

York transit on lookout after bombs

BY PATRICK MANGION
Staff Writer

York Region's public transit contractors are on the lookout.

In the wake of Thursday's deadly bombings in England, extra precautions will be taken to ensure public safety, said Don Gordon, general manager of York Region Transit.

"We've asked (transit workers) to be on heightened alert — to be vigilant when inspecting vehicles, if there are any abandoned packages, for instance," Mr. Gordon said.

The region has procedures in place to handle emergencies, including shutting down the entire system, he added.

"We're not expected to identify threats. We rely on security or police for that."

Otherwise, it would be difficult to take security measures on individual buses, for every passenger getting on or off, Mr. Gordon said.

The final blast of four co-ordinated explosions during the

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morning rush hour blew apart one of London's famous double-decker buses.

Images of destruction in London were eerily reminiscent of the terrorist attacks in New York nearly four years ago.

Stouffville resident Bill McLelland, 66, said the shocking events put things in perspective.

"It makes you think about all the things going on in the world today. There are things we take for granted," he said.

"But it's hard to understand the mindset of people doing this."

In 24 hours, the elation of winning the right to host the 2012 Summer Games, quickly dissipated for Londoners and here at home.

"It really hits you, the way it went from one extreme to the other," said 22-year-old Melissa Blouin, a British Columbia resident who is visiting the region for the summer.

"It was awful ... so scary."

POLICE

East Gwillimbury woman found safe

A 35-year-old East Gwillimbury woman who disappeared last weekend has turned up safe.

Heather Sedore was supposed to pick up her three children Sunday evening after they spent the weekend with their uncle in Burlington, but she didn't arrive.

She turned up Thursday at a relative's home in Halton Region hours before the family had planned a news conference to plead for information regarding her whereabouts, police said.

"We're just happy she turned up safe," York Regional Police Const. Kim Kilby said.

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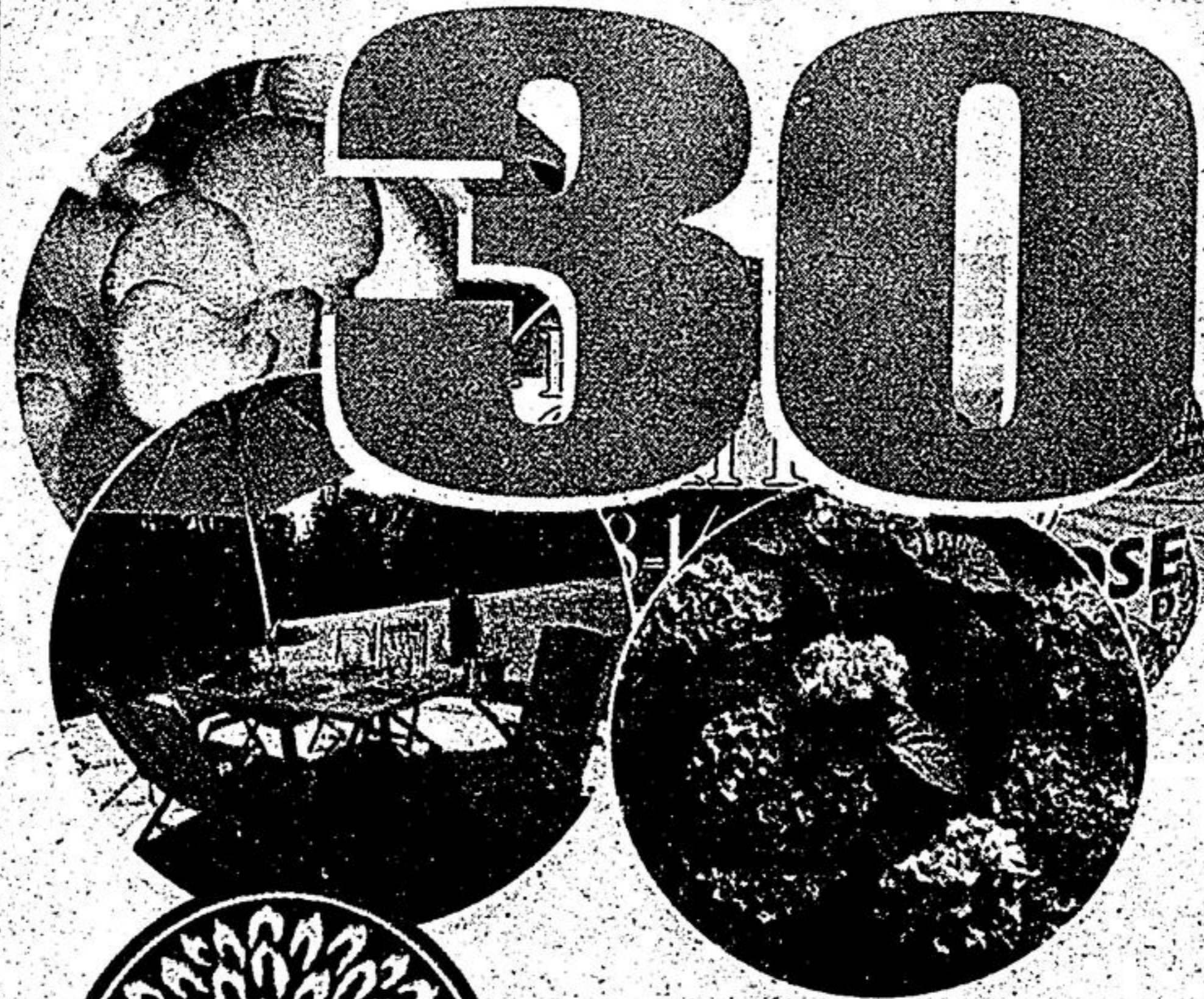
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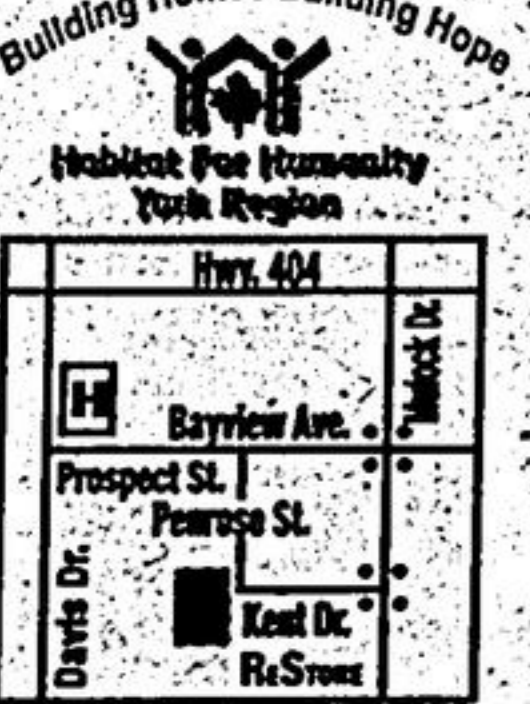
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