

## Not 'smiling' subject

Dear Audrey Green:  
I found nothing in your editorial comments on Abortion that would cause me to 'Smile' at all, let alone 'Awfully.' You have accused the public of not considering the pros and cons seriously before passing judgment. It is obvious from your article that you stand judged by your own condemnation.

You say that you "can't comprehend how anyone can claim abortion to be right or wrong." You seem to forget or ignore God. You state that "whether or not the fetus is human or just an organism of blood and tissue makes no difference." God states in His Word that He is the creator of life and therefore it does make a difference.

You go on to say that "individual choice is the bottom line." You seem to think that if a woman is denied an abortion then her individual freedom is lost. May I ask, who are you to decide that the freedom of choice of the mother is more important than the freedom of choice of the child which is denied by the act of abortion.

The fact that you deny the individual choice of the child points out the inconsistency of your argument. You appear to think that incest and rape are wrong. I assume because you believe that an individual's freedom of choice is violated when sexual intercourse is forced by another person. Similarly that same ethical standard should tell you that the abortion is wrong because it denies the freedom of choice of the child. The choice by the mother to abort is to violate the freedom of choice of the child by forcing death when the child may have chosen life.

This really brings us back to the real question that you declare is "hogwash." Is the fetus a human life or not? If it is human then you violate your own standard of the "freedom of choice" because the abortion denies that very right to the unborn child.

I may have sounded a little harsh. The reason is because we are talking of 60,000 plus young Canadians aborted annually. All of these are humans whom God has said are in His image and for whom He died in Jesus of Nazareth. When God considers them that sacred then I can do no less.

Your Sincerely,  
Rev. James R. Clubine,  
The Missionary Church,  
Stouffville.

THEY'LL NEVER GET IT FINISHED BEFORE SEPTEMBER!

YEA! I BET WE WONT BE BACK IN SCHOOL BEFORE CHRISTMAS!



PAT WHEELER  
THE TRIBUNE

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## ROAMING AROUND Praying for a miracle at Apartment No. 12

By JIM THOMAS

On Margie Griffith's bedroom wall hangs a pressed rose.

Written below it are two words: "For Hope".

It's signed—Jill Watson and Laura Wightman.

This simple but meaningful message says what our town is trying to say. We're hoping and praying for a miracle at Apartment 12.

Margie Griffiths, for those new to the community, is that once-vibrant eighteen-year-old, seriously injured in a two-car collision, Dec. 27, 1981. Twenty months later, she remains partially paralyzed, still unable to speak.

While death and serious injury are by no means new to Whitechurch-Stouffville, no single incident has engendered such deep-seated feelings of concern. Prayers for Margie's ultimate recovery have been spoken from every pulpit and whispered from every pew, not prayers upon command but prayers upon request—an entire town brought to its knees through a tragic accident involving one of its most attractive, talented teens.

Those who believe in prayer and indeed, in miracles, feel they're witnessing the dependence of one on the other

at Apartment 12, Success Square. More than 200 volunteers are involved in what is described as a "patterning" program, whereby a series of rhythmic exercises are performed three times daily with Margie the patient.

I attended one of these sessions, Saturday night, and left 1 1/2 hours later, amazed at what, through a spirit of co-operation, can be accomplished. If courage and encouragement, plus hope and prayer, are ingredients for recovery, then improvement is sure to result.

A leader in this relatively new therapeutic program is Elene Kazias, Margie's teacher back in Grade 7 at Ballantrae School. "I count it a privilege to help," she said at the conclusion of the ninety minute exercise.

While Margie can only communicate by shaking her head and blinking her eyes, the smile says it all. She understands.

Suzanne Wallis, who, with Mr and Mrs Griffith, has maintained an almost constant vigil over Margie since the accident, (her daughter was a passenger in the car), sees signs of progress that gives everyone renewed energy to continue on. So does Margie's former teacher. "We've accomplished in one week what

physicians said would take three months," she said. "we're very pleased".

The Griffith apartment resembles a chiropractor's office with simple but practical equipment readily available on which to perform the necessary tasks. As important as these furnishings are, it is the platoon of dedicated volunteers who represent the basic reason for Margie's improvement so far. Their constant encouragement is as much a part of the therapy as the physical application.

"C'mon Margie, try harder," they say in unison. "that's it, that's it, you're doing great. Now try again, c'mon sweetie, just one more time, that's it, that's it, you're wonderful, now smile, just a little smile—please".

As Margie responds, the volunteers applaud. Each one in turn then grasps her hands and whispers something in her ear. Margie smiles again. For her and for them, the program is over, but only for the moment. The therapy will resume as long as is necessary, maybe months, maybe years. At this point, no one knows, but as the pressed rose on Margie's bedroom wall silently symbolizes, there's hope.

## Editorials Pollution problems must be top priority

"Water, water everywhere and not a drop to drink," may well be the cry in future years if something is not done to safeguard our water supplies, particularly in rural areas where they are susceptible to indiscriminate dumping by all and sundry.

Canada has the greatest fresh water supplies in the world. Indeed, we are the envy of many countries less endowed; most would consider themselves fortunate to have a fraction of our natural resources. Yet we continue to abuse the bounty with which nature has blessed this vast country of ours.

Hardly a day passes without reading of polluted lakes, rivers and wells, not to mention the desecration of vast tracts of land by voracious multi-national com-

panies, many foreign controlled, whose main purpose in life is to generate megabucks as quickly as possible without regard to the consequences.

One cannot help but question the wisdom of governments at all levels, who throughout the years have persistently followed a policy of allowing the indiscriminate rape of our fair land.

The time is not too far distant when, unless strict conservation controls are legislated and enforced, we will find ourselves bereft of our natural wealth, leaving future generations to curse us for what we really are; profligate in our abuse of this country's natural beauty and uncaring to the needs of future generations.

Will we never learn?

## Lack of information to be deplored

Despite Mayor Eldred King's avowed intent to have a new arena by next year, there are still many outstanding problems and questions that have to be addressed before a start can be made.

Building a new arena will solve no existing problems, other than to replace a facility that has already proved itself hopelessly inadequate to the increasing demands put upon it.

Continual lobbying by the hockey associations for a two-rink arena (vitality necessary in our opinion) has been met with a blank refusal on the part of Mayor King. He insists that the cost would be prohibitive.

Other organizations, soccer for example, are worried about losing part of their already skimpy facilities.

The proposed site of the new arena will necessitate the loss of one of only two tournament-size playing fields available to the club. This could mean the end of soccer tournaments until such time as new fields are available. This, to the four hundred or so club members would not be, and indeed, should not be, acceptable.

Ball diamonds, a sore point with many of our ball associations, are totally inadequate and need upgrading. Will this be done next year, or will the problem be relegated to the pending file due to lack of funds, as in the past?

All these questions need an answer before a start is made.

It is all very well to plan a new Complex, but the ramifications of building it go much deeper than just raising funds.

To date, no one has the faintest idea as to what progress is being made. Information is sketchy. Most residents are aware that a Complex is to be built, but have no idea as to what it is going to look like or, indeed, the eventual cost to them. Even the site has yet to be officially declared.

Perhaps it would not be a bad idea if a committee of intent were to be formed, comprising of one representative from every sporting organization in town. That way, at least, someone, somewhere would know what is going on. Currently, the lack of information progress is making everyone slightly nervous.



## Grade 6, Orchard Park School —1972-73

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the opening of Orchard Park School in Stouffville. To celebrate the occasion, a reunion is planned this fall. Pictured here is the Grade Six class of 1970-71: Front Row (left to right)—Michael Snowball, Lois James, Cheryl Bond, Terri

Grimshaw, Deirdre Mitchell, Laurie-Ann Attenborough, Irene Hrebik, Gary Taylor. Centre Row (left to right)—Mrs B. Sanders (teacher), Jim Blizard, Wayne Driscoll, John Pollard, Jim Hamm, David Burkholder, Neal Wideman, Tony Boadway, Greg Murphy, Har-

vey Schell, Mrs B. Wideman, (teacher). Rear Row (left to right)—Phillip Nauta, Gary Grant, Chris Armstrong, Jay Jackson, Bill Jennings, Richard Langley, Norman Hetherington, Andre Ertl and Kevin McGuckin.