

Children in need playing local sports thanks to donation

There's an angel at Stouffville's new Canadian Tire store.

A Pathways Angel Plaque was presented to Canadian Tire associate dealers Paul and Laury Lamoureux during the ribbon cutting ceremony for the store last Thursday in recognition of their dedication and commitment to helping give children a sporting chance.

In Whitchurch-Stouffville, the JumpStart chapter has donated more than \$8,000 to help 30 children.

Pathways for Children, Youth and Families of York Region has partnered with Canadian Tire and the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville's leisure services department to form the local chapter of the Canadian Tire Jumpstart Program.

A community-based charitable program, JumpStart

helps children in financial need participate in organized sports and recreation, such as hockey, dance, soccer and swimming.

The program is delivered through local chapters, made up of community leaders and Canadian Tire dealers.

In Whitchurch-Stouffville, the chapter has donated more than \$8,000 to help 30 children.

There are 240 JumpStart chapters in communities across the country. Since its launch in 2005, more than 65,000 children have been assisted.

Pathways is a United Way member agency that has been serving the region for 18 years.

It provides help for homeless youth through two residences and a drop-in centre, as well as support programs for parents and their pre-school children in multiple languages at several locations including Stouffville.

For more information on the programs, go to pathwaysyorkregion.org or canadiantire.ca/jumpstart/

Donated coats help Goodwill

Your old coat could make someone's winter warmer.

Mark's Work Wearhouse's GTA-wide coat drive, Share the Warmth, runs from today through Dec. 20.

Outerwear can be dropped at any of the 36 GTA stores, including the new Stouffville outlet, at Hoover Park Drive and Hwy. 48.

If you donate a coat, you will receive a 20-per-cent discount towards a new Mark's outerwear purchase.

All donated outerwear will be given to Goodwill.

The donations will help rebuild the Goodwill Community Store in Etobicoke, which was struck by fire Oct. 28,

as well as support Goodwill's employment initiatives.

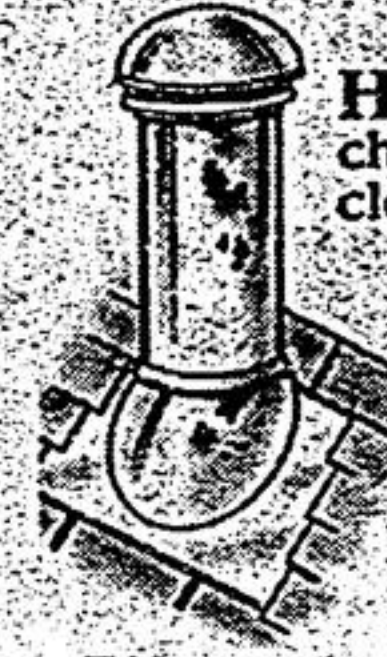
Since 1935, Goodwill's mission has been to create work opportunities and skills development for people facing serious barriers to employment, including persons with disabilities, youth at risk, the chronically unemployed, Aboriginal people and newcomers to Canada.

Goodwill's Community Stores sell a wide variety of donated goods, the revenues from which create jobs at Goodwill that give people much-needed paid work experience.

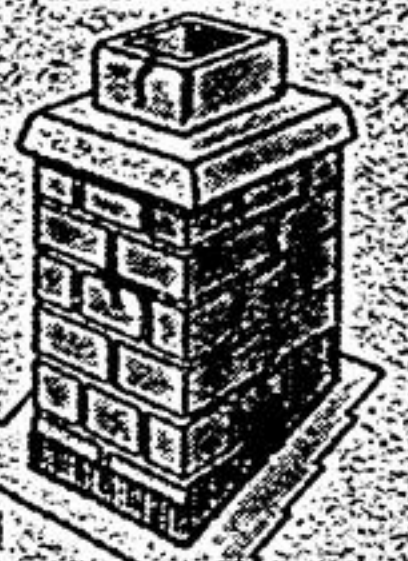
For more information, go to marks.com or goodwill.on.ca or call 1-866-807-1903 or 416-362-4711.

CHECK YOUR CHIMNEY

Remember to check your chimney regularly for signs of corrosion or deterioration.



Have all chimneys cleaned and inspected at least once a year.



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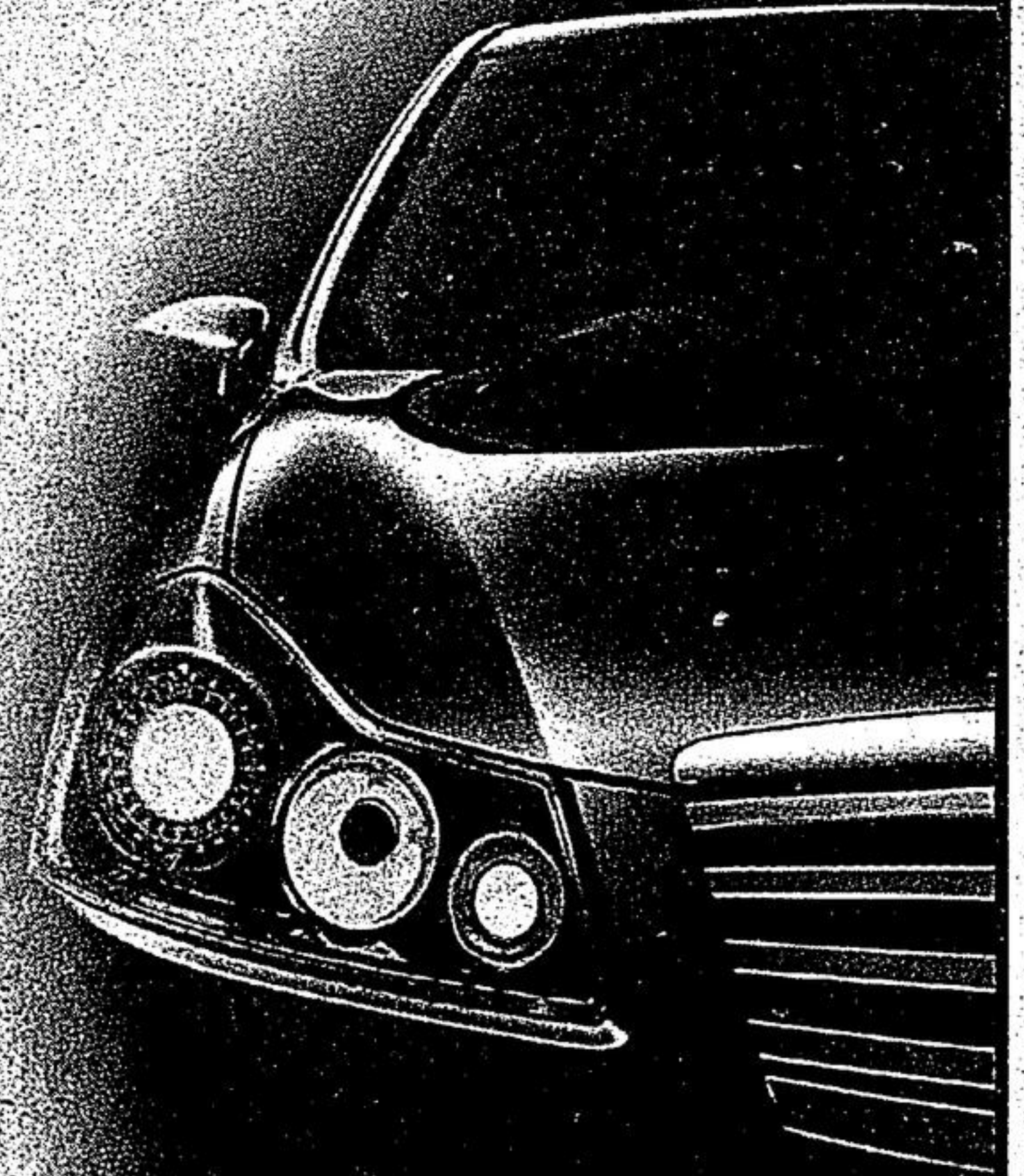
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When You can't **BREATHE** Nothing Else Matters

THE LUNG ASSOCIATION

We can help. For more information about Asthma call The Lung Association

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Clean air and the Greenbelt

Clean air matters. It matters to our health, our children and our future. A 2007 poll conducted by Environics shows that air pollution is the top environmental issue for Ontarians.

We asked Dr. Rick Smith from Environmental Defence what steps are being taken to improve air quality and how Ontario's Greenbelt, the largest in the world, plays a role.

Q: How is the Greenbelt good for our air?

A: It protects the land from development and succumbing to urban sprawl. With its green spaces and forests covering such a vast area of land, the Greenbelt helps provide Ontarians with clean air, which we need for our health and quality of life. The more trees, the cleaner our air, it's that simple.

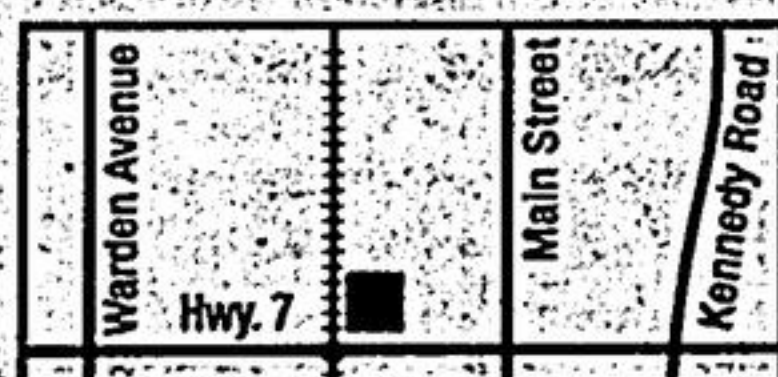
Q: What can Ontarians do to help clean the air?

A: There are lots of things people can do. We can buy local food from the Greenbelt to reduce our carbon footprint. Buying local means our food isn't traveling thousands of miles, which reduces the amount of fossil fuels and emissions in our air. Tree planting in green spaces, reducing our energy consumption and carpooling all help clean our air.

Q: How does the Greenbelt affect climate change?

A: Without the protection of this 1.8 million acres of land, Ontarians would be faced with higher levels of air pollution. It helps filter air pollution and curb greenhouse gases that contribute to climate change. Put plainly, the Greenbelt is the "lungs" of the region.

www.OurGreenbelt.ca



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