

Marine unit searching

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got there, I was introduced to a crisis counsellor. I knew then..."

While the Durham police's scuba dive team stopped looking for the body late Sunday, the search continues. The marine unit continues to scan the murky waters and shoreline. Meanwhile, the police helicopter makes routine fly-overs in the area.

The body was sighted from the helicopter at about noon Saturday, but had disappeared by the time divers got to the scene.

"There has been no sign of the body since," Sgt. Jim Grimley said. It's hard to predict when the body might re-surface. A lot depends on water temperature and depth, Grimley stressed.

Meanwhile, Pagani, comforted by her sister, friends and her sons' many

friends, waits at her small Church Street apartment for word. As the days drag on, the single mother tries to comfort her two surviving sons. Janet wants her Chris returned to her. She wants to say her goodbyes in a formal funeral.

Stouffville teens are also trying to come to terms with the loss of a fun-loving friend and one of the most avid skateboarders in town. Knowing their friend's mom will need help to offset funeral costs, the SDSS students set up the Pagani Family Trust Fund at the Toronto Dominion Bank Branch #3700, account #314881. Donations can also be dropped off at the high school's office.

As well, the students would like to paint a mural in memory of Chris. They plan to put the mural at the skateboard facility in Thicketwood Park.

The Tribune is pleased to present

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PLEASE ATTACH SUPPORTING
REASONS FOR YOUR CHOICE

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Stouffville Tribune

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STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEN

Animal abuse inspector Mindy Hall and senior inspector Martin Cole survey the site of the new provincial headquarters for the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The \$7.9 million building, located on Woodbine Avenue in Stouffville, is expected to be completed next year.

'Animal village' opens next year

Provincial headquarters for
Stouffville animal shelter
will cost \$7.9 million

BY JOAN RANSBERRY
Staff Writer

Construction of a state-of-the-art animal village is now under way in Stouffville.

Last Tuesday, provincial and municipal dignitaries attended the ground-breaking ceremony for the new headquarters of the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (OSPCA). Located on a 40-acre farm on Woodbine Avenue near Vivian Sideroad, the facility is expected to be completed next spring.

The \$7.9-million project is being funded by the proceeds from the sale of the existing OSPCA property in Newmarket and fundraising activities.

As well, the province is offering financial support. Solicitor General of Ontario and Markham MPP David Tsubouchi attended the ceremony and announced that the province will give a \$117,000 annual grant to pay for an OSPCA inspector and agent training program.

"Cruelty to animals is a cowardly crime and will not be tolerated in Ontario," said Tsubouchi. "The OSPCA plays a crucial role in the care of animals and these funds will help enhance its capabilities to reduce the level of animal abuse in Ontario."

Once the facility is built, Whitchurch-Stouffville will have one of North America's most prominent animal centres.

"This is leading edge. It's a benefit to both the animals and people," said Vicky Earle, OSPCA executive officer.

Plans call for a wildlife centre, an animal care centre, a veterinary clinic, a pet daycare centre, a library resource centre, a pet adoption centre, a pet supply store, a wildlife hospital, a livestock barn and a public trail where people can walk their dogs. As well, programs including violence prevention initiatives, community services and fund raising will be part of the centre's operations.

The animal services will be geared to dogs and cats and other pets, stressed Eileen Cahill, OSPCA communication officer.

The new headquarters will oversee 25 branches, while it will be involved with its 34 affiliates.

The OSPCA helps animals by investigating cases of cruelty and neglect. About 300 trained investigators respond to calls for help, while one of the society's most important functions is providing temporary shelter to animals that are stray, lost, neglected or unwanted.

The OSPCA has been protecting animals since 1873.

"We believe the new facility will provide an excellent example of positive and successful change in the design of animal shelters in Ontario and North America and demonstrate the society's leadership in animal welfare," said Earle.



VICKY EARLE

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