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Families celebrate  
World Animal Day at zoo  
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**PAN AM GAMES**  
New logo  
unveiled for event  
See page 2



# THE EAST TORONTO OBSERVER

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## Scarborough homes third priciest in Ont.

**JOSEF JACOBSON**  
The Observer

Home prices in Scarborough are among the highest in the province, according to a recent report by Coldwell Banker Real Estate.

*The Home Listing Report*, which tracked prices from March to September, found the average cost of a four-room, two-bathroom home in Scarborough is \$484,000. Costs are higher only in the rest of Toronto, Newmarket and Oakville.

The report is good news for Scarborough homeowners, said Ward 44 councillor Ron Moeser.

“We’re catching up to Toronto,” he said. “This is a wonderful community to live in. I think people are starting to realize that and I think that prices are now starting to reflect that.”

However, some Scarborough real estate agents are skeptical of the report’s findings.

“I don’t think there is a sudden rise in home value,”

said John Evanoff, owner of Evanoff Real Estate. “I really don’t know what information they’ve been using.”

Because housing prices can vary depending on which homes are sold when, price trends should be looked at in the longer term, he said.

Calculating price averages can also be misleading. For example, houses south of Kingston Road along the Scarborough Bluffs can sell for more than \$1 million, but homes in Malvern may be less desirable and sell for less, Evanoff said.

The report also highlights issues of affordability. Greater housing costs hurt low-income residents and fixing these problems requires teamwork, Moeser said.

“Part of it is how much money we spend on these issues,” he said.

“What we need is the federal and provincial governments to step up as well to make sure that important [housing] issues are addressed.”



MEGAN HARRIS/The Observer

### Autumn leap

From Left to Right: Highland Creek residents Lucy Wang, Jennifer Struth Ryan Howes and Karen Young-husband enjoy the unusually warm fall weather on Oct. 7.

## Better transit alternatives overlooked: Friends of Rouge Watershed

**BILLY COURTICE**  
The Observer

While business and traffic have grown in northeast Scarborough, better transit alternatives have been largely ignored, says a local environmental activist.

“They’ve got this beautiful

rail line which can be converted to GO Transit,” said Jim Robb, Friends of the Rouge Watershed. “It’s disappointing that the city hasn’t put emphasis on this transit alternative.”

The railway, which runs from Scarborough to Peterborough and Havelock,

was once used for passenger trains.

One train trip would take about 2,000 people off the road every 15 minutes, thus decreasing traffic pollution and making transportation more efficient, Robb said.

Last summer, Metrolinx proposed an Environmental

Assessment for making the conversion between 2013 and 2015. But Toronto probably won’t accommodate it for another 10 to 20 years, Robb said.

“It’s a concern that this possibility has been mostly ignored,” he said. “It clearly warrants more attention.”

The rail line would be an alternative to the Donald Cousens Parkway project, which Torontonians highly opposed since Markham conceived it in 2003. It proposes to direct 50,000 cars daily southbound through Scarborough to Highway 401 from Markham.

After being turned down by the Ministry of the Environment, Markham was given another chance to propose an effective route.

The original Environmental Assessment for the Donald Cousens Parkway would have destroyed two areas of the Rouge Valley.

**TAXES** infrastructure  
**TRASH** housing  
 green space  
**CRIME** amalgamation  
 wind turbine  
**PARKS** core  
 LAND USE services  
**transit** number of councillors  
**VOTE** public library  
 smart development  
 budget  
 zoning  
 policing  
 urban planning

### Election Preview Issue

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# Cho hits roadblock

## Councillor takes heat over opposition to road extension

**BILLY COURTYCE**

The Observer

Councillor Raymond Cho is taking heat from his Ward 42 opponents for his stance against the Donald Cousens Parkway extension through Scarborough.

It is too late to stop the controversial construction plan and Cho is against it just to curry votes, candidate Namu Ponnambalam said in an interview.

"He is playing politics with it," Ponnambalam said. "He had many years to engage his community and he failed to do that."

Cho was unavailable for comment.

Cho has taken a stand against the expressway cutting through Scarborough since its conception in 2003, citing traffic congestion, logistical issues and environmental concerns.

But his concern for the environment on the issue doesn't match his willingness to build an LRT vehicle storage facility on the boundaries of Rouge Park, candidate Shamoon Poonawala said.

"The same guy who wants to build storage facilities on the Rouge River wants to stop this project," Poonawala said. "He seems to have confusion in his mind."

The throughway will actually be beneficial to the

environment because fewer cars will use residential streets, he said.

"There are so many cars speeding through Morningside Heights," Poonawala said. "It will diverge traffic toward the highways instead."

The project is intended to direct high volumes of traffic in a north-south direction from Hwy. 407 in Markham, through northeast Scarborough to Hwy. 401.

It was halted in 2008 following mediation between the two cities and Markham's newest environmental assessment will be released before the end of this year.

At a Scarborough meeting in May, Markham representatives met strong opposition from residents of Morningside Heights who were concerned over the amount of traffic that would potentially travel through the highly residential area if the main roads could not handle the estimated 27,000 cars per day.

Markham had proposed a continuous throughway option, which would have had Morningside Avenue connected directly with the Donald Cousens Parkway at Steeles Avenue.

But Toronto was more receptive to a discontinuous plan, which would have traffic move east-west across Steeles Avenue.

# Rouge Valley invests in green tech

## New sun/wind hybrid will generate cashflow for conservation park

**JOSH UNGAR**

The Observer

After having a low-sitting solar panel stolen off the grounds in 2007, the Rouge Valley Conservation Centre has really stepped it up this year.

A new ePole, a hybrid solar and wind turbine generating station, was centre stage at this year's Fall for the Rouge Affair on Oct. 9. It had residents wondering why governments aren't looking into building more of these revolutionary power generators.

"Why don't they put more of these around here instead of these big, stupid propellers they keep trying to put in our lake," lamented Mary Collins, a resident of the Rouge. "These are a much better solution."

Proponents of the ePole say it takes the best aspects of wind and solar energy production, refines some of their flaws and combines them into a single, self-sufficient energy source while producing no negative emissions.

"These towers are completely silent, they generate 50 per cent more energy than turbines of the same size and they can operate in wind as low as 6 km/h," said Tim Bird, sales manager for EfstonScience, the designer of the ePole.

The Rouge Valley Conservation Centre's ePole was built last month and is on track to be hooked up to the Toronto Hydro power grid on Oct. 18. Rather than using the energy directly, the centre plans



on selling the electricity to Toronto Hydro to help support the conservation area.

"We're going to put the power back into the grid and help support the local area," said Serena Lawrie, a Rouge Valley Foundation board member. "So basically we're selling it back to [Toronto] Hydro and all the money is being put into the conservation centre."

The Rouge Valley Conservation Centre already has a 20-year contract ensuring the new ePole generates money along with electricity. The pole, which cost about \$100,000 to build, was paid for by government grants and public donations.

"The centre is looking at a 10-12 per cent return on every dollar they spent on the ePole, most investments bring you closer to 3 or 4 [per cent]," Bird said. "This is a sound investment and it promotes green energy."

EfstonScience designed the poles with wildlife in mind. The wind turbine is a solid turning piece of metal that birds and bats can see and avoid, unlike the rotating blades of regular wind turbines. With 12 solar panels mounted on the poles, they don't waste any space either.

"The next step is to have solar panels installed on the roof here at the conservation centre," Bird said. "We're hoping people start doing things like this at home."

A few similar poles have gone up around the city, including one at the EfstonScience shop at 3350 Dufferin St.

# Non-citizens cast out of city ballot

**FIONA PERSAUD**

The Observer

As the end of the campaign nears, not all residents will have the opportunity to cast their vote in the election.

Currently, a permanent resident living in Canada cannot join the army, run for office, or vote for any level of government.

"I'll be asking the province to allow permanent residents

to vote," said Leonardo Zuniga, the campaign coordinator for I Vote Toronto, a community organization dedicated to expanding voting eligibility to permanent residents.

Zuniga said that with a low voter turnout in elections, this strategy would engage residents now before they become citizens.

Low-voting neighbourhoods can be found in North York and Scarborough, areas that attract high numbers of immigrants.

According to a 2006 census, the majority of Malvernians were of a visible minority and only 36 per cent of eligible voters cast a ballot.

"While the coalition represents many different interests, they are united in their understanding that Toronto's electoral process must better reflect the make-up of its residents," the organizations website says.

However, not all are on the side of broadening voter requirements.

"I strongly urge people to become Canadian citizens," said Ward 36 councillor

Brian Ashton. According to Ashton, the right to vote should be granted solely in citizenship.

Canada has a three-year residency requirement to achieve citizenship.

"I am a real-life example of [how] permanent residents are active in the civic life of Toronto's politics," said Zuniga who has been living in Canada since 2004 and recently received his permanent resident status.

"We are going to work hard to make a proposal by 2014 to allow permanent residents the right to vote," he said.



**LEONARDO ZUNIGA**

# 2015 Pan Am games logo unveiled with roaring support



**RISHMA LUCKNAUTH**/The Observer

Toronto 2015 CEO Ian Troop addresses the crowd waiting to see the Pan Am logo at the Air Canada Centre on September 29th. For more Pan Am, go to page 12.

**RISHMA LUCKNAUTH**

The Observer

Toronto's 2015 Pan Am Games logo is meant to reflect people coming together.

And bring people together it did.

The logo was unveiled Sept. 29 outside the Air Canada Centre to great fanfare.

"We are thrilled with the way it reflects our shared heritage, collaboration and commitment to the timeless passion and joy of sport and our Toronto 2015 rallying theme, United We Play," said Ian Troop, CEO of the host corporation for the games.

**A legacy of the games will be a legacy that we create together**  
-Ian Troop

Inspiration for the logo came from the figurative styles of pre-Columbian Aboriginal art forms throughout the Americas, according to a press release.

The unveiling drew a large crowd, who took in performances by break-boy Lazy Legz and singers Chantal Kreviazuk, Captain Hooks and Karl Wolf.

Planners of the 2015 Pan Am Games hope to highlight the cities of Canada to the rest of the world, promote athletics and leave a legacy of world-class facilities, much like the legacy left by the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Games.

"A legacy of the games will



Courtesy of Toronto 2015

be the legacy that we create together," said Troop.

Troop said the construction of sports facilities to accommodate the influx of competitors across the GTA will create jobs and provide a vehicle for sport training for 10,000 athletes.

Of the planned structures, one will be at the University of Toronto Scarborough. It will be accessible to athletes, students of UofT and the community.

"We need you all to be a part of this," said Troop.

The games are projected to run Toronto a hefty bill of more than \$2 billion, \$1 billion of which is to be allocated to an athlete's village in the West Don Lands, which is bounded by the waterfront and the Don River.

Once the games are over, the village will be used as residential housing.

**For more photos of the unveiling, visit [torontoobserver.ca](http://torontoobserver.ca)**

# Malvern youths uninspired: Ward 42 candidate

Says city has not lived up to mandate

**PATRYCJA KLUCYNIK**  
The Observer

Seems someone forgot to tell the City of Toronto there are at-risk youth in Scarborough, or so says Leon Saul.

The Ward 42 council candidate, spoke about his passion for the Malvern community and says it needs the city's help.

"The city and the Toronto Police Commission have not lived up to their mandate that they set back several years ago to fund these youth initiatives and get gang-related members out of the crime environment," Saul said.

"In fact, funding was cut and taken away from some of the programs in the Malvern priority neighbourhood and that's a great concern: that even though Malvern has been designated a priority neighbourhood, priority funding was not maintained."

One of the projects heralded by the city is Project Pre-



SARINA ADAMO/The Observer

Toronto Police befriend local children at a TAVIS gardening event Oct. 2. Ward 42 candidate Leon Saul says more should be done for Malvern youth.

vention and Intervention Toronto (PIT). The program is designed to deter youth aged 13-24 from joining gangs and engaging in gang-related activities. It began September 2008 and is scheduled to conclude March 2011.

Seventy-eight youth graduated from the first round of this program on Aug. 26 and were a part of three targeted

neighbourhoods: Jamestown, Jane and Finch, and Weston and Mount Dennis.

According to Public Safety Canada, which released a report detailing the project, neighbourhoods contained limited services for youth and members of the community were concerned about a rise in youth crime rates.

Malvern seems to have

been swept under the rug for now, although it is considered one of Toronto's 13 priority neighbourhoods, Saul said.

"Since the funding cuts in Malvern, I think a lot of the youth became discouraged and disillusioned and they just turned their backs on the whole program," he said.

"So it's not a matter of 'We got this, come and get it.' It's

about being there on a daily, regular level, finding these young people and getting them involved."

Saul also spoke adamantly about racial profiling being a real issue, especially in Scarborough. He says community safety has improved at the expense of racial profiling.

"The policemen on bikes are riding around targeting

young black kids unnecessarily who they see 'liming' or 'hanging out' and the reason why is there are no facilities to engage them or resources being put together to get them off the streets and getting them into something more productive."

PIT project manager Jabari Lindsay was unavailable for comment by press time.

# Young candidate looks to topple Cho, bring fresh ideas to council

Local knowledge an advantage despite inexperience: Tecele

**COURTNEY ROBERTS**  
The Observer

For her first run in civic politics, Ruth Tecele may be facing not only one but two challenges: not only is she, at 22, the youngest candidate running for council in Ward 42, she is also the only woman.

"On one hand people would see me being young as a disadvantage but I think the neighborhood is ready for a change," she said. "We've had the same person in power for almost 20 years now."

Tecele cites her local experience as an advantage.

"I've always been involved in my community," said Tecele, who developed a summer program called Footsteps for kids aged 10-15 this year. The program allowed kids in the Malvern neighborhood to experience things that they normally wouldn't be able to given social and financial circumstances.

A graduate of Blessed Mother Teresa Catholic

Secondary School, she is also former president of her student council.

Tecele says she received a good education in Scarborough, but after visiting other schools within the city of Toronto, she realized that Scarborough schools were lacking in areas like the arts when compared to other schools. One solution to this, according to Tecele, is utilizing schools outside of regular hours for community endeavors.

"We should use schools as community hubs, which is already a provincial mandate, but I don't think they're living up to it," she said.

It would take the burden off of the city to build community centres. This would benefit an area like Morningside Heights, which at the moment doesn't have a recreational facility, Tecele added.

"With a degree from Ryerson University in urban and regional planning, Tecele also hopes to educate voters



COURTESY RUTH TECELE

Ruth Tecele is the youngest candidate and the only woman running for Toronto city councillor in Ward 42.

on the importance of land usage.

"Land use is connected to every issue. Any policy that's out there, whether it involves transportation, affordable housing or municipal finance, is related to how we as a city use the land we choose to develop on."

Tecele is pushing for more

funding into planning in hopes of creating more revenue for the community.

"It's about expanding the tax base instead of the tax burden," Tecele said.

**To read more candidate profiles, see our election coverage on pages 8, 9 and 11**

# Cougar Court community comes together

**BRADLEY FEATHERSTONE**  
The Observer

Masih Mahebzada used to avoid the pathway that connects Cougar Court to Eglinton Avenue East. With little or no light, it was known for drug dealers and beat downs, the 18-year-old says.

But now, thanks to a combined effort from groups involving himself and other local residents, this path is a safer place to walk.

Toronto Hydro donated its time to cut down three 10-metre-tall trees on Oct. 2 and trim three metres off a fence. The move was all part of an effort to remove a blind corner on the path where drug dealers used to hang out and allow the light from the apartment buildings to shine onto the

pathway and make it a safer route to travel, according to Scarborough Village Neighborhood Association president Mike McKenzie.

"People that are doing things they shouldn't don't want to be seen. By opening it up it's going to deter them from hanging out," said Toronto Police Sgt. Jeffery Pearson, who is the local TAVIS officer.

TAVIS is a program led by Toronto Police to reduce crime in priority neighbourhoods and played a major role in bringing Cougar Court together.

The pathway also provides a shortcut to the local plaza.




The community has been asking for

changes to the pathway for several years and many are excited that things are finally being done.

This was one of three community safety events that TAVIS helped to organize.

**People that are doing things they shouldn't don't want to be seen. By opening it up it's going to deter them from hanging out**  
- Sgt. Jeffery Pearson

# ELECTION PREVIEW

	BUDGET	CRIME	TAXES	TRANSIT	HOUSING
 GLENN DE BAEREMAEKER	"Federal governments are investing in the United States and Europe, and they're not doing in Canada. So we need to get them to invest in the city. Senior governments are not funding our local cities."	"We live in one of the safest cities in North America and I will work to keep it that way."	"Of course I want to keep taxes as low as possible. I will continue to lobby the federal and provincial government to make sure we get our fair share of the income tax pie which we are not getting right now."	"Transit is one of the most important priorities that we have today. We have to have mass transit and again the federal and provincial government have to start investing in their cities."	"Housing needs to be affordable and I'm encouraging affordable housing units in all the developments that are built in my ward."
 GLENN MIDDLETON	"The budget process is badly flawed. It needs to be long-term and long-range, and the budget process now doesn't challenge the status quo."	"Police are over stretched and putting more of them on the street may be the answer. We need to provide more job and recreation opportunities for youth, because much of the crime is youth related."	"The problem is the city's budget has gone up by 50 per cent in the last eight years. Tax increases are now inevitable. It's going to be challenging for the upcoming council to bring that number back to normal."	"I move to have more subways and not streetcars. Scarborough has already waited too long. Streetcars will kill the retail businesses around this area and I think it is an absolute waste of time."	"Many people have found social service denial, which means they don't get the support for their personal care issues. Social housing is not being adequately monitored."
 TUSHAR SHAH	"In my opinion, the budget should be enough to grow the city faster and it has to improve every year."	"Specifically in Scarborough, the current crime rates are under control but they should be reduced as much as possible in order to improve the image of Scarborough as a better place to live."	"I believe property taxes should be the same or less for landlords, but we must have initiatives for tenants."	"Transit is a basic growth area in most cities and needs attention from all politicians. I think rapid transit is required in order to improve the city."	"Simply, housing to me means that it must be livable and a safe place for residents."

*Other candidates running in Ward 38 are Kirk Jensen and Sandip Vova.*




## WARD 38



# SCARBOROUGH




## WARD 42

## YOUR CANDIDATES - YOUR ISSUES: YOUR VOTE

	BUDGET	CRIME	TAXES	TRANSIT	HOUSING
 NAMU PONNAMBALAM	"It's a very open budget process I am actually trying to endorse."	"I would like to focus on the issue of the recent profiling in this ward. I'd need to get in touch with law enforcement units to work alongside the community to control crime."	"I would support the elimination of the \$60 vehicle licensing tax."	"I'm in full support of the Transit City agenda. At the same time, I'll press the council for an extension of the LRT to Malvern and to Meadowvale."	"Co-operative housing needs to be addressed in terms of the quality of the neighbourhood. I'd also like to propose a co-operative based daycare system to act as affordable daycare for the middle-income group."
 GEORGE SINGH	"I'm sure there's a lot of money that's being wasted and I'd like to cut all the wasteful spending so that there's more available budget for new projects."	"I'd like to see a lot more attention and money diverted into preventing crime as opposed to just fighting crime by putting a Band-Aid on it."	"I'd like to see taxes frozen. I don't want to see taxes go up any more."	"I'd like to see the whole area serviced 24 hours a day, which would increase the accessibility for the region, and then also improve the frequency of the Nugget bus."	"In regards to community and co-operative housing, I would like to see part of the budget allocated towards improving the physical appearance of these buildings."
 SHAMOON POONAWALA	"I think we should have a budgeting process that gets public input beforehand and then the process begins based on that and last year's budget, and then once it's completed it's presented to the public again for reconfirmation."	"For preventative measures. I'm looking at a better lighting system and increasing things like Neighbourhood Watch and the Block Parents program."	"I think that taxes should be coherent to the services provided, and in the last little while the services have gone down and the taxes have gone up... There has to be a balance."	"The LRT is going to be comparatively cheaper than subways, but it's also a limited time thing. Over a period of time, as the population would grow, LRT would become obsolete."	"There is sufficient funding but the allocation is not correct... A lot of money has been wasted on unnecessary things like painting garage doors. Did it uplift the community? No."

*Other candidates running in Ward 42 are incumbent Raymond Cho, Venthan Ram-anathavauuniyan, Leon Sual, Neethan Shan and Ruth Teclé*

# ELECTION PREVIEW




	BUDGET	CRIME	TAXES	TRANSIT	HOUSING
 PAUL AINSLIE	“We’ve been slicing and dicing the budget since amalgamation. I’m hoping that the next mayor will be more realistic when it comes to this issue so that the situation can be changed.”	“Crime is continually going down in our area (Ward 43). The biggest problem I have is the media that sensationalizes crime in Scarborough. We have an excellent police division here in Ward 43.”	“I didn’t support the extra taxes like the vehicle registration tax and the land transfer tax. They’re not fair taxes. I’m hoping to work with the next mayor to work to alleviate these problems.”	“I’ve got a very diverse population in my ward and a lot of people depend on transit. The TTC needs to be extended further out. I don’t really buy into the arguments that people won’t develop along the subway line.”	“I have a lot of issues with Toronto Community Housing. There is a great need for more buildings specifically for seniors. Our demographics are getting older and along with it our need for proper housing for them increases.”
 SAMUEL GETACHEW	“If you look at Scarborough, I don’t think we’re benefiting as much as those who live in the downtown area. When it comes to budget spending, you want to make it reasonable, but some people are not specific enough for us to make it workable.”	“In Scarborough, the crime rate – especially among young people – is a huge concern. So when they commit crimes they are trying to speak to us, they are trying to say ‘help us,’ And I want to help them.”	“I will fight for our taxes to go down, but not at the level that some of the right-wing conservatives are proposing. Someone still has to pay for taxes.”	“We should make it easier for people to go anywhere they want in Toronto so that they can work. I’m big on the subway. I think that the subway is the best way to help Scarborough.”	“I think looking at ownership and private public partnership, the kind of improvement we’re seeing in Toronto Centre, is I think the best way to go. We shouldn’t create ghettoized neighbourhoods.”
 JOHN LAFORET	“The current operating budget is unsustainable, it’s not focused, and we’re not seeing any results from it. The city needs councillors that are going to work towards fiscal responsibility.”	“I certainly agree that crime is a problem in the area. It’s the fact that we’ve over-concentrated the low income folks. It’s about coming up with solutions for local job creation to give folks the opportunity to have a say in the community.”	“This city needs to find the balance between providing quality services at an affordable rate and right now we’re not doing that because we’re cutting back services and raising taxes.”	“It’s a disgrace that there hasn’t been a subway stop built in Scarborough since 1980. What we need is a council that’s going to find the savings in the budget it takes to put towards subway extension for the city.”	“The state of Toronto community housing is forcing people to live in squalor. City councillors need to work with residents in buildings to make sure requests are being fulfilled.”
<i>Other candidates running in Ward 43 are Benjamin Mbaegbu and Bhaska Sharma.</i>					



## WARD 43

With the election less than 10 days away, the next city council will shape Scarborough for the next four years. Local council candidates talk to the East Toronto Observer about five major issues affecting residents in their wards.

## WARD 44

	BUDGET	CRIME	TAXES	TRANSIT	HOUSING
 RON MOESER	“One thing we’ve got to do is work more cost-effectively. You’ve got to have a city with a heart but we need more of a business-like approach when it comes to our budgeting.”	“The number of police is important, the patrols and how they’re done. By people giving us input through our office, we’re able to target where [crime] is happening.”	“I didn’t vote for [the land transfer tax and the vehicle registration tax] in the first place, and if I had an opportunity, I would cancel them.”	“It’s realistic, it all boils down to money. You can move four times more people on a subway than you can on LRT, and you don’t have to worry about weather conditions.”	“It’s a single-family community and whatever we do, we have to make sure it fits the character of our community.”
 DIANA HALL	“The councillors’ budgets, that’s where you can show you’re a leader. ... You can reduce your own budget and not be one of the highest spenders on council. To me, that’s where it should start.”	“I don’t see crime as a huge issue, but the only thing we have to do is we have to call in about the crime ... in your neighbourhood. That’s the only way police know and that they can respond to the issues.”	“I think we have to limit [taxes] to inflation. I want to look at those line-by-line and say ‘Okay, this is where we could cut some of the spending,’ so that we’re not always increasing property taxes.”	“People have to have transportation which is accessible and affordable and I just don’t see the LRT coping with that.”	“You have to have a good mix of housing. What I’d like to see is that it’s green roofs, terraced balconies, so it fits with the neighbourhood, it keeps in a theme of green and trees and all the things that are really important to this area.”
 HEATH THOMAS	“Police, fire or ambulance are the only budgets I would leave alone. I think everything else we have to deal with where the waste is, so I would reduce the number of councillors to 22.”	“As it is, I think we’re getting sufficient policing in the ward, I don’t see any need to make changes there.”	“Once we cut the fat out of the budget, I think we can definitely afford to deal with tax cuts.” “I would not uphold further tax increases. I would hold down property taxes.”	“Transit City would be a terrible mistake. Not only would it be a disaster for road congestion and for the city in general, I don’t think it will improve transportation. I think financial disaster as well.”	“I think we should aim for zoning that keeps it as residential as possible. I would resist condo developments in the ward.”
<i>Mohammed Mirza is also running in Ward 44.</i>					

## ARTS &amp; LIFE

# Late-night art exhibit displays a lot of heart

ALICE HOANG  
The Observer

For one whole day, students were able to get away from books and lectures — while remaining on campus.

The University of Toronto Scarborough Campus (UTSC) held its third annual multidisciplinary arts and culture festival, Artsideout (ASO), Oct. 7.

The event, described as a “mini Nuit Blanche,” featured exhibits, installations, and performances. Students and alumni transformed ordinary spaces into art venues to showcase their talents and creativity. The event is the largest art show held at UTSC.

The String Ensemble drew the biggest crowd, as they played classics, including Pachelbel’s “Canon in D.”

Two little girls wearing pink sweaters accompanied the band. They twirled and danced ballerina-style, while the audience giggled and uttered “Aw” and “Cute.”

Christine Bernier, director of music and performance for ASO, says the event’s music component was expanded this year as there were five concert stages instead of three. Some of the concert times overlapped so several performances went on at once.

“This year was a lot less stressful and better organized considering we had some past experience under our belts,” Bernier said. “There were a lot more performers this year and we managed to reach out to more people than previous years.”

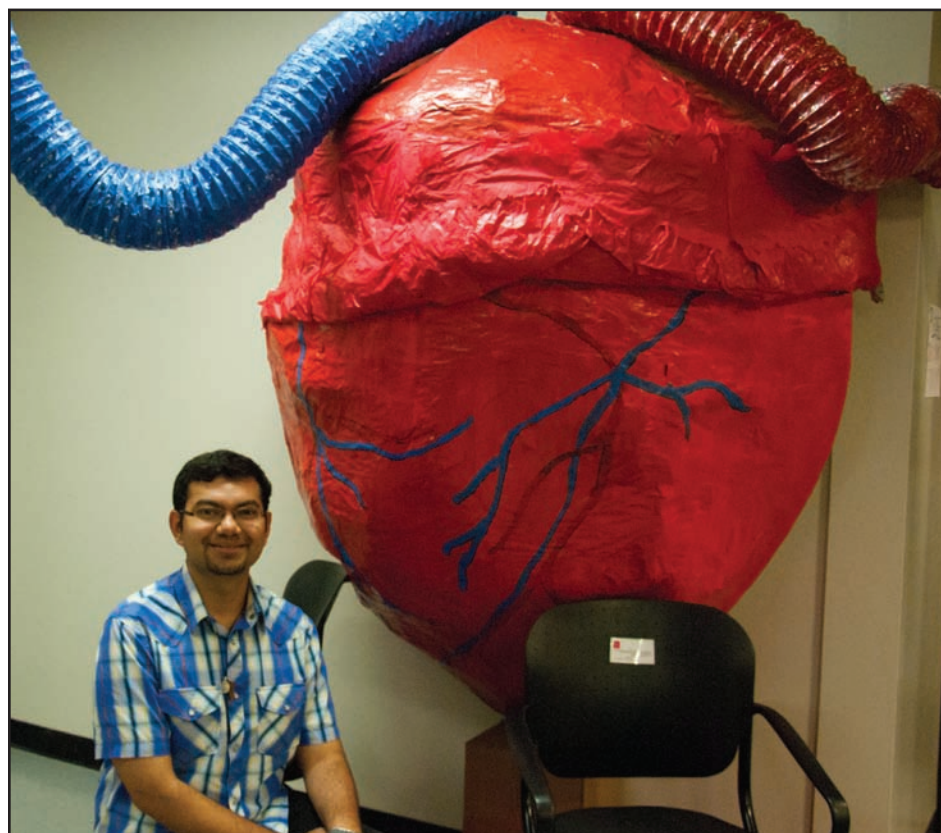
As the campus grounds rumbled with sound and music, every turn presented creative works for people to explore and admire.

“In the past, it was just me going around finding performers,” Bernier said. “This year, we had stage programmers instead who I found, and then they were in charge of finding performers and planning their own stages so we managed to get people from everywhere on campus and from all different clubs and groups.”

Leo Lam, independent projects director for ASO, says the theme of this year’s visual program was “engagement”, as projects “elicited audience participation and interaction played a key part in enriching the viewer experience.”

ASO wasn’t just a hub for arts students, it involved students from various programs and disciplines like the Biology Students’

**Audience participation and interaction played a key part in enriching the viewer experience**  
- Leo Lam



ALICE HOANG/The Observer

Carlyn Figueiredo, marketing director of BioSA, and his 3-D model built from paper mache and chicken wire. The exhibit took a week of around-the-clock work to finish.

Association (BioSA), which created a giant replica of the human heart.

Carlyn Figueiredo, BioSA publicity and marketing director, says it took a week of working around the clock to finish the project.

“This is BioSA’s first attempt at an Artsideout

project,” Figueiredo said, “We’ve actually never done one before, and we’ve got a lot of positive responses so far, so we’re really, really happy about it and definitely looking forward to doing something more crazy in the future.”

As midnight approached,

the campus emptied out while people gathered under the dim lights of the Rex’s Den Restaurant to relax and watch performers close the night with mellow rhythms and sounds.

“I’m happy ASO has grown organically the way it has,” Lam said.



LINDSAY BRANTON/Scarborough Village Theatre

Max Reinhardt (Ben Gans, right) falls in love with a surprised Will Hays (Chris Hardess) at Shakespeare in Hollywood, playing at Scarborough Village Theatre.

## Shakespeare in Scarborough

SARAH De MILLE  
The Observer

The Scarborough Players literally rolled out the red carpet for their opening night of Ken Ludwig’s play, *Shakespeare in Hollywood*.

The actors made their way down the plush walkway accompanied by the cheers and screams of their imagined adoring fans in a mock Hollywood movie premiere.

The entrance was the novel beginning of the play itself at the Scarborough Village Theatre on Oct. 7.

“It is truly a madcap screwball comedy with unexpected delights and magic,” producer Katherine

Turner said. “But it also has conflict and something more serious to think about.”

Famous Shakespearean fairies Oberon and Puck find themselves magically transported onto the Warner Brothers Hollywood set of Max Reinhardt’s film *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*.

Infatuated with the razzle-dazzle of show biz, the two fairies are unknowingly cast to portray themselves on the big screen. With some help from a magical flower, nutty love triangles involving movie moguls and blonde bombshells are thrown together with some riotous results.

Though the play has its roots in Hollywood history

and also blends in aspects from Shakespeare’s own *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, playgoers won’t have to worry about being unable to follow along with the story.

“Ludwig has crafted the play quite beautifully in the sense that he provides enough description of *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* that if anyone is not familiar with it, they’ll get it,” Turner said.

The front row was asked to keep their feet away from the edge of the stage as the actors used every inch of it, at times gallivanting in wildly choreographed scenes of mayhem.

The performance went smoothly on opening night after a rough rehearsal.

## Group of Seven contemporary inspires local storyteller’s tales

MEGAN HARRIS  
The Observer

A small audience of nine people sat listening as Adèle Koehnke captivated their interest with words, artwork and photographs on Oct. 7 at the Morningside Library.

But the local storyteller was not talking about herself. The story was a true one about her grandmother.

Koehnke’s grandmother, Doris Huestis Mills Speirs, was a writer, naturalist and Group of Seven contemporary who painted with them. She passed away in 1989 but continues to be a great influence on her granddaughter’s life.

Koehnke is a painter too, but she says it’s more of a hobby. She’s made her career in storytelling and started her own business, Adèle’s Stories, in 2003. Through her business Koehnke tells stories to people of all ages.

She says that her mother was a great supporter of her career, though she was not an artist like Koehnke and Speirs.

“She thought I had a gift for whimsy and writing,” she said.

Like her grandmother, Koehnke takes pride in her multiple talents. She uses her artistic talents in her storytelling, making hand-drawn colouring sheets

for children and keepsake greeting cards for adults. She also likes to draw portraits of participants after telling a story, which she says gives the listeners one on one.

“I have multi interests, and each one I treat with great respect,” Koehnke said.

Tom Parsons, a friend of Koehnke for about 25 years, said that although art is more of a hobby for Koehnke, she has done a lot of it and is great at it. Parsons and his wife have several of her pieces hanging in their home.

“She can draw a person’s eyes like no one I’ve ever

seen,” Parsons said. “If there’s a symbol of a great artist, isn’t it how they do eyes?”

Koehnke’s artistic talents are certainly passed down from Speirs. Many of Speirs’ paintings are now displayed in galleries such as the AGO and the National Gallery, as she wished in her will.

Speirs’ spirit lives on in her artwork, and it is in that way that she has still continued to be a support for Koehnke and her career.

“Her encouragement is always with me because she saw me as someone very special,” Koehnke said.



MEGAN HARRIS/The Observer

Adèle Koehnke captivates a small crowd on Oct. 7 at Morningside Library with tales of her grandmother.

# World Animal Day gets wild at the zoo

## Kids learn to care for animals and the planet

**JOSH UNGAR**  
The Observer

Little Cameron Carter was ecstatic at the chance to get some face-to-face time with Cere, a 13-year-old Lanner Falcon at the Toronto Zoo. For his mother, Linda Carter, the entire World Animal Day celebration was summed up in Cameron's interaction with Cere. "World Animal Day should be about teaching children to be responsible for the environment, care for the animals and become a member of the community," she said. Interacting with animals was only one of the many events the Toronto Zoo hosted on the Oct. 2-3 weekend as part of their celebration of World Animal Day, which takes place annually on Oct. 4th. This was the second year the Toronto Zoo has participated, and after their success last year they were determined to continue to improve on the event. "We have a really great event here, partnered with National Geographic Kids we're celebrating the second World Animal Day at the zoo," said Paul Harpley, the duty director at the Toronto Zoo. The event highlights

included meeting some of the animals and keepers, a family "photo-safari" with Emmy Award-winning National Geographic photographer Greg Marshall and screenings of some popular children's shows. All the activities were free of charge and focused on promoting awareness of the environment and animals for children. "We've been really busy today, and yesterday was a big success," Harpley said. "The weather is a little chilly, but I'm still seeing a lot of smiling faces and that's usually a good sign." The overall purpose of the day was to connect with children, peak their interest in animals and wildlife and get them learning and involved while they are still young. "We're trying to talk about conservation, changes that are happening in our ecosystem and how people can get involved and active and therefore influence the future of the environment," Harpley said. He believes that giving kids this kind of an experience at an early age will stick with them and hopes it will have a lasting impact on their lives. He also believes the zoo will look to expand on the event next year and hopefully include



Cere the falcon strikes a pose for his new friends Luke (left), his sister Charlotte Flint, and Duncan Drewett (right).

some new perspectives. World Animal Day originated in Italy in 1931 as a day to celebrate animal life, and since then has been steadily growing. It now features events across the globe at various zoos, shelters, pet stores and other similar locations.

For a photo gallery of the event visit, [torontoobserver.ca](http://torontoobserver.ca)



**Above:** Celebrity Toot the pig from the popular kid's show *Toot and Puddle* meets his biggest fan at the zoo, while he does a meet and greet.



**Above, bottom, and right:** National Geographic uses arts and crafts activities to teach kids about animals, the environment, and their community.



Photography by Josh Ungar

# Feuding neighbours duke it out in Ward 35 fight for council seat

**NADIA PERSAUD**  
The Observer

Former next-door neighbours and current Ward 35 candidates Michelle Berardinetti and John Morawietz are not only battling an ongoing dispute in court, but in the political arena as well.

Morawietz said the legal dispute dates back to October 2008 — four years after Berardinetti moved in to the Birchmount Avenue and Danforth Road area.

He said he crossed through the Berardinettis' land to fix his fence while he lived at the property with his mother.

Berardinetti threatened to call the police for trespassing, Morawietz said.

Morawietz said he was charged with criminal harassment and mischief to property after an ensuing dispute.

"I had a lot of rights that were broken or squashed," said Morawietz, who had lived at the address for almost 50 years.

The City of Toronto Act allows necessary repairs to be made on adjoining prop-

erties, as long as they give notice and provide compensation in case of damage.

Morawietz said before the incident, the Berardinettis' received a burning newspaper in their mailbox and installed security cameras around their house.

Berardinetti was not available for comment because she is a witness in the court proceedings, the co-chair of her campaign, Suzanne van-Brommel, said in an email to the *Toronto Observer*.

Although Morawietz said he isn't running in the election because of the conflict, he hinted that it inspired him to look into politics as a way to make changes to the city.

"Throughout my life I have had brushes with people in power," he said. "It gave me time to look at the bigger fish in life."

Morawietz is proposing TTC expansion options and the clean up of old factories to improve air quality.

Morawietz now lives at a different address.

"As far as they're concerned I'm not at their level," he said.



NADIA PERSAUD/The Observer

John Morawietz faces charges of criminal harassment and mischief for going into former neighbour Michelle Berardinetti's yard to fix his fence in the summer of 2008. The two are now competing against each other to be councillor of Ward 35.

## News Briefs

### Laforet second in food poll

John Laforet is at the top of the polls in Scarborough — at least for food donations.

The Ward 43 council candidate collected 113 kilograms of non-perishable food items for the Toronto Food Poll 2010, placing first in the city's east end and second overall.

Twenty-two candidates from 18 wards participated in the event organized as a friendly challenge between candidates in the Oct. 25 election. Laforet was the only one from his ward to compete.

A total of 2,280 kilograms of food was collected and will be donated to Torontonians relying on city food banks to feed their families.

### Col. Williams to plead guilty

Col. Russell Williams is set to plead guilty to all counts at his next court appearance on

Oct. 18, his lawyer Michael Edelson said in a Belleville court Oct. 7. Williams, a University of



RUSSELL WILLIAMS

Toronto Scarborough graduate, is facing charges of first-degree murder in the deaths of Jessica Lloyd, 27, and Cpl. Marie-France Comeau, 38, as well as sex assault and forcible confinement related to two home invasions near his cottage in Tweed, Ont.

He also faces break and enter charges for 82 residential break-ins in which womens lingerie was taken.

# Ice energy aims to cool power demand in T.O.

**EMILY HUNTER**  
The Observer

One of the ways to save polar bears from a melting climate, according to the Toronto Zoo, is for the city to become a chillier place.

Introducing ice energy to the city, the Zoo is showcasing a new system that replaces air conditioners with stored ice blocks. By using ice to reduce peak demands and stave off the effects of a changing climate in the Arctic. If the Zoo has their way, this could be the way of the future for Toronto.

### Long-term plan

"What we're showcasing is a unit that if deployed in mass on every large building and every mall, then there's going to be big electricity savings," said Dave Ireland, curator of conservation programs for the Toronto Zoo.

Currently, electricity consumption represents 26 per cent of all greenhouse gas emissions in the City of Toronto.

According to the Zoo, Ice Energy has the capacity to reduce some of the city's demands, cutting 95 per cent of peak energy use for a



EMILY HUNTER/The Observer

Alternative energy used at the Toronto Zoo could ease climate change and potentially save Arctic animals.

facility's cooling system.

Toronto Hydro has purchased 12 Ice Energy units this past summer, including three now operating at the Toronto Zoo. If the units prove successful, by 2012 more of these units could be rolled out across the G.T.A.

But unlike renewable energy, such as wind turbines or solar panels, Ice Energy does not create alternative

electricity. Instead the system works to reduce peak demands of energy sources that are already in use.

"If we don't want blackouts or brownouts any longer — we need to also work on technology that reduces peak demand," said Ireland.

However, reducing demand isn't the priority right now. The only operating units are being used at the Zoo's Caribou Café. Merely saving an estimated \$700 each cooling season, the equivalent to the electricity demands of 11 homes.

**There's going to be big electricity savings**  
- Dave Ireland

### Father guilty of assault

A Scarborough man who pleaded guilty to aggravated assault after running over his daughter, her boyfriend and his son-in-law will return to court Nov. 1 for sentencing.

Selvanayagam Selladurai initially faced three counts of attempted murder but instead pleaded guilty to aggravated assault.



# Calling all new Canadian voters

## How Agincourt candidates are addressing low turnout rates

**JOSEF JACOBSON**  
The Observer

In Agincourt, the Oct. 25 municipal election will likely be decided by new Canadians.

That is, if the candidates can lure them out to the polls.

The challenge for council contenders is reaching out for the support of new voters: turnout rates in Wards 39 and 40 are slightly below the city average of 40 per cent.

“With the newest Canadians, many of them are struggling to [establish themselves],” said Ward 40 councillor Norm Kelly. “They have other demanding things in their lives, and voting and participating in the system is, for many of them, peripheral.”

The two wards have among of the highest numbers of new Canadians in all of Scarborough, city stats show. Two thirds of residents are

immigrants, primarily from East Asia.

Gaining the support of these voters is crucial for council candidates and incumbents.

“The first thing I do is make sure that I drop literature at the door,” Kelly said. “And I write a column for a couple of Chinese newspapers, where I talk politics and government.”

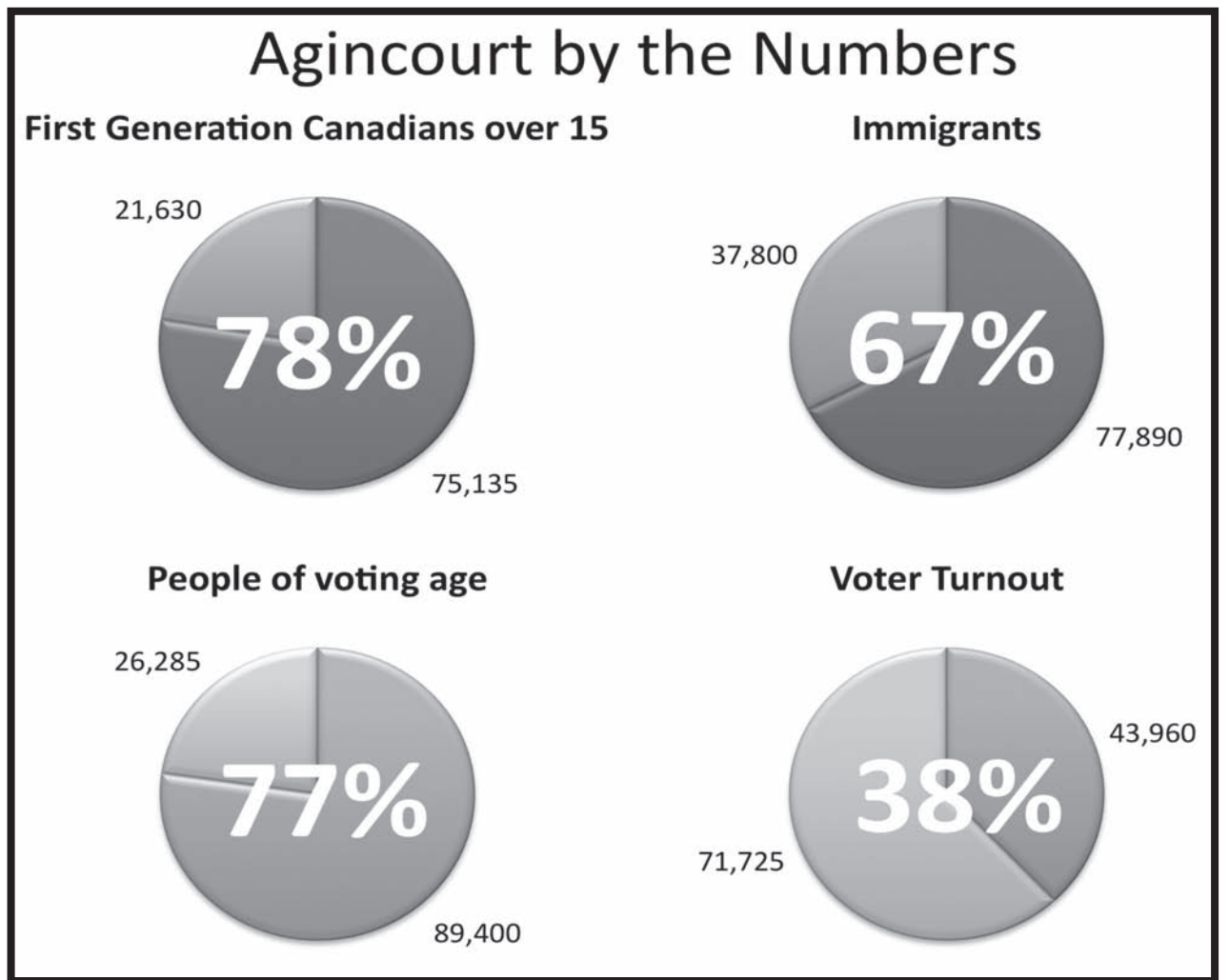
In Ward 39, more than half the population is composed of immigrants from mainland China and Hong Kong.

“I have been putting out a newsletter in Chinese to bring people up to date in respect to issues,” said Ward 39 councillor Mike Del Grande. “And when anybody moves into the neighbourhood I try to introduce myself.”

Other candidates find it tough to take votes away from the established opponent.

“In order to beat my incumbent, I need to work

**With the newest Canadians, participating in the system is peripheral**  
- Norm Kelly



JOSEF JACOBSON/The Observer

extra hard for the minority vote,” said Ward 40 candidate Ken Sy, an entrepreneur who emigrated from Hong Kong. “A lot of minorities don’t understand their rights,

they don’t understand the importance of casting their vote, so I have to draw their attention.”

But it’s not just about getting them to vote for

a specific candidate, said Ward 39 candidate Caldwell Williams. It’s about getting them involved in the democratic process.

“It’s the whole education

around civic engagement,” he said.

“It’s just good have as many people as aware of the options and the opportunities they have in politics.”

# Smitherman takes bite out of bedbug battle

## Mayoral hopeful has Ward 41 candidates’ support in the ongoing pest problem

**ANGELA ROTUNDO**  
The Observer

Mayoral candidate George Smitherman hopes to take a bite out of the competition by pledging to rid Toronto of its bedbug problem — and local council candidates are taking up the issue.

On Oct. 8 at Woodside Square Plaza, Smitherman spoke out on the pest problem that is bugging Torontonians.

The *Toronto Star* reported that Smitherman would reserve up to \$3 million to fight the city’s bedbug

problem and increase public health inspections to rid Toronto of the pests.

“Far too many people have to live with the scourge of bed bugs in Toronto,” Smitherman said in a statement on his website. “It’s time public health did its job by stepping up inspections and clearly state what responsibilities landlords and tenants have to help fight bedbugs in their homes. I am the only candidate with a funded plan to win the bedbug war.”

In Scarborough, Ward

41 councillor Chin Lee has decided to support Smitherman.

The *Star* reported that Lee said he was impressed by Smitherman’s ability to come forward and speak on any issue and answer any questions without much preparation.

As councillors and candidates prepare for their battle in the bedbug war, Scarborough exterminators and pest control services are also gearing up to help residents protect themselves against the troublesome

pests.

Laurie Barbe of Premium Bed Bug Prep Centre, located on 885 Progress Ave. in Scarborough says that with the recent bedbug outbreak, business is picking up.

“This past summer, it was really busy for us but recently we’ve gotten a lot of business particularly along Kingston Road,” said Barbe. “It’s been steadily increasing, that’s for sure.”

The centre works to prepare homes and businesses before exterminators arrive.

With a variety of preparation services, such as vacuuming and steam cleaning, this privately owned business is a preventative measure before a pest problem is found.

“If I lived in an apartment building, I’d be very diligent in checking everything from my sheets to my clothes, and anywhere for evidence of bedbugs,” said Barbe.

Once bedbugs are found, however, there are important

notes to keep in mind, say local property managers, who wish to remain anonymous.

The important thing is to act as soon as possible on treating bedbug infestations — the biggest challenge is controlling the spread.

When the City of Toronto eliminated the use of stronger

pesticides for effectively treating bedbug infestations, the chemicals used to replace them were not as potent and thus have a lower success rate.

With chemicals that aren’t as effective, it can be difficult to solve the problem with only one treatment.

When the City of Toronto eliminated the use of stronger

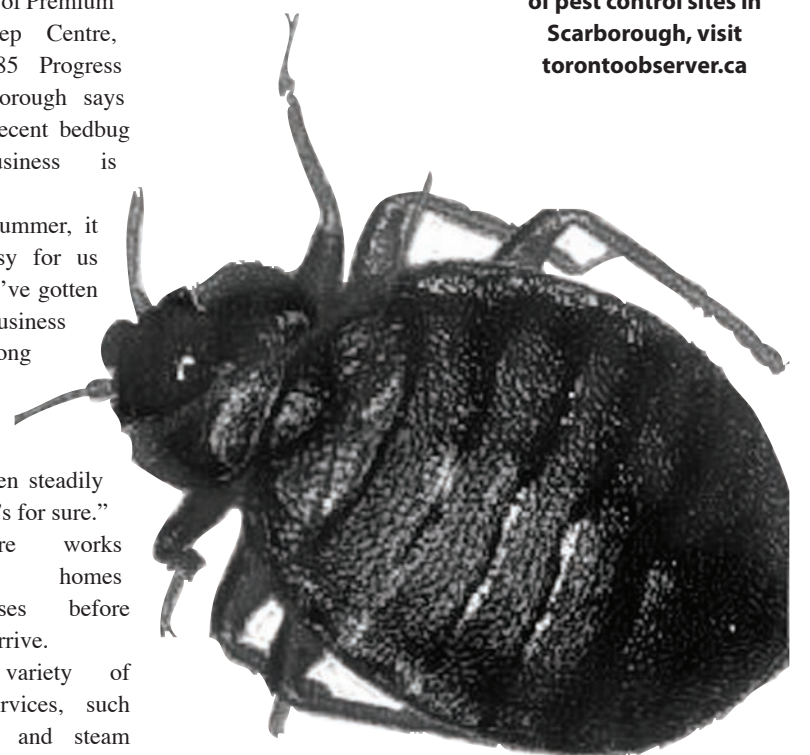
pesticides for effectively treating bedbug infestations, the chemicals used to replace them were not as potent and thus have a lower success rate.

With chemicals that aren’t as effective, it can be difficult to solve the problem with only one treatment.

**For a comprehensive map of pest control sites in Scarborough, visit [torontoobserver.ca](http://torontoobserver.ca)**

STEAM	VACUUM	SHAKE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CARPETS</li> <li>CURTAINS</li> <li>BATHROOMS</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MATRESSES</li> <li>BASEBOARDS</li> <li>BEDFRAMES</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CLOTHING</li> <li>LUGGAGE</li> <li>BAGS</li> </ul>

ANGELA ROTUNDO/The Observer



## Two many terms, too much time

Let's admit it – Toronto is a very mayor-centric city. With the 2010 Toronto municipal election a few days away, be prepared for media scrutiny of mayoral candidates to intensify while the platforms of council candidates are thrown by the wayside.

You would think in a city so in need of change and more fiscal responsibility we would be looking at all aspects of this election instead of just trying to replace the top guy. It's as if we think the mayor alone makes all the decisions that impact our lives.

What about the 44 councillors we elect to be our voice in council? Why are we not dissecting their individual decisions and their roles in the past four years?

Our lack of interest in council candidates' platforms allows incumbents to win by land slide votes without introducing new ideas to make the city better or being accountable for their previous votes.

Being the most recognizable name on a ballot or serving many years on city council shouldn't guarantee reelection

I think it's time to truly shake up city council by introducing a two-term limit on all candidates. This will ensure a new flow of ideas by introducing new candidates every few years.

Candidates will have a shorter period of time to make an impact in their communities so it may give them an incentive to concentrate on the problems in their ward in order to make a tangible difference.

Term limits will also prevent councillors from becoming career politicians by making them focus on the issues instead of focusing on keeping their jobs.

This is not a new idea and was proposed by former mayoral candidate Rocco Rossi when announcing his campaign platforms.

If a limit were already implemented, incumbents like Ward 42 councillor Raymond Cho, who's been in council for 19 years, would not be able to run in this election.

Voter apathy is high in this city and fresh faces may be just the incentive Torontonians need to show up to the polls on Election Day.

– Saeda Raghe

## Paying attention buys change

Scarborough is made up of many diverse populations that have diverse needs. It's been 12 years since amalgamation and yet Toronto the megacity is still a city divided.

When the province mashed Etobicoke, North York, and Scarborough together with old Toronto in 1998, it also mashed together a myriad of unique communities.

Scarborough residents, who are technically included in the overall population of Toronto, do not feel that they are being given the same attention as those in the downtown core.

Fair Share Scarborough, a report commissioned by Ward 40 incumbent Norm Kelly in 2008, showed suburban residents are indeed being given as much funding as the rest of Toronto.

Whether Scarborough is getting as much funding as old Toronto is irrelevant and only part of the equation. If suburban residents feel they are being ignored, the facts and figures won't sway them.

The issue to instead focus on may be that suburban centers are underserved, if not underfunded.

Residents in the suburbs are dealing with unemployment, wind-turbine issues, the near non-existence, or at best the unreliable nature, of transit, and the looming threat of condo-development that may stifle Scarborough's rural character.

There is a lack of sidewalks in many communities, far too few community outreach programs available, and policing services are overstretched and ineffective.

Despite all of this, Scarborough's voter turnout for the last municipal election in 2006 peaked at 41 per cent.

Scarborough residents are looking for someone to step up and produce change, and bring the city together, yet less than half show up to the polls.

This election, let's pay more attention to the hyper-local candidates that will be around to fix the issues specific to our community.

If the time for change is now, we can start by casting a ballot on Oct. 25.

– Sarah Moore



BRADLEY FEATHERSTONE/The Observer

## It's time to go, Cho

Vote Leon Saul for city councillor for Ward 42.

Why? I don't know. Just don't vote Raymond Cho.

That's exactly what the mayoral race has come down to, so why not extend it to the rest of city council?

If people are only going to vote for George Smitherman because they don't want Rob Ford as mayor, why not just keep things consistent?

Heck, why don't the candidates make it easier for us and drop out if they are trailing in the polls (thank you Sarah Thomson and Rocco Rossi). If you're running for councillor of Ward 42 (Scarborough-Rouge River) and are dropping out, don't forget to throw your support at Leon Saul. Why? I don't know, just because he's not Raymond Cho.

Let's face it, the likelihood of Raymond Cho getting re-elected are extremely high. He's a familiar face to many residents in Ward 42 and has been re-elected consistently since 1991.

Ward 42 is also home to Toronto's largest Chinese community.

Not that the two would be related, but with a population that is 90 per cent visible minority, how is one candidate going to be able to break through the



Patrycja Klucznik

People are only going to vote for George Smitherman because they don't want Rob Ford as mayor

language and cultural barrier and reach such a diverse community, unless he's got 19 years of city council behind him?

Cho has been criticized by the other candidates for not doing enough to fix the ward's bad reputation. The crime-riddled Malvern community has a bad rep. Although things have improved since the infamous year 2005, where gun-play was the name of the game on Toronto streets, it's still lacking proper representation

and leadership. That's according to Leon Saul, who wants to lead Malvern youth by the hand – motivating, mobilizing and all that good stuff. See, don't you want to vote for him already?

Cho's critics say he's not in touch with his constituents as much as he should be, that he's not knocking on enough doors. But with a track record like his, there seems to be no need to put in all that effort?

If he's been winning using whatever strategy he's been using, why not continue it? Since it's been working so far, and the odds are pretty good it will again. Polls suggest

In previous years, Cho has had no close competitor and won the last six elections by a landslide. So let's all do each other a favour and vote for the underdog. It doesn't matter which one, there's eight of them to choose from in Ward 42.

I'm not here to tell you who to vote for. I'm here to tell you who not to vote for. Let's aim for change for Ward 42, and dethrone the reigning king. My hat goes off to you though, Coun. Cho, for running the show for as long as you have, but it's time for a change.

In the meantime, vote George Smitherman too.

### THE EAST TORONTO OBSERVER

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# ELECTION PREVIEW

## Rivals square off again in Ward 35 race

**NADIA PERSUAD**  
The Observer

It's déjà vu in Ward 35 as two familiar faces meet again to battle for the coveted city councillor position.

Michelle Berardinetti is running against Adrian Heaps after losing to him by just 89 votes in the last election.

Moreover, she successfully sued Heaps in 2006 after he circulated election literature deriding her character.

A big issue in the ward is bike lanes — car lanes were reduced to create bike lanes along busy Birchmount Road and Pharmacy Avenue.

Heaps, chair of the Toronto Cycling Advisory Committee, defends this decision.

He told the audience at the West Scarborough Community Centre Ward 35 debate on Sept. 29 the bike lanes have made drivers slow down.

Berardinetti says they have to go, citing conversations she had with people who moved off Pharmacy Avenue because it was hard to get into their driveways.

Both agree however it will cost more money to remove the bike lanes.

Both candidates also promise to expand and modernize transit in the community, attract investment for job creation, and conduct line-by-line review of the city budget to find wasteful

spending.

At the meeting Berardinetti told the crowd Toronto has a spending problem, a declaration that brought loud cheers from the crowd.

Both candidates agree line-by-line reviews are needed to find extra money for the city and to cut wasteful spending. In the past Heaps found private golf courses owe the city \$33 million in property taxes, and scrapped programs in which the city bought Blue Jays tickets.

Heaps said he will continue to look for ways to collect money for the city, scrapping baseball tickets, collecting fees from private golf clubs, and collecting money from lost interest

Another big issue in the ward is a homeless shelter at Kennedy Road and St. Clair Avenue. Berardinetti says it desperately needs programs to keep its people away from crime.

Heaps agrees and says he has received numerous complaints from citizens about this problem.

Perhaps the biggest difference between candidates is their stance on taxes. Heaps has made no indication taxes are a platform issue, although Berardinetti has made it so.

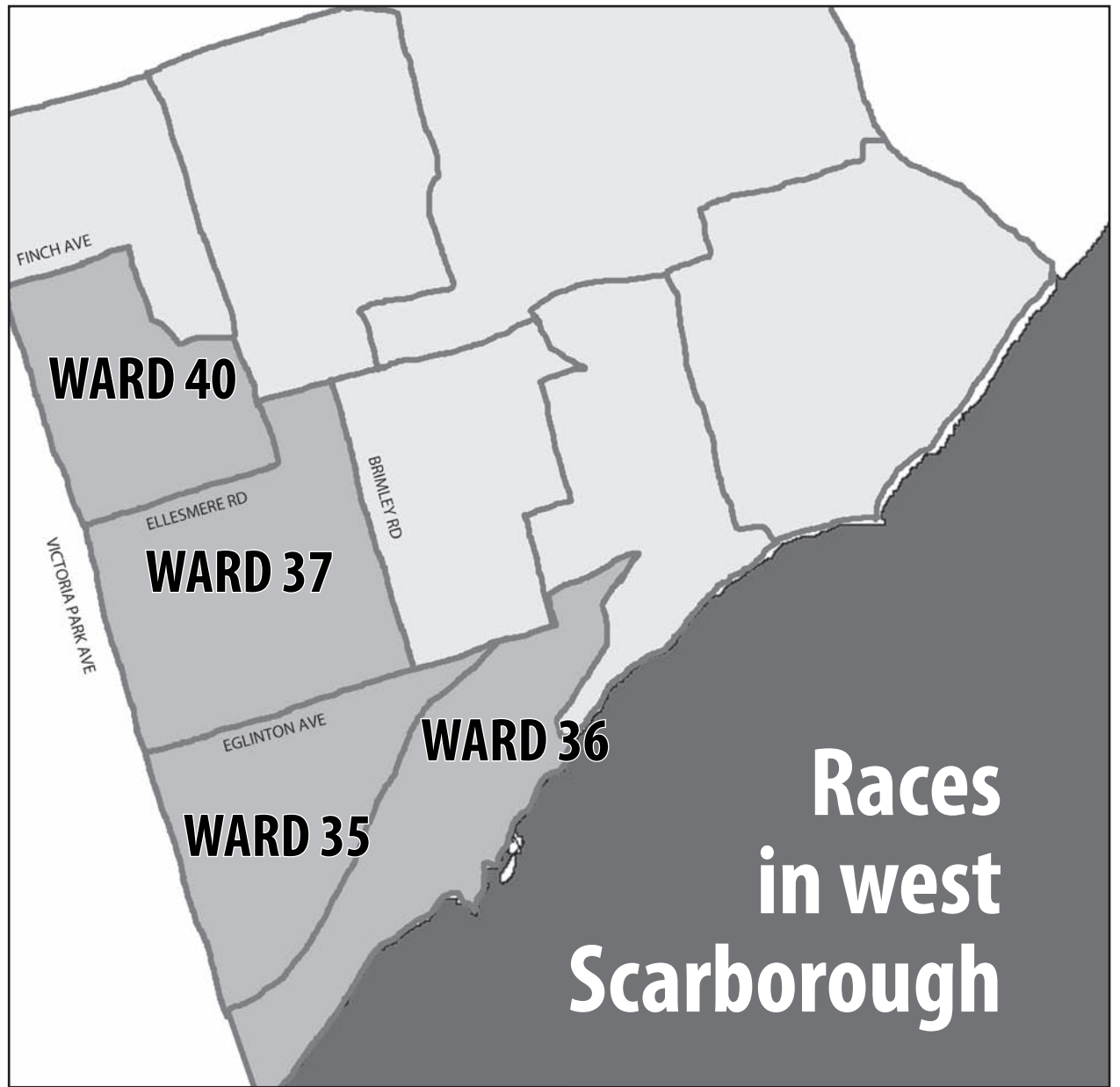
"I'm more for constraint for taxes," Berardinetti said. "We're a very high-in-needs and low-income area, we really need to be careful how many taxes we're implementing."



MICHELLE BERARDINETTI



ADRIAN HEAPS



BILLY COURTICE/The Observer

## Make spending records public

### Ward 37 councillor candidates call for more transparency

**RYAN JHAGROO**  
The Observer

While they are not calling to "end the gravy train" per se, councillors in Scarborough's Ward 37 are certainly asking for more transparency when it comes to government spending.

Political newcomer Fawzi Bidawi would like to make council members' spending records accessible to the public, a sentiment shared

amongst several of his fellow ward candidates.

"It's about making sure councillors are accountable and taxpayers money is not misused," said Bidawi, and he's not alone.

"As a city councillor, I will work to ensure the city works with a lean budget by freezing and/or reducing several budget items, which often times are overlooked but grossly abused. An example would be office supplies, travelling kilometre



FAWZI BIDAWI



ISABELLE CHAMPAGNE



MICHAEL THOMPSON

allowance, etc.," says Isabelle Champagne, another Ward 37 candidate.

Incumbent Michael Thompson would not mind seeing councillors spending records become public. As part of his Scarborough plan for fair share of city resources

and services, Thompson said he will continue to fight for, what he calls, "better tax money management" within the city. Which, in essence, means reducing taxes and spending.

The municipal vote takes place on Oct. 25.

## Turbines big issue as Ashton leaves

**SARINA ADAMO**  
The Observer

Current Ward 36 councillor Brian Ashton will bid farewell to Scarborough southwest residents after many years in politics.

Although Ashton said he is not supporting any mayoral candidates, he advises Torontonians to elect wisely.

"This will be the person that represents you for the next few years. It's like a marriage — you should make a serious decision," Ashton said.

He said believes his successor should focus on the residents'

desires when it comes to the Quarry Land as well as the wind turbine development.

All the local candidates hope to stop all high-rise development on the Quarry Lands and halt the construction of the wind turbines until a more suitable plan is in place.

Another issue among many candidates, who include Tony Ashdown, Gary Crawford, Roman Danilov, Diane

Hogan, Robert Spencer and Eddy Gasparotto, is freezing, lowering or abolishing property and motor vehicle taxes.

Transit is another theme common to candidates' platforms. Ashdown, for example, supports Rob Ford's decision to extend the Kennedy subway line to the Sheppard subway line.

Diane Hogan also plans to expand subway lines.

**It's like a marriage - you should make a serious decision**  
- Brian Ashton

## Ward 40 roots for subway, hope to axe LRT plans

**SARAH MOORE**  
The Observer

While transit is always an issue everywhere in the city, residents in Ward 40 (Scarborough-Agincourt) are especially concerned with how the construction of the Sheppard East Light-Rail Transit Line will affect their community.

Concerns aired by residents in the area of Agincourt that stretches between Highway

401 and Finch Ave., have been heard by local candidates.

Incumbent Norm Kelly, 69, said construction of the Sheppard LRT is one of the most important issues that councillors must address.

"There is a very strong resistance in this part of Scarborough to the LRT," Kelly said. "I support transit city except along Sheppard Avenue because it should be the subway that was originally planned."

Other councillors running in the ward have also addressed the issue in their platforms, arguing the construction of new transit will be disruptive and an LRT system will not be beneficial to residents.

"Whether it's an LRT or a sunway ... but ... they're going to try to do it in sections to ease as much of the disruption as possible," Kelly said.

According to Kelly, he will work to scap the LRT as per demand by local residents.

## SPORTS

# Toronto cleans up for Pan Am Games

## Mayoral candidates vow to beautify city for future tourists

**RYAN JHAGROO**

The Observer

In Delhi, the 2010 Commonwealth Games have been mired in allegations of unsanitary conditions, and the planners of Toronto's 2015 Pan American games are making sure that they avoid similar problems.

"Unlike the Commonwealth Games, you can either build a bad house or a good house," says Ian Troop, CEO of the Toronto 2015 Pan Am games. "The [Toronto Pan Am committee] will work with whoever wins the mayoral race to make sure the city remains clean by then."

With Pan Am being the largest sporting games Toronto has ever hosted, the next mayor of Toronto's agenda will include maintaining the city's appearance by the time 2015 comes around.

Mayoral hopeful Rob Ford says he intends to have the city of Toronto ready for the world, and that includes Scarborough. Ford won't just focus on the buildings and facilities for the event, he'll see that the little things are done to beautify the



RYAN JHAGROO/The Observer

Native Canadian dancers perform at the 2015 Pan Am Games logo launch party outside the Air Canada Centre on Sept. 29.

city, says Adrienne Batra, Rob Ford's director of communications. "Flowers are going to be cut, weeds gone, fresh flowers will be planted, curbs will be cut to the right size and graffiti will be removed," said Batra. "Bylaws are going to be enforced."

"Not only will there be safe and appropriate buildings and world-class facilities for the event, but we want to facilitate our own world-class athletes with these building, as well."

Scarborough is going to be a major hub during the games and it's going to leave a

legacy, according to Troupe.

"Scarborough's going to have all the swimming and aquatics, it'll serve the area, serve the students at [the University of Toronto] and provide a home for high-performance sport afterwards."

The games may allow

people to discover more about Toronto and why Torontonians should be proud of themselves, Troop said. Success at Pan Am 2015 could make way for Toronto winning an Olympic bid.

These games allow Toronto as a host city to show it's capable of an event like the Olympics, says David Miller, a judo instructor performing at the 2015 Pan Am logo launch street party on Sept 29.

"We're financially ready for it. Our infrastructure is ready for it. The corporate sponsors are ready and the political stability leads us to having advantages in an Olympic bid [compared to places such as Delhi]."

Troop said it is in our best interest to put on a fantastic event.

"This is the fifth biggest metro market in North America and the fourth biggest financial market in North America. I would hope that if this event goes well, it would put the city in good standing to go after an Olympic event."

**For more photos of the Pan Am logo launch, visit [torontoobserver.ca](http://torontoobserver.ca)**

## Danforth crushes Borden in easy victory

**BRADLEY FEATHERSTONE**

The Observer

Ashton Roy danced through Sir Robert Borden Business and Technical Institute's defence for five rushing touchdowns on Oct. 6, leading Danforth Collegiate and Technical Institute to an easy 48-0 victory.

"I'm playing this for my first year, and I'm starting, and getting mad touchdowns," said Roy. "It feels really good actually."

The Grade 12 student set the pace early, showing off his incredible speed with a 50-yard touchdown run on the third play of the game.

Danforth took that momentum and never looked back, holding Borden to little or no forward progress and forcing them to either fumble or punt the ball away. By the



BRADLEY FEATHERSTONE/The Observer

Ashton Roy runs through Borden's defence on his way to scoring one of five touchdowns for Danforth on Oct. 6.

end of the first half, Danforth led 26-0.

Danforth's offensive line seemed impenetrable throughout the game.

"As long as we keep practising, we'll keep getting better and better," said Genesis Amoral, a member of Danforth's offence. "We got great blocks, the holes were open and we kept them

down at their end zone."

Although Borden's players seemed disappointed, the coaches are optimistic about the future of football at the school.

"We only have two players that have ever played football before," said Martin Douglas, head coach of Borden. "I think every game we're going to get better, they're

going to start seeing their mistakes and they'll develop from that."

Douglas is one of several community coaches from the Toronto Police that have volunteered to help Borden create a football team. Borden has not had a football team for decades, but thanks to a \$10,000 donation from the Toronto Argonauts'

they have been able to bring football back to the school.

"We've got over 100 years of experience in coaches here. It's just a matter of bringing that knowledge to the students," said Douglas.

**For more high school sports coverage, visit [torontoobserver.ca](http://torontoobserver.ca)**

## Sports Briefs

### Alana brings home bronze

Scarborough athletes are making their mark at the Commonwealth Games in Delhi, India. On Oct. 8, Scarborough native Alana MacDougall assisted her team to a bronze medal in archery.

### Lui victorious

Oct. 8, Azelia Lui, a Mary Ward Catholic School graduate, goaltended for the Canadian women's field hockey team, assisting them to a 2-1 victory over Wales.

### Sims scores

Sir Wilfred Laurier Collegiate Institute lost its junior boys football game 34-6 on Oct. 8, to Sir John A. Macdonald Collegiate Institute. Rakeem Sims led Sir John A. Macdonald to victory with two touchdowns.

### Win for West Hill

West Hill Collegiate Institute won its tier 1 football game 29-7 on Thursday, Oct. 7, against Senator O'Connor.

### Warriors succeed

West Hill Collegiate Institute squeaked out a win in its senior tier 1 girls' basketball on Oct. 7, defeating Dr. Norman Bethune Collegiate Institute 43-39.

### Mowat girls win

Sir Oliver Mowat Collegiate Institute defeated Cedarbrae Collegiate Institute 35-17 in east region junior girls' basketball on Oct. 7.

### Laurier triumphs

Sir Wilfred Laurier senior boys tier 1 volleyball team lost on Oct. 6. Stephen Leacock Collegiate Institute used its home court advantage to win in strait sets.

### Panthers prevail

Birchmount Park Collegiate Institute defeated Sir Oliver Mowat at their senior boys tier 1 volleyball game on Oct. 6.