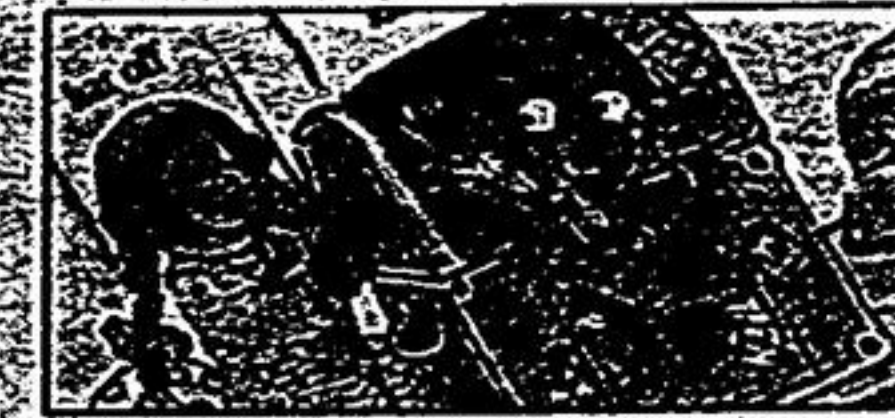


INSIDE: Environment... 3
 News... 5
 Opinion... 6
 Sports... 14

12 Forget about the beer and the hard liquor this summer. Try new fruity cocktails.

ARTS & CULTURE CALENDAR

500 Markham Main St. walking tour
WHEN: Tomorrow, 11 a.m.
WHERE: Old Markham Main Street



7 The tragic deaths of three children have prompted a publisher to change an Arthur book.

SERVING WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE SINCE 1888

Stouffville Tribune

50 CENTS INCLUDING GST / 20 PAGES

SATURDAY, AUG. 5, 2000

TO REACH US: (905) 640-2100

Toll road doesn't ease Hwy. 401 traffic jams

Big highway paradox frustrates drivers

BY PATRICK CASEY
 Staff Writer

Toll traffic volumes are increasing, yet Greater Toronto's other major highways are still clogged with congestion.

That's the paradox facing operators of the Hwy. 407 consortium, who increased rates by 31 per cent in May but are still drawing many regular customers to the 69-kilometre electronic highway.

In June 1999, 253,857 trips were taken on the highway on an average weekday. A year later, the numbers increased by 24,778 trips. For the first six months of this year, traffic jumped by 15 per cent, compared to the same time last year.

And although the consortium has issued more than 350,000 vehicle transponders, gridlock continues to panic drivers across Hwy. 401 and into the city on routes including the Don Valley Parkway, Gardiner Expressway, the QEW and Lakeshore Boulevard.

"There is still some misunderstanding in terms of how easy it is to use the 407," explained Dale Albers, 407's communications manager. "People still think they have to set up an account before using the 407, or need a transponder to get on the highway."

"People still won't travel a little

See TOLL, page 4.

REGION EYES ADAMS MINE DUMP PLAN TO EASE ITS LONG-TERM GARBAGE COLLECTION PAINS

York could ride trash train

BY PATRICK CASEY
 Staff Writer

Now that Toronto has approved a plan to ship its waste by rail to an abandoned Northern Ontario iron ore mine, York Region will seriously consider hitching its trash along for the ride.

On Wednesday, Toronto councillors endorsed a proposal from Rail Cycle North Ltd., which will incor-

porate a new hydraulic containment system at the Adams Mine in Kirkland Lake to dispose of the city's 1.3 million tonnes of annual waste.

The vote concluded six weeks of feverish debate that began in June with Toronto suggesting the life of the city-owned Keele Valley landfill site in Maple be extended past its 2002 occupancy deadline, sending

local residents into a frenzy.

However, the 20-year, \$1-billion deal with Rail Cycle North includes an option for both York and Durham regions to send their trash to the mine as well, a proposal Markham Regional Councillor Gord Landon heavily endorses following a tour of the facility last month.

"If you are looking for something

pretty environmentally solid, this is it," explained Landon, chairperson of the region's solid waste strategy committee. "It's not perfect, but I'm confident it is one of the best solutions."

"Rail Cycle North owns all the land around the mine and you just have to think at sometime you have to find a site to dump the garbage."

See FINANCIAL, page 4.



STAFF PHOTOS/JOERD WITTEVEEN

DIAMONDS ARE A COUPLE'S BEST FRIEND

Glenn and Haze Bagshaw share a diamond-kiss during a 60th wedding anniversary celebration at the Older Adults in Action Euchre Club in the Water Street Seniors Centre in Markham last Wednesday. The Bagshaws have three children, 10 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

MERCEDES BENZ
 REPAIR SPECIALIST
 1905L-5605L
 Tuning
 Suspension
 Air Conditioning
 471-8660
 7 Bullock Drive, Unit 31

NORTH MARKHAM
HONDA
 4611 Hwy. #7,
 (west of Kennedy Rd.)
 Unionville
 477-2451

SUMMER ADVENTURE EVENT

LOADED FOR ADVENTURE
 2000 ACCORD'S 2000 CIVIC'S 2000 CR-V'S

Sutton GROUP
 Town and Country Realty Ltd.
 640-0888