



Pat Bourke (left) and Judy Coullon are two of the counsellors from the Markham and District Family Life Centres who conduct

regular counselling sessions in Stouffville. Mrs. Bourke told The Tribune that she "assists in the search for alternatives."

Opinions differ on centre service

STOUFFVILLE — In a day and age when the "family unit" has weakened, many believe that the Markham Family Life Centre provides a vital service in the community.

Others aren't so sure. A group of ministers were among those who urged York Region to support the centres. (The region, since then, has designated \$75,000 for Family Life Centres.) At least one Stouffville pastor however, holds some reservations about the Family Life Centre program. "According to very sincere ideas, these counsellors are attempting to deal with very real human problems," says Rev. David Barker of the Memorial Christian Church. "But my own experience is that they're working from wrong assumptions: that a man and a woman are individuals living together when they're married

rather than being 'one flesh'."

Mr. Barker is himself an active counsellor.

From Hines Dues, R.R. 3 Claremont, comes another view. "I doubt very much if we'd be where we are today if it wasn't for them," Mr. Dues told The Tribune. He and his wife received

counselling at the Markham centre.

"There is no other agency around that does this type of thing," he added. "And the fees were just dirt cheap." (He further comments on the centre in a letter to the editor in last week's Tribune.

Rev. J.L. Carder, a past board member of the Markham Family Life

Centre, offers the view that the centres are doing "a very fine piece of work."

"I have several families I have referred to the Family Life Centre for help, and I have found the help has been most effective," said Mr. Carder, who is pastor of the Stouffville United Church.

As for Mr. Barker, his disenchantment, he said, stemmed partially from a speech given by Markham Family Life Centre director Mario Bartoletti last year. In that speech, Mr. Bartoletti "made a strong case for trial separation in problem marriages," he said.

In his counselling,

Mr. Barker says he begins with a different point of view, believing "the majority of people need directives — some guidelines — from outside themselves, and we believe it's from God."

"I believe a person needs to change the situation rather than just escape from it."

Strengths, insights brought out

STOUFFVILLE — The Markham Family Life Centre isn't out to change people's ideas, but to broaden them.

At least that is the approach taken by counsellor Pat Bourke, who comes to Stouffville each Tuesday afternoon to give counselling sessions. She is joined each week by Judy

Coullon, also of the Markham centre.

Mrs. Bourke sees her job as "assisting in the search for alternatives...looking for new ways to handle old problems." She tries not to give directions, but rather to ask questions of her counselees.

"I really do respect the people I counsel," she says. "When they come in

they already have many strengths and insights."

When asked how she functions differently from priests or ministers, Mrs. Bourke said that "our training differs...Not as many people today would approach ministers or priests."

However, she added, she has co-counselled with ministers and would, do so again, "if it came to

a serious religious problem."

The people of Stouffville that she has counselled are "just as individual as anybody else...They don't have any stereotype."

Most of them have "been around Stouffville longer than I've been around Markham," she said.

Mrs. Bourke has

counselled at the Family Life Centre for four years.

One thing Mrs. Bourke wished to emphasize was that "a person doesn't have to be sick or crazy to benefit from counselling." In the same way, a person would go to a doctor or dentist before a problem became serious, she said.

STOUFFVILLE SCENE

What's going on

Old-fashioned way

Grade 6 students will have a chance to experience going to school the way children did it at the turn of the century. April 14-18, the students will be at the old Dickson's Hill School at Pioneer Village. They will dress in the old style dress as well during that week.

Spring Sing coming

Tomorrow night (April 11) is the Spring Sing scheduled at Uxbridge Secondary School, beginning at 7:29 p.m. Four groups — Outreach Quartet, The Gallians, Masters Touch Trio and the Realife Trio, will provide Gospel Music. Tickets are available at the door at \$2.50 per person.

New pastor

First Markham Baptist Church (Stouffville Rd. and 6th Conc.) has a new pastor. Thomas K. Hamilton of Grand Rapids, Michigan, is his name. He and his wife Kathryn moved in last Thursday during the height of the storm.

Windows broken

Three windows worth \$50 were broken at Summitview Public School on March 31.

Harvey Thorne

Harvey Thorne, 64, of 9th Line south was dead on arrival at Scarborough Centenary Hospital after collapsing in his bedroom about 8 p.m. on April 3.

Plywood stolen

Despite the presence of a security guard, thieves made off with 50 sheets of plywood from an unlocked shed at the Northdown Homes construction site on Stouffer St. over the Easter weekend. Value was set at \$300.

Carburetor taken

Steve Tsapotis, 18 of Main St. E. has been charged with theft and possession of stolen goods involving a carburetor taken from the car of Trevor Jones of Winlane Dr.

Clothing Sale

Markham Clothing Centre sale is set for Thursday, April 23 at St. Andrew's United Church, Markham. Nearly new clothing, toys, white elephants and books will be on sale from 1-3 p.m.

Cancer Society posters

The schools in the area are making a positive contribution toward the Cancer Society campaign in the area. Grade 6, 7, and 8 students are designing posters to be used in the campaign. Schools involved include Orchard Park, Summitview SDSS, St. Mark's, and Dickson's Hill.

Music Mania '75

Tickets are on sale at Card's Hardware for Music Mania '75, a fun-filled evening of music and comedy produced by the Couple's Club of Stouffville United Church. Admission is \$2.25 (reserved) and \$1.75 (non-reserved). There will be three performances — April 24, 25 and 26 at the high school.

Musical production

Uxbridge Secondary School Music Theatre presents "No, No, Nanette" April 24-26 at the school. Performances each night are 8:15. Admission will be \$2 for adults, \$1.50 for students and \$1 for children. Tickets available at the door.

"Sunshine Silhouettes"

Stouffville Kinettes present "Sunshine Silhouettes" fashion show May 1 and 2 at 8:30 p.m. at Latcham Hall. For tickets call 640-5165 or 640-1428.

Pick-up postponed

Stouffville Kinsmen will be collecting goods for their White Elephant Sale this coming Saturday instead of April 5 as previously announced. The storm made pick-up impossible. The sale is slated for April 19.

Annual Beef Dinner

Stouffville United Church Annual Beef Dinner is set for Sunday May 4 from 5-7 p.m. The charge is \$2.50 for adults and \$1.25 for children. Tickets will be available at the door.

Cantata presented

Stouffville Memorial Christian Church choir will present the Easter Cantata "Hallelujah! What a Saviour" this coming Sunday at 7:20 p.m. at Churchill Baptist Church.

Phyllis Marie Jones

Former Stouffville resident, Phyllis Marie Jones died suddenly April 4 at her Beaverton home. The former Phyllis Spottford, she is survived by her husband Garfield, children — Sherry and Tom and mother Mrs. Reta Spottford. She had one sister Elaine (Mrs. Ken Stouffer) of Toronto and a brother Eugene of Stouffville. Funeral service was Tuesday at 2 p.m. at Stouffville Missionary Church. Spring interment will be in Stouffville Cemetery.

Sacred Music Night

St. James' Presbyterian Church's annual Sacred Music Night will be held Friday, May 2 at 8 p.m. On May 4, that church celebrates its anniversary services at 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

TOPS Inspiration Night

The April 1 meeting of the Eta Lambda Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi was held at the home of Mrs. Marge Allan. Business of the evening was presided by Mrs. Jackie Gorrell and recording secretary was Mrs. Barb Deteling. Program of the evening entitled "Happiness Through Realization Literature" was presented by Mrs. Marilyn Garlick, Mrs. Doris Lapp and Mrs. Jean Whale.

55th anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Watson, R.R. 2, Markham celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary with a small dinner party at the Summit View Restaurant, Richmond Hill, on Saturday, March 29.

Pastors wife speaks

Mrs. J. Byrne, wife of the pastor of Ringwood Christian Church, was guest speaker at the "Excelsior Class" ladies meeting held last Thursday at the home of Mrs. Fred Steckley.

Beta Sigma Phi

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Recital planned

The Markham Chapter of the Alumni Association of the Royal Conservatory of Music of Toronto, is holding its Fifth Annual Scholarship Fund Concert, Wednesday, April 16 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E.G. Clark of Markham. Guest soloist for the evening is Diana Lawton, who is a member of the faculty of the Toronto conservatory.

Rummage sale

The ACW of Grace Anglican Church, Markham, will hold a rummage sale Saturday, April 19 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Parish Hall at 19 Parkway Ave.

Advertising staff

Last week's snowstorm manage to isolate all three members of The Tribune's advertising department. Manager, Barre Beacock was stranded at his home in Ajax, while Bill Stephenson, failed to make it from Bracebridge. Lois Wideman managed to come to work Thursday, but failed to get free from her home near Unionville, Friday.

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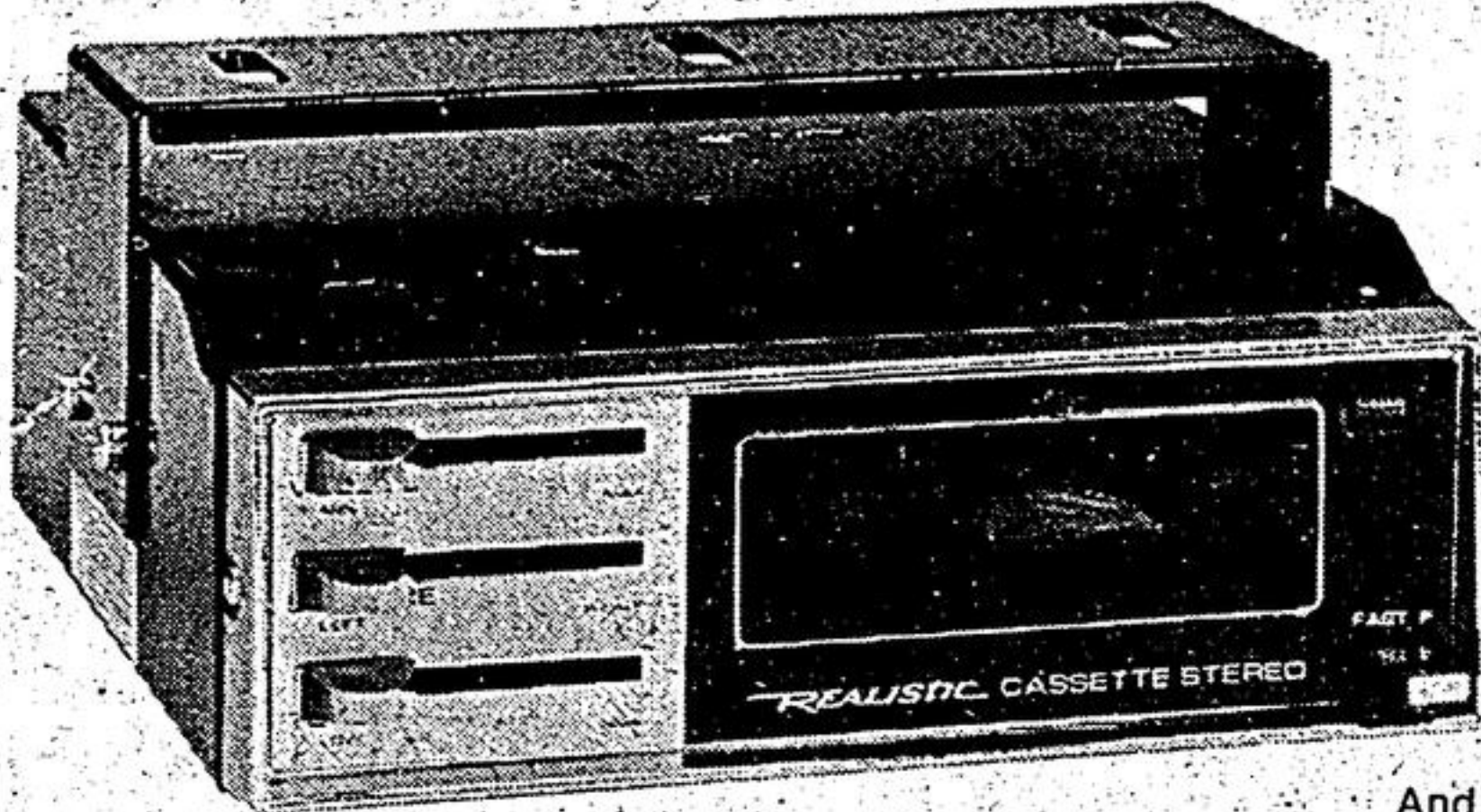
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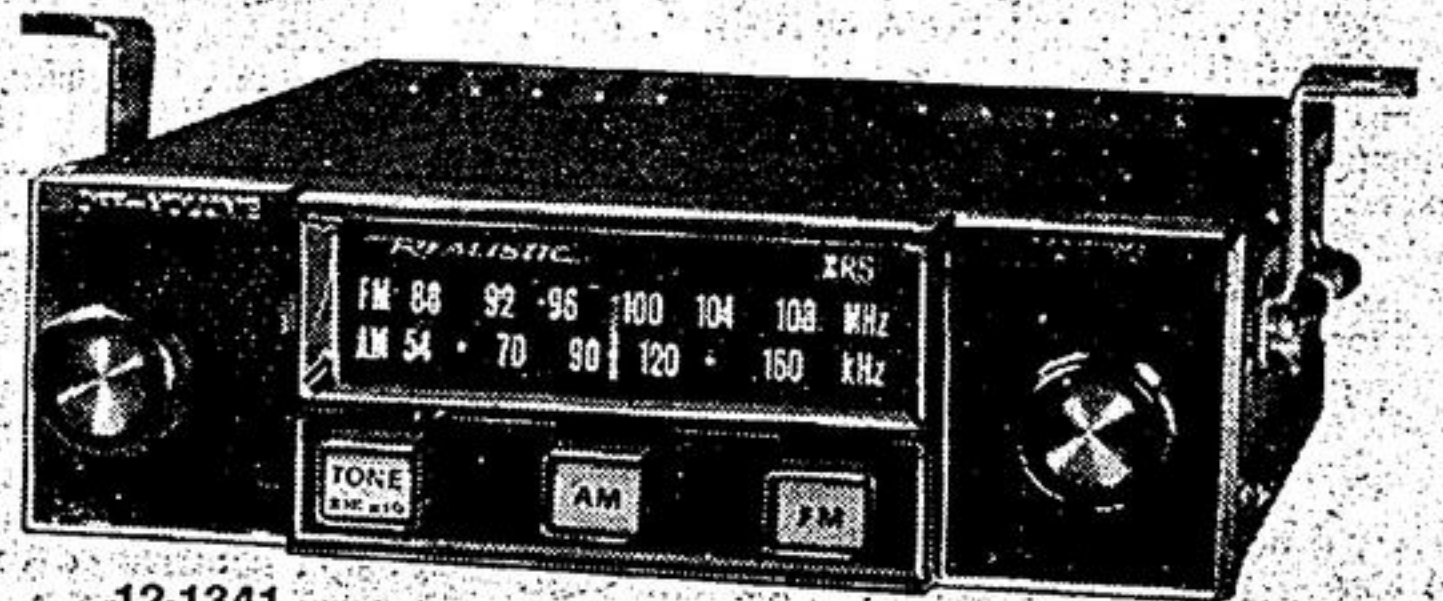
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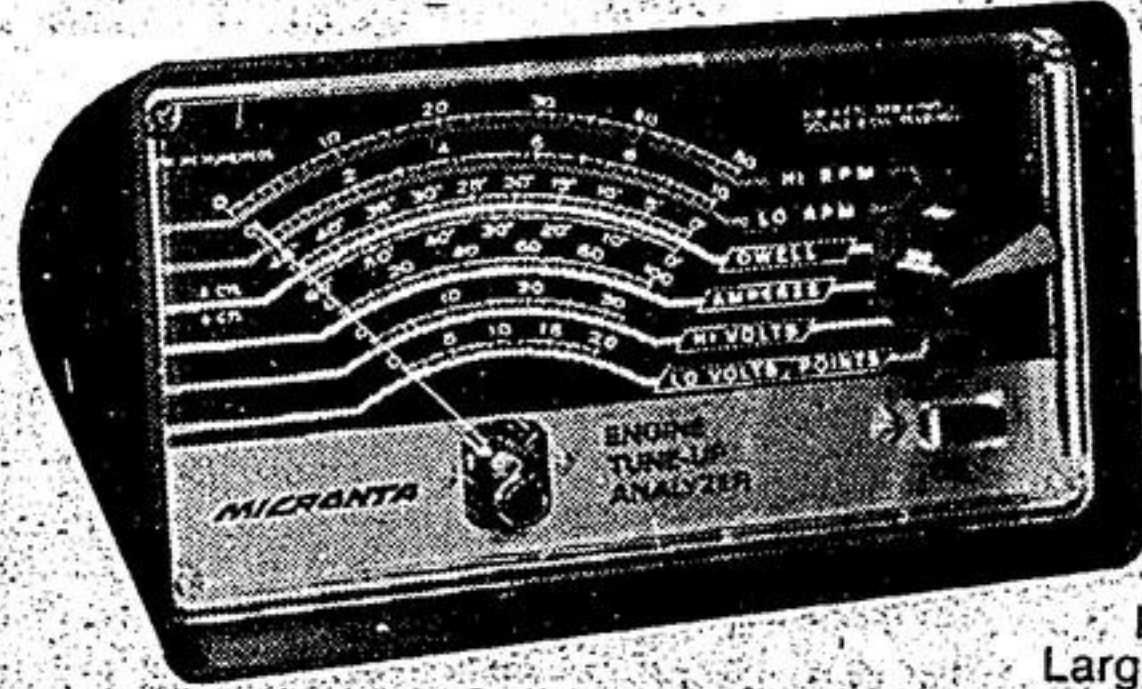
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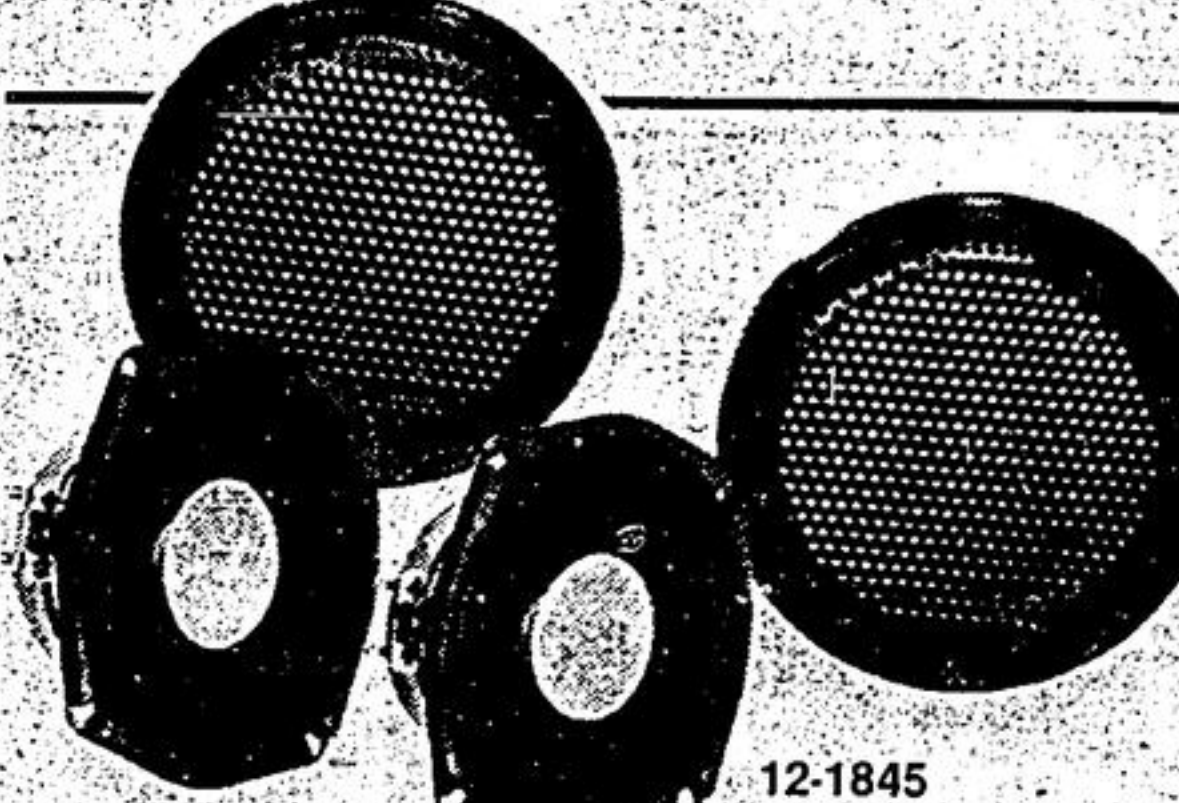
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