

Teen suicide mission kills officer

MARKHAM — A 26-year-old York Regional Police constable was instantly killed Tuesday, when his cruiser was rammed head-on by the same teenage youth, the officer had earlier attempted to stop.

P.C. William Grant died in the car, described by Police Chief Bruce Crawford as "a mass of twisted steel." The

youth, allegedly bent on suicide following an argument with his girlfriend, took the constable's service revolver and shot himself in the head. The body of Lee Robinson, 19, of Markham was later found in a nearby field.

Chief Crawford, disturbed by the incident, noted that Robinson had earlier called two friends

and said he was going to do something drastic.

After taking his parents' car, he was spotted driving erratically by officer Grant who took up chase and followed the late-model Mercedes Benz north on Kennedy Road, south of Major Mackenzie Drive. Inspector Gordon Bacon said PC Grant's last

radio transmission reported the car about ¼ mile ahead.

"It's believed he lost it but somewhere along the line the vehicle must have made a U-turn," said Inspector Bacon. "They collided head-on."

Chief Crawford said the Mercedes Benz was travelling at a high rate of speed and actually

struck the left front side of the police vehicle.

"I've never seen a car collapse like the cruiser did," he said, adding, if another officer had been a passenger, he too would have been killed.

The chief described the recent killing as "very demoralizing" to all police forces and advocated the return of capital

punishment.

"Our whole society has become violent. Something has to be done."

PC Grant is the sixth policeman killed in Ontario in the past seven weeks.

Officer Grant, a 4½-year veteran, was married and the father of a 19-month-old girl. His wife is expecting their

second child in two weeks.

Robinson is the son of Barry and Anne Robinson, Church Street, Markham.

Funeral service for Constable Grant will be held Friday at 3 p.m. from Central United Church, Unionville, with interment, Elmwood Cemetery, Markham.

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Constable is among sixteen honored for deeds of heroism



Hugh Kellock (left) of Avondale Crescent, Markham, and York Regional Police Constable Wayne Snooks, (centre), of Whitchurch-Stouffville, were two of sixteen persons recently honored for acts of heroism. The presentation ceremony, held at Ontario Place, Oct. 4, was hosted by the Royal Canadian Humane Association and the Ministry of Community and Social Services. Jack Grossman, (right), of Markham, presented the citation to Constable Snooks.

Rushed child to hospital

A York Regional Police constable (a resident of Whitchurch-Stouffville), a Markham Fire Department captain and two civilians, one living in Markham and the other in Thornhill, were honored for acts of heroism, Thursday, at an awards ceremony, in The Trillium Room of Ontario Place.

Constable Wayne Snooks, Fire Captain Ross Lawton, David Hodges, Thornhill and Hugh Kellock, Avondale Crescent, Markham, were presented with Honorary Testimonial Certificates by representatives of the Royal Canadian Humane Association and the Provincial Ministry of Services.

Captain Lawton, unable

to attend, was represented by his parents.

Constable Snooks and Captain Lawton were two of the first on the scene of a house fire in Thornhill, May 16. Although all occupants escaped the blaze, four-year-old Mark Grossman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Grossman, suffered severe smoke inhalation and burns.

When the ambulance was late in arriving, Constable Snooks placed the boy in his cruiser and rushed him to York Central Hospital, Richmond Hill. En route, Captain Lawton revived the little lad on two occasions, using artificial respiration.

LIFE WAS SAVED
Hospital officials said later that had it not been for the fast action of these men,

the child would have died.

Meanwhile, Mr. Hodges, a neighbor of the Grossman's, not knowing everyone was out of the house, braved dense smoke to check each of the bedrooms for possible victims. He himself, was overcome and required medical attention.

RESCUED FROM CAR
Mr. Kellock was honored for going to the assistance of a 20-year-old Bedale Crescent girl, trapped in her blazing car on Ellesmere Road, Scarborough.

Teresa Modica was involved in a four-vehicle pile-up during the late afternoon of Dec. 15. Her auto burst into flames on impact.

Mr. Kellock rushed to the girl's aid, helped her from the car and placed her in his own automobile. He then flagged down a passing TTC bus and, using the onboard fire extinguisher, put out the blaze.

THEY CARED ENOUGH
Said Robert McDonald, Deputy Minister of Community and Social Services: "Most are hesitant about getting involved in the slightest thing out of the ordinary. These people became heroes, not because they wanted to, but because they cared enough to save another person."

The twelve other citation recipients were from Brampton, Hamilton, Niagara Falls, Scarborough, Etobicoke and Toronto.

At St. Mark's Classroom 'fire trap'

STOUFFVILLE — A Grade 6 portable, that accommodates 35 students at St. Mark's Separate School, is a fire trap, members of the Parents' Guild claim.

They say the fire exit door is locked and windows are boarded up. They're demanding action to have the problems corrected.

The issue was raised at a Parents' Guild meeting, Thursday.

St. Mark's Principal Ken McClennon admits concern but describes the situation as "more of an inconvenience than a hazard."

Windows have been ordered, he said, and should be installed Wednesday. He's awaiting a report from the fire chief concerning the necessity of exit doors. He's suspicious most portables fall short in this regard.

"It's not an adequate learning environment," Mr. McClennon said.

The principal has demanded of his staff that at no time should students be left on their own, (without a teacher), until conditions are corrected.

"A miracle"
Owners find valuable dogs

MARKHAM — Two valuable dogs, a breed known as Lhaso Apso, are back with their rightful owners, John and Cathy Wensink, following a bizarre chain of events.

Mrs. Wensink said the

Act of bravery

MARKHAM — It was a night Teresa Modica of 40 Bedale Crescent, will never forget.

She was eastbound on Ellesmere Road, Dec. 15, around 5:20 p.m. Suddenly, all traffic came to an abrupt halt, the result of a three-car pile-up. Teresa couldn't

stop. Her car rammed the rear of the vehicle ahead, bursting into flames on impact.

"The driver's door wouldn't open. I kept banging on it," the 20-year-old girl recalled. "It was then I realized someone had me by the hand and was helping

me out. I had no idea who he was or where he was from."

Later, following her release from hospital, Teresa was given the name of her "Good Samaritan" — Hugh Kellock, 11 Avondale Crescent, Markham.

On Thursday, at Ontario Place, Mr. Kellock was presented with an Honorary Testimonial Certificate by the Royal Canadian Humane Association and the Ministry of Community and Social Services. He was one of sixteen persons recognized for acts of bravery.

"I was pretty banged up," Teresa told The Tribune, "my left side was partially paralyzed." Although she later talked to Mr. Kellock by phone, she said she wished she could have attended the ceremony, Thursday, and thanked him personally.

Contest
It's called The Great Pumpkin Contest and boys and girls from Whitchurch-Stouffville are invited to enter.

There are 100 would-be jack-o-lanterns available. They're being reserved on a first-come basis.

The contest sponsor is Family Trust, 18 Main Street West, Stouffville.

There are five pumpkin-carving categories, also a competition to guess the weight of the "super" pumpkin. Judging will take place at 12 noon, Oct. 27. Reserved pumpkins are available for pick-up Oct. 20.

For additional information, phone the Family Trust Office at 640-2082.

Wood is mayor

STOUFFVILLE — Former Ward 2 Councillor Tom Wood is the new mayor of Whitchurch-Stouffville.

The appointment was approved at a 5 p.m. meeting, Tuesday afternoon and made public Tuesday night.

Mayor Wood fills the position made vacant when Eldred King was elected Chairman of York Region. He will complete the remainder of King's three-

year term.

Although Council favored the appointment route for mayor, they agreed to an election to fill the now vacant Ward 2 post. The date has not been finalized, sometime between Dec. 11 and 14, The Tribune was told.

The stand by individual councillors on Mayor Wood's appointment wasn't immediately known.

Skates on gold



BALLANTRAE — It's Triple Gold for 18-year-old Cheryl Simpson of Ballantrae.

The talented skater, previously a club member at Stouffville and now Unionville, attained this level of skating perfection in tests, Oct. 2. The Triple Gold relates to figures, free-style and dance.

Cheryl's the daughter of Harry and Marlene Simpson, R.R. 3, Stouffville.

Cheryl's partner in this most recent achievement was club professional Danny Sorley of Newmarket. Previously, she obtained her gold figure and gold free-style with professional

Jack Belec of Markham.

The accomplishment represents a high point in Cheryl's 14-year skating career. Three judges attended last week's tests. Mrs. Simpson was present also. "My mother's been there every time," Cheryl said.

Another Unionville club member, Wendy Cleveley, 18, of 20 Greentree Road, obtained her Double Gold in free-style and dance. She hopes to try her gold in figures this winter.

This week, Cheryl joins the staff of Agincourt Figure Skating Club. She'll provide instruction for children four-years-old and up.



Twenty-month-old Kenny Wensink, 17th Avenue, Markham, is reunited with Rocky (left) and Sadie, after the two Lhaso Apso dogs were taken from in front of his parents' home, Sept. 18. The pets were later recovered in Toronto.

When his actions were questioned, he said he planned to drop them off at a neighbors but instead, continued west towards the 9th Concession. A Stouffville woman, Sharon Maude of Glad Park Avenue, took note of the car and contacted Mrs. Wensink when a "lost" ad appeared in The Tribune. The vehicle's owner was traced to an apartment near the corner of Bloor and Yonge Streets, Toronto.

At first, the suspect denied all knowledge of the dogs, Mr. Wensink said, but later admitted picking them up and then giving them away. Although both were soon recovered, the female had been spayed.

The lady who'd taken Sadie into home was heartbroken at having to give her up, Cathy said. Because the female's no longer useful for breeding purposes, Cathy may give it back.

Cathy described the dogs' recovery as "a miracle". The adoptive owners, she said, treated them well.