

# Assisted Margie Parents say thanks

Letter to the Editor:

Last summer we had a dream, and the people of Stouffville and area shared our dream — that Margie might walk and talk again. So many people came to our help when we needed it most. When we asked for help in a rehabilitative program that could only be done with the help of hundreds, they came, with an out-pouring of love, hope and sheer willing for Margie to improve. The volunteers came day and night, week after week through summer heat waves, winter storms and mud! Through all those months, with Margie of late resisting and showing so few signs of progress, the volunteers persisted, hoping and praying for a breakthrough. We can never thank them enough.

When we began the program we had been promised nothing by the experts at the Institute for Human Potential; they said only that "patterning" — sometimes works, and, as parents and friends of Margie, we felt it was something we had to try. It seems a logical method, and we had met head-injured people who had learned to walk and talk again. They had followed the same process we did. Jim McGonagle, Margie's assessor at the latest clinic on April 15, asked Margie why she resisted, why she wanted to stop, and when he asked, "Is it because you don't think it's working?" she indicated "Yes" very definitely. He agreed with her that it was time for a change. He also said that progress depended not only on the willingness and ability of the head-injured person to participate, but also on the nature and extent of the brain injury. In Margie's case these factors may have precluded success — something that could not be foreseen.

However, although there weren't the successes we had hoped for originally, there have been many rewards. Margie's response to the many wonderful people we met has shown in her increased awareness, and she is certainly in excellent physical condition, as I imagine are many of the volunteers who battled against those strong muscles on her days of resistance. She has certainly improved her leg control.

The volunteers who did not know her before have come to love and accept Margie as she is just as we who knew her before continue to love her and to accept the new Margie. She gets pleasure from many things; being read to; listening to Q107; watching TV; being made-up and dressing in clothes of her own choosing. Margie delights especially in the company of the many people of all ages who joke and chat with her as they would with anyone else. She just happens to be in a wheel-chair and unable to talk except with her eyes.

So many people supported us with countless hours of work, with donations, and help. So many, with a kind gesture or a few words inspired us with their determination. Our heartfelt thanks go out to each and every one of them.

Ann and John Griffiths,  
Stouffville



## Their loss is Nancy's gain

Ged Stonehouse, (left), and Bill Kamps, (right), will be taking Nancy Telford to dinner at Stouffville's Deer Park Inn. She and 27 others donated pledges in a weight-loss competition between the two men that

raised \$402.75 for the Whitechurch-Stouffville Recreation Centre. In total, Ged and Bill lost 54 pounds. Nancy's name was picked in a draw and she'll be their dinner guest.

—Audrey Green

## Parking is limited

Dear Sir:

It's come to my attention that the owner of the Chic-a-dee Day Care Centre has submitted an offer to purchase the house located at 219 Second Street, the intention being to operate a day care centre at this location.

I realize day care centres are a necessity, but this particular location offers limited parking and the street was not constructed to handle present traffic let alone any subsequent increase, all of which could result in safety hazards to children no residing here.

Built in 1978, our home is of Victorian style, the plans for which were drawn up specifically for this site on Second Street.

Town council at that time, gave special approval to this project as complimenting the character of the area—a quiet, tree-lined street in a fine old neighborhood. For this reason, I moved my family to Stouffville, only to find how quickly and easily the character of an area can change.

Bylaw 82-132 does not permit day care centres in an R-3 zoning. This bylaw has yet to be approved by the Ontario Municipal Board. Will it receive approval in time to keep our neighborhood's character as is?

Sincerely,  
John A. Layland,  
226 Second Street,  
Stouffville

## Greatly distressed

Dear Sir:

It is with great distress that we feel obliged to write to you in regards to a day care centre being established in our neighborhood. It is our understanding that the home of 219 Second Street is being purchased to accommodate the Chick-a-Dee Day Care Centre.

We are the residents immediately west of the property and our home sits on the property line at the rear of our lot. The yard of 219 Second Street runs behind our home and we are gravely upset

about the noise from the children. My husband works shifts and he rests during the afternoon. We are nearing retirement age and look forward to the time when we can both enjoy the peace and quiet of this lovely part of town.

We have nothing against children, but surely there is a better place in town to locate such a school.

Sincerely,  
Mr. and Mrs. Rudolf Zeithofer,  
Second Street,  
Stouffville.

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