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# The Oshawa Express

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"Well Written, Well Read"

Vol 4 No 16

Wednesday, Feb 11, 2009

**Cancer patients grateful for student donations**

Page 7



**Global warming inevitable**

Page 9



**Oshawa Generals NEXT GAMES**

- **Friday, Feb. 13** VS Belleville Bulls at the GMC
- **Sunday, Feb. 15** in Brampton VS the Batallions

## Hockey team to boycott Oshawa

By **Katie Strachan**  
The Oshawa Express

A Cambridge man who was visiting the city for his son's hockey tournament won't be returning to Oshawa. Ever. And neither will the rest of his team.

Don, who didn't want his last name

used, alleges he was brutally assaulted on the weekend by a police officer outside of the Tartan, a local bar.

"The cop hit him about eight or nine times," says Dave Anderson, a hockey dad, also from Cambridge, who witnessed the confrontation. "His tooth went right through his lip and he's got a

bad black eye."

When Don and the other father's arrived at the Tartan after one of their kids' games, there was already eight or nine police cruisers in the parking lot regarding a different incident, according to Anderson.

"The police were called to the Tartan

on Saturday night because of a large fight," says Nancy van Rooy, communications officer for the Durham Regional Police.

When Don attempted to enter the bar he was stopped by one of the bouncers.

"He (Don) just asked the bouncer

See **THE POLICE** page 6

## More affordable homes needed

By **Cynthia McQueen**  
The Oshawa Express

Councillors in Oshawa say 29 units of new affordable homes in Oshawa are not enough to meet the needs of the city.

While this is a step in the right direction, "100 times this wouldn't be enough," says Brian Nicholson.

Mary Menzies, director of housing services for the region of Durham said, "Just under 4,000 households are waiting for rent geared-to-income assistance or subsidized housing. And about 46 per cent of those applying live in Oshawa."

Beyond Oshawa being the community most in need in Durham, because the largest amount of rental properties are located here, the wait times for subsidized housing is also the longest, explains Menzies.

"When we have a family who's willing to consider a vacant unit available anywhere in Oshawa, they wait an average of 2.5 years for housing. And that's if they're flexible," said Menzies.

The new housing starts will provide low-income families, seniors and people with special needs in Oshawa with 29 affordable homes after \$2.03 million was budgeted for Oshawa through the Canada-Ontario Affordable Housing program

See **29 NEW** page 6



Photo by Wally Donaldson/ The Oshawa Express

## Net action

Oshawa Generals' goaltender Michael Zador maintains his focus while Sudbury Wolves' forward John Kurtz (12) waits for the point shot during last Sunday night's Ontario Hockey League (OHL) outing at the GM Centre.

## "Bare" bones budget for city

By **Cynthia McQueen**  
The Oshawa Express

Oshawa city council has released what it's calling a bare essentials budget for consideration at council this week.

If approved, the budget allows "very little room to address existing infrastructure or respond to unexpected costs that could arise through the year", according to a report prepared by city staff.

About \$4 million in cuts were made to the total budget in order to see a 3.3 per cent increase, if approved.

Some of the items the city hopes to address with new funding are libraries, the Oshawa Senior Citizens Centre and the much debated winter maintenance program.

In addition, there is a newly proposed hi-tech ecological community, various and sundry infrastructure projects such as roads, an operational and environmental service centre and the harbourfront revitalization plan. All these capital projects identified for spending come with a price tag of \$3.2 million.

See **COUNCIL** page 6



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### Female caseworker charged with sexual assault

An Oshawa woman was charged with sexual assault after a developmentally challenged adult patient reported inappropriate sexual touching earlier this year.

A 46 year-old employee at the Association for Community Living was arrested recently after a lengthy investigation into allegations of sexual assault made by a 36 year-old patient with the organization.

The allegations were based on incidents that occurred last year.

The Oshawa woman has been charged with three counts of sexual assault.

Investigators are investigating if there are any other victims.

Anyone with information on this matter is asked to contact police at 1-888-579-1520 ext. 2738.

### Toronto man arrested after approaching Oshawa girl

After a young girl was approached by a man asking for directions and offering a ride in his car a Toronto man was charged with criminal harassment and intimidation.

The accused tried to strike up a conversation with the girl outside of her Oshawa school and eventually offered her a ride in his car.

The young girl ran away and reported the incident to school officials who contacted Durham Police. Police patrolled the nearby neighbour-

hoods and eventually arrested the suspect who was parked behind another local school in his vehicle.

The incident took place on Feb. 5 at about 9:20 a.m.

Durham Police Service would like to remind students to be aware of their surroundings at all times and to report any unwanted or strange contact with adults as soon as possible.

Anyone with information on this matter is asked to contact Oshawa police at 1-888-579-1520 ext. 5342.



### Two police cruisers windows smashed in robbery

A liquor store robbery gone wrong resulted in not one but two cruisers back windows smashed and one police constable assaulted.

After police responded to the alarm at the Rossland Road East LCBO, With the K-9 unit in tow, police caught two of the three suspects nearby on Oakwood Avenue, but not without issue.

One of the men resisted arrest punching and kicking officers and eventually kicked out the rear windshield of one cruiser.

After the man was placed in shackles and transferred to another cruiser, he kicked out the back window again.

At the police station, he allegedly assaulted a special constable inside of a holding cell.

The third man was arrested shortly after the first arrest on Crestwood Drive.

After further investigation, police found that several bottles of alcohol had been taken from the LCBO store.

The 38 year-old man is charged with break, enter and theft, three counts of assaulting a police officer, three counts of mischief under \$5,000, assault with intent to resist arrest and three counts of breach of probation.

Two Oshawa men, 19 and 21, were charged with breaking and entering, theft and breach.

The incident took place on Tues. Feb. 3 at approximately 12:20 p.m.

### Bad weather doesn't stop drinkers from driving

The roads and slippery and driving is more dangerous, but that doesn't stop people from drinking and driving.

Over some of the coldest and most treacherous days for drivers, RIDE programs throughout the region found and charged five drivers.

After conducting 31 roadside Breathalyzer

tests, Durham Regional Police issued five 12-hour suspensions and charged two people with impaired driving.

Three others were charged with exceeding the legal limit of 80 mg and one other person was charged with dangerous operation of a vehicle.

# Kids on board. It's a smoke-free zone.

## Smoking in motor vehicles with anyone under 16 is illegal and the fine is up to \$250.

As of January 21, 2009, the Smoke-Free Ontario Act prohibits smoking or having lighted tobacco in a motor vehicle while a person under 16 years old is present. Second-hand smoke levels in motor vehicles can be up to 27 times greater than in a smoker's home. It's even a risk on short trips and when the windows are rolled down.

Children who breathe second-hand smoke are more likely to suffer health problems such as sudden infant death syndrome, asthma and, later in life, cancer and cardiac disease.

For more information, contact your Public Health Unit or call the INFOLine toll-free at 1-866-396-1760. TTY: 1-800-387-5559. Or visit: [www.ontario.ca/smokefree](http://www.ontario.ca/smokefree)

For help quitting, visit [www.smokershelpline.ca](http://www.smokershelpline.ca) or call 1-877-513-5333.

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# Council spending at issue

Transparency for budgets debatable at council

By Cynthia McQueen  
The Oshawa Express

With the city budget just one week from release, the issue of spending has been a soap-box opportunity at city council.

At the last meeting, councillors went around the room at a dizzying pace over the allocation of funds for attending conferences.

Councillor Brian Nicholson said, "I have some real problems spending money to go to Whistler in these tough economic times."



Joe Kolodzie

The conference in question is the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) meeting in Whistler, British Columbia, in which the Prime Minister (Stephen Harper) and various ministers speak to councillors from across Canada.

Councillor Joe Kolodzie pointed out, "We're lobbying these people for the city of Oshawa so we should meet them to express our particular point of view and we're sharing ideas with all the councillors across Canada."



April Cullen

Councillor April Cullen has attended such meetings in the past and said, "It's amazing the things that you learn at one of these meetings. But once you've gone to a few, you realize they're all the same."

For the less experienced members of council, Cullen added, it's important to go to these conferences, "as long as you're not abusing your position". Cullen went on to say she could be going to conferences every month, but can't justify the cost.

The issue with budgeting funds for council

has been a problem for the last five years as council attempts to identify an amount that will cover councillors needs.

"Five years ago, the budget for everything was \$1,000. You couldn't even send out a newsletter for that (today)," explained Cullen. "We're trying to find an amount that allows a councillor to do what they have to while not being ridiculous."

For councillor Tito-Dante Marimpietri it's all about money.



Tito-Dante Marimpietri

"We must reach out and seek to intelligently and strategically scrape for every last penny, opportunity, and positive stimulus in policy, funding, or future prospect in positioning our city and local economy for Oshawa's future," he said.

There is also a meeting of the Association of Municipalities in Ontario to be held in Ottawa, which was at issue. However, the concern was one of which budgets should be accessed, the city's or the region's.

According to regional and city councillor John Neal, city councillors have an expense account of \$4,000, whereas regional councillors are given \$2,600 by the city and \$10,000 by the region.

For Neal, it's a matter of discretion. "I passed on \$3,000 of new furniture, although I do like to take my constituents out." Neal will attend AMO, but doesn't plan to take the trip out west.

Marimpietri added, "The question that needs to be asked, I suppose is, if certain councillors do not wish to attend as a means of cost reduction, why does the council not simply choose delegates or better yet, why don't regional councillors restrict themselves from 'double dipping'?"

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## More social housing needed

Durham Region and Oshawa are experiencing a shortage in social housing.

Funding recently came in to assist the building of 29 affordable homes in Oshawa.

Despite the \$2 million influx, this was old money and an old project, according to city councillors.

At the same time, because Oshawa has the largest amount of rental property within the region, it stands to reason it also has the longest waiting list for rent-geared-to-income housing.

With 46 per cent of the region's list being Oshawa residents, it's clear there is a need for new builds.

Venezuela's government has successfully spent and allocated more than 20 per cent of the country's GDP towards social programs in the last few years.

The Nasdaq's news wire recently reported, President Hugo Chavez vowed to continue his massive social spending programs even as Venezuela's finances are being hurt by lower oil prices.

While social programs often top the list of concerns for Canadians, taxes are a constant source of complaint and are always first and foremost on our minds.

Maybe taking a page from Chavez's book of best policies might be useful in this time of need.

Perhaps if more of our tax money went into funding those social programs most in need, such as employment insurance, social housing and retraining programs, as is the case in Oshawa, we might enable our economy to bounce back.

An anonymous pundit of sorts once said, you have to spend money to make money.

So what are we doing to incentivize our residents to spend their money?

What are the job creating, economy stimulating projects that are scheduled to come down the tubes from the trickle down on high at parliament hill?

Until the city's budget is approved, there is little certainty of how all these things will work.

Likewise, there is no set structure for accessing and applying for infrastructural project funds through the federal government.

So, until there is some communication between the four-tiered government, we have nothing to ensure we're going to be actively contributing to the economy by empowering the disenfranchised labourers and manufacturers currently trying to find their way in the wake of the nearly 200,000 job losses in Ontario.



### Letters to the Editor

#### "Colin Carrie owes it to the community"

Dear Editor,

It was reported that CAW Local 222 President, Chris Buckley, fears for his membership with the looming spectre of a possible full-scale General Motors pull-out. And right Mr. Buckley is to be concerned.

With the current economic situation seemingly accelerating the slow but steady decline of General Motors, there is a growing chance of Mr. Buckley's fears coming true. It is difficult to see how any company can survive year after year of declines and losses. To make matters worse for Mr. Buckley's membership, the only thing of note that has been heard over the deafen-

ing silence of Colin Carrie has been the assertion of Federal Human Resources Minister Diane Finley, who boldly announced that the Conservative government wouldn't increase E.I. payments because they didn't want to make unemployment lucrative.

Does Mr. Carrie believe, as Ms. Finley does, that the hard working people of our community would take their pink slips happily and then proceed to game the system? Colin Carrie owes it to this community to stand up for his constituents for a change, and denounce Ms. Finley's disgusting and harmful statements.

Michael L. Maynard

#### Angry over Global Spectrum's decision

Dear editor:

As a person living with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), I was angered and embarrassed to hear about the human rights violation suit being lodged against Global Spectrum, as reported recently in the Oshawa Express.

Trying to overcome societal stigma against people with learning disabilities is challenging enough without individuals using disorders such as ADHD as an

excuse for unprofessional conduct.

Yes, the disability is associated with impulsiveness, but at the end of the day I take responsibility for my actions and their consequences. As someone who is trying to prove that I am capable and competent regardless of having ADHD, it angers me to see people using diagnostic labels as a justification for inappropriate behaviour.

J. Saul

#### Caged eggs not cleaner eggs

Dear Editor:

Thank you for covering the recent wave of city councils and districts across Canada that are passing resolutions to reduce the use of eggs from caged hens ("Egg farmers and humane society" by Katie Strachan, February 4). However, several statements by Ed Schillings of the Egg Marketing Board must be corrected.

First, farm animals are excluded from most animal protection laws provided the producer follows a set of voluntary codes of practice. These codes are not supported by humane societies or SPCAs, primarily because they permit animals to be housed in facilities where the animals are cruelly confined to tiny spaces that don't permit movement. European countries and even the state of California have passed legislation banning this cruel practice, yet Canada still permits millions of animals to suffer in some of the most inhumane conditions imaginable. Farm animals in Canada deserve better treatment.

Second, it is false that these initiatives decrease consumer choice. Getting hens out of cages actually expands choice. Right now, cage-free eggs make up less than 2% of all eggs on shelves, and until more cage-free eggs are available, it's clear that educating consumers on cage-free eggs actually increases con-

sumer choice. Also, as cage-free eggs become more common, the price will drop for domestically produced cage-free eggs, as it has in the US and many other countries.

Third, Mr. Schillings' claim that cage-free eggs are unsafe does not pass muster. Hens on lower tiers of cages are often covered in feces from hens stacked in cages above - video evidence from multiple undercover investigations confirms this fact. Caged hens do not produce cleaner eggs, and if cage-free eggs did not meet high safety standards, they would not be permitted on the market. Likewise, Mr. Schillings' attempt to portray debeaking birds as harmless rings false - veterinary evidence shows debeaking is intensely painful to birds, cutting through bone, cartilage and other sensitive tissue, remaining painful throughout birds' lives.

Canadian farm animals deserve humane treatment. Confining animals to spaces so small they can't move is simply unacceptable and it's time for Canada to catch up with the rest of the developed world by getting hens out of cages. Consumers can help by choosing free-run, free-range or certified organic eggs. As Gandhi said, "We must be the change we wish to see in the world." Please choose higher welfare standards - it's a small step that will make a huge difference to animals.

Bruce Passmore

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news@oshawaexpress.ca

# Image changes as city becomes green leader

By Cynthia McQueen  
The Oshawa Express

Oshawa has been trying to shed its negative image over the last few years and it's working. Since being identified as the "hole in the donut" in the media in 2000, Oshawa has used its 30 acres of brownfields for urban renewal.

That strategy has earned the city the reputation as a green leader in Canada and an urban growth centre in the golden horseshoe.

Referring to Oshawa as a green leader, Storm Cunningham, an expert on urban renewal who spoke in Oshawa recently, said, "Oshawa is a place people are talking about."

While the city grows and changes it also becomes subject to urban sprawl. One of the dangers of urban sprawl in Oshawa and similar communities is that as a result of the recent "housing and credit crunch, sprawling developments become ghost towns and crime magnets,"

explained Cunningham.

The crime rates in Oshawa have changed to reflect Cunningham's comments over the last two years. According to STATS Canada, based on incidents per 100,000 citizens, Oshawa follows the provincial and regional trends.

Over the last two years, there has been a decrease of 13 per cent in violent crime and a 7.6 per cent increase in property crime.

One of the ways Oshawa is fighting this reality of urban sprawl is by re-greening the city and investing in renewal and revitalization.

Suzanne Elston, Senior Environmental Coordinator with the city used the old Oshawa

Hotel as a great example of how Oshawa is a green leader in urban renewal.

"It was a crack house," said Elston. "Then a young developer came in, gutted it and renovated. Now we have 32 studio apartments, 25 are subsidized social housing and 75 per cent of the building's energy needs are met by geothermal heating."

Geothermal heating is a new green energy system that captures the earth's heat for redistribution later.

The old Oshawa Hotel is not the only place where this kind of technology can be found in the city.

Once complete, the new city hall will also use geothermal heating.

"Because of the recent housing and credit crunch, sprawling developments become ghost towns and crime magnets."

- Storm Cunningham

## Columbus requests lights and hydro for \$300,000

By Cynthia McQueen  
The Oshawa Express

Despite being twice rejected on a request for heritage lighting and buried hydro, the hamlet of Columbus is continuing with its efforts to get decorative lighting on its main street.

"We have a number of capital projects that need attention and that particular project at this point in time is not a priority," said Councillor April Cullen.

Council recently submitted a long list of requests to the federal government for other capital projects, including roads.

In 2008, Ritson Road was identified as the 16th worst road in the province by the Canadian Automobile Association.

Councillor Brian Nicholson said, "Roads should be made safe before they're made pretty."

Part of the proposal to council references decorative lighting already in place in Oshawa, but according to Nicholson, one of Oshawa's longest standing councillors, "We don't put decorative lighting anywhere."

Councillor John Neal's ward includes Columbus and he mentions he has been bringing the concerns of the residents to the region and to Oshawa MP Jim Flaherty. According to Neal, in 2005, public meetings were held and residents were asked to submit proposals.

"No one ever suggested underground wiring at those meetings," said Neal.

Nicholson clarifies that council asked if Columbus could become designated as a her-

itage district but said, "They didn't want anything to do with a heritage district."

There was concern about placing traffic lights at the intersection in Columbus for the safety of the community, which Neal says has been approved by the region.

As for decorative lights and buried hydro, Neal says, "I'm doing my best to get it fit into the existing contract."

If plans were to continue for the

The city has applied for silver certification through the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System, but already has what is considered the flagship for the province in LEED silver certification in the new provincial courthouse.

The courthouse, like many also buildings in Oshawa, was built on an existing brownfield.

According to Elston, Oshawa is leading the country in brownfield redevelopment.

Because downtown Oshawa was once covered in industrial manufacturing buildings affiliated with General Motors, there is an abundance of brownfields which the city has taken advantage of for new builds.

In 2007, the General Motors Centre was recognized as Canada's top brownfield redevelopment site.

The YMCA and the Carriagehouse Retirement Residence are both built on brownfield sites.

buried hydro and lights, the price tag for such improvements is \$300,000.

The matter was referred to budget with the region.

## GM: Deal next week, no funds yet

By Cynthia McQueen  
The Oshawa Express

There remains little certainty at the GM plant in Oshawa even after billions in funding was financed from the United States and Canadian governments.

GM has until February 20 to submit its plan to the federal government in order to gain access to the funds.

But rumours have been flying about GM not accessing the funds with more than 5,000 workers laid off in the community over the last year.

"Currently, the situation here in Canada is GM is still negotiating on the conditions attached to the loan guarantees," said Chris Buckley, president of the Canadian Auto Workers Local 222. "So we're hopeful the government will tie up the loose ends with GM over the next couple of days,"

Vice-president of corporate and environmental affairs of GM Canada, David Paterson said, "We don't want to draw down any support until we absolutely need it."

After taking away one week of



Chris Buckley



John McDonald

production from the Oshawa car plant in January, closing the truck plant and laying off thousands of workers, some GM employees and former employees are shocked.

People like John MacDonald who was recently laid off said, "As long

as they feel there's new investment coming to our plant, I'll be satisfied."

While CAW hasn't opened formal discussions with GM yet, Buckley hopes CAW and GM will put their best foot forward to protect Canadian jobs.

"If they give them these guaranteed loans they must maintain the Canadian footprint," offered Buckley.

Maintaining that footprint by keeping jobs and product local to Oshawa, Ontario and Canada may be difficult for GM, says Buckley. He adds he is uncertain how the union will meet the needs as set out by Minister of Industry, Tony Clement's requests.

According to Buckley, "Clement says we need to get our labour costs down to the same level as Toyota and Honda in the U.S. I find this extremely offensive. These are not unionized plants."

## Be a member of Lakeridge Health

### Voicing support for health care

Lakeridge Health once again has opened its doors in search of community-minded individuals to become members of the hospital.

For a \$10 membership fee, you will be kept informed of the hospital's many programs and services and your membership will show the province there is support for Lakeridge Health's programs and services.

"The voice that is more important is to show that there is a strong community here who are interested in and support and want to maintain the services and programs that Lakeridge health provides," said Marion Saunders,

chair of governance with the board of directors at Lakeridge Health.

In the past, funding for the programs and services at Lakeridge Health has been problematic according to Saunders.

"The more people that the government and the ministry see that are involved in the health care needs of our communities when we need to advocate and when they need to advocate for our communities that are growing at an exponential rate," added Saunders.

Proceeds from each paid membership are given to the hospital's

volunteer organizations, which raise funds for vital hospital equipment.

Membership applications are available at local hospitals in Oshawa, Bowmanville, and Port Perry, at local municipal buildings, or on the website at [www.lakeridgehealth.on.ca](http://www.lakeridgehealth.on.ca).

Applications must be submitted to Lakeridge Health by Feb. 28, 2009.

For more information contact Leigh Winn-Kruck, Lakeridge Health Communications at 905-576-8711, ext: 4317 or [lwinnkruck@lakeridgehealth.on.ca](mailto:lwinnkruck@lakeridgehealth.on.ca).



#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS

TO PRESENT THE

Accommodation Review Committee (ARC)  
Central Whitby Report and  
Board Staff Recommendation Report

Monday, March 2, 2009

Monday, March 23, 2009

Tuesday, May 26, 2009

(all meetings begin at 7:00 pm)

Durham District School Board  
Education Centre, Boardroom

400 Taunton Road East  
Whitby, Ontario

The Director of Education will present the Accommodation Review Committee's Report and the Board Staff Recommendation Report regarding the student accommodation needs in Central Whitby to the Board of Trustees at the March 2, 2009 Standing Committee Meeting.

Standing Committee Meetings provide an opportunity for public to have input, through presentations to the Board. Interested delegations must contact the Administrative Assistant to the Trustees, Kim Cox, no later than February 23, 2009 to be included on the agenda. All presentations are limited to ten minutes.

The ARC Report can be found on the Board's Website at [www.durham.edu.on.ca](http://www.durham.edu.on.ca). The ARC's Report and the Board Staff Recommendation Report will be available at the meeting.

The public will also have an opportunity to provide input on the Accommodation Review Committee's Report and the Board Staff Recommendation Report at the March 23, 2009, 7:00 pm, Board Meeting, during the public question period.

Trustees are scheduled to make their final decision on the accommodation needs in Central Whitby at a Special Board Meeting on May 26, 2009 at 7:00 pm.

The following six schools have been identified for consideration of this review:

#### Potential Closure/Consolidation Candidates

Florence M. Heard Public School  
Leslie McFarlane Public School  
Palmerston Avenue Public School

#### Consideration for Enrolment/Program Moves:

Captain Michael VandenBos Public School  
Jack Miner Public School  
Pringle Creek Public School

For additional information and detail, please refer to the Board's Website, School Accommodation Updates link at [www.durham.edu.on.ca](http://www.durham.edu.on.ca).

# "The police were looking to fight someone"

From HOCKEY page 1

why he couldn't come in," explains Anderson who says Don had his hands in his pocket when the officer slammed him against the police car.

"He suckered (punched) him (Don) so bad he didn't even know who had hit him," says Anderson. "We think he had a concussion."

When fellow hockey dad, Jerry who didn't want his last name used, saw what was happening to his friend he took out his blackberry to take pictures of what he called "police brutality".

"Jerry was slammed to the ground so hard he asked if he was bleeding when they eventu-

ally let him up," adds Anderson.

Jerry is a firefighter in the team's hometown of Cambridge. Anderson says they let Jerry up off the ground only after he told them he was a firefighter.

"They took his blackberry and demanded he tell them his password," says Anderson. "They scrolled through his phone looking for any pictures he had captured."

The hockey dad and businessman claims the police said they thought he was pulling out a weapon when he reached for his blackberry.

Don, a businessman, was arrested and taken away by police.

"The police report said that Don had hit the cop," explains Anderson.

Don has been charged with assault on a police officer according to Anderson.

According to van Rooy, two police officers were assaulted and they both required medical attention.

"One officer sustained an injury to a hand which required stitches and another sustained an injury to a leg," says van Rooy.

Van Roy wouldn't comment on the allegations from the hockey dad's.

"The bottom line is that they (the police) were looking to fight someone," says Anderson, who claims Durham police were "running on adrenaline" after their initial call to the bar, which had nothing to do with the hockey group.

"This will ruin his family life," says Anderson sadly. "He won't even be able to take his kids across the border on shopping trips."

After the incident, Anderson and other fathers on the team went to the local police station.

"They (the police) all just stepped together," says Anderson. "They know what's going on. It's (the story) going around Cambridge like crazy. We will not be coming back to Oshawa. In fact, we're boycotting the entire city. I don't feel this would ever happen in Waterloo where I live."

"I would be embarrassed to say I was from Oshawa," he adds.

# 29 new townhomes not enough say councillors

From MORE page 1

Although the funds were announced shortly after the release of the federal budget, Councillor John Henry says, "Those housing units were already underway."

"That's old money," confirms councillor April Cullen.

"I'd like to see them building something new," adds Henry, who is also the chair of the

Durham Region Housing Corporation.

Nicholson says he's pleased the new housing units will go in his ward. "It's cleaning up an old industrial junk yard site for seniors and those who are disabled. I give full marks to everybody at all levels of government."

One aspect of the new affordable homes is that they're taxed differently than regular multi-residential homes. Given that property

taxes top the list of concerns for Oshawa's residents, Nicholson said. "I've got to give city council credit because we taxed them at a lower rate and it made the process move faster and the region did the same."

The project, located on the north side of Bloor Street East, between Ritson and Wilson Roads, will be completed by Bloor Park Village, a private development company.

The project will cost \$5.1 million with \$2.03 million coming from the Canada-Ontario Affordable Housing Program and another \$3.5 million coming from the private sector, says Nicholson.

The project is a partnership between the City of Oshawa, the Region of Durham, the federal and provincial governments and the

private sector, which will provide dignified, safe and affordable homes to those who are in need.

Menzies commented any funding for housing is a welcome influx from the federal government. However, he also noted in the past the federal government has put conditions on funding allotted for housing.

"We don't know what's coming down the tubes yet," says Menzies.

There are 43 agencies that are currently on a not-for-profit basis and provide housing for people who are not having their housing needs met by the private housing sector.

"They're doing a great job and that allows people to live in dignity," says Menzies.

# Council to consider budget

From BARE page 1

The budget as released offers a series of suggestions, including holding back on spending \$6.3 million in provincial capital grants the city recently received in hopes that federal and provincial funds will start flowing down from parliament hill.

As part of the cuts identified, an exit strategy for existing staff, called the staff rationalization program, will offer savings of \$644,000 if surplus funds from the 2008 budg-

et and part of the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund are used to foot the bill.

Finally to combat the new pressures excessive snowfall has put on public works, a total of one million dollars has been recommended to fund a winter maintenance reserve.

Council had originally calculated \$7.3 million as of November 2008, which would have meant 7.3 per cent in tax increases.

City council will consider the proposed budget at a special meeting of city council on Friday, February 13 at 9 a.m.

# Cancer patients grateful for student's gifts

By Katie Strachan  
The Oshawa Express

Elsie Richards is a volunteer at Lakeridge Health Oshawa's Oncology unit. She is also one of their patients.

Richards has been receiving treatment at the hospital and is grateful for all that they've done for her, even down to providing her with a hand made afghan blanket.

A few years ago, Susan Chandler a teacher at St. Elizabeth Seaton Catholic School in Pickering, encouraged her students to host events to raise money for the oncology unit at the Oshawa Hospital.

"I was a teacher there and volunteering (at the oncology unit) in my spare time and I wanted to do something nice for the patients," said Chandler.

Chandler organized a hat day where the students would contribute \$1 or \$2 for the privilege of wearing their hat all day, something they're not allowed to do otherwise.

She also thought up the idea of a

teachers vs. students basketball game.

"The teachers played a game of basketball against the senior boys team," she said smiling.

"We raised about \$630 that way."

Following in that tradition, the afghan project began in June 2008.

Marion Taylor, Oncology volunteer coordinator, always wanted to get the blanket project off the ground, but didn't have the resources to do so before Chandler and her students came along.

"If it wasn't for Susan and her students this might not have taken off," said Taylor.

The program will be an ongoing project of the auxiliary, according to Taylor.

"We give (a blanket) to the patients and it's theirs to keep," she explained, "You can see how happy the patients are when they see that they get to take a throw home."

Richards knows first hand the comforts the blanket brings her while she endures her cancer treatment.

"They're wonderful to have," she said. "I'm thankful that (the students

and the volunteers) have given their time."

Taylor has knitted 24 blankets since the project began and about 100 patients have received the afghans thanks to the work of the volunteers.

"Volunteers, friends, family and even patients have knitted or crocheted the blankets," added Taylor.

"I just (knit) in the evenings so I can do one in about a week," said Taylor.

"We've been really fortunate. We're very lucky," added Pat Smallwood, a volunteer at the Oncology unit.

Chandler hopes that the fundraising will inspire the kids at the school to do more to help others.

"The students gained a lot from this," said the teacher.

And so have the patients according to Richards.

She has one message for those who are battling cancer.

"If you've got cancer, don't give up," she said. "I've had five surgeries and I'm doing just fine."



Photo by Katie Strachan/ The Oshawa Express

From left, Marion Taylor, Oncology volunteer coordinator, Elsie Richards, a volunteer and patient of the cancer centre and Susan Chandler, former teacher at St. Elizabeth Seaton Catholic School display some of the afghans given to patients.

# Flashing stop signs are "cool" and safer for kids

By Cynthia McQueen  
The Oshawa Express

They're red, they flash and they could be saving your children every day as they walk to or from school.

"They're great," says Joanne McDonald, a crossing guard near Gordon B. Attersley Public School, about using the new flashing stop signs councillor John Neal recently introduced to Oshawa. "People see them

from far away."

Charlene Lewis, a local mother who crosses with the guard says, "I thought they were cool. And, it prevents the kids from getting hit."

Councillor Neal got the idea from Whitby and says, "The timing's been great with the weather and the snow banks."

Some snow banks in Oshawa have reached heights of over five feet recently.

With the new signs "people are stopping from farther back," offers McDonald.

Guards who cross at intersections with traffic lights have not been given the flashing signs and Neal says, "I'm concerned about that."

While some feel the traffic lights are sufficient, according to Sergeant Jeff Galipeau with the Durham Regional Police Traffic Unit, between 2006 and 2008, there were 251 pedestrians involved in motor vehicle accidents.

Sgt. Galipeau says not all accidents result in serious injury and in the last two years there have been no fatalities.

Neal adds,

"People are drinking coffee and talking on their cell phones and they're not paying attention. The crossing guards are the ones standing in the road. Safety is a priority for me."

There are currently no plans to implement the new flashing signs at intersections with crossing guards and traffic lights.

When asked what the kids thought of the new signs, McDonald says, "They thought it looked like Rudolph from far away, because

we started using them right after Christmas."

McDonald likes the new signs and mentions the safety feature that alerts the guards when the batteries need charging.

"It beeps and then you know you have half an hour before the batteries run out," offers McDonald.

The crossing guards started using the signs at non-traffic light intersections in early January. There are currently 40 signs in use. The signs cost the city \$215 each.



Photo by Cynthia McQueen/ The Oshawa Express

Joanne McDonald, a crossing guard near Gordon B. Attersley Public School shows off her new flashing stop sign along with councillor John Neal. Neal is responsible for initiating them in Oshawa.

# Tips for keeping your home fire-free

As winter continues to let it snow with extreme temperatures and ice build-up, fire risk may be the last thing residents have on their minds.

However, Oshawa Fire Services is reminding residents of a few lifesaving tips like clearing snow from exhaust vents for furnaces and heating appliances to reduce the risk of fire and carbon monoxide poisoning.

"Any one of these tips could prevent injury or even save a life," explains Chief Meringer of the Oshawa Fire Services.

The list of safety tips which will help to keep everyone safe throughout the remaining months of winter include removing snow from fire hydrants, which will allow firefighters easy access should a fire break out.

Make sure that carbon monoxide detectors are installed properly and working correctly.

Every storey of a home should be equipped

with working smoke alarms installed outside sleeping areas.

For added protection, Oshawa Fire Services recommends installing additional alarms in each bedroom, which should be tested monthly.

It's also important to make sure that ashes from woodstoves and fireplaces have fully cooled before emptying them into a tight-sealing metal container, which should be stored outside.

Keeping space heaters at least one metre (three-feet) from anything that can burn such as curtains, upholstery and clothing will help to prevent fires.

An annual inspection of your home's heating systems by a qualified professional will also offer added protection.

For more info on these tips contact Oshawa Fire Services at 905-433-1236.

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## How a son helped his father cope

# Changing views about Parkinson's

By Cynthia McQueen  
The Oshawa Express

Pedro Hernandez was so proud of his son he was brought to tears.

Over the last few months, Peter Hernandez has made it his personal mission to show his dad he's not alone in his battle with Parkinson's disease.

Pedro was diagnosed with the degenerative brain disorder about four years ago.

Within two years of taking his early retirement from the Darlington Nuclear Power Station, Pedro noticed what's known by people with Parkinson's as a familial shake or tremor.

"It started with a pain in my arm. Then it passed to small shaking, then big shaking," says Pedro.

Parkinson's is a degenerative disorder that affects the brain's ability to control certain functions, like mobility, speech, memory, sleep and can also present itself in the form of dementia and paranoia.

"It's always progressing," says Pedro. "Sometimes I notice things after three months and sometimes I notice things after six months, but it's always progress-

ing."

After organizing the 1st Annual One-Stop Parkinson's Disease Event at Lakeridge Health, Peter says an event of its kind was "four years overdue."

When Peter saw his father struggling to cope and withholding about his disorder in public, he made a decision to become more actively involved.

Since then, Peter and his father have been working out together at exercise classes specifically designed for Parkinson's patients.

"We were doing a lot of exercises for hand-eye coordination and there were some that I couldn't do. I saw my father giggling to himself," says Peter.

"Most of the people at the class could do it, but not Peter," says Pedro chuckling.

Pedro adds, "I shook the most," which made the first few classes difficult.

Peter recalled someone in the exercise class saying they were celebrating 14 years with Parkinson's and it made both him and his father change their point of view about the disorder.

In helping his father to get more involved in the Parkinson's community, Peter discovered the Michael J. Fox Foundation.

The Canadian-born actor suffers from the disease and started a foundation using his celebrity to bring more attention to the disorder.

In a video produced by the foundation, Peter heard Fox say things like "I do not consider myself a victim" and "you only get a few changes in life to make a difference".

That was all the motivation he needed to organize the One-Stop Parkinson's event.

"We dubbed it One-Stop, but we know there's more practitioners out there. This was our way to get everyone with an interest in Parkinson's under one roof," says Peter.

Exercisers from Pedro's class came out to the event at Lakeridge in support of Pedro and Peter as well as to learn more from a Parkinson's expert who participated via Internet telephone and a Tai Chi practitioner who has lived with Parkinson's for 18 years.



Photo by Cynthia McQueen/The Oshawa Express

When Peter saw his father Pedro Hernandez (left) struggling to come to terms with his Parkinson's he decided to make a difference and started taking his father to Parkinson's exercise classes. Then he went one step further and created the first annual One-Stop Parkinson's event.

## Waste diversion: Durham 1st

Durham region is more than half way to its waste diversion goal of 70 per cent and was ranked first overall in communities of like size in Ontario for waste diversion.

With a waste diversion rate of 47.7 per cent, Durham is getting closer to achieving that goal.

"For the past decade, waste management has been one of the key issues for Durham Regional Council," said Regional Chair Roger Anderson. "Working with staff, we have collectively been diligent in finding new ways to increase these numbers."

Cliff Curtis, Commissioner of Works added, "We have seen a dramatic increase from the 2006 numbers, which wouldn't have been possible without the dedication of our residents. We share this honour with them. We encourage them to continue utilizing all waste diversion programs available to them so that we can reduce, reuse and recycle even more materials, keeping them from landfill."

This 2007 diversion rate is an outstanding achievement for the Region of Durham, given that the 2006 rate was approximately 41.8 per cent. The report ranks Durham region 10th overall out of 206 municipalities in Ontario.

Durham's success is a result of Blue Box and Green Bin programs. Promotional and educational campaigns also helped to educate residents about these services.

Part of this commitment to waste diversion was the construction of the region's Material Recovery Facility (MRF) in late 2006. This facility MRF includes optical sorters (the first of their kind in Canada), which allows the region to increase the quality of processed plastics by offering a recovery rate of about 97 per cent of all recyclables received. As such, the amount of materials rejected due to contamination decreases. This facility was recognized internationally when it received the 2009 Solid Waste Association of North America Gold Excellence award.

## Oshawa hosts 2010 Ontario Senior Games Actifest

# Seniors get ready to flex muscles

Run by seniors for seniors, Oshawa will see the province's best tennis players, lawn bowlers, golfers and euchre players for two action packed days in 2010.

Oshawa will host the Ontario Senior Games Actifest when fit folks 55 plus will have the chance to promote active living among the older adult community in August 2010.

"Oshawa is honoured to host the 2010 Ontario Senior Games Actifest," said Mayor John Gray. "Our world-class facilities and most importantly the people of Oshawa made this event possible."

The 2010 Ontario Senior Games Actifest is a two-day event to be held in August 2010. Oshawa will welcome nearly 1,500 participants, including athletes, coaches and officials. Ontario residents 55 years of age or older will compete in 16 different sports including: golf, lawnbowling, slo-pitch, swimming, tennis, euchre, bocce, darts, and five-pin bowling.

"The (Premier Dalton) McGuinty government is proud to support the 2010 Ontario Senior Games - Actifest, as they demonstrate that people of all ages can participate in sport," said minister of health promotion Margaret Best. "By participating in Actifest, Ontario's seniors demonstrate to people of all ages the benefits of staying active."

"I am delighted the City of Oshawa will be hosting this inspiring event and pleased our government has a role in supporting it," said Joe Dickson, MPP for Ajax-Pickering. "I know Oshawa will bring great community spirit to this event and make it a memorable experience for all in Durham Region and beyond."

"Congratulations to the City of Oshawa as being named to host the Ontario Senior Games Actifest 2010. The Members of the Ontario Senior Games Association welcome the opportunity to visit and compete in the City of Oshawa

and Durham Region. The OSGA Board looks forward to assisting the Oshawa organizing committee in making these the best Senior Summer Games ever," says Bill Lytle President of OSGA.

Participating in sports is a great way to stay active throughout life. And regular physical activity is one of the best ways to prevent illness and enjoy an improved quality of life.

"I am absolutely ecstatic and delighted to have brought this opportunity to the attention of council who unanimously supported the bid. The games will showcase our community and our award winning facilities to visitors from across the province," said Oshawa councillor Louise Parkes.

For more information about the Sport Alliance of Ontario, visit [www.sportalliance.com](http://www.sportalliance.com) and for the Ontario Senior Games Association, visit [www.ontarioseniorgames.ca](http://www.ontarioseniorgames.ca).

## Security: Build your community around food

Food security is an issue often confused because of the word security.

But, if you don't have access to healthy and nourishing food on a daily basis, you may be experiencing food insecurity.

Durham Lives! is inviting area residents to provide input regarding issues related to food in our community, through discussions about the Durham Region Food Charter.

"Food charters are statements of principles that can be used to help develop policies for community food security," explained Brian Dallaway, coordinator for Durham Lives!

The Durham Region Food Charter was launched in 2008 following two years of community consultation. The charter reflects the values and beliefs about food that our commu-

nity shares.

"Many communities across Canada have developed food charters to raise awareness about food insecurity, and to guide food policy development at municipal, regional, provincial and federal levels," says Dallaway.

In order to ensure that the food charter continues to reflect the community's understanding, Durham Lives! is hosting a discussion with area residents about their values and beliefs about the Canadian and Ontario food system.

Discussion sessions will take place on Feb. 17 at 7 pm at the Orono Arena, 2 Princess St., Orono; Feb 18 at 7 pm Cullen Central Park, 300 Taunton Rd. W., Whitby; Feb 19 at 7 pm at the Petticoat Creek Library, 470 Kingston

Rd., Pickering; and Feb. 25 at 6 pm at the Oshawa Community Health Centre, 115 Grassmere St., Oshawa. Refreshments will be provided and each session will feature a showcase of local food from across Durham Region.

Durham Lives! is a coalition of community partners working to promote physical activity, healthy eating and a smoke-free community to reduce heart disease, stroke, diabetes and cancer throughout Durham Region.

For more information about the Durham Region Food Charter or the group sessions, please contact Brian Dallaway, 905-668-7711, ext. 3172, or email [brian.dallaway@durham.ca](mailto:brian.dallaway@durham.ca)

# Climate change harsh reality for region

By Katie Strachan  
The Oshawa Express

Global warming is irreversible and it's an epidemic Durham Region is taking to task.

"It's quite catastrophic," says Jenna Dunlop, the region's policy and research advisor.

"Most of the issues we'll face will be food issues. All things that we normally expect, we won't be able to expect."

The region has already initiated a great deal of programs to combat traffic congestion by adding new clean diesel burning buses, improving roads, adding idle policies for buses and Durham Region fleet vehicles and using only LED traffic light bulbs.

Durham buses can only idle for three minutes unless necessary to maintain a comfortable environment for riders such as warming it in the winter.

The idle rule for fleet vehicles has been set at one minute.

In an effort to spread the positive word about carpooling, the region initiated the Smart Commute program, which encourages employers to explore different options like carpooling, teleworking and other forms such as biking or walking to work.

So far eight major employers in Durham Region have joined the program, which has resulted in 121 metric tonnes of GHGs reduced in the air.

Although the term "global warming" is being thrown around often across the globe, the true definition of it can be debated.

"There's a lot of confusion about what global warming is and the effects of it," explained Dunlop, who is also the staff liaison for the Durham Region Roundtable Against Climate Change. "The global temperature is absolutely rising and most of it is due to green house gases (GHG). The effects of GHG are irreversible."

"Patterns of climate change have been slow in the past, but with the increase in GHGs the climate is now changing rapidly," explained Dunlop.

GHGs affect the weather we have said the expert, Dunlop.

Durham can expect extreme weather, a drop in water levels, unpredictable rain conditions and shorter winters courtesy of the build up of GHGs in the atmosphere.

"Although (shorter winters) don't sound so bad, agriculture will change for the better but there will be more free-thaw cycles, which

cause major damage to infrastructure," added Dunlop.

According to an updated report, Durham is taking great measures towards reducing GHGs, which will ultimately reduce the region's ecological footprint.

Specifically the region is working to reduce the amount of cars on the road and making everything they do more "green".

They are now using a pre-wetting and anti-icing process to reduce over-use of salt and they are using much less sand, which creates dust and fine particles, which enter streams through catch basins and affects spawning of the fish.

The road lines are being painted with a water-based paint decreasing the impact on the natural environment.

As for energy-consumption, the region is doing it's best to educate residents to turn off the lights and turn down the heat or air conditioning.

"There is a significant amount of work that is already being done in Durham Region," says Dunlop.

Since 2000 the region has provided funding for the security of about 1,070 hectares of environmentally sensitive land.

And the region is currently looking into the placement of three wind turbines for renewable energy, which capture wind and convert it to electricity.

According to Dunlop, by the year 2060 the temperatures throughout the world are expected to rise by three to five degrees celsius.

"We can handle two degrees higher, but our ecosystem cannot," said Bonnie Littley, regional councillor.

Climate change is an issue that the entire world is facing and Durham Region has established a Roundtable on Climate Change (DRRCC) in an effort to address the changes in the region.

The DRRCC will work to position the region as a leader in addressing climate change.

Although the region has implemented a great number of initiatives, which will aid in reducing the "ecological footprint," the DRRCC has a lot of work ahead of them.

"If we have to pick and choose them (the issues) we have to be sure that we're picking the ones that will have the most effect on global change," says Dunlop.

The committee will continue to meet and work towards reaching their goals.

# Optimist Club thanks volunteers for hard work

By Katie Strachan  
The Oshawa Express

The Optimist Club of Oshawa kicked off 2009 with a thank you dinner in appreciation for all their hardworking volunteers.

"We are here to celebrate the people who not only helped us this year (with the food and toy drive) but those who have helped with many years in the past," says Jim Shaw of the Oshawa Optimist Club.

The club just recently delivered 100 hampers overflowing with toys and food to families across the region. This was the 25th year that the Optimist Club has been conducting the hamper drive.

About two-dozen volunteers gathered inside a local restaurant to pat themselves and each other on the back for another job well done.

"Over 100 families had a happier Christmas than they probably would have," explains Petrina Perrineau, President of the club.



The club's mandate is "to support the youth" and they've been doing just that in the city since 1982.

Awards were handed out to various malls, organizations and companies that made the food and toy drive hampers this past Christmas.

The club also recognized the

hardwork of Kenneth Ferrill and the Skinner Family and saluted for the large yearly donations they give to the Christmas Hampers and Toys.

"The Optimist are a very special group of dedicated Oshawa citizens," added Mayor John Gray who was in attendance along with city councillor Joe Kolodzie.

For more information on becoming a member of the Optimist Club of Oshawa call 905-576-6919 or visit [www.oshawaoptimist.ca](http://www.oshawaoptimist.ca).

"We're always open to people who would like to assist with tasks throughout the year," added Perrineau.

The Optimist Club hosts regular bingo and euchre tournaments and are always looking for fresh new faces that are willing to lend a hand.



Photo by Katie Strachan/The Oshawa Express

From left: Lori Armstrong, Roberta and Billy Boyce from the Salvation Army at the Optimist Club's appreciation dinner. The Salvation Army works with the club to find the families in Durham that need the hampers the most.

# Snow removal affects all in city



Photo by Cynthia McQueen/The Oshawa Express

Cyndie Sproul's seeing eye dog, Carter, is barely visible behind this snow bank outside her Oshawa home. The piles of snow reached more than five feet this winter.

By Cynthia McQueen  
The Oshawa Express

Two days ago, Scott Pigden fell over in his scooter on Harmony Road because the snow and ice had not been cleared and "it hasn't snowed in how many days?" asked Pigden.

Pigden and Cyndie Sproul, who walks with a seeing-eye dog, addressed members of council at a special joint meeting requesting they be included on a taskforce to address the snow clearing issues around the city.

After much debate, the joint meeting of the Community Services and Finance and Administration Committees, voted against the creation of such a taskforce.

Members of council did however vote to have members from the Oshawa Accessibility Advisory

Committee (OAAC) and the Oshawa Senior Citizens Centre address the existing taskforce.

Sproul addressed the Finance and Administration Committee and city council previously about how snow clearing issues leave her and her dog walking in the streets "like two lost souls in the middle of traffic."

Sproul and Pigden both felt the decision was not much different than what is already in place.

"We don't know yet," said Pigden. "It's still a work in progress."

Sproul pointed out, "It's not about 'we' and 'them' it's about 'us.' It's about universal inclusiveness."

"The city manager suggested a scoping meeting and that's a start," said Pigden.

**The Oshawa Express**

## Carrier of the Week

The Oshawa Express wishes to acknowledge and thank our Carrier of the Week for their dedication and commitment to the delivery of the newspaper.

**Darian Murrell**  
Grade 5, 10 years of age.

**Hobbies/Interest:**  
"Watching t.v., doing homework, playing my Nintendo Wii, playing on my computer, going to karate and swimming."

**What do you appreciate about delivering The Oshawa Express?**  
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**The Oshawa Express Carrier of the Week receives a gift certificate courtesy of our sponsors.**

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## Happy Valentine's Day

### The history of Valentine's Day: Why we celebrate

Every year on February 14th we exchange gifts of jewellery and chocolate, feast on extravagant meals and spend time with our significant other or someone we love. But do you know why?

The history of Valentine's Day can be traced back to the 3rd Century AD. Claudius III declared that single soldiers fought better and hard-

er than married ones did so he tried to end a matchmaking festival that began years ago, where young boys would chase girls with strips of goat hide which was supposed to make them more fertile. The girl's names were placed in an urn and young men would draw a name and the two would be married.

A Catholic priest, Valentinus, defied Cladius' orders and wed young couples in secret ceremonies. The priest was jailed and sentenced to death.

While he was in prison, he met and fell in love with one a prison guard's daughter who was blind. According to legend, he used his healing powers to restore her sight. The day before his beheading, on February 14th, Valentinus sent his love the world's first valentine in the form of a farewell note, which he signed, your Valentinus.

Since then, people have adopted the day as one to proclaim their love.

To this day, we still send cards to loved ones in the name of Valentinus or Valentine.

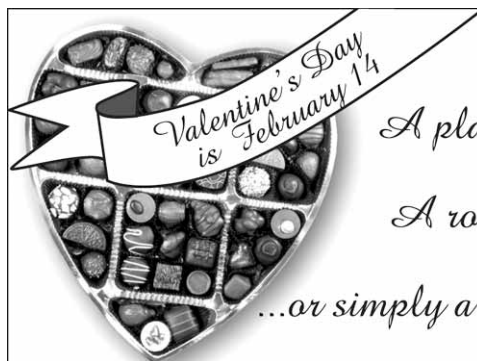
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# Unstable economy increases city's social housing needs

By Katie Strachan  
The Oshawa Express

With the unstable economy and the increase in job losses, especially in Oshawa, it's no surprise that the number of applicants for Rent-Geared-to-Income (RGI) has increased by about 7.5 per cent.

It may not be a shock to learn that the greatest number of applicants live in Oshawa.

Out of the 73 people and families on the list from Durham region, people from Oshawa accounted for 46 per cent. Whitby followed with 18 per cent.

The recent announcement that the city will be receiving 29 more affordable townhome units comes just after Durham released its report on RGI, called Waiting list for Rent-Geared-to-Income Assistance Statistics.

The report states that the reason Oshawa has the highest number of applicants waiting for RGI is because of the low number of private and social housing units available.

The 29 new units set to be constructed on the north side of Bloor Street East, between Ritson Road and Wilson Road will help.

"(The houses) will provide needed services and housing to meet a clear need in our city," said city councillor Brian Nicholson.

In total, 3,922 people and families were on the waiting list for an affordable home in the region at the end of last year.

According to reports from social housing providers in Durham Region, only approximate-

ly 12 per cent of those waiting were housed last year, which is roughly the same as in 2007. That's because only 467 RGI buildings became available.

The report shows that 225 of the 467 buildings were in the city of Oshawa.

After applying, the wait times for families and people requesting RGI can be long.

The average wait time in 2008 was about 142 months for those without priority status. Those who were granted priority status waited only about 32 months in Oshawa.

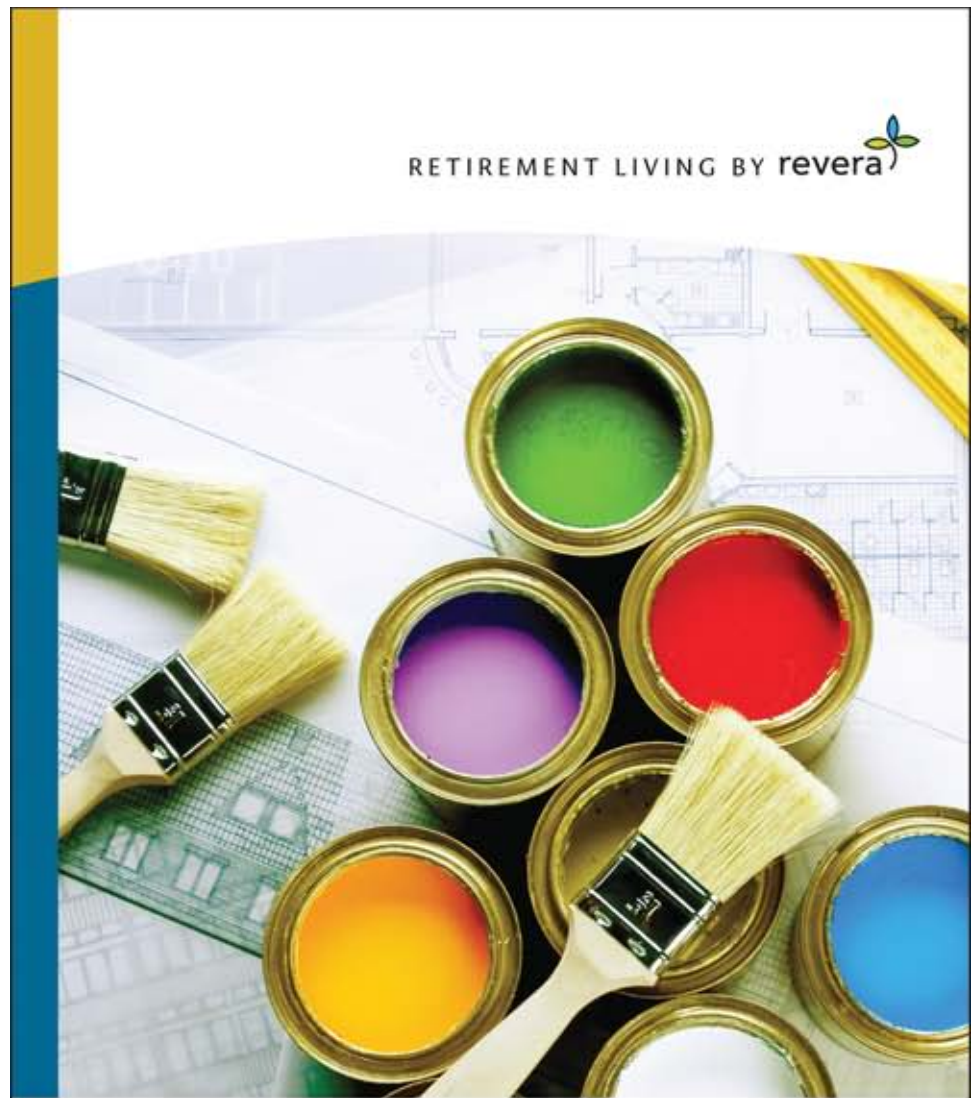
Special Priority status applicants are people or families that are currently being abused by someone who they live with or from whom they have recently separated.

The Social Housing Reform Act demands these households have the highest priority on the waiting list and they must be offered the first RGI available in the buildings that they have chosen.

Households that are not considered a priority are placed on the waiting list in chronological order as they apply.

The waiting list is made up of mainly families with one or more children under the age of 18. They accounted for 47 per cent of applicants. Single people followed behind at 32 per cent.

The purpose of the report submitted by Dr. Hugh Drouin, Commissioner of Social Services was to inform the regional council on affordable housing strategies, like the new townhomes, and other programs that will benefit the residents of the region.



## Everyday Heroes

**Name:** Karen Popowich

**Organization:** Durham Hospice

Karen Popowich spends her days helping people come to terms with their mortality.

Over the last few years, Karen has had the opportunity to meet many people in her work at Durham Hospice.

But, as a volunteer, she was inspired to become a permanent employee by one woman.

Karen was matched with a client diagnosed with terminal cancer.

Every Tuesday Karen watched as her face lit up when Karen brought her fried chicken.

"We would spend a few hours talking, sharing some of her life stories and she loved me to read some her favorite passages from the Bible," said Karen.

While Karen believed her friend to be an amazing person in life, she was even more impacted by the outpouring of joy and peace at the client's funeral.

As a volunteer with Durham Hospice, Karen had attended a number of celebrations of life.

"This funeral was the most profound and amazing one I have ever attended," said Karen.

"Her family and childhood friends came from her homeland Jamaica and many of them did individually get up and tell a story or sing one of her favourite hymns. These rich stories and angelic voices just filled the church with the most powerful energy, one could just feel the love joy and sadness this woman had shared."

"I will never forget that day or my client and it just reaffirms what I have come to know that hospice work is a privilege.

"You receive so much more than you give."

Death and dying are intimate situations and through Durham Hospice, volunteers are invited into people's homes and their lives.

"It is very sacred, (my clients) have taught me a lot about living more moment to moment and that we all have our own story and each of our stories should be told," added the dedicated volunteer.

To learn more about Durham Hospice or visit [www.durhamhospice.com](http://www.durhamhospice.com) or call 905-430-4522.



Karen Popowich

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# Oshawa Living

## Dreary months brightened by decor

By Katie Strachan  
The Oshawa Express

During the long, dreary winter months, Shirley Morrissey does her best to make sure the spirits of those around her are lifted.

Morrissey has been living in Oshawa for the past five years and has won four "festive lighting" certificates for the decorations she puts up every winter.

"I always decorate for Christmas. I love decorating," she says, "I decorate the inside and the outside of my home every year."

Morrissey says it takes her between three

garage are all lit with lights."

Morrissey, along with dozens more residents, received the recognition they deserve at the Festive Lighting Award and Recognition evening recently. The City of Oshawa's Parks Community Program hosted the night.

"It's nice to see the beauty and creativity that shines forth," said mayor John Gray to the award recipients and volunteers. "It's a real accomplishment."

The Festive Lighting program has been ongoing for five years and is mainly run by volunteers, Rose Mary Mason of the Parks Community Program and the city.

A panel of volunteer judges drive around the streets of Oshawa to scout out homes with the most festive holiday displays.

Starting in mid-November, one winner from each of the city's seven wards was chosen weekly for four weeks over Christmas, ending mid-December.

It was created to honour residents, residential complexes, businesses, organizations, industries and institutions



Ralph and Tami Harrison's home was one of the three winners in the festive lighting competition.

and four weeks to put up all her ornaments.

"There's lights everywhere," she explains of her Strawberry Court home. "Every window on the first floor, the fence and the

across Oshawa for their excellence in lighting displays.

It is the winter equivalent of the Communities in Bloom summer program which rewards residents on their gardens and

flower displays.

"I've even won two awards for the Communities in Bloom contest for my garden," adds Morrissey.

"Some of the festive lighting signs are still buried underneath snow and ice," joked Mason. "We'll pick them up in June when we judge the Communities in Bloom."

In total, 28 homeowners were recognized for their imaginative displays and 62 volunteers who donated more than 255 hours of their time to the program at the ceremony on Feb. 3 at the Civic Auditorium.

The volunteers judge, install signs and take pictures to aid in the success of the program.

"We really appreciate your dedication to the program and we couldn't do it without you," said Mason to the volunteers.

Councillor Joe Kolodzie, chair of the community services committee, added, "You brighten up the city."

According to Mayor Gray, over the past five years more and more people are switching to LED lights, which use less power and conserve energy.

"It's environmentally responsible and we don't use much energy at all," he said.



Photo supplied

Above Shirley Morrissey's home in Oshawa won for week two. This is Morrissey's fourth win. Below Rose Mary Mason, Parks and Community Programs, hands Alex Leblanc his award for festive lighting. Leblanc was a week three recipient.



## Heart survivors inspire others to live life

By Katie Strachan  
The Oshawa Express

It's a cause that is near and dear to his heart.

Peter Dewsbury and his wife, Nicole recently hosted Chefs with Heart, a gala aimed at raising funds for Heart and Stroke.

"My father had multiple heart attacks," said Dewsbury before the gala. "I don't want to be like him in that sense."

The night was also a way to spread the word about how fast heart disease or stroke can affect a person's life.

Heart and stroke survivors who were will-

ing to share their stories of determination and hope spoke to the crowd that gathered in support of the cause.

Brian Campkin was 46 years old and an avid competitive tennis player when he became short of breath one afternoon.

"My wife suggested I go to a doctor, now being a man I wasn't too keen on that suggestion," said Dewsbury.

After much pressure from his wife, Campkin decided to schedule an appointment with his family physician.

"After finding out the test results, I learned that three out of my four arteries were clogged," he said his voice cracking.

One of Campkin's arteries was 100 per cent, one 99 per cent and one 86 per cent clogged.

"I was barely firing on one cylinder," he joked.

Campkin had life saving open-heart surgery in Sept. 2008.

"I'm living proof of everything (the heart and stroke foundation) does and because of it I got to celebrate my 25th wedding anniversary and I'll be able to walk my three daughters down the aisle," he said.

Campkin is also the President of the

Leadership and Volunteer Campaign for the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Durham Region.

For Susan Edwards, her life changed in the blink of an eye.

Edwards is a young mother who just 16 months ago got appendicitis, which forced her into emergency appendectomy surgery.

"The doctor came into me after and said, 'I think you'd benefit from one more night in the hospital' so I stayed," she said. "That was at 2:00 p.m. and at 2:18 p.m. the first code blue call went out to the hospital. And it was for me."

It took the doctors six shocks and 45 minutes to revive her.

"I thought why me. I have a fairytale husband and two little kids. I couldn't live a better life," said the cardiac arrest survivor.

Edwards was moved from the sixth floor to critical care where she suffered three more cardiac arrests within six hours.

"I had no choice. I had to be fitted with a defibrillator," she said, "The last year has been quite the journey."

A silence grew over the crowd as Edwards shared that her children, now aged two and four, have a 50 per cent chance of having the same condition.

"I go next week for my third surgery because my defibrillator is failing," said the 30 year old.

"You're life can change in the blink of an eye."

The Chefs with Heart Gala featured chefs from seven local restaurants, various wineries, socializing and of course fundraising.

"All the proceeds will go towards Heart and Stroke," added Dewsbury.



Photo by Katie Strachan/ The Oshawa Express

John Dolstra, trustee of the Durham District School Board, Teresa Eaton, Superintendent of Durham District School Board, Ann Genesis-Principato and Alan Jones enjoying the evening of fundraising at the Chefs with Heart Gala.



Brian Campkin, president of the Leadership Volunteer Council for Heart and Stroke and a heart condition survivor, shares his story.

Peter and his wife, Nicole decided months ago that they would host an evening in support of the foundation.

"It started in September 2008," added his son, David.

"We really started pushing for it then," said Peter. And all that pushing paid off. The Dewsburys managed to raise a large amount of money for the Heart and Stroke Foundation, which will support people like Campkin and Edwards in their battle.

# Oshawa Living

## Express echo baby

To have your baby included in The Oshawa Express Echo Baby, please send a photograph of your child (infant to 2 years) to: The Oshawa Express, 600 Thornton Rd. S., Oshawa, Ontario, L1J 6W7. Email: kstrachan@oshawaexpress.ca This is a free service. Photos will be available for pick up at this location.



Emma just turned one year old. Her mommy and daddy threw her a big party with lots of friends and family, and cake of course!

The Oshawa Express would like to remind its readers to still send Express Perfect Pet pictures in to run bi-weekly in the Echo Baby feature.

## The Stars Say...



### ARIES March 20 to April 19

Mid month networking could result in a promising new job lead. Venus in your sign boosts your powers of attraction. If you are with the right person, make a Valentine's Day commitment.



### TAURUS April 19 to May 20

Be fun loving and playful with your partner on Valentine's Day. If you have a secret love, the clandestine affair could be revealed. You feel a need to be of service and help out someone in need.



### GEMINI May 20 to June 21

Why not try last minute vacations and spend Valentine's Day on a sunny beach with your partner? A different option, take a course that can lead to a new career opportunity.



### CANCER June 21 to July 22

With your talent, skills and initiative and the help of a mentor, you can advance on the job. Take your sweetheart out for a romantic dinner on Valentine's Day. Good time to redecorate your office.



### LEO July 22 to August 22

Take your loved one to a concert, play or show for Valentine's Day. Consider taking a dreamy vacation at the end of the month. Single Leos could meet someone from a different culture.



### VIRGO August 22 to Sept 22

Feelings run deep and relationships are more intense. Surprise your loved one with a special gift on Valentine's Day. This is a favourable time to go for a loan.



### LIBRA Sept 22 to Oct 23

Resolve conflict and establish harmony in a personal relationship. If you plan to get married, this is a good time to set a date. Do not overdo it in the financial department to celebrate Valentine's Day.



### SCORPIO Oct 23 to Nov 22

You will enjoy your work and may even find love there. If you take the lead at work, others will be inclined to follow. Watch your health. Do not overindulge in chocolates.



### SAGITTARIUS Nov 22 to Dec 21

You can best express yourself through love, fun, hobbies or creative work. Your love life takes precedence over the next weeks. If single, you could meet someone at a neighbourhood event.



### CAPRICORN Dec 21 to Jan 19

Redecorate your home to make it more attractive. Why not invite friends over for a Valentine's Day Party? Splurge on a gift for your partner. Come up with new ways to increase your income.



### AQUARIUS Jan 19 to Feb 19

Project an attractive appearance and turn on the charm. You have a way with words this week. Why not honour your love with an engagement. Get-together with relatives.



### PISCES Feb 19 to March 20

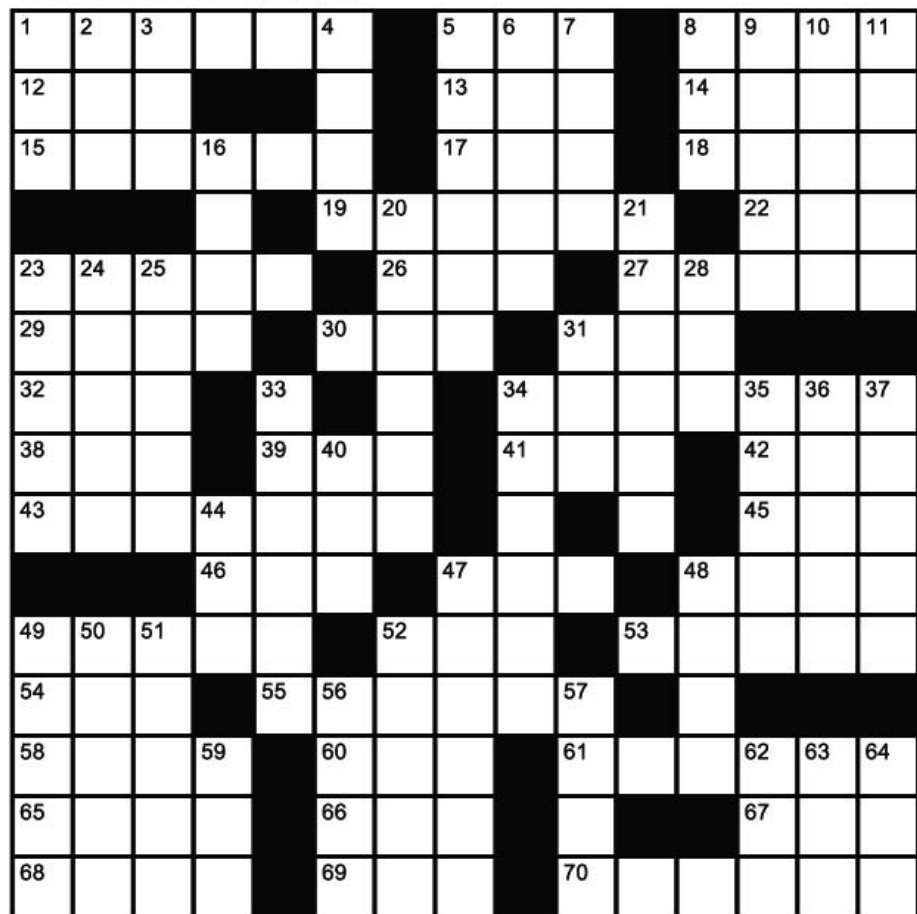
Your financial life shows great potential for improvement. You may be in line for a raise over the next few weeks. Spend quiet time with your partner and do not overload your circuits.

The Stars Say is provided by Joan Ann of Oshawa. For personal readings, call 905-725-9179 or visit her website at www.astroconsultation.com

### ACADEMIPEDIA



## Crossword



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### Across

1. First game
5. Launch area
8. Block
12. Egg layer
13. "Much \_\_\_ About Nothing"
14. Crown
15. Lunatic
17. Score in baseball
18. \_\_\_ and sciences
19. Throat
22. Compete
23. Spring month
26. Yoga class need
27. Respond
29. Told a whopper
30. 007, for one
31. Chromaticity
32. LummoX
34. Type of painter
38. "The loneliest number"

### Down

39. Knight's title
41. Vase
42. Modern
43. Great wealth
45. "\_\_\_ Maria"
46. Irritate or vex
47. Paternity identifier
48. Midleg
49. Host
52. Miner's find
53. Evil one
54. Equally balanced
55. Turn back
58. Chocolate cookie
60. Fisherman's tool
61. Destroyed
65. Ship's personnel
66. Band booking
67. Feeling of wonder
68. Ballyhoo
69. Lyric poem
70. Essential for

### breathing

### Down

1. Electrical unit
2. \_\_\_ green
3. Finish
4. Finger adornment
5. Double up
6. Grownup
7. Completed
8. Health club
9. Cocoon contents
10. Lofty storage space
11. Harass
16. Domestic
20. Baseball official
21. Absentee
23. Distant
24. Baby grand, e.g.
25. Direct (to)
28. Moray, e.g.
31. \_\_\_ Royal Highness
33. Shylock
34. Gym shoe
35. Asinine
36. Evening hour
37. Thick woollen fabric
40. Printing liquid
44. Cravat
47. Excavating machine
48. New Zealander
49. Era
50. Get hitched
51. Crawl
52. Elliptical
56. Consequently
57. Duet plus one
59. Be in debt
62. Hen-peck
63. Female sheep
64. Lair

### KATHLEEN SAXE

## WORD GAME

### TODAY'S WORD — AFFIDAVITS

(AFFIDAVITS: af-ih-DAY-vits: Written declarations made under oath.)

Average mark 16 words  
Time limit 30 minutes

Can you find 23 or more words in AFFIDAVITS?

### Feb. 4 Word Game answers

### RAVAGED

raga	adage	area	grade	drag
rage	agar	aver	grave	
rave	agave	gave	dare	
read	aged	gear	dear	



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**Express Around Town**  
[www.oshawaexpress.ca](http://www.oshawaexpress.ca)

Wed. Feb. 11

**Literary Speed Dating.** Try out our book-themed version of speed-dating to meet new friends or maybe find a new love. In classic speed-dating style you'll have 6 minutes with each partner to talk about your favourite books. Limit of 20 spaces. Ages 18+. Free registration at any Oshawa Library branch. Free parking after 6:00 pm. 7:00 pm at the McLaughlin Branch Auditorium.

**Legendary couples- Join the Oshawa Public Library and the Oshawa Senior Citizen's Centre** to discuss famous romances from history, literature and Hollywood. Refreshments will be served. Free registration at any Oshawa Library, 12:30 p.m. Northview Community Centre, 150 Beatrice St. E.

Sun. Feb. 15

**VON Chocolate Lover's Lunch** at the Holiday Inn in Oshawa 1011 Bloor St. E. Tickets are \$45. For more information contact 905-571-3151 or email linda.norris@von.ca.

Mon. Feb. 16

**Parkinson's CarePartners: The Durham Region Chapter** of Parkinson Society Canada will hold its monthly meeting for CarePartners at 7 p.m. The location is 716 Tulip Court, Oshawa. This is an opportunity for CarePartners to talk and learn more about living with PD. For more info call 1-866-264-3345

Wed. Feb. 18

**Swing into Music: Bernie Oldham** and the Maple Creek Band. It's time to shake off those winter blues and break out your dancing shoes! The library is proud to present country western music performed at

its finest by Bernie Oldham and the Maple Creek Band. Free refreshments. Free registration at any Oshawa Library branch. Free parking after 6:00 pm. 7:00 pm at the McLaughlin Branch Auditorium

**Join "The Staff" and enjoy the sounds** of classic and contemporary rock!! They play it soft; they play it loud; just for you, the crowd. This is Rock of all ages! Free admission; no tickets required. 7 p.m. Northview Community Centre.

Thurs. Feb. 19

**Celebrate Music Week with the Wii!** We will play musically inspired games on the Nintendo Wii: American Idol, DDR, and more. Snacks and board games, too! This is a drop-in program, no registration required! 7:00 pm at the McLaughlin Auditorium

Sat. Feb. 21

**Calling all musicians! Now's your time to be heard!** Submit your entry by February 17, 2009 for your chance to compete in our Battle of the Bands competition live. Entries will be accepted for bands in three categories: Grades K-8, Grades 9-12, and Adults. There will be an amazing prize package for winning bands! Visit [www.oshlib.ca](http://www.oshlib.ca) for more info.

Tues. Feb. 24

**It's Carnival time at the library!** At this Mardi Gras inspired party we will learn what Mardi Gras is, play games, eat food, and make our own Mardi Gras masks. For ages 12-18. Free registration at any Oshawa Library branch. 7:00 pm at the McLaughlin Auditorium

## Sudoku

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		1						
		6		4				8
					2	3		
					5	1	2	
	7			8	1		9	4
9								
				7		8		
	4	3	8					
				2		7	5	

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### How to Play Sudoku

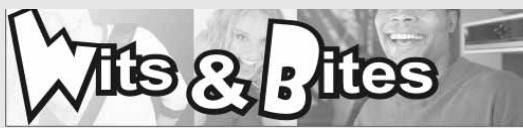
- Each of the numbers from 1 to 9 should only be placed once in each column.
- Each number from 1 to 9 can be placed only once in each row.
- The numbers 1 to 9 can appear only once in each 3 x 3 grid.

Feb. 4 Crossword answers

L	A	S	H	R	A	B	B	I	P	R	O	M
O	R	E	O	A	L	I	A	S	A	O	N	E
T	E	R	M	D	E	N	I	M	P	L	U	S
S	A	F	A	R	I	Z	S	A	L	S	A	
	G	A		R	E	A	M					
A	C	H	E	N	A	Y		E	R	A	S	E
B	O	Y		C	E			A	U	R	A	L
O	V	E	R	S	E	E	P	E	R	G	O	L
R	E	N	E	W		U	X		S	A	T	
T	R	A	D	E		S	A	C	C	E	D	E
				D	I	C	E	H	O			
C	R	A	T	E		O		A	S	S	A	I
H	O	P	E		H	A	V	E	N		T	U
I	B	E	X		I	C	I	N	G		A	R
N	E	X	T		S	H	A	D	E		R	A

Feb. 4 Sudoku answers

2	9	1	6	3	8	4	7	5
3	5	6	7	4	9	2	8	1
4	8	7	5	1	2	3	6	9
6	3	8	4	9	5	1	2	7
5	7	2	3	8	1	6	9	4
9	1	4	2	6	7	5	3	8
1	2	5	9	7	3	8	4	6
7	4	3	8	5	6	9	1	2
8	6	9	1	2	4	7	5	3




Dear Father,  
 School is really great. I am making lot\$ of friend\$ and \$tudying very hard. With all my \$tuff, I \$imply I can't think of anything I need, \$o if you would like, you can ju\$t \$end me a card, a\$ I would love to hear from you.  
 Love, Your \$on.

After receiving his son's letter, the father immediately replies by sending a letter back.

Dear Son,  
 I kNOW that astroNomy, ecoNOmics, and oceanOgraphy are eNOugh to keep even an hoNour student busy. Do NOt forget that the pursuit of kNOWledge is a NOble task, and you can never study eNOugh.  
 Love, Dad



These two boxers enjoyed the beautiful weather over the weekend. They spent hours just running and playing with each other.



# TALK BUSINESS


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# Sports

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Feb 13 vs Belleville 7:35 pm  
Feb 16 vs Saginaw 2:05 pm

General Motors Centre

## Generals a third-period wreck

*Wolves crash the net for a 5-4 victory over the Generals.*

By Wally Donaldson  
The Oshawa Express

It appears a reality check is in order for the Generals if they want to extend their Ontario Hockey League (OHL) campaign to post-season play.

Even John Padulo, a gritty fourth-line forward better noted for his tenacity and grinding style, is finding ways to bury the biscuit.

And he's not even suppose to have an appetite for this sort of thing.

Generals, despite a well-deserved 4-3 victory over the Frontenacs in Kingston last Friday evening, are in an overall freefall on the heels of a 3-2 overtime loss less than 24 hours later to the Ottawa 67's and 5-4 setback to the Sudbury Wolves last Sunday night, the latter two tilts contested at the GM Centre.

The chatter may be in a positive mode by coaches and players alike, but the glaring absence of John Tavares on the top line and defenceman Michael Del Zotto appears to be taking its toll, mentally and physically.

"We are scoring goals, but we're also giving up third-period leads," says Padulo, a 16-year-old native of Rochester, New York, who also knows a thing or two about competing in field lacrosse. "We need to buckle down out there, especially now with the standings the way they are. We don't have our two big guys any more, but our goal is still to make the playoffs, make a run and see what we can do."

Padulo and newcomer Christian Thomas each potted a pair for the Generals before 4,173 fans against the Wolves, who are also in thick for a playoff berth with the Generals and Barrie Colts in the Eastern Conference with 50 points apiece, just four up on the Peterborough Petes with 15 games left in the regular season.

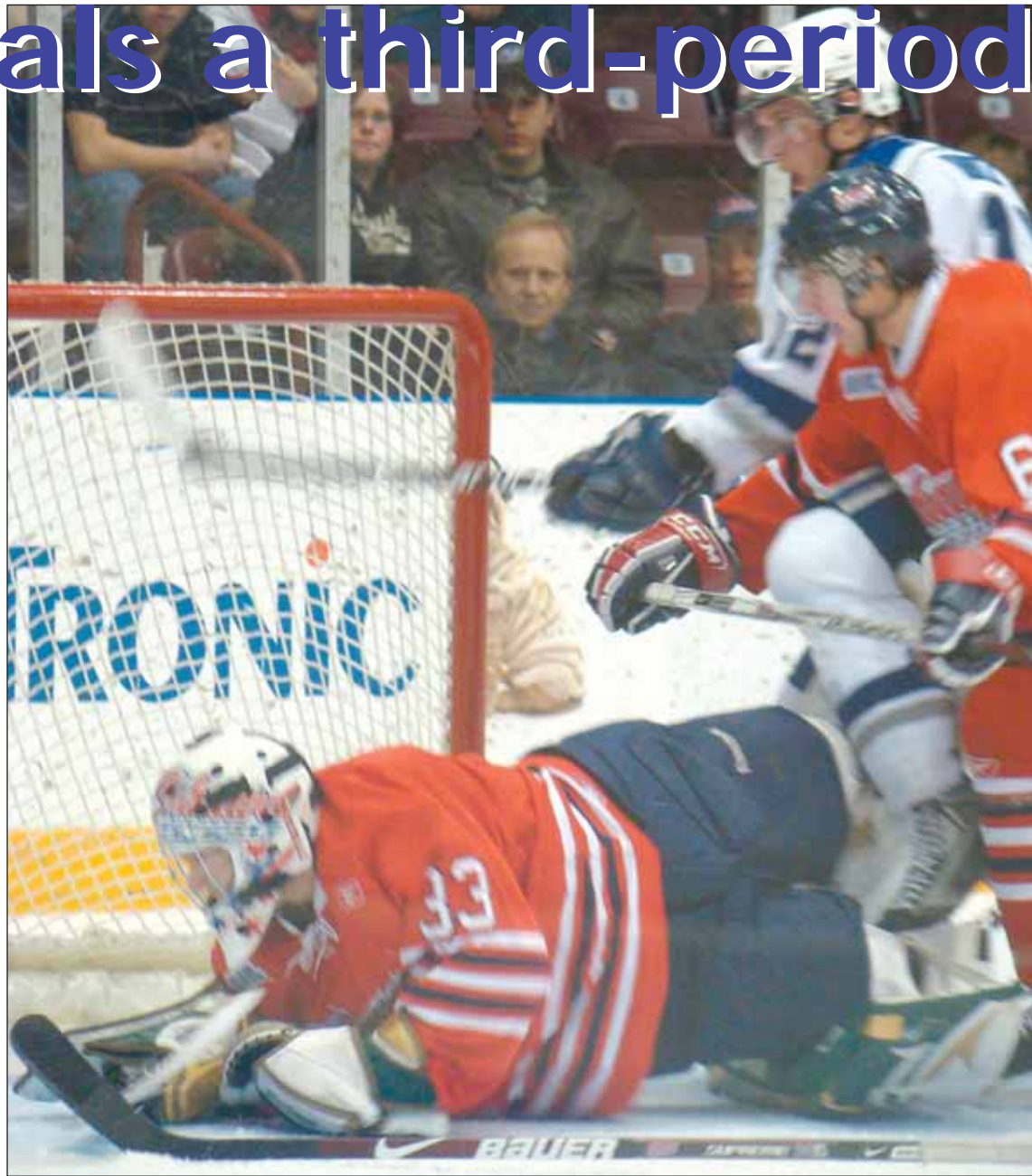


Photo by Wally Donaldson/The Oshawa Express

John Kurtz (12) of the Sudbury Wolves appears tied up by Generals' defenceman Matt Seegmiller (6), but he still manages to slip the puck behind sprawled goaltender Michael Zador for the winning goal on the powerplay with 2:44 left in regulation play.

Highly-touted Jared Staal fired two goals for Sudbury, including his first with only 1:07 elapsed in the opening period. Thomas came through with two unanswered tallies in the middle frame, giving Generals a one-goal lead with 20 minutes remaining.

And as Padulo noted, the puck stopped there.

The two clubs exchanged goals before John Kurtz, pounding the Oshawa net, beat goalie Michael Zador with 2:44 left on the clock.

"I think most teams are aware that we are young, maybe without a lot of talent, but we work hard, we grind and we hit," reasons Padulo, a 2008 third-round draft pick. "It is a battle with us, though."

Padulo, who coins himself a grinder, collected both of his goals in the final period, his last on an excellent skating rush to the Sudbury net.

"Our goals-against average is really high and we just had a meeting about doing the lit-



John Padulo

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Manotick rink sweeps to bantam girl's crown

# Arbour's day falls shy of Ontario title

By Wally Donaldson  
The Oshawa Express

Be it calling shots on the curling ice or scooping up hard grounders on a baseball infield, Laura Arbour has realized at a tender age the importance of approaching the rings and home plate with a glass half full attitude.

It's an attribute the likeable Whitby resident carries in life and especially on the playing field. Never was it more magnified than during last weekend's Ontario Curling Association (OCA) Provincial Bantam Girls Curling Championship at the Oshawa Curling Club.

Losing her first two outings in round-robin play, the Toronto Tam Heather Curling and Tennis Club skip, along with vice Kristy Hurst, second Hailey Procak and lead Emily Rose, fashioned five successive victories to finish deadlocked atop the standings with Manotick's Jamie Sinclair, forcing a tiebreaker last Sunday morning.

Her good fortune soured, however, as Sinclair, maintaining pressure on the Tam rink each end, scored a solid 8-2 victory for the Ontario title.

Although representing the Toronto club, Arbour is joined by fellow Durham curlers' Hurst and Rose, who are members of the downtown club.

"Hailey (Procak) is from Toronto and we wanted her on our team," said Arbour who, during the summer months is an accomplished shortstop for a quality women's baseball squad in Brantford. "The ice availability (at Tam Heather) was a lot better as well."

The plight of the Tam rink soared following its two losses when Arbour maintained, "I just tried keeping it simple and positive."

Indeed, the foursome, coached by Oshawa's Stephen Hurst, got on a roll and played well enough for a winner-take-all



Photo by Wally Donaldson/The Oshawa Express

Jenna Mason of the Westmount Golf and Country Club keeps a close eye on her sweepers while Toronto Tam Heather vice Kristy Hurst, left, and skip Laura Arbour, both residents of the Durham Region, look on during the Ontario Curling Association (OCA) Provincial Bantam Girls Curling Championship at the Oshawa Curling Club.

showdown.

Sinclair, competing with vice Cheryl Kreviazuk, second Melissa Gannon, lead Rebecca Wichaers-Schreur and coach Bruce Merklinger relinquished the first point of the game, but rebounded with a trio in the second

end.

Arbour blanked the third end with the high hopes of scoring at least a deuce one end later but, instead had one stolen on her. Although getting one back in the fifth, the Tam rink gave up a pair in each of the sixth and seventh ends

before shaking hands.

Mark it up to another valued experience for Arbour who not too long ago was introduced to the sport by simply witnessing a Learn-To-Curl session. "I saw how it was played and I really got excited about getting involved," she beams.

Grimsby's Avery Thomas and Kendall Haymes of St. Catharines completed round-robin play with 4-3 records.

Midland's Carly Howard, whose father Glenn romped to an Ontario men's Tankard the same weekend in Woodstock, joined Katelyn Wasylikiw of Oakville with 3-4 records, followed by Emily Aru of the Huntley Curling Club and Jenna Mason of the Westmount Golf and Country Club with two wins in seven outings.

The bantam boys' championship presented a more fascinating finish with five of the eight competing rinks completed round-robin play with four wins in seven games, constituting a myriad interesting tie breaking competitions.

Once it got to the finale, Petro Malvar's foursome from Richmond Hill outlasted Matthew Dickson of St. Thomas in a hard-fought match, 4-3.

Down by a pair coming home, Dickson who, interestingly, opened round-robin play with four straight victories, needed a tie to force an extra end. He settled for a single, however.

Competing with Malvar were vice Adam Tambosso, second Rory James, lead Ben Bernier and coach Mike Tambosso.

Deadlocked for first after seven games were Malvar, Dickson, Tyler Sagan of Westmount, Kyle Thompson of Peterborough and City View's Ryan McCrady.

The three teams below the top five were skipped by Chinguacousy's Michael McGaugh, Fraser Reid of Glendale and Winchester's Jonathan Thompson.

## Time for Generals to take a hard look at ability to compete

I fondly recall my baseball days as a kid in Ajax, somewhere around the midget-aged level, when I showcased a half decent bat and not a bad glove hand.

I was not the star of the team by any stretch, but I did hold my own with a so-so throwing arm and an ability to track down fly balls in centre field.

In my second year, we lost three key players to age and suddenly, coach Larry Pickell gave me one of those long, meaningful looks as if to say, "It's up to you, kid!"

The loss of Gord, Ken and Hugh did not sit well with me, originally. I mean, these were the guys who could change a game with one swing of the bat.

Suddenly, it was up to me. We went to two tournaments the following year and lo and behold, I was the tournament star in Newmarket and Niagara Falls. I recall this so well because even though we lost players I thought couldn't be replaced, I took this nod and encouragement by Pickell as a special challenge.

We got beat in our league final, but we were very competitive. I did my best to take on a leadership role brimming with enthusiasm and I can honestly say that less than a dozen games into the season, I had

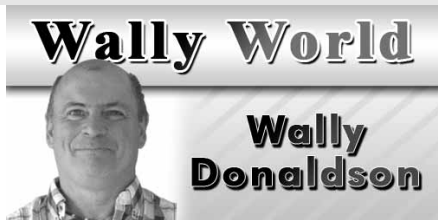
the mindset that the three are gone, so let's move on. And if I ever did forget or lose track, there was a coaching staff on the base paths perfectly willing to remind me.

And so this vivid recollection of my past came to light while parked along the boards at the GM Centre and taking action pictures of the Generals --- minus John Tavares and Michael Del Zotto.

Chris DePiero and staff have said all the right things up to this point. "You know, they're gone. We have to accept it and this is a golden opportunity for someone to step up."

The appearance and attitude of all coaches following last Sunday's 5-4 loss to the Sudbury Wolves spoke volumes. The pressure is mounting as Oshawa's bid for a playoff spot becomes all the more tenuous. Generals have been shut out three times during the last couple of weeks and outscored 24-12.

The players are understandably frustrated as so poignantly demonstrated by captain James DeLory, who sits. His perform-



ance in Oshawa's 7-0 loss to the Kitchener Rangers a week ago did not sit well with Florida Panthers' head coach Peter DeBoer, who was in attendance.

Truth be known, the players I have chatted with are good guys. They, like everyone else in the Ontario Hockey League (OHL), have visions of grandeur of one day signing a professional contract.

To fulfill this dream, they must also be perfectly willing to give it the proverbial 110 per cent, even if the coach asks for 100. Taking that extra step is what makes a player stand out above the others, especially with so many NHL scouts seated with pen and pad in hand.

Scouts are not necessarily looking for two identical players simply skating over the blueline and unloading a slapshot. They're in search of that one individual with keen hockey moxy, the ability to turn nothing into something constructive around an opposing goal.

And it certainly holds true

while taking a defensive stand, an attribute the Generals failed miserably against the Wolves, especially the tally that turned in to a winning goal late in the game.

Coaches have set the table for the players. It's up to these athletes to search and determine the quality of people they want to become on the ice.

And yet, while the Generals go through a difficult period, it is paramount that DePiero and staff not present an air of desperation inside the dressing room. They are dealing with teens who have enough stress away from home and inside the classroom.

Heck, if I was coach, I'd tell the guys walking through the doors for yet another practice drill to take a seat. The pizza and pop are on the way.

Let's talk! Let's air it out and get a feel-good atmosphere going. Get the line combinations separated and talking individually about the strategies to making the Generals a better hockey team. Props to the guys who came over from London. They are determined to make a hefty contribution.

A lot of hockey remains. The question to be posed is: Are the players truly coming to the table when the coach gives one of those long, meaningful looks as if to say, "It's up to you, kid!"

## Atoms busy

Atom teams in Oshawa are making their marks on the hockey ice in playoff and regular-season play.

Oshawa Minor Atom AA Generals ousted the Clarington Toros in their first round of Ontario Minor Hockey Association (OMHA) playoff action in a best-of-five set.

Daniel Morrison's goal 1:12 into an overtime session launched the Generals to victory in the fourth game and advancement to the next round.

Jacob Stoop and Cooper Turecki also tallied for the minor atom Generals.

Generals got things going in this series with a 3-2 victory on the strength of a goal and assist from Aaron Sprague. Ryan Duffy and Dylon Dionne added a goal apiece with Tyson Dus chipping in a helper.

Clarington equalled the series with a 4-3 win. Turecki fired two goals for Oshawa in this one with Parker Browne adding a single.

Generals got the series lead back in this third game with a 3-1 victory.

Browne notched two goals for the victors with Matthew Hiemstra rounding out the scoring. Riley Stabile, Sprague, Ryan Duffy and Stoop each had an assist.

Jack Michel and Tyler Wright shared the goaltending duties, facing a total of 59

shots and giving up only nine goals.

Trelawney Minor Atoms

Oshawa Newton Trelawney Minor Atom AAA squad had a taste of everything last weekend, recording a win, tie and loss.

The victory was a 6-4 verdict in Markham against the Waxers last Sunday afternoon as the local atoms rallied from a three-goal deficit for the win.

Devin Pipher fired two goals for the victors with singles from William Todd, Sam Ellwood, Kyle Bollers and Cole Gittins.

Lucas Chaisson, Cater Thornton, Brayden Snowden and Greg Arnborg assisted on the goals. Dawson Hinton played well in goal for Oshawa.

Bollers fired three goals for Oshawa in Lindsay, but the minor atoms settled for a 3-3 tie against the Central Ontario Wolves. Brendan Robertson and Christian Street had the assists.

Oshawa was shut down last Friday evening 3-0 by the Kingston Frontenacs.

After two scoreless periods, Oshawa ran into penalty problems and the Fronts pounced on the opportunity with a pair of powerplay goals and an empty-net tally.

Lucas Jolicoeur was in the Oshawa net against Kingston and Lindsay.

Ridgebacks men's hockey coach ...

## Muylaert reaches 200-win plateau

Mike Noyes tallied the game-winning goal for the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT) men's hockey squad in a shootout last Friday night, lifting the Ridgebacks to a 3-2 victory over Brock. And with the win, it marked a special occasion for head coach Marlin Muylaert, who recorded his 200th career win as a coach in Canadian Interuniversity Sports (CIS).

Muylaert began his CIS career with the University of Guelph where he coached from 1988-1999, accumulating an overall record of 188-114-20. In two seasons with UOIT, the Port Perry native has coached the Ridgebacks to 12 wins, bringing his career total to the milestone mark. Muylaert is now eighth on the charts for most wins by an active CIS coach.

Ridgebacks came flying out of the gate in front of a large crowd at the Campus Ice Centre. The Ridgebacks would outshoot the Badgers 12-5, but were unable to find the back of the net as neither team tallied in the opening period.

UOIT captain Derrick Bagshaw beat Brock goaltender Tommy Lee just 12 seconds into the second period to open up scoring in the game and only two minutes later, Tony Rizzi gave Ridgebacks a two-goal bulge assisted by Kyle Wetering.

Heading into the third period, the Ridgebacks led with a dominating



Marlin Muylaert

22-11 shot advantage and a 2-0 lead on the scoreboard. But, at 3:50 into the third period, Brock managed to net its first goal of the game as Nathan Hooper scored his ninth of the year. Brock then tied the game at the 7:50 minute mark as Chris McLean put one past UOIT goalkeeper Jeff Dawson.

UOIT had plenty of chances to regain the lead in the third period and overtime with 13 shots on net, including a Josh Vatri attempt that hit the post, leading to a shootout.

With the Ridgebacks down 1-0 in the shootout, Bagshaw needed to score to keep his team alive. The captain was clutch as he roofed the puck past the Brock netminder to keep the Ridgebacks alive. After Brock missed on their next attempt, it was the freshmen defensemen Noyes who scoring to seal the deal.

The win marked the Ridgebacks first win over Brock University as they were previously 0-4-0 against the Badgers including a 7-0 loss earlier this season. The Ridgebacks have now picked up points in three consecutive games, another first for program.

UOIT faces front-running York University Yeomen on Saturday afternoon in North York. The Ridgebacks regular season home finale will be on Friday, February 13 against the University of Guelph Gryphons. Puck drop is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. at the Campus Ice Centre.

## Lady Lords basketballers fall short

Kingston, Ont. – The Durham Lords made a valiant effort to rally against the St. Lawrence, but fell short of the win as they were defeated 68-56.

The Lords were slow out of the gate and had no rhythm they shot just 17.9 per cent from the field in the first half. They were unable to gain any momentum and the Vikings took advantage going into the half with a 26-17 lead.

The Lords came out in the

second half with much more intensity but fell victim to the deadly shooting ability of the Vikings as they shot an incredible 53.1% from the field. St. Lawrence built upon their lead and at one point held a 19 point advantage over the Lords in the second half.

Durham was able to fight

back by going inside and continuously earning trips to the free throw line. They were able to get back into the game and even got to within seven points of the Vikings late in the game. In the end, the Vikings battled through the comeback effort with strong play by Rachel Niven who led all scorers on the night with 20 points.



Laura Tomek led the Lords in scoring with 13 points and added two rebounds and two assists. Erin Emery managed to pick up a double-double with 11 points and 10 rebounds. Jessica Newton also had an impressive night going seven out of eight from the line with a total of nine points while Jill Leistra played all forty minutes and finished with nine points, seven rebounds, five steals and two blocks.



## Gens in 6th place with 7 home games left

The Oshawa Generals have just seven home games left in the regular season, and every one of them is crucial as the Ontario Hockey League season heads down the stretch.

Oshawa enters this week's play in a tight logjam in the Eastern Conference. The Generals sit in sixth place with 50 points, but so do the Barrie Colts and the Sudbury Wolves! And just four points behind those three teams are the Peterborough Petes, with 46 points.

At the moment the Petes are on the outside looking in on the playoff picture, as they sit ninth in the East. But they are hanging close to the teams they are chasing as the OHL season heads into its final five weeks.

Oshawa General Manager/Coach Chris DePiero is confident his team will prevail and get a playoff spot, just as long as the players understand the work ethic that's involved.

"Our goal is to be the hardest working team in the league and we know we have to work hard and compete for 60 minutes to give ourselves a chance to win some games," DePiero said after the weekend games. "We're not relying on one person to score goals.

"We got some big goals from key people on the weekend and as long as we continue to work hard and compete hard every night, we will win our fair share of games and have some success."

The Generals finally snapped a six-game losing skid last weekend with a crucial 4-3 win over the Kingston Frontenacs in Kingston. Then on Saturday they earned a single point with a 3-2 overtime loss to the Ottawa 67's at the General Motors Centre before losing 5-4 to the Sudbury Wolves on Sunday to make for a .500 weekend (three points from three games).

The Generals have just 15 games left, including the seven at the GMC, and the schedule they face is a tough one down the stretch. They have six games left against the Eastern Conference's top two teams, the Belleville Bulls and the Brampton Battalion (three each), so they will need to win games against the teams they are battling for a playoff spot with, especially the Petes.

Oshawa still has two games left with the Petes and have two games in hand on Peterborough, so the Generals playoff fate is still in their own hands.

Generals tickets are available at the General Motors Centre box office, online at [www.generalmotorscentre.com](http://www.generalmotorscentre.com) or by calling 1-877-436-8811. You can also call 905-438-8811 and enquire about special packages that are available.

Family Fun Packs are available starting for as little as \$54. For that price (which includes all taxes), you can get two adult tickets, two children's tickets and two program vouchers.

Fans can also buy Flex Packs that will allow you to get seats for just the games you want to see all season long. Flex Pack vouchers start at just \$90 for six vouchers that can be redeemed for any game – you can use all six vouchers for one game, or use one voucher for six games, or use in any combination you like! 12 voucher and 18 voucher packs are also available.

Next up for the Generals is Friday at 7:35 p.m. against the always tough Belleville Bulls. On Sunday the Generals get some exposure on Sportsnet when it televised their game in Brampton against the Battalion with Rob Faulds and Roger Lajoie doing the play-by-play.

## Montreal Canadiens' 100th anniversary

In the fall of 1909, a hockey war at the game's highest level was shaping up. J.A. O'Brien of Renfrew was still stinging from the Eastern Canada Hockey Association's refusal to accept the application of his Creamery Kings to join this elite shinny fraternity.

This openly professional septet was easily the class of the Upper Ottawa Valley circuit. And, when M.P. Doran's Montreal Wanderers were "frozen" out of the organization for proposing to make small Jubilee Arena their home ice, his representative, Jimmy Gardner, approached O'Brien's son Ambrose with a proposal: "Ambrose, why don't you and I form a league? You've got Cobalt and Haileybury (of the Tamiskaming Mines League) and Renfrew. We have the Wanderers. And I think that that if a team of all Frenchmen was formed in Montreal it would be a real draw!"

On December 2, 1909, the proposal became a reality.

Tommy Hare and Noah Timmins, of Cobalt and Haileybury respectively, threw their lot and some greenbacks in with the O'Brien's. The five-team loop tagged themselves the National Hockey Association.

Meanwhile, Ottawa, Shamrocks, and Quebec embraced the Nationals and All Montreal to flesh out their circuit, which they named the Canadian Hockey Association. Shortly thereafter the O'Briens bankrolled the formation of that dream team, which was given the name of

### Hockey's Historic Highlights



Glen Goodhand

Les Canadiens. Their first sweater was dark blue, trimmed with a white yoke on the shoulders and chest, capped off with a huge white "C" emblazoned on the front.

By mid January, it became apparent that there was not sufficient fan support for two leagues, especially with five teams in Montreal. A special meeting was arranged, calling for the amalgamation of the two fraternities. The Canadiens remained in the seven-team setup, but even with talent like Newsy Lalonde (for part of the campaign), Didier Pitre, and Jack Laviolette as playing manager, they ended dead last, winning only twice.

But it was the first of a century-long existence as a major league shinny club!

When the annual meeting was held in November 1910, the club was put in limbo. However, promoter George Kennedy entered a new franchise, and claimed the same moniker. Strangely enough, the new togs featured a maple leaf crest, with a white "C" on a red background. The following season, a red, white, and blue "barber pole" design spotlighted another maple leaf, with "C-A-C" within its confines.

within its confines.

It was 1923-24 before the Habs won their first Stanley Cup. And, except for 1930 and 1931, when they repeated that feat two years running, they aped the rest of the NHL, capturing the coveted trophy from time to time.

From 1937-38 through 1942-43 were the only real lean years for the franchise. In fact, in 1939-40 the club team almost died. That season they finished dead last with 10 wins in 48 games. The press and the general public scathed them for poor management.

Contrariwise, from 1956 through 1960, they boasted a stranglehold on World Championships, winning 5 in a row. With "Toe" Blake at the helm, and bolstered by superstars like the Richard brothers, Jean Beliveau, Doug Harvey, and Bernie Geoffrion, they dominated every aspect of the game.

They almost repeated that feat, with a run of four from 1976 to 1979. But since then they have been victorious only once - that in 1993, when they pulled a surprised coup, after finishing third in their division. They easily stand atop the pile when it comes to most Stanley Cups wins, with 23 - Toronto is a distant second with 13! After finishing first in their division last season, and advancing to the conference semi-finals, they are hoping against hope to make it 24 in this their 100th Anniversary year.

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## Before You Throw That Old PC Out

The talk around techie circles these days is all about the latest new technology. Everybody seems to want the latest Quad core processor, with 8GB's of RAM, the latest graphics card. Bigger, Faster, More, More!

So, how does that fit in with the need to be more environmentally aware? It doesn't!

Before you rush out and buy that new desktop or laptop, ask yourself do you really need it? Most PC's only use a fraction of their computing power to actually do what you want.

If you need to manipulate high end graphics or produce HD video you may need all the bells and whistles. If you just want to run Office and Quickbooks and run your business, you probably don't. So, what about that old Pentium 4 machine gathering dust in the closet? A simple memory upgrade and new DVD drive with a bigger hard drive might do the job, cost? About \$300 depending on what type of PC you have. That's a lot less expensive than buying a new PC.

I've had a lot of P4's across the workbench in the past 6 months, and they have all responded well to an upgrade and have a new lease on life. The owners have been surprised how well the revived computers handle the internet and today's programs.

So what's the story here? Well, we've become a bit obsessed with technology these days and are very keen to throw out what we perceive as no longer useful. Let's think first before we discard older technology.

There are some new technologies that really do make sense. LCD screens to replace older tube screens use 60% less power and will make a difference to your power bill. Laptops use less power too, and with wireless internet can be more versatile. So to find out ways to save money and revive your aged computer, give us a call at 905-493-1284.

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**GANNON**  
 Elizabeth "Betty" Ann  
 After a lengthy illness, peacefully at Lakeridge Health Corp. Oshawa on Wednesday February 5, 2009 in her 60th year. Beloved wife of Allen for 38 years. Devoted and loving mother of Hope Gannon, Yvonne Gannon (Ben Langlois), Danielle Gannon (Adam Hanf), John Gannon (Erika). Dear sister of John Cartledge and his wife Pauline. Will be lovingly remembered by her grandchildren Reba, Daniel, Mackenzie, Ridge, Ebony, Cass Jr., Marcus, Nikita, Allen J., Jack and Brianna. Relatives and friends payed their respects on Sunday at McINTOSH-ANDERSON FUNERAL HOME LTD., 152 King Street East, Oshawa (905-433-5558). A Mass of Christian Burial was held at HOLY CROSS ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, 373 Simcoe Street South, Oshawa on Monday February 9, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. Donations in memory of Betty may be made to the Heart and Stroke Foundation. On-line condolences may be made at www.mcintosh-anderson.com.

**JOHNSON**  
 Miriam Cavell  
 Suddenly at her home in Willowdale on Tuesday February 3, 2009 Miriam (nee Slocombe) in her 91st year. Beloved wife of the late William Johnson. Loving mother of Bill and wife Anne Johnson of Pickering, Cathy and husband Bob Hollingsworth of Oshawa and Bob of Willowdale. Fondly remembered by her grandchildren Christina and Brandon, Bobby and Colleen, Michelle, Andrea, Matthew, Megan and Eric. Sister of the late George Slocombe. Relatives and friends payed their respects at McINTOSH-ANDERSON FUNERAL HOME LTD. on Thursday and Friday February 6, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. until time of service at 11:00 a.m. in the chapel. Interment at Oshawa Union Cemetery. Donations made in memory of Miriam to the Ontario Heart and Stroke Foundation or the Toronto Humane Society would be appreciated by the family. On-line condolences may be made at www.mcintosh-anderson.com.

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