

Blenders, belly dancers part of show for unconventional duo

BY ADAM MC LEAN

Unless you have seen a blender, belly dancer and police tape sharing the stage before, this isn't your typical rock show.

If this is nothing new, you were most likely at the last Ubiquitous Synergy Seeker show.

"We perform neo-vaudevillian progressive dance folk," quipped Ash Buchholz, half of the Markham-Stouffville duo.

A pumping juggernaut of sensory gluttony is one way to describe the spectacle that is a 45-minute set by

the pair.

Stouffville's Jay Parsons oversees the turntables and acts as the resident barker to his bandmate and master of ceremonies to a performance Mr. Buchholz describes as, "Buddy Holly playing a rave at the science centre".

Costume changes, belly dancing, human pyramids, head stands and leaping into the crowd to dance with fans and friends holds everyone's attention.

The fun is capped by Buchholz climbing on a stool and splattering

the audience with an assault of emotion before, toasting the stage lights and gulping down a smoothie made on stage. The stage lights go out on his last sip.

The danceable drum and bass sound, spliced with reggae and folk overtones, creates a unique sound to match the duo's distinctive stage presence.

"If you have ever seen the movie *Weird Science*, then you will understand our band," Mr. Buchholz said. "In the movie, these guys have this machine and they

build their dream girl from different parts of women from magazine cut-outs. That is how my brain works musically."

The band draws influence from pop-folkster Beck, Monty Python and science lectures.

Ubiquitous Synergy Seeker went on hiatus two years ago, as Mr. Parsons traveled to British Columbia and Mr. Buchholz checked into a meditation centre for more than three months. It was there the latter found what he calls his largest influence.

"It was as if I hit rock bottom psychologically and I made the decision to change my life. I always wondered where I could find the reset button and I found it in silence," Mr. Buchholz said.

"It's been over a year since then and I feel like we have come back stronger than ever."

Next is a tour of Northern Ontario and the Maritimes to promote its CD *Welding the C/*.

Visit myspace.com/ubiquitousyneryseeker



STAFF PHOTO/ADAM MC LEAN

Markham's Ash Buchholz and Stouffville's Jay Parsons perform at the Horseshoe Tavern in Toronto.

MARKHAM STOUFFVILLE HOSPITAL REDEVELOPMENT

Community Information Forum

The communities served by Markham Stouffville Hospital have grown at remarkable rates. It is widely recognized that redevelopment of the Hospital is essential in order to keep pace with the increasing and changing needs for healthcare service in our communities.

Please join us at the upcoming **Community Information Forum** for the latest news on our redevelopment plans.

At this Community Information Forum we will describe the planning process that directs our redevelopment and we will share with you our early site development concepts.

We look forward to welcoming you at our **Community Information Forum** on the evening of **November 8th**.

Please print and display the parking pass available at www.msh.on.ca for complimentary parking during the forum on November 8th.



THURSDAY
Nov. 8
2007
7:00pm-8:30pm

WHAT:
Hospital Redevelopment
Community Information
Forum

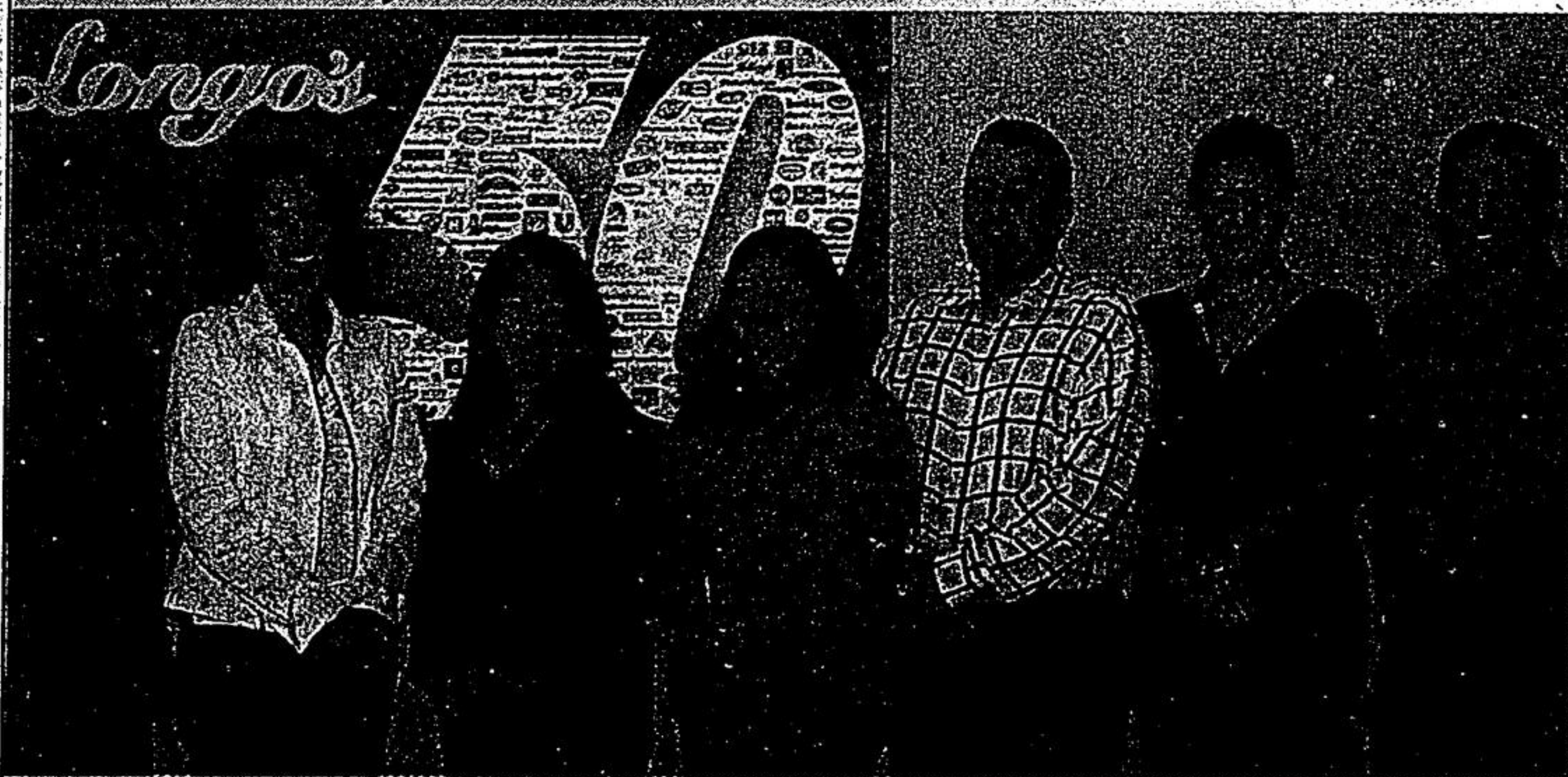
WHERE:
Markham Stouffville
Hospital Auditorium
Markham Site
381 Church St.

WHEN:
Open House 7:00 - 8:30
Presentation 7:30 - 8:00

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Families Helping Families



Longo family members gather to celebrate their \$250,000 donation to Markham Stouffville Hospital.

LEFT TO RIGHT: Joey Longo, Rosanne Maiuro, Jenny Passafiume, Marie Iuglio, Mike Longo, Carolyn Longo, Danny Iuglio.

Longo's Donates \$250,000 to Markham Stouffville Hospital

"It's about families helping families."

A great philosophy for a family business. And Longo Brothers Fruit Markets is determined not to forget its roots.

"Longo's strongly believes that family values are essential to community growth," Rosanne Maiuro, Chair of the Longo's Family Charity Foundation, recounts the family's philosophy on giving.

Longo's \$250,000 donation will support Markham Stouffville Hospital's redevelopment project. The project will provide better capacity to care for our growing community by expanding key facilities such as Emergency and purchasing more state-of-the-art equipment.

"The Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation is pleased to have Longo's support," commented Suzette Strong Randall, President, Markham Stouffville Hospital Foundation. "Longo's is a compassionate organization embodying qualities that we value, and we are proud they chose to invest in our community's health care."

With a new store opening in Boxgrove in 2008, Rosanne explained that the Hospital's expansion can only have a positive impact on Longo's customers in the form of improved health care. "We strive to make a difference where we feel we can make a significant impact on the lives of our staff, our customers and their families," she said.

"We feel it is important to give back to our communities and share the blessings," Rosanne explained the decision to designate funds to the local hospital. "When choosing a cause, we look for the added value back to the community; we look for a match in values; and we look for people who are about 'doing the right thing.'"



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