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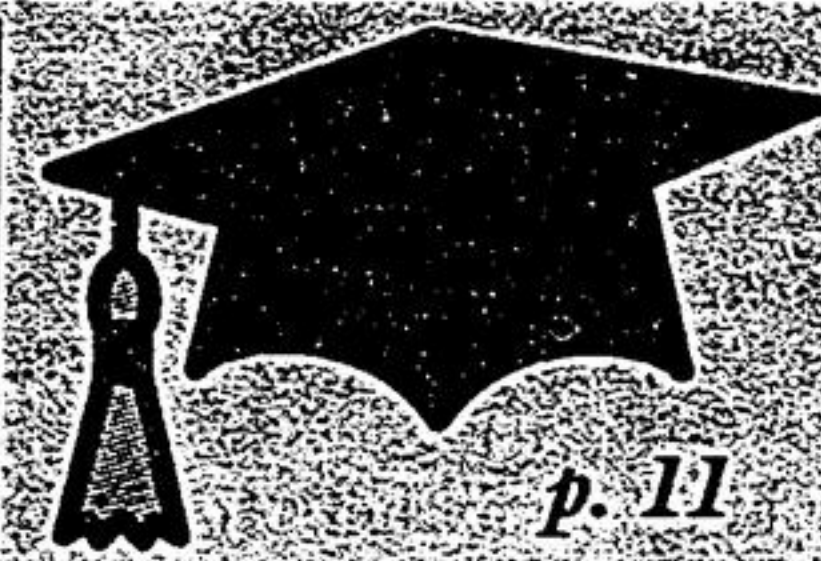
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Some residents not happy with Laser show
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A WALK WITH FRIENDS: Patricia Thomson, Caroline Lafleur and Peter McNeil, members of the Friends of Musselman Lake environmental group, map out a walk of the lake to show Lake Simcoe and Region Conservation authorities potential trouble spots Thursday.

Photo by STEVE SOMERVILLE

Erosion, shoreline biggest concerns at Musselman's

JOAN RANSBERRY
Staff Reporter

Potential problems at Musselman's Lake will be outlined to an environmental expert next Wednesday.

"We'll identify (what we perceive as) the trouble spots on the lake and pass it on to (LSRCA)," said Friends of Musselman Lake group member and arborist Mike

Watson. Member Patricia Thomson said the group, which acts as an environmental steward and lake watchdog, wants to talk to experts about environmental concerns before it's too late.

The main problems centre around erosion and shoreline stability, she said.

Some trees have fallen due to recent storms or have died which affect the shoreline substantially,

Thomson said. "The Ninth Line is basically falling into the lake," she said.

And because much of the shoreline is privately owned, the group hopes to educate individual owners about this potential disaster.

The group also wants York Region to put in motion its road stabilization plan to prevent further erosion.

"Basically our goals centre

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Cell phones play havoc on York 911

■ *Caller's location can't be pinpointed*

KATHLEEN GRIFFIN
Staff Reporter

Cell phones and the region's 911 system still don't mix.

And while it's an old, thorny problem, one that has been discussed and debated for years, the solution seems no closer now than it was when the system was introduced here four years ago.

"Someone has got to take ownership of this," said a frustrated Regional Councillor Gord Landon. "We are talking about people's safety here."

Enhanced 911 service is designed to provide automatic location information. The address of the phone location comes up automatically on the 911 operator's computer screen, saving

valuable time and enhancing response times.

The downfall of the system is simple - cellular phones do not pinpoint the caller's location. This can mean precious minutes lost while operators and emergency response personnel try to determine the exact location of the emergency.

Alternate phone companies have only added to the 911 woes - the database provided to 911 operators by those companies is often far from exact and many times the caller's billing address comes up rather than the location from which the call is made.

"There are six million cell phones in Canada," said Landon. "It's playing havoc with the system all over the country, the number of cell phones in use is increasing dramatically and it's only getting worse."

Landon said cell calls to 911 represent about 14 per cent of the total. But that's about 13 per cent more than just four years ago.

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