



Lovanna Sanders, O'Brien Avenue, Stouffville, joined the cast of Music Mania back in 1967 and has been a member ever since. In 1983 and again this year, she's the show's

producer. Lovanna holds the program's 25th anniversary logo designed by Bruce Burton of Lemon-

— Jim Thomas

A common bond

By Jim Thomas

STOUFFVILLE — "It looked like fun; I wanted to be a part of it." That was Lovanna Sanders' impression of her first Music Mania show back in 1967. She was a spectator then and helped serve refreshments during the intermission.

The following year, (1968), she was part of the cast and has been active in this Whitchurch-Stouffville "institution" ever since.

She's the program's director in '83, working hand-in-hand with producer Ann Bell of Goodwood.

Lovanna admits her "involvement" in Music Mania became all the more enjoyable when husband Jim "came aboard." And there's a strong possibility a second family generation may also catch the fever. Their eldest daughter Shaunna, 17, loves Theatre Arts and Leanna, 14, has no hang-ups when it comes to performing in public.

"I enjoy involving people," says Lovanna, and that's what Music Mania's all about. The show, possibly the longest running of its kind in Ontario, owes its longevity to "involvement" newcomers to the community win a

host of instant friends the minute they set foot on stage.

While the chorus is her favorite, Lovanna's been associated with almost every aspect of the production except set and technical. Her assistant producer is the venerable Bruce Burton. Bruce also designed the show's 25th anniversary logo, a work of art that's won the praise of everyone.

Lovanna sees Music Mania as "a fun thing." However, to please audiences totalling close to 2,000, it must be equally pleasing to viewers as well as performers. "We try and strike a happy medium," she said.

Lovanna refuses to minimize the commitment. She points out, however, that mother's and father's interests must, on occasions, be respected. Shaunna and Leanna understand this, she says.

Lovanna agrees the upcoming Silver Anniversary show is special. A mixture of old and new is planned, both in parts and participants. A number of former Music Mania members have already indicated a desire to return. The first practice is Jan. 9 at 7:30 p.m. in the gymnasium at Summitview School. Show dates are 25, 26 and 27. Lovanna's counting the days.

Baseball coach-player

STOUFFVILLE

— A long-time Stouffville resident, George Smith, passed away Saturday, Nov. 3. He was 85. For more than forty years, George and wife Tillie resided at 87 Church Street North.

George was a floral designer, well-known for his artistic displays and colorful arrangements. His services were in demand for beautiful wedding designs.

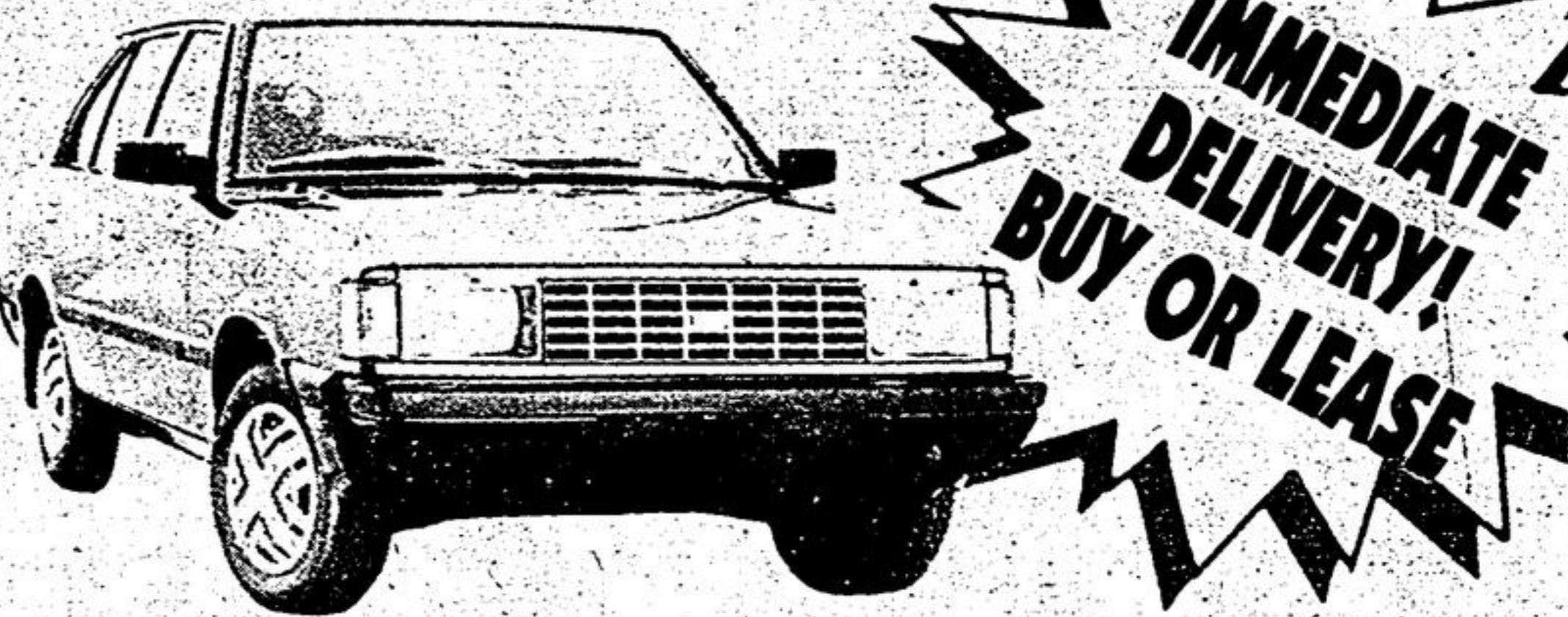
George had a lifelong interest in sports and acquired the nick-name "Yorkie" during his baseball career. He played on several championship teams, always as a pitcher.

After moving to Stouffville from Toronto, he spent several years both coaching and managing baseball teams in town. His interest in athletics included golf and lacrosse in his earlier years and always hockey, football and horse-racing.

George served overseas in World War I with the Canadian 58th Battalion. He was wounded in France, sent to England for surgery and convalescence, and was preparing to return to France when Armistice was declared, Nov. 11, 1918.

George is survived by wife Tillie; children Ron, June, Sandy and Jessie; brothers Milt of Peterlaw and Frank of London; and six grandchildren, Ken, Richard, Lori, Carolyn, Jocelyn and Lindsay.

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