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24 Hometown boys lead Stouffville Spirit to junior A hockey win over Collingwood.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

EVENT: Stouffville Kinsmen Santa Claus Parade
WHEN: Saturday, Dec. 7, 2 p.m. (905-640-5004)
WHERE: Main Street, Stouffville



22 Santa's parade route through York Region includes stop in Stouffville.

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WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE MOTHER BEHIND FIGHT FOR SPECIAL NEEDS KIDS

PARENTS SUING MINISTRY

BY MITCHELL BROWN
 Staff Writer

A Stouffville-area mother says she's joining a lawsuit against the Education Ministry because she hopes to spare other children from what happened to her son.

"I just want to see the system change," Ville Papas said.

"I want to see the children get what they need. I don't want to see

any other child get hurt."

Her troubles with the school system began about 10 years ago when her second-youngest child, Demetre, lost most of his hearing at age four.

"It was like putting your hands over your ears," she said. "All he could hear was mumbling or a water sound."

He was attending junior kinder-

garten at Christ the King Catholic School in Richmond Hill and Ms Papas says he received speech therapy.

A year later, he also received an operation to restore his hearing, but by then he had already fallen behind his peers, so his teachers had to teach him to speak and read again.

The family moved to

Whitchurch-Stouffville and, for the next few years, Ms Papas received regular reports of Demetre's progress, although he was always a little behind his classmates.

By Grade 4, Demetre moved to a different school and administrators there decided to put him in a special education program because his reading skills were several levels

See MOM, page 9.

Golf course community wins award, praise

Residents like lifestyle at Ballantrae club

BY JOAN RANSBERRY
 Staff Writer

Residents of the Ballantrae Golf and Country Club were not surprised to learn that their neighbourhood is the most Outstanding Adult Lifestyle project in Ontario.

Betty and Bernie Shukster moved from their Willowdale home of 20 years onto Arnie's Chance, a street in the Schickedanz Bros. Ltd. development in early spring and they've never looked back.

"I tell others, why wait for paradise when you can live it right here," said Mrs. Shukster.

The subdivision is located on Hwy. 48, north of the community of Ballantrae.

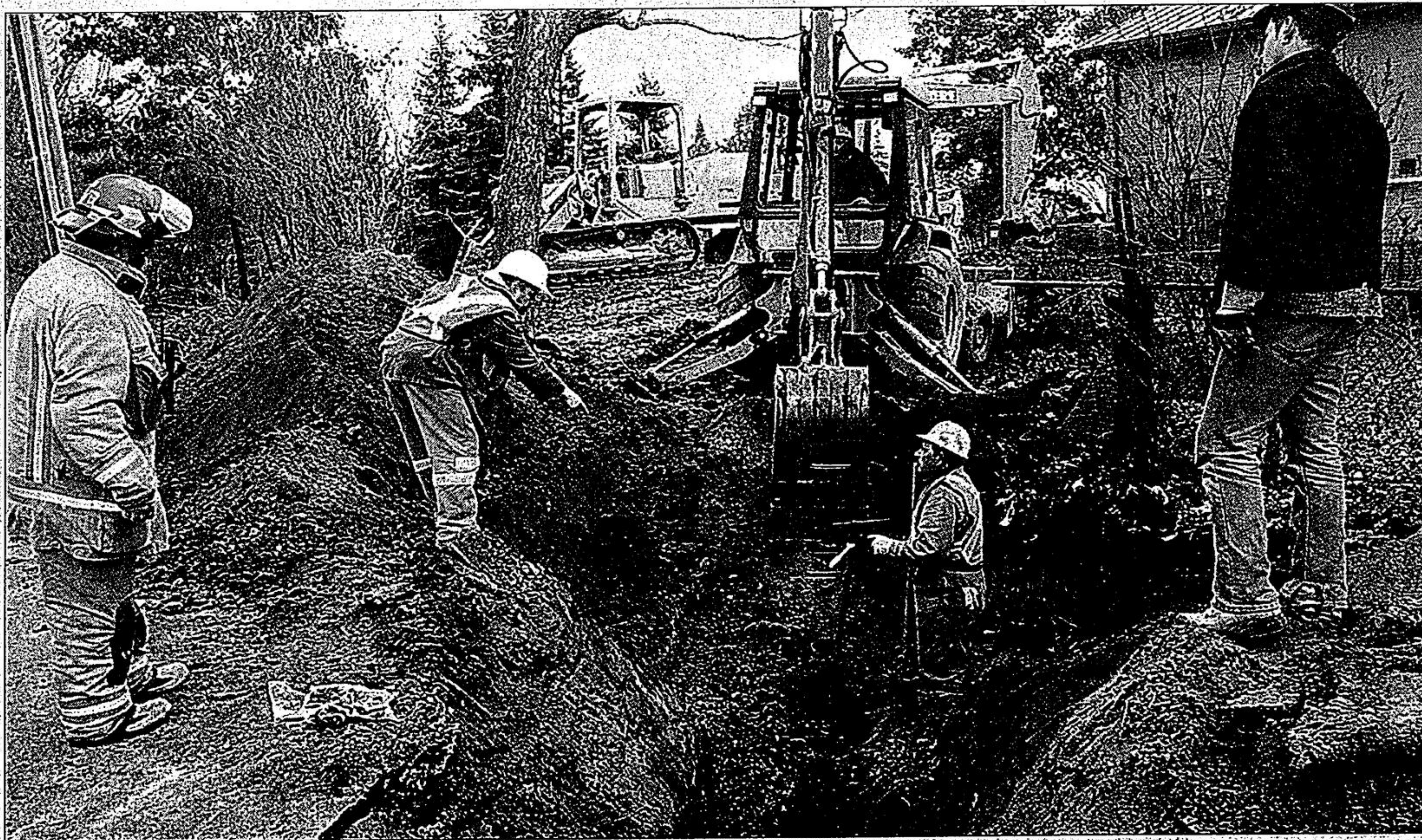
When word spread that the Ballantrae Golf and Country Club had captured top honours at the annual conference of the Ontario Home Builders' Association in early October, Mrs. Shukster and her neighbours didn't hesitate but to agree with the judges.

"Ballantrae Golf and Country Club deserves to win," said Mrs. Shukster. "It's a wonderful place."

The club, complete with its 18-hole golf course, is set on a 418-parcel of land, including 10 acres of ponds and more than 50 acres of woodlot.

When finished, the residential portion of the development will

See 'CARE-FREE', page 5.



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

SPRUNG A LEAK

Construction workers at Bloomington Cove seniors residence (formerly Green Gables Manor) in Bloomington hit a gas pipe while digging to install a sewer connection on Thursday morning. Whitchurch-Stouffville firefighters and Enbridge workers were on the scene quickly. Evacuation was not necessary.

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