

## Pray for miracle

# Girl in coma following crash

STOUFFVILLE — This town is praying for a miracle.

"That's all we have left, we can only hope and pray," a sobbing teenager told The Tribune.

The deep sorrow that's gripped the young people of this community, is related to a tragic two-car collision, Sunday evening, that injured two 16 year old Stouffville girls, one critically.

In Sunnybrook Medical Centre is Marjorie (Margie) Griffiths, Success Square Apartments, Main Street East. Her condition, Tuesday, was reported as "stable but critical."

In Scarborough Centenary Hospital is Courtney Wallis, 35 O'Brien Avenue. She suffered a fractured collarbone and lacerations to her face and head.

Karen Blacktop, 18, of Mount Albert, the lone occupant of the second vehicle, was treated in hospital and released.

The accident occurred at 7:45 p.m. on Hwy. 48, north of Major McKenzie Drive. The Stouffville girls were north-

bound, returning home from Markham. Both were wearing seat belts.

Margie's car, a 1981 Plymouth Colt, was demolished by the impact. She was trapped for a time and had to be released by the Rescue Unit of the Markham Fire Department.

Suzanne Wallis, Courtney's mother, described the two young people as "inseparable friends." "They were always together," she said. Both held



MARGIE GRIFFITHS

part-time jobs with Margie working at the Stouffville Veterinary Clinic and Courtney at the Canadian Tire Gas Bar.

"A top-notch student and an excellent athlete," said Phys. Ed. instructor Jan McBride in commenting on Margie's accomplishments at Stouffville High. She excelled at just about every sport, Mrs. McBride said, stressing in particular basketball, volleyball, relay and cross-country. She earned a School Letter at the end of Grade 10, the only student in the history of S.D.S.S. to achieve this distinction.

Both Margie and Courtney were looking forward to taking part in the school's upcoming Variety Show planned for a night in February.

Late Tuesday evening, there had been no report of any significant change in Margie's condition. She was still unconscious.

"We can only hope and pray," a teenage friend told The Tribune. In response to this, a pyramid prayer partnership has been established across the town. Also, prayers will be offered at services in various Stouffville churches, Sunday.



Young amaryllis is a four-bloomer with more to come

Not one, not two, not three but four blooms on this amaryllis, purchased only six weeks ago by Wesley and Clara Brillinger of Parkview Apartments, Stouffville. And just to prove it hasn't

"flowered itself out", more blooms are on the way. While Clara appreciates the color, Wes says the smell's okay too. —Jim Thomas.

## Lifesavers

BETHESDA — Cliff and Sue Burkholder, R.R. 4, Stouffville, owe their lives to the fact they were wearing seatbelts, when their northbound car was in collision with another travelling south, Dec. 20, on Hwy. 50, north of Bolton.

Wilma Leek, 65 of Alliston, died in the crash.

Mr. and Mrs. Burkholder were en route to the home of their son, Howard, at Caledon East, when the accident occurred. Mrs. Burkholder injured both hands, necessitating further treatment in hospital. Mr. Burkholder suffered a bump on the head and severe bruises but no broken bones.

## "Snuck in early"

### Roadside sign

STOUFFVILLE — "Honk twice if you're glad our sign is back", read the notice board on the property of Lloyd Britton's Auto Sales, Main Street West, last week.

The response was deafening.

The sign wasn't supposed to go up until Jan. 1, Lloyd told The Tribune, "but we snuck it in a bit early". The Ministry of Highways places a four month time limit on such portable units even though Mr. Britton seldom uses it to advertise his

products. Instead, he publicizes everything from wedding anniversaries to church socials.

"Not even Scrooge would make us take it down two days before Christmas," said Lloyd.

Daughter Barbara is the official sign-changer. The wording "both coming and going" is altered daily; on occasions, twice a day.

Lloyd admits the summer's really better, at least better for Barbara. "Some days it's pretty cold on the hands," he said.

# Shopping spree pleases merchants

STOUFFVILLE — While November seemed slow, a last-minute shopping surge has Stouffville's merchants smiling.

The spree that, for most started around Dec. 12, lasted right up until closing time Christmas Eve, The Tribune was told.

Typical of those who responded to a newspaper poll, Monday, was Dennis Crittenden of McLean's Carpet Centre. "If this is a recession, I'll take all I can get," he said, describing the rush. Mr. Crittenden's positive summation included not just the Christmas season but the entire year.

Said Bob Cochran of Stedman's: "Things were a bit slow and then came the big rush. The last day, we were extremely busy".

Don Doner, manager of Card's Pro-Hardware was confident total sales would be up over the same period in 1980. Most shoppers, he said, concentrated on smaller items like

corn-poppers, coffee-makers and broiler-ovens.

Joyce Spensley of the Marguerite Shoppe found it difficult to make a comparison because since last Christmas she's operating out of a larger store. "Business is definitely up," she said.

Jim Rae of Rae's Home Hardware placed his sales

increase at about ten per cent. He said many shoppers took advantage of a 30-day interest-free period granted by Chargex which, he explained, could stretch out to two months by the time accounts are solicited.

"The biggest single day I've had since opening 19 months ago," said Rick Ashton of Jake's Jeans. His reference was to Dec. 24. Rick expressed optimism concerning the year ahead too "as long as they don't come in the back door". Thieves cleaned out much of his stock during a break-in last September.

Joyce Dunham of Old Canada House Antiques was pleased with the number of "local" people who dropped in. She said business was up with sales in the middle rather than the high price range.

George Ross of George Ross Photography estimated his sales increase at between ten and fifteen per cent. Family portraits were in great demand, he said, throughout all of December.

## How low?

STOUFFVILLE — A beautiful nativity scene is located just inside the entrance to Stouffville's Deer Park Inn. It's attracted the attention of hundreds of guests.

This Christmas, however, there's something missing — the baby Jesus. Somebody stole Him.

"We're almost certain it wasn't a child," manager Eric Farrell told The Tribune. However, Margaret Tarr, the project's creator, hopes that it was, feeling no adult would stoop so low.

## Water suspect

BALLANTRAE — A second Whitchurch-Stouffville well has been ordered closed. The Peter Zwier family of Ballantrae has been told to acquire an alternative water supply.

This has prompted Mayor Eldred King to order testing of all wells between the sanitary landfill site and Ballantrae Plaza. Also, a top-level meeting is scheduled for Jan. 5 at 10 a.m., to discuss the matter further.

# Much accomplished

STOUFFVILLE — "A year of fulfillment and achievement". Such is the satisfaction Mayor Eldred King receives in looking back at 1981. And he envisions more of the same in '82.

High on his list of accomplishments is the signing of five subdivision agreements, "more than in the last five years". This, he believes, will lead to additional industrial and rural-residential development in Whitchurch-Stouffville.

Mayor King points to the Cultural and Recreation Study and subsequent meetings as "a step in the right direction". He's confident some of the recommendations will be acted upon in the twelve months ahead but is opposed to having new facilities pose a financial burden on local taxpayers. "We must be able to

see the light at the end of the tunnel as far as repayment is concerned," he said. He's confident funds will be available through grants from Wintario.

Mayor King describes the Town's road program as "very much in order". Several unassumed roads were taken over, he said, a policy that he hopes will be continued.

King is confident the 500-home Dulverton Development will become a reality in '82. At the same time, he cautions against assuming anything until the subdivision becomes a fact.

Stouffville's new sewage disposal plant will definitely go ahead. This enlarged facility will accommodate 8,500 people in the former village, one thousand more than originally anticipated. The Town fire station will

be enlarged and a new fire vehicle will be purchased. This will permit the setting up of a branch brigade in the Ballantrae area, Mayor King explained.

The controversial landfill site and related water concerns will carry over into next year. However, the mayor is pleased with the

way the community has "come together" in seeking a solution to this problem.

With respect to accomplishments over all, Mayor King admits that achievements are often such that they don't attract public attention. Nevertheless, he concluded, much has happened.

## Late Erle Reesor

# Death related to accident

MARKHAM — On the night of Feb. 27, 1979, Erle Glenn Reesor, 18th Avenue, R.R. 2, Markham, was critically injured in a single-car accident on the Stouffville-Gormley Road. His partial recovery followed six months in Sunnybrook and Scarborough General Hospitals. In the fall of '79, he was re-united with wife Helen and son Jesse, born following the tragedy.

On Tues., Dec. 22, Erle died, ending a battle against insurmountable odds that lasted almost three years. He was 32.

With the exception of a year spent in the mines at Thomson, Manitoba, Erle lived all his life in the area where he was born. He received his education at Dickson's Hill, Orchard Park, Stouffville and Stouffville High. He was ex-

tremely skilled in things electrical and mechanical.

He enjoyed playing the guitar and took lessons for a time at Markham. It was through this association that he met Helen Hisey, now of Toronto. They were married Sept. 9, 1972.

Helen survives along with son Jesse; his parents, Lewis and Alma Reesor; two brothers, Harold of Listowel and Marvin at Stratford and his grandmother, Lena Reesor, Parkview Home, Stouffville.

Wideman Mennonite Church was filled to overflowing for the funeral service, Dec. 24, conducted by the congregation's pastor, Rev. Jim Shantz. Pall-bearers were — Roger Hisey, Harold Reesor, Marvin Reesor, John Hoover, Lambert Yake and Dwight Henderson. Interment was in Wideman Cemetery.

## Search for dog



'Sasha' is missing

STOUFFVILLE — Has anyone seen "Sasha"? She's a six year old Siberian Husky owned by Phil and Diane Anderson, R.R. 3, Stouffville.

The gentle pet that, from a distance, could be mistaken for a wolf, went missing, Dec. 26. An extensive search, both Sunday and Monday, has failed to turn up a trace.

"She's very friendly — would go to anyone," Mrs. Anderson told The Tribune. The Anderson property fronts on the Uxbridge and Whitchurch-Stouffville townline. The telephone number is 640-6023.



## Uxbridge Hospital welcomes precious Christmas gift

What greater gift—a lovely baby girl born Christmas Day at Uxbridge Cottage Hospital. Holger and Maryrose Jahnke of R.R. 1, Peflerlaw welcomed Heidi Rebecca at 8:42 p.m., a sister for Sarah Melody. It was the hospital's first Dec. 25 baby since 1977. —Jim Thomas.