



Despite freezing cold temperatures, work is full steam ahead on the Markham Stouffville Hospital as graders remove the topsoil to facilitate site preparation in the spring. The hospital is expected to be completed in late 1988 or early 1989.
— Sjoerd Witteveen

Crash course to stop accidents

Stopped at a red light, you see the car behind you is not going to stop. What do you do?

This is one of the many hazardous situations drivers find themselves in which may or may not result in accidents depending on the reactions of the parties involved.

Charles Hancock of the Ontario Safety League says 98 per cent of all accidents could be avoided and that 87 per cent of accidents are due to a lack of awareness or poor attitude toward driving.

Mr. Hancock will be teaching a course in defensive driving for the Markham Family Life Centre next week.

His philosophy is that even if someone is involved in an accident which is judged to be the

other party's fault, it doesn't clear the responsibility of the driver who is not blamed.

For example a rear-end collision is blamed on the driver of the car behind. But if a car changes lanes too quickly it leaves few possibilities for the vehicle it cuts in front of. In this situation the driver in front could have prevented the accident.

The course will run in two four-hour sessions. A 10-minute film will be screened both nights. Students will be encouraged to take notes to retain all the information covered.

And there will be a hefty amount covered. Mr. Hancock is the supervisor of driver improvement programs for the Ontario Safety League. Usually the for-

mer Armed Forces employee trains employees of companies whose business involves driving to instruct their own workers.

And judging from the driving experience he obtained in the military he's a good man for the job. Mr. Hancock was chosen to chauffeur Queen Elizabeth dur-

ing her tour in 1957 and was driver for Princess Margaret the following year.

"They must have thought I was a pretty good driver to give me that responsibility," he said of his superiors.

Mr. Hancock said that for many people this course will be a re-

resher of their driving test, reminding them of the rules of the road.

The course will begin Thursday, Jan. 16 at St. Andrew's United Church and concludes Thursday, Jan. 23. Each night the program runs from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. The fee is \$50. For information call 294-2371.

Markham man disproves adage finders keepers

We've all lost something valuable at one time or another never to have it returned, but it's nice to hear of someone who doesn't live by the old adage, finders keepers.

Kathy Byers of Sir Gawaine Place met just such a person at Markville Shopping Centre recently. She was dropped off at the mall while her parents took her brother to an out-of-town hockey tournament Saturday, Dec. 27.

During the day she misplaced \$10 and felt stranded with no money.

But the 13-year-old went to the Information Desk and discovered the money had been returned with the telephone number of the man who found it.

While the man never revealed his name, Kathy obtained his address and delivered Christmas cookies to his home in appreciation of his good deed. She also wrote a thank you note which read:

"To the dear man on 10 Garnish Green St.

"I just wanted to thank you for returning my money you found at Markville Mall. I was so happy when the lady at the Information Desk told me than a nice man had turned in his number because he had found it.

"It sure feels great to know that there are still some honest people in the world! You are a special, one of a kind man, and I honestly don't know if I could have done what you did. I sure was lucky."

Once again, thanks,
Kathy Byers
Age: 13



KATHY BYERS
Had money returned

Ed and Claudette



"Sir, your wife would like to know if you've finished your glass of punch? She's ready to leave."



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