

# Stouffville Sun-Tribune

SATURDAY, AUG. 23, 2003 ■ SERVING THE COMMUNITY OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE ■ 40 PAGES/\$1 INCLUDING GST



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## No charges one year after hit and run

Family remembers promising teenager

BY JOAN RANSBERRY  
Staff Writer

The tears are never far away. Neither is the anger nor the emptiness. Matthew, George Bobbett is gone and nothing will bring him back.

A hit-and-run driver robbed the Bobbett family of a much-loved son and brother.

Monday marks the first anniversary of the death of the Ballantrae teen who was left to die in a ditch on Hwy. 48, near Aurora Road. The driver of the car that struck the 16-year-old drove off after turning the lights off.

Police said they were searching for a baby blue Ford Mustang.

Matthew was with two buddies at the time of the accident. One sustained minor injuries, while a second youth escaped unharmed.

Det. Const. Steve Sermet of the OPP's criminal operations unit and scientists at the Centre for Forensic Science continue the investigation into the death.

Meanwhile, Larry Bobbett has to accept the fact that despite the fact that 12 months have passed, no charges have been laid in connection with his son's death.

"People drink and drive, they do drugs, they drive reckless, they drive too fast and then they leave a boy to die in the ditch. I can understand part of it. I can't understand leaving my boy to die in a ditch. This part is the crime."

See VEHICLE, page 8.

INVITATION TO APPEAR ON TRAVEL SHOW IN NORTHEASTERN UNITED STATES

## York reverses promotion snub

BY JEFF MITCHELL  
Staff Writer

York Region was scrambling to appease businesses and politicians after it turned its nose up at a golden opportunity to promote the area free of charge this week.

Stephen Pickford, host of Travel World Radio, launched an attack Thursday after York Region passed on the opportunity, citing last

week's power failure.

The response left Mr. Pickford flummoxed.

"I was floored," he said in an interview from his Montreal office.

"The only person who has ever refused to be on the show was Brian Mulroney."

After the region's communications department learned York Region Newspaper Group was

investigating, it reversed its decision late in the day, agreeing to appear on yesterday's broadcast.

Travel World Radio airs Saturday morning on 35 affiliate stations, most of them in the northeastern United States, Mr. Pickford said. The program, which invites locals to talk about the attractions and attributes of their communities, is heard by an average of 479,000 lis-

teners weekly.

"We like to ask our guests, 'What would you show your friends if they came to your town?'" Mr. Pickford said.

The region's corporate communications office originally turned down the request. An e-mail from York communications representative Michael Kemp to Mr. Pickford

See REGION, page 14.



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEN

### 'LOOK WHAT I MADE'

Hannah Champion, 6, shows counsellor Shelley Painter her sculpture at the Latham Gallery Art Camp last week in Stouffville. The young campers worked with clay last week at the annual camp.

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