

Unique mall lounge for adults, kids

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toddlers up to four years old and those from five to 12, will offer educational activities and crafts. A computer room will provide access to pre-selected educational Internet sites.

In the centre of the area are four large aquariums, maintained by the Toronto Zoo, each featuring different eco-systems. Bean bag chairs enable children to curl up with books, while bench seats provide headphones to let youngsters listen to a library of CDs.

Even the children's washroom is scaled down to size.

"We want kids to engage in learning activities," said Comeau. "Moms feel guilty dropping their children off with a babysitter while they go shopping."

The children's lounge is also high security. Parents leaving their children are issued with

papers and the youngsters are fitted with coded bracelets. Only the parent who leaves the child is allowed to retrieve him or her.

Moms — and dads — are not forgotten. On their side of the Embarq location, they will be offered complimentary coffee, soft drinks, snacks, magazines and newspapers, mini-massages for hands, shoulders and feet. Their lounge has a waterfall and fireplace and their own CD listening stations. In an area called the Internet cafe are computers with Internet access.

A concierge will provide such services as coat and parcel checking, personal shopping, gift suggestions, gift wrapping and retailers' discounts.

There will also be a dedicated parking area for Embarq members.

"It's meant to be a break from the hustle and bustle of the mall, to let shoppers rejuvenate themselves," said Comeau.

She said the advantage for the mall and its retailers is Embarq will encourage shoppers to stay in the mall longer and shop more.

"On average, customers shop in the mall 15 to 30 minutes," said Comeau. "We want to increase that time by 30 minutes."

Embarq already has established partnerships with some of the Markville retailers, such as The Body Shop, Kiddie Kobbler and Shorney's Optical, who will provide services and products in the lounge.

"It's not meant to be in your face," said Comeau. "This is relaxing, but there are ways for retailers to do the soft sell."

"More than 50 per cent of customers at Markville are young growing families with double incomes who are in the mall, on average, six times a month," she said.

Join us for an Environmental Evening Rural Landowner Stewardship Conservation Seminar

The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority and the Watershed Taskforces invite local rural landowners to learn about our environmental stewardship programs.

- Where: WHITEVALE COMMUNITY CENTRE
405 5th Concession at Mutual Street, Whitevale
7 kilometres west of Brock road
 - When: Monday, March 26, 2001 from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm
 - Where: BRUCE'S MILL CONSERVATION AREA
3291 Stouffville Side road, Stouffville
3 kilometres east of Highway 404
 - When: Tuesday, March 27, 2001 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm
- For more information, contact 416-661-6600 ext. 5338
An Environmental Partnership



Facing Our "Last Enemy" ~ Death

The Bible indicates that the "last enemy to be destroyed is death" (1 Corinthians 15:26).

Robert Wedel observes that "when a person is born we rejoice. When a person gets married, we celebrate. But, when a person dies, we try to ignore it."

The Mennonite churches of Markham are hosting a valuable seminar on "Facing Death" addressing such matters as: When to talk about death, the fear of dying, losing family members through death, funeral plans and the like.

The series will take the form of a three-part video presentation. "Sandy's Story" focuses on a young mother's discovery of breast cancer and the effect on her husband and family.

"A Good Death" tells the story of Bruce and Daryl Ann Baker's

experience of caring for dying parents in their own home.

"Preparing for Death" reveals the fact that there are over 200 decisions that need to be made when someone dies. A funeral home director, pastor, hospice nurse and physician focus on how to deal with these important responsibilities.

The response of those who have participated previously is that they have come away with the realization that "death is not as frightening an experience as they had first thought." We come to recognize death as a part of life

and, learn that "preparation" becomes the key to confronting this inevitability.

This series will be presented at Wideman Mennonite Church, 10530 Markham Road, Tuesday, March 27, at Hagerman Mennonite, 4581 Fourteenth Avenue on Wednesday, March 28, and at Rough Valley Mennonite on Thursday, March 29. Time at each location is 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. including opportunity for questions and comments. A get-acquainted coffee time starts at 7:15 p.m.

Pre-registration is not necessary but the courtesy of advising the intention to attend would assist with planning. Please call a host church for information or reservations: Wideman (905) 640-6219, Hagerman 477-4858, or, Rouge Valley 294-6242.

- submitted by Paul Fawcett

FOCUS ON FAITH

ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH
32 Main St. W. Markham, 294-0351
SUNDAY SERVICE 10:00 A.M.

Journeying to Easter!

IV Discoveries on the Journey

Not long ago people believed they would drop off the edge of the earth if they traveled far from familiar destinations, and set off inundated seas. This view was depicted on old Spanish coins, which were stamped with both pictures of land and sea, but the sea was inscribed with the warning *No More Beyond!*

Of course the coins became outdated when explorers like Christopher Columbus had the courage to sail "beyond" and did not drop off to their demise, but instead found new worlds hitherto unimagined. After this point in history, the caption used on Spanish coins to describe unexplored seas was changed to read *More Beyond!*

A change of only one word on the coin! Yet it created a dramatic shift in priorities, from fearful caution to exuberant faith in the value of exploration of course, it's not hard to remain a coin, given the proper resources. With humans though, change is steady so swift or complete, and it is never easy.

Study of Jesus' life is a valuable resource to those interested in changing their orientation from security to exploration, because Jesus' life embodied the "More Beyond!" approach. Although on one level it may be comforting to imagine that Jesus had his life all mapped out, on a deeper level it is more inspiring to realize that Jesus struggled with the direction of his life almost up to the moment of his death. Jesus' agonized prayers before his arrest were prayers laden with decision.

Even Jesus' last decision, to live out an example of abundant love through his death, was an invitation to further explore the "More Beyond!" Jesus' final act was to portray that real love is endless, that indeed there is more "and more" beyond, extravagant love that finds its advance as we journey deeper into our quest, to offer caring and hope to a desperately needing world.

Dr. Frederick A. Styles

Wideman Mennonite Church

MARCH 25, 2001
9:45 - Christian Education
11:00 a.m. - Worship
1 km. North of Hwy. 7 & Hwy. 48
Church Office 640-6219 For a info call: 640-4165

CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH
151 Main St., Unionville 477-0105
Visit us at www.centralchurch.com
SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 2001
Services: 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
"Compassion Toward All People!"
A warm welcome awaits you!

Two Commandments Christian School
905-944-8859

The whole Law of the Prophets depend on these two commandments:
- You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.
- You shall love your neighbour as yourself.
Matthew 22:37-40

COMMUNITY CHURCH

A Church To Call Home
9:15 a.m. - Sunday School
11:00 a.m. - Worship Service
"Picking Out Rather Than Picking On Church Leaders" - Pastor Mark Lewis
No Life Building - We are singing Spring in the Reptile Church to hear John Mackay, Creation Speaker at 6:00 pm.
8176 McCowan Road (just south of Hwy. 7) Markham, ON Tel. 905-475-7855
Home of Central Child Care Centre

FREE Presentation
"Israel in Bible Prophecy"
7:15 p.m. Wed. Mar. 14, 21, 28
700 Apple Creek Boulevard
Markham
(905) 946-8751

The Lion's Den
Christian Book Store
Serving Your Family and Church
117 Main St. North Tel: (905) 922-4112
Markham Village Diana Whitehead

BETHESDA LUTHERAN CHURCH
20 Union St., Unionville - 477-1731
(Near Hwy. 7 & Main)
Sunday School - 9:30 a.m.
Worship - 10:30 a.m.

Fellowship Baptist Church Markham
A Friendly Growing Church
9:45 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. Worship Service
777 Kennedy Road, 50th Floor, Unit 501
Tel: (905) 470-9775
Baptist Rev. Prudens Indu & Rev. Peter Toy

MARKHAM MISSIONARY CHURCH
Evangelical Missionary Church of Canada
529 Major Mackenzie Drive East, Markham
(905) 294-5091
Sunday, March 25, 2001
9:00 a.m. - Early Worship Service
9:30 a.m. - Christian Education Hour
10:30 a.m. - Office Fellowship
11:00 a.m. - Late Worship Service
6:00 p.m. - Nd Only Club Youth Meeting & Multi-Trade & Growth Group
Please call church for details of services and other programs of the church.

EBENEZER UNITED CHURCH
Corner of Brimley & Steeles 477-4365
www.ebenet-uc.on.ca
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
Sunday School and Nursery

Streams of Refreshment

You are invited to "Jump In!"
Sunday Nights 7:30 p.m. - March 4th to April 8th

• March 25th: Social Justice Stream
Speaker: Dr. Mary-Jo Leddy
St. Patrick's, 5633 Hwy. 7

• April 1st: Charismatic Stream
Speaker: Brian Stiller
Applecreek 7th Day Adventist
700 Apple Creek Bl.

• April 8th: Holiness Stream
Speaker: Rev. David Chotka
St. Philip's On the Hill, 9400 Kennedy Road
Sponsored by the Markham-Unionville
Ministerial Assoc.