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HOLIDAY TRAGEDY 0N404

Teacher clings to life from Gormley crash

> BY JEREMY GRIMALDI jgrimaldi@yrmg.com

An Aurora teacher was critically injured in a crash during the Victoria Day long weekend.

Elié Ndayishimiye, a math teacher at École secondaire catholique Renaissance, remains in critical condition after he was extricated from his car and taken to Toronto's Sunnybrook hospital, police said.

His northbound Mazda Tribute veered off Hwy. 404, south of Stouffville Road in Whitchurch-Stouffville at 3:21 a.m. Sunday, crossing the centre median and colliding with a southbound Toyota Camry.

The 62-year-old driver of the other vehicle, an AAA Aurora York Taxi cab, was taken to York Central Hospital with non-lifethreatening injuries.

At the family home on Wellington Street West Tuesday, relatives gathered awaiting news on Mr. Ndayishimiye, who is the father of two small children.

A woman identifying herself as his sister said his wife was unable to speak, as she was taking care of the youngsters.

The only phrase she uttered. was a solemn "pray for him".

Mr. Ndayishimiye hails from

See PRAY, page 16.

LET'S DANCE



STAFF PHOTO/SJOERD WITTEVEEN

Sutton Sabre Sady Beelik (left) collides with Stouffville Spartan Hayley Desjardins in York Region high schools' senior girls soccer action at Stouffville Tuesday. The Spartans won 3-0. Lucy Lombardo had two goals, Maddie Shefero one and Rebecca Martiniello the shutout.

COMING UP

More tunes on tap for 28th fest

Professionals, amateurs hitting strawberry event stages

> BY SANDRA BOLAN sbolan@yrmg.com

More music.

That is what attendees at the 28th annual Strawberry Festival will encounter.

"The music and the festival go so well. We have such a rich pot of musical talent. I don't think people realize how musically-rich this town is," said Shaen Armstrong, chairperson of the festival.

This year's Strawberry Festival runs from June 29 to July 1 in downtown Stouffville. including Memorial Park.

Along with perennial favourites the Blackboard Blues Band playing July 1 in the marquee tent, local musician Morgan Sadler and Sunderland's Brandyn Hazelton will hit the stage Friday night before the comedians take over for Giggles Comedy Night.

All day Saturday will feature Guitars in the Gazebo. The evening's entertainment will be provided by the band What About Bob?

Toronto-based Future History is also scheduled to perform in the festival pub Saturday, according to Ms Armstrong.

"This is good talent. These aren't amateur talents," she said.

However, local musicians wanting to take to the stage will get their chance Sunday afternoon during a jam session hosted by Open Mic with Mike and John.

See CONCERT, page 19

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