

# Clean out your closets

## GRAND GARAGE SALE

The Stouffville B.I.A. is sponsoring a Great Grand Garage Sale Sat., Oct. 18 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Main Street between Ninth Line and Tenth Line.

"Anyone who would like space in the downtown area can phone me," said organizer Sandra Stronach. Ten dollars will get you space on a vacant lot and any money raised will go towards the Clock Tower Theatre fund. Merchants will offer a host of great items and Main Street residents are encouraged to clean out their closets and garages and join in the fun. Hot cider will be on sale and restaurants will offer a variety of specials.

"It's a fundraiser and a community happening and we hope everyone will come out and join us," said Stronach, who can be reached at 640-3070.

## SHADOW LAKE HAS NEW HOUSE

Shadow Lake, the year-round recreation centre on Ninth Line North, has just opened a new, five-bedroom house which is fully wheelchair accessible. While the centre is best-known as a summer camp for mentally-handicapped individuals, it is also used extensively by community groups and schools and the new house makes it more viable for year-round visitors in wheelchairs.

"We built this house because more and more people who want to come to Shadow Lake have developmental and physical disabilities," explained director Gary Ouellette.

Almost as soon as the house was completed, it was fully booked on weekends until early January.

"People are phoning us like crazy," said Ouellette, noting that the house is not just for people with multiple disabilities but can also be rented by the physically disabled.

"The entire cost of the house was covered



Grapevine

Kate Gilderdale

by fundraising ventures such as golf tournaments — we received no grants whatsoever and so many people helped us out. We have some really good resources in Stouffville and we try to buy locally as much as possible."

The beautiful property is a popular spot for outdoor education, he noted.

"Ballantrae Public School comes here and just about every separate school in York Region — we also get a lot of church and youth groups. The money we charge to user groups Monday to Friday helps to keep the costs down for the handicapped who use the camp during the summer."

Shadow Lake also offers respite care for parents with disabled children. Ouellette welcomes inquiries from anyone who is interested in learning more about the centre.

"Very few communities have 300 acres of outdoor recreation in their back yard and after 17 years, I can say it's also a very nice place to live."

For more information call 640-6432.

## CHURCH CELEBRATES GST

Stouffville United Church invites everyone in the community to attend the Goods, Services and Talents auction Oct. 17 at 7.30 p.m. at the church.

Some 80 items and services will be on the block, including a 12-course dinner, baby-sitting, estate planning, antique window frames, a round of golf for four, baked goods and needlepoint. Auctioneers will be Dave Duggan and Ross Cowie.

# Busing a bust in York transport survey finds

MIKE ADLER  
Staff Reporter

Transit use in York Region has failed to keep up with the area's tremendous growth, suggests a Greater Toronto Area traffic survey.

Residents took the bus only 5 per cent of the time last year, compared to 7 per cent in 1986, according to the poll, which covered more than 9,000 local homes.

"Transit use by seniors is declining and car use is increasing, due probably in large part to the fact that a higher proportion of seniors have drivers licenses than at any time in the past," concluded a recent staff report to the region's transportation committee.

Residents, who made 1,368,000 trips a day in 1986, made over 2,367,600 a day last year, 70 per cent of them as the driver of a car and 16 per cent as a passenger, the Transportation Tomorrow Survey said.

The poll also found more travel starting and ending within the region — 61 per cent, instead of 55 per cent of trips in 1986 — and more traffic coming here from Metro.

That's a good argument for providing northbound GO train service to York Region in the morning, Richmond Hill Mayor Bill Bell said last week.

Currently, two of the three GO lines reaching the region, including one through Markham and Stouffville, are single tracks. All three send morning commuters to Toronto and return them in the afternoon.

In a recent policy paper, GO — which the

survey said serves only 1 per cent of the region's transport needs — predicted over 80 per cent of future GTA employment and population growth will occur in the '90s' regions, "largely in areas not served by the commuter rail network."

New industrial areas in the suburbs "often have poor or no transit connections to GO commuter trains, to residential areas in Metro, or even to residential areas in their own municipalities," noted a recent research paper for University of Toronto's Centre for Urban and Community Studies.

The provincial government's recent decision to make local governments responsible for the full funding of GO and their own municipal bus systems "implies that public transit is likely to decline," the study argued, "not increase, as a travel option for GTA residents wishing to travel to or even within the outer suburbs."

The same would be true for "outer suburban residents wishing to travel to non-central parts of Metro," it said.

Bell said the survey showed public transit in York Region "is a tough proposition."

"I think it shows people are frustrated with public transit or the lack or the difficulty of it," he added.

Richmond Hill, Markham and Vaughan ought to form a single transit system for southern York Region, Bell said. One reason they haven't yet is "turf," he suggested. "Nobody wants to give up their own little transit system."

Information from the survey is used to identify roads that most require improvements.

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