

# Lots of laughs for a serious cause

## Event raises more than \$35,000 for eye research



**Mary Jane Boelhouwer**  
Aldershot

People can make a difference! Proof of this was an event organized by Aldershot resident Ann Morrison. On Wednesday, April 24, 400 people, including friends and family, squeezed into Yuk Yuks Super Club in Toronto for a side-splitting night of stand-up comedy which raised \$33,500 for the Foundation Fighting Blindness — Canada.

Ann and David Morrison are the parents of three children. Their nine-year-old son Gavin has been losing sight since birth as a result of a disease called retinitis pigmentosa. One of the symptoms of RP is night blindness.

Ann says, "Gavin cannot see at night, he never could. During the day he can do just about everything most boys like to do, but at night he needs the help of a guide."

Ann was thrilled with the results of event which she organized.

Sharon Colle, national executive director of the Foundation Fighting Blindness, said she was also impressed by the outpouring of support from the community, the enthusiastic and dedicated team of volunteers (including seven comics who donated their time and talent) and the sponsors who worked together to make this event such a success.

The Foundation Fighting Blindness is a national volunteer organization dedicated to supporting and promoting finding the cause, possible treatments and ultimately the cures for diseases of the retina that lead to blindness.

The Aldershot Community Council is holding a public meeting tonight at 7 in the library at Aldershot School. Please take note of the time.

The ACC traffic committee will

present a report called Getting Around Aldershot. Traffic challenges, issues and concerns will be the main topic for this meeting. Guest speaker will be Vito Tolone, project leader from Burlington's traffic department.

Here are some of the issues to be discussed: 403/Waterdown interchange, Highway 6 changes, access to QEW, South Service Road and, of course, the traffic situation at Plains and Francis roads.

The ACC Environment Committee will also present a report on its partnering efforts with Niagara College to produce geographic information for Aldershot. These meetings are always very informative and a must for residents who want to keep up-to-date on our community. Everyone is welcome. For more information call 905-632-4316.

The Kids Count annual picnic will be held this Saturday, June 1, at LaSalle Park, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. This event is in co-operation with Burlington parks and recreation department, Halton police, the Lions Club and Ontario Early Years Centre.

You can get a shuttle bus leaving every hour from the following locations: Warwick Surrey at 10:30 a.m.; 11:30 a.m.; 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. returning at 2:30 p.m.

From Holy Rosary School, the bus leaves at 10:45 a.m.; 11:45 a.m.; 12:45 p.m.; and 1:45 p.m. and returns at 2:45 p.m.

From the Zellers parking lot, the bus leaves at 11 a.m., noon and 1 p.m. returning at 3 p.m.

Bring along your own picnic lunch

or enjoy a barbecued hot dog and other refreshments at the park. There'll be games, music, clowns and storytelling. It's a fun day for the whole family.

Earlier this month the Sackville Hill Senior's Ukulele Band performed at Park Avenue Manor.

If you want a fun group of performers to play at your function, just call this lively group of entertainers. You can find them strumming their ukuleles at seniors homes, schools and church events. On June 5, they'll be entertaining at Maplehurst Public School. For information call Ann Jamieson at 905-389-0179.

With the beautiful spring weather this week, you'll probably be shopping for your plants. You have until Friday to help Maplehurst Public School raise funds when you shop at Terra Greenhouses.

Be sure to tell everyone (friends, neighbours, relatives and gardeners) that when they shop at any of the three Terra greenhouses they should tell the cashier that they support Maplehurst. Terra looks after the rest.

Terra will send Maplehurst 8 per cent of relevant sales, before taxes. The same is true for parents and friends of Glenview Public School and Aldershot School. Just give the Terra greenhouse cashier the name of the school of your choice.

When you shop at Connon Nurseries anytime, all year long, Connon will donate 5 per cent of your before-tax purchase price to Glenview Public School — plus Connon will give you a 10 per cent discount on your sale. Glenview benefits and you benefit all year long. You must present the Community Sharing Card when you check out.

Got an item for this community column? In the Aldershot area, call our community columnist Mary Jane Boelhouwer at 905-634-9395.



GARY YOKOYAMA, THE HAMILTON SPECTATOR

Ann Morrison organized a comedy event which raised more than \$35,000 for the Foundation Fighting Blindness. Her son, Gavin, has retinitis pigmentosa, which results in progressive vision loss.