Service (phone for information)

Wednesday 7:00 p.m. - Cottage Prayer Fellowships  
Senior High Youth

**Children's Ministries**  
Backyard Bible Clubs July 11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>

**Youth Ministries**  
Junior & Senior High meeting throughout the summer

**Seniors Ministries**  
Day Trips, Garden Party, Socials

5438 Major Mackenzie Drive East  
Markham, Ont. L3P 3J3  
(905) 294-5081 (905) 294-5383 (fax)

**Markham Baptist Church**  
101 Church Street 294.5830  
www.arem.com/~mbc/  
west of Wooten Way, opposite Markham High

Worship Celebration at 10:00 am  
Nursery & Bible Activities to age 8  
Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Bill Norman

A Canadian Baptist Ministries Church

**St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church**  
Invites you to Worship

Join us at 10 a.m. Sunday Nursery & Summer Church School provided

143 Main St. Markham  
(905) 294-4736

**St. John Ambulance Volunteers**  
St. John Ambulance Community Services requires volunteers. Volunteers are required to offer their services at various community events in York Region. Duties include patient care, special projects, and much more. Additional training is provided. Call 1-800-268-1677 for information and to join.

**JOIN OUR**

**SUNDAY CELEBRATION SERVICE**  
at 11:15 a.m.

SUMMER SERMON THEME  
STAYING ON COURSE IN LIFE'S JOURNEY

JUL 6	regular time out	FOR R&R
JUL 13	praise and celebration	for R&R
JUL 20	find the missing GENERATION	for R&R
JUL 27	taking out Life INSURANCE	for R&R

77 MILLIKEN MEADOWS DRIVE, MARKHAM, ONT  
TEL: 905 • 479-3322 FAX: 905 • 479-3061