

Taking a YUMMY business on the road

Book your tour of Toronto's treats

The man from Y.U.M. is taking his passion for food on the road.

Michael Cullen, executive chef with the Y.U.M. Culinary Academy in Greater Sudbury, is now offering culinary tours. The first was held at the Regency Bakery & Deli Feb. 7, the next one is a bus trip to Toronto on April 12-13.

"I'm trying to take this thing in a new direction and really educate people," said Cullen. "Not just classes and dining, but go to the delis, the stores, and learn things about the food. People need to learn. They have to learn how to buy."

The Regency Bakery & Deli visit included a look behind the scenes at how the business bakes its breads and prepares its cheeses. Sixteen people went on that tour.

The Toronto trip will include accommodation at the Comfort Suites City, lunch at Jamie Kennedy's Wine Bar, oyster tasting at The Fish House, a continental gourmet breakfast served en



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route and Sunday brunch at The Boiler House.

Several trips to Manitoulin Island are also being planned for the summer.

The culinary academy is also offering a new twist called the Y.U.M. Club, a bonus for people who enrol in the academy's ongoing cooking classes. A \$500 membership gets a person into 10 cooking classes with a bonus free class and priority booking for all new classes.

The Toronto culinary tour will cost \$360 per person, plus GST. For more information, call Cullen at 670-8649, check out the Y.U.M. website at www.yumitup.com, or send an e-mail to mcullen@yumitup.com.

Soldiers need your cellphones

A Greater Sudbury tax service office wants your old cellphones.

Liberty Tax Service's office at 599 Lasalle Blvd. is collecting the phones as part of a North American program called Cell Phones for Soldiers. The phones will be sent to a recycler and the proceeds will go to help pay for long-distance calls for Canadian soldiers in Afghanistan.

"It's coming along well," said Philip Spagnolo Jr., owner of the Greater Sudbury Liberty Tax Service office. "It's still a little bit early, but we already have 25-30 phones. It's really word of mouth going around."

This is the first year the 400 Canadian Liberty Tax Services offices are participating in Cell Phones for Soldiers. The 2,500 U.S. offices have been participating for some time.

Cell Phones for Soldiers was the brainchild of teenagers Brittany and Robbie Bergquist of Norwell, Mass. They launched the program in 2004 after learning about an

American soldier in Iraq with a staggering telephone bill. The brother and sister team started Cell Phones for Soldiers with their snack money and then recruited sponsors and cellphone companies.

A website has been set up for people who would like to make donations or learn about soldiers who have received prepaid phone cards through the program.

Spagnolo Jr. said each used cellphone turned in results in \$2-\$3 going toward Cell Phones for Soldiers.

"In the U.S., it has raised quite a lot of money, something like \$6 million," he said.

The drop-off box at Liberty Tax Service will be in place throughout the tax season.

On the web: www.cellphonesforsoldiers.com.

Business guru comes to Sudbury

How would you like to meet the man who created that state-of-the-art safety whistle in your fishing tackle box?

Ron Foxcroft, inventor of the pealless Fox 40 Whistle and chief executive officer of Fox 40 International and Fluke Transportation in Hamilton, is the next speaker in the Greater Sudbury Chamber of Commerce's Presidents' Series Luncheon.

Foxcroft is expected to talk about change culture, making tough decisions and planning for success. His speech is entitled "Whistling for Success ... is not always a FLUKE."

"I'm going to talk about living the dream and the fire in the belly, basically starting three businesses with zero money and very little education," said Foxcroft on Tuesday.

The luncheon will be held from noon-2 p.m. Wednesday, April 2 at Bryston's on the Park in Copper Cliff.

Tickets are \$30 plus GST for chamber members and \$50 and GST for non-members. For more information or to get tickets, call 673-7133, ext. 224.

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