

THE GUARDIAN

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF YORK, WESTON & MOUNT DENNIS



Staff photo/DAN PEARCE

Karim Abdalla works on one of the bikes at the grand opening of the Weston Wheels Bike Shop on Weston Road Saturday. The community project is looking for youth to work at the shop. For more information, call 416-244-8982.

Weston Wheels now open for business

Idea emerged after youth approached Learning Enrichment Foundation

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Weston Wheels is now open for business, and local youth are running the shop.

"The youth approached me to see if I could train them to repair bikes, then the idea of a bike shop emerged," said Darren Duke, program instructor for the Bicycle

Assembly and Maintenance program at the Learning Enrichment Foundation (LEF). "I think Weston Wheels will be a huge success."

Supported by the LEF and 12 Division Community Police Liaison Committee (CPLC), the youth-led initiative held its grand opening Saturday at 1267 Weston Rd.

It took "lots and lots of meetings" to get the shop up and running with

youth involved in the process from the very beginning.

Weston Wheels Youth Committee co-chairs Monique Thomas, 15, and Justice Otoo, 16, spent a lot of time to come up with a solid business plan.

First, they saw there was a need in the community for a bicycle repair service within Mount Dennis.

"There's no close bike shop in the

neighbourhood," said Monique.

Next, they needed a prime location. LEF's Weston Road office seemed to fit the bill.

"There was a boardroom and nobody was using it," said Justice. "And it's in front of the building and everyone can see it."

Then they started to price their services, ensuring it was affordable

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On strike

Local and other nearby library branches affected

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Being green

St. Patty's Day was cause for celebration in York

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It's Happening

Cleanup on St. Clair part of community happenings

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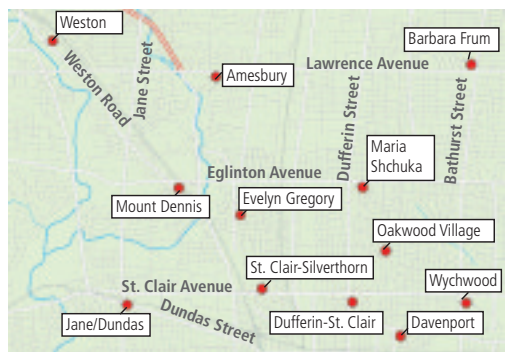
LIBRARY STRIKE



Staff photo/NICK PERRY

The Weston branch of the Toronto Public Library was quiet Monday morning. All branches and locations across Toronto are closed while the library workers are on strike. Most web services remain available.

LOCAL IMPACT



Pictured is a map of local and other nearby branches to The Guardian's distribution area.



ACTIVE LIVING

CORE SERVICES: Above, Melissa Mazzucco leads a KAMA aerobics demonstration Monday morning during the York West Active Living Centre's health and wellness fair for people over 55. At left, Marjorie Sherman bends and stretches as she participates in the class. Unlike yoga and pilates, which help develop the abdominal core, KAMA focuses attention on the pelvic core region. The centre opened its doors to showcase the range of leisure, fitness, educational, health and wellness and recreation it offers.

Staff photos/NICK PERRY

ST. PATRICK'S DAY IN YORK



IRISH FOR A DAY: At right, Barbara Shiells and Grace Surman get in the spirit of St. Patrick's Day with friends at the Irish Rose Pub Saturday. Above, Courtney Cornelius and Tannis Stickley get formal with their oversized ties. The afternoon was hosted by York West Active Living Centre, and participants enjoyed Irish music and trivia – along with appropriate green attire.

Staff photos/DAN PEARCE



Mount Dennis darts fundraiser

Take aim at cancer research this Saturday at a darts fundraiser for a great cause.

Mount Dennis Legion is hosting a darts tournament Saturday to help support Ride to Conquer Cancer, a two-day cycling event to take place on June 9 and 10.

The darts tournament entry fee is \$60 for a four-person team and \$30 for a doubles team; \$20 from each four-person team and \$10 from each double go to the charity.

There will be a 50/50 draw, and if you work up a hunger from all the darts throwing, the kitchen will be open for

coffee and doughnuts in the morning as well as for lunch.

Doors open at 9:30 a.m. and registration takes place from 9:45 to 10:30 a.m.

Mount Dennis Legion is located at 1050 Weston Rd., south of Eglinton Avenue. Contact the Legion at 416-767-0231 or legionbr31@yahoo.com or visit www.torontodarts.com

The money raised for the Ride to Conquer Cancer will benefit The Campbell Family Institute at Princess Margaret Hospital, one of the top five cancer research centres in the world.



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