

Rainbow Skydivers open tournament

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field. For the past 18 years, the Rainbow Skydivers have officially opened Polo for Heart. Precision timing and precise location are their trademarks.

Brian Dizenzo, a member of the team, cannot remember what first attracted him to the sport. A diver for 29 years, he thinks he must have seen it on TV. Mr. Dizenzo joined a local club; which is still his advice for aspiring parachutists.

Mr. Dizenzo and Guido Robert, the core members of the Rainbow Skydivers, have participated in the Canadian National Exhibition Air Show, the Hamilton Air Show and the grand opening of Toronto's SkyDome.

Jumping for Labatt's Ltd. at several exhibitions, the company asked the divers to perform in its TV commercials. Outfitted in colourful parachutes, the team adopted the name Rainbow Skydivers and it stuck.

Ken Jen Petting Zoo

We'll bet you've never been kissed by a famous llama before... these llamas have kissed many famous people, including Hilary Weston, Lincoln Alexander, Mike Harris and the Duchess of York, to name a few.

That's half the fun of visiting the Ken

Jen Petting Zoo, which is proud to be part of the Polo for Heart Games this year. There are more than 45 animals from around the world for you to meet, learn about and even become friends.

These animals may be exotic to Canada, but they are used by families for agriculture and work in their native countries: zebus from India, llamas from Peru, sheep, calves, ponies, goats and donkeys, plus birds of all kinds.

All the animals are tame and, when they are not visiting children, they reside on a farm in Oshawa with their owners, Ken, Jennifer and Brandy LaSalle.

Most of them have been hand-raised as pets and all have their own names and personalities.

All the animals at Polo for Heart are the stars of 40 pre-school children's videos. Some of the video "stars" include Lucky, the pony; Zorro, the zebu; Conan, the llama; Baabaa Black, the sheep; Henrietta, the chicken; Annie, the miniature donkey; Shauna Lee, the miniature goat; and Bacon Bits, the pot-bellied pig.

York Police Canine Unit

Not since Turner & Hooch, or maybe James Belushi's K-9, or even TV's Katz & Dog, has so much reverence been given to man's best friend and its canine ability to serve and protect the human

species.

The York Regional Police Canine Unit has been doing it longer and in real life and its success stories would make great scripts for any Hollywood movie or TV script.

Formed in 1989, the unit was created to support the overall activities of the organization in the capture of criminals, locating missing people, searching for evidence and deterring criminal activity.

The main role of the police service dog handlers in the unit is to take full advantage of the innate abilities of their canine partners in tracking, searching and apprehending fleeing criminals. They function most usefully in situations where manpower alone is not sufficient or effective.

The value of the newly formed canine unit was immediately obvious as the number of criminals apprehended and the number of found "missing" people dramatically increased.

In 1991, the unit was expanded from four teams to its present size of five teams. In 1997, a narcotic detection dog was added to the unit.

Polo for Heart is proud to have the York Regional Police Canine Unit at the 23rd annual tournament. It's a great opportunity for visitors to learn more about Police Service Dogs and the very special role they play in York Region.

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Volunteer Adjudicators Wanted

The York Region Celebration of the Arts, sponsored by the York Region Newspaper Group, is holding its Second Annual Scholarship competition for rising stars in our community. We are seeking qualified professional adjudicators to assist in the selection of award recipients.

The judging will take place in August 2002, with the awards presented in October.

Applications are solicited in the following disciplines:

1. Classical Music - Instruments
2. Popular Music - Vocals
3. Popular Music - Bands
4. Opera
5. Dance
6. Theatre Arts - Drama
7. Theatre Arts - Musical Theatre

Please submit your resume by June 30, 2002 to celebratethearts@yrng.com or fax to 905-881-9924.

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For more information and pledge forms please contact:

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