

Police preparing to introduce new chief

BY ROGER VARLEY
Staff Writer

York Region's new chief of police could be named as early as next week.

Police Services Board chairperson David Barrow said Thursday it is possible Chief Robert Middaugh's replacement will be announced a couple of weeks before the next board meeting, scheduled for Oct. 23.

Mr. Barrow would not comment on whether a short list has been selected from the nine possible candidates for the chief's position, saying that not all the interviews have been completed yet.

All candidates come from within York Regional Police ranks.

Considered to be the top contenders for the job are deputy chief of operations Terence Kelly and deputy chief of administration Armand LaBarge.

Deputy chief Kelly, 56, has been with the force for three years. Deputy chief LaBarge, 48, started his police career as a cadet in the area prior to the start-up of York Regional Police and has been with the force since then.

Others being considered are the force's seven superintendents: Eric Jolliffe, George Kydd, Paul Sorel, Eugene Kerrigan, Bruce Herridge, John Girvan

and Donald Kirk.

Chief Middaugh, 59, announced his resignation in July, to take effect at the end of his three-year contract in February. The chief, who said there are several officers on his staff who are qualified to succeed him, has been helping the police services board in its deliberations.

Chief Middaugh began his police career as a constable in Peel Region in 1967. After 13 years, he served as deputy chief in Halton Region for 11 years before taking on the position of chief in Hamilton-Wentworth from 1991 to 1998.



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'Civil society'

topic of first forum

BY SIMONE JOSEPH
Staff Writer

Youth would be more involved in their communities and in local politics if opportunities for young people were better promoted, says Anika Khanna.

"There isn't a lack of programs, there's a lack of knowledge of the programs," said the vice-chairperson of the York Region Youth Advisory Committee.

Traditional advertising methods such as posters in bus stops often don't work because young people don't read them, she said. Agencies hoping to involve youth must do more by promoting programs in a way that will attract students' attention, such as bringing a speaker into schools, Ms Khanna said.

Ms Khanna will discuss how youth can make a difference in their community at a forum next month.

It will be the first discussion in the inFORUM York series sponsored by York Region's human services planning department.

Other panelists in this first forum include: Markham Councillor Frank Scarpitti, who will talk about the role of politicians in a civil society and whether people have more or less faith in politicians than they used to; Cameron Hastings of Magna International, who will discuss the role of business in creating healthy communities; and Debora Kelly, editor in chief of the York Region Newspaper Group, who will talk about the role of the media and how it influences what happens in the community.

The inFORUM York series is divided into four themes: Civil Society, The New Ages of Majority, Pace of Change and Invisible Infrastructure.

The planning department got the idea for the first theme, civil society, from a Maclean's magazine article written by Allan Gregg, host of TVOntario's Gregg and Company in April 2002, titled Wake Up, Canada — A Reminder That Government is Us and Not Them.

The forum will include a discussion of whether people are participating in their communities and in politics and if not, why not?

"There is a general thought people are less involved in their city than they used to be. We will discuss if that is true or not," said Craig Piper, senior planner with the York Region human services department.

The first forum will be Oct. 4 from 9 a.m. to noon at The Newmarket Theatre. This panel discussion will be moderated by Allan Gregg.

Forums are open to the public and are free but registration is required. To register, phone 1-905-830-4444, ext. 1515. For future details on the inFORUM York series, check the Human Services Planning web page at www.region.york.on.ca

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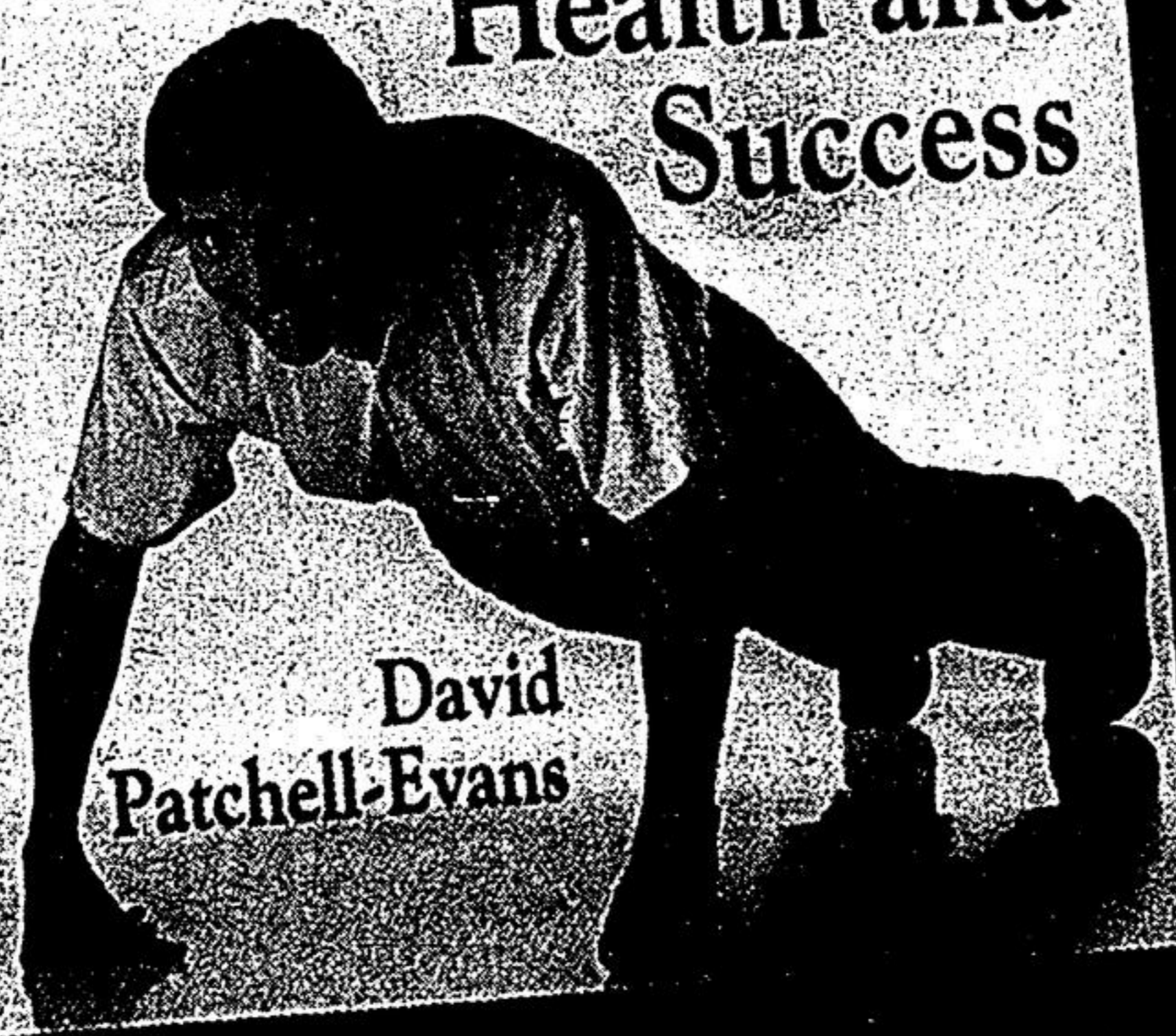
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