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15 The Tribune's picks for election day - a look at the issues and the candidates.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR
EVENT: Aphasia centre walk/rollathon
WHEN: June 1 to 3
WHERE: Call 642-2053 for more information



17 Suburban sprawl adds to commuter congestion. But are the candidates offering a fix?

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SATURDAY FOCUS

Bike trips take riders on historical tours from Cobourg to Toronto

Polished image

Vintage machines owners' pride and joy

BY BRUCE STAPLEY
 Correspondent

It's the little motorcycle club that grew. That best describes the assembly of vintage motor-bike buffs who gather for breakfast and chopper talk Sunday mornings at the Ringwood Restaurant.

As many as 100 motorcycles boasting pedigrees that go back as far back as the 1920s can be found at this weekly social of the Great Pine Ridge section of the Canadian Vintage Motorcycle Group.

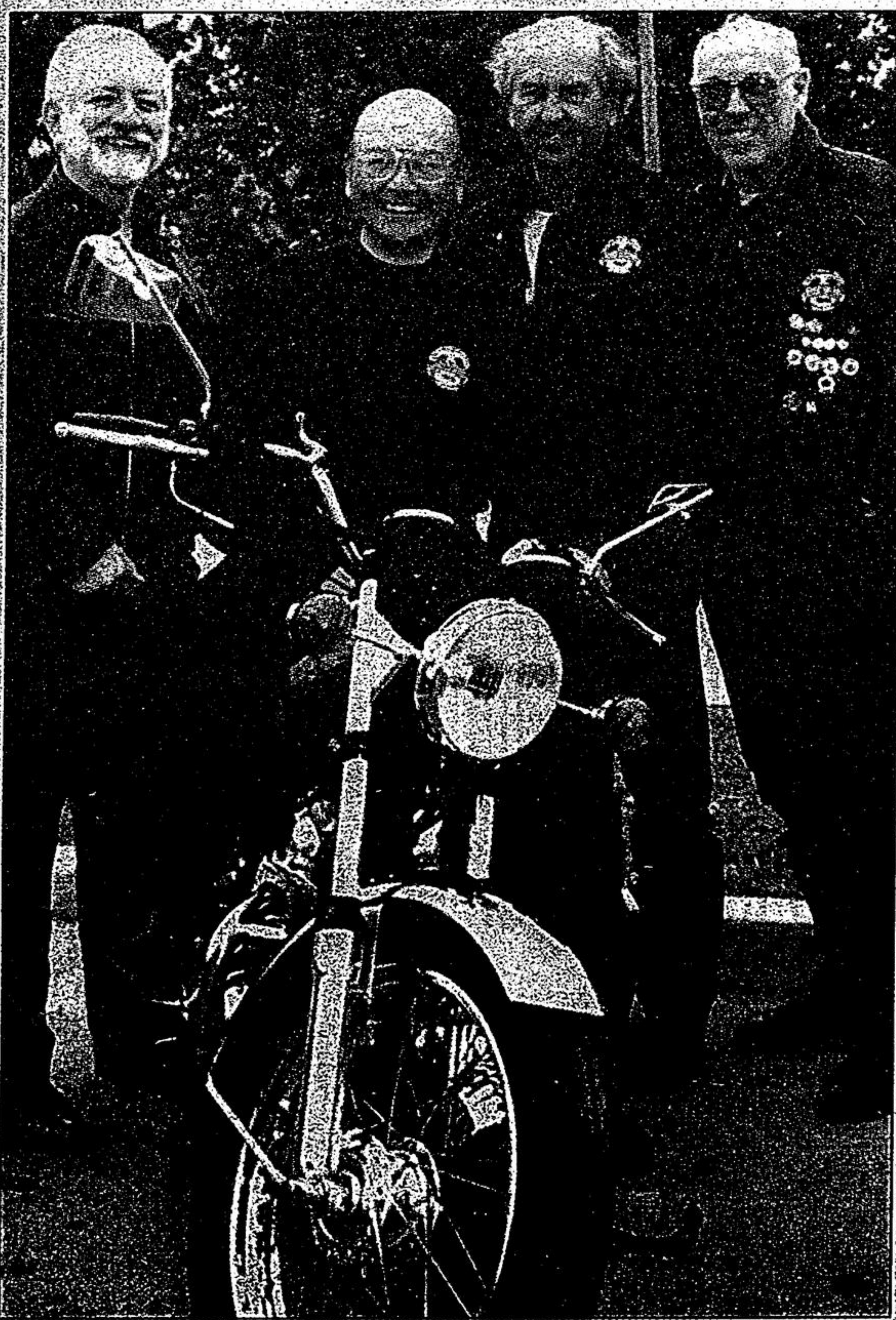
The lineup invariably includes a healthy representation of old British bikes bearing brand names like Ariel, AJS, Norton, Triumph, BSA, Matchless and Vincent.

There are also newer model Harley Davidsons, Hondas and Kawasakis in evidence.

The spectacle of these two-wheeled classics at the busy corner of Hwy. 48 and Stouffville Road always attracts attention as cars slow down for a look and passerby motorcyclists steer in to chat.

"It first started in 1989 when about 12 of the members would meet at this spot," says John Funnell, recording secretary of the Great Pine Ridge club.

Gradually, other bikers would drive along and notice the collection of machinery and drop in. It's grown since then. He said there are likely to be as many non-members as members on any given Sunday. "It's just people who are motorcycle oriented," said Funnell, a 64-year-old Toronto resident who works as a Jaguar technician.



PHOTO/CHERYL JOHNSON

Motorcycle enthusiasts, from left, John Hands, bike owner Reuben Tang, Ted Olver and John Funnell, members of the Great Pine Ridge bike group, gather for breakfast in Stouffville most Sundays to talk about tours.

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Hardcore supporters salvage visit to Thornhill

McGuinly sidesteps question of forming alliance with NDP

BY CHRISTOPHER DOURIS
 Staff Writer

When Iris Green-Starr sat down for dinner with her four children Wednesday night, she didn't expect Liberal leader Dalton McGuinly to interrupt the main course.

"I had no idea," she said, after McGuinly's whirlwind visit to her table.

Son Michael said "I think it's cool" and, after some reminding by his mother, pointed out McGuinly was running for provincial premier.

Meeting McGuinly helped the family physician come closer to deciding who to vote for, Green-Starr said.

But, "I'm still sitting on the fence," she said.

And while McGuinly may not have seemed as charismatic as Premier Mike Harris or NDP leader Howard Hampton in the televised leaders' debate, "I don't think it's a true reflection of what he can do in office. If he can pull a good team together, then I'm all for it," she said.

It was a small group of hardcore party faithful who turned



DALTON MCGUINLY: Liberal leader pays visit to family's dinner table.

out with Thornhill Liberal candidate Dan Ronen to welcome McGuinly for a 45-minute mainstreeting session at the Spring Farm Plaza at Hilda and Clark avenues.

The group of supporters was so small it was almost outnumbered by media covering McGuinly's campaign, disembarking from the first of three buses in the entourage.

Provincial issues dominated a scrum with reporters in the plaza's grocery store. McGuinly dodged questions from reporters about whether he would forge an alliance with the NDP after Howard Hampton said he would consider forming a partnership

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