

Stouffville Sun-Tribune

THURSDAY, SEPT. 20, 2007 ■ SERVING THE COMMUNITY OF WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE ■ 32 PAGES/\$1 INCLUDING GST



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Is your marriage in need of tune-up?

Some spend more time on cars: course leader

BY HANNELORE VOLPE
Staff Writer

Do you pay more attention to keeping your car tuned up than keeping your marriage running smoothly?

Have you ever felt you need help in understanding your spouse a little better?

More and more people are turning to marriage maintenance courses.

One of them is The Marriage Course, which is being offered in Stouffville next month.

The courses are for healthy marriages and not for those in crisis. Couples facing serious difficulties in their marriage are advised to seek counselling or family therapy.

The eight evening sessions of The Marriage Course cover all the hot-button issues that crop up in any marriage, with the aim of building a healthy marriage that lasts a lifetime.

The course deals with improving communication, resolving conflicts, good sex, dealing with parents, children and in-laws and other topics.

"The course fosters an appreciation for each other," Stouffville resident Nancy Stover said. "It is definitely an affirmation that respect within marriage, proper attitudes, honesty and openness are very critical to a healthy relationship."

See MARRIAGE, page 21.



STAFF PHOTO/SUSIE KOCKERSCHIEDT

THE TRADITION OF TERRY FOX

Stouffville's 26th annual Terry Fox Run drew 752 participants and 101 volunteers and raised more than \$70,000 at the Stouffville Arena and track Sunday. More money, especially from school events, is still to come. For more, see additional photos on page 3 and Jim Mason's column on page 6.

905 SHORTCHANGED \$1.6B ON HEALTH, SOCIAL SERVICES: REPORT

York health shortfall near crisis

BY DAVID FLEISCHER
Staff Writer

If health and social service funding doesn't catch up to York Region's growth, our social fabric could be on the verge of crisis, according to one service provider.

"It's not a new story... it's very historic to York Region," Monica Auerbach, director of Jewish Family and Child Services, said of a new

report indicating the 905 area is being shortchanged to the tune of \$1.6 billion.

Her organization works with communities throughout the region and has 16 social workers in local schools.

"In order to have healthy communities and strong neighbourhoods, you need strong families," said Ms Auerbach, a former direc-

tor of Transitional and Supportive Housing Services of York Region.

In her work with the homeless and families, she has seen the same issues recurring.

"It's just so apparent how families are under stress and trying to cope on a day-to-day basis," she said.

The latest numbers come from a report issued Tuesday by the Strong

Communities Coalition, featuring an independent audit by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP. It shows local residents are receiving less funding than the rest of the province, despite a growing need.

The coalition is comprised of the United Ways in York, Durham and Peel regions and Oakville, as well as the York Region Human

See SOCIAL, page 20.

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