

# INFOGUIDE

## SPOTLIGHT

A guide to what's happening in the York Region area

### THEATRE

■ **OCT. 15 TO 23:** South Shore Theatre's *Murder on Reserve* at Leacock Theatre in Keswick. 476-0193

■ **OCT. 16 TO 30:** Jackie Mason at Comedywood in Thornhill. 761-0543

■ **TO OCT. 15:** Famous People Players' *Leave the Porch Light On* at Markham Theatre. 305-7469

■ **TO OCT. 23:** *The Gin Game* at Theatre on Main in Newmarket. 836-9332

### CONCERTS

■ **OCT. 16:** The Nylons at City Playhouse in Vaughan. 709-4057

■ **OCT. 16:** York Symphony Orchestra concert, Great Musical Cities at Newmarket Theatre. 953-5122

■ **OCT. 17:** York Symphony's Musical Cities concert at Markham Theatre. 305-7469

■ **OCT. 19, 20:** John McDermott at Markham Theatre. 305-7469

### FOR CHILDREN

■ **OCT. 14 TO 17:** Just Off Centre Productions' *The Wizard of Oz* at Leah Postluns Theatre in North York. (416) 410-4174

■ **OCT. 16:** Dudley the Dragon and Markus at City Playhouse in Vaughan. 709-4057

### ART

■ **OCT. 17:** James Lumbers, Bill Saunders, David Ward and Laura Kingsbury at Select Art Galleries in Newmarket. 895-3002

### ROAD TRIPPING

■ **OCT. 13, 14:** Diana Krall at Massey Hall. (416) 872-4255

■ **OCT. 14 TO 31:** *The Woman in Black* at Theatre Orangeville. (519) 942-3423

## FILM CLIPS

WHAT'S NEW AT THE MOVIES



Bruce Willis and Michelle Pfeiffer provide an incisive look at the good, the bad and the ugly of the state of matrimony in *The Story of Us*.

### The Story of Us

Opens in theatres this week

**STARRING:** Bruce Willis, Michelle Pfeiffer, Rob Reiner, Rita Wilson, Tim Matheson, Julie Hagerty and Paul Reiser. Directed by Rob Reiner.

**GETTING IT RIGHT:** Writer Alan Zweibel explains the film's title: "For 10 years, every holiday, birthday and anniversary gift I bought for my wife would inevitably be returned the next day. Until our 10th anniversary, when I created a bound narrative history of our marriage

called *The Story of Us*. Needless to say, that wasn't returned."

**THE STORY:** After 15 years of marriage, Ben and Katie Jordan are wrestling with the universal paradox: why are the qualities that made them fall in love in the first place, now the very things pulling them apart?

**OLD JOKES' HOME:** Director Reiner should get a medal from the Hollywood old folks' home for casting four oldies-but-goldies, Red Buttons, Betty White, Jayne Meadows and Tom Poston as Ben's and Katie's parents

## NEW ON VIDEO

SNAPSHOTS OF THIS WEEK'S RELEASES

The week's video releases, along with some abridged reviews from professional film critics

**10 Things I Hate About You** with Julia Styles and Heath Ledger. "Updated version of *Taming of the Shrew* has some fun comic scenarios and good casting that almost make up for a script that walks the line between nasty pranks and pop-culture satire." (Star)

**eXistenZ** with Jennifer Jason Leigh and Ian Holm. "David Cronenberg's film is a plot-twisting, sci-fi thriller spiked with gore and oozing

with slime." (Sun)

**Goodbye Lover** with Patricia Arquette and Dermot Mulroney. "A mostly satisfying film that starts out extremely well but disappoints toward the end — not unlike a McDonald's sundae now that they've no longer put caramel at the bottom." (National Post)

Also scheduled for release this week are *Pirates of Silicon Valley* with Anthony Michael Hall and the 30th anniversary re-release of *Easy Rider*.

## FACT-FINDER

Insight into some of life's ordinary issues and problems

This week:

### What should I do to prepare my gardens and lawn for winter?

• Fall is a good time to build up soil so it is fertile for planting next season. Run your lawn mower over fallen leaves then add them to your compost bin or use them as mulch around trees and shrubbery.

• Rake up pine cone needles separately to use as mulch in beds, and collect pine cones for use in decorating projects or give them away to craft people who consider them a bounty.

• Remove wilted and spent plants — they don't break down and decompose easily. Pull out annuals and trim dead leaves and stems from perennials. Take out plant supports and stakes so the garden can be hand-raked to remove debris and leaves. Pull out any weeds that you find.

• Take a walk around the foundation plantings to see where some tidying up is needed. Pick up scattered papers and leaves tangled in the underbrush. Use mulch to cover the base of the shrubs.

• It's a good time to give a light pruning to trees which have shed their leaves because you have a good look at the shape of the branches. Remove misdirected and dead branches.

• Prune other trees and shrubs and reposition edging material that might have become mislaid.

• The fall is the ideal time to add slow-releasing organic fertilizers so all winter long the soil is enriched and improved. Add peat moss to improve the nitrogen level and amend the soil with composting materials and work it all together.

• When all the clean up work is done it's time to plant early flowering bulbs to welcome in the new season.

• Don't forget to fill a bird feeder for hungry feathered visitors who frequent your yard during the winter months. Set out a source of water for them, too. Birds thrive on insect and aphid eggs, caterpillars, grubs and beetles.

Does government have you confused? I think my child is having problems at school? How do I get Meals on Wheels for my parents? If you're in the dark about an issue, by law or service, send us your query and we'll do our best to provide the information.

• We welcome your submissions to INFOGUIDE • Fax: (905) 294-1538 • E-mail: econsun@istar.ca • Mail: 9 Heritage Road, Markham, Ont., L3P 1M3 •

# Hey Kids — enter our Spooky Halloween contest

It's easy to enter. Just write a spooky Halloween story or draw a frightening Halloween picture and drop or mail it to the Markham Economist & Sun or Stouffville Tribune. There are three age categories, with a prize for the best story and best picture for each. The categories include ages five and under, six to nine and 10 to 13. All entries must be at either the Markham Economist & Sun or Stouffville Tribune by October 13. Entries must include the participant's name, age, address and phone number. The winners will be published in the October 26 edition of the papers.