



Margie Castle to host new CTV series, 50 Plus.

50 Plus show

Exploding myths

By PAUL PIVATO

Markham's Margie Castle, host of a new CTV series called 50 Plus, says her show aims at exploding many of the myths about Canada's grey-haired set.

Myths such as the elderly are poor and hoard all their money in the bank.

Or the elderly are no longer interested in romance and fashion.

It's myths such as these, says Mrs. Castle, that prevent "age-mixing" and force our elderly into old-age ghettos.

The new series will carry weekly segments such as "No Swamp Land For Me", a consumer watchdog special which gives the elderly advice on buying real estate outside of Canada.

Another segment, "Romance", deals with the problems and pleasures of "being single over 50."

The show will also carry features on fitness and fashion.

"Life after 40," says a promotional tape voice-over, "can be glamorous and fashionable."

"We're not dealing with what people imagine, but with what's really happening," says Mrs. Castle, who describes her own age as somewhere between "baby oil and geritol."

Ever since her teenage days, growing up in Southern California, the former model has been working with and caring for senior citizens.

She remembers chauffeuring her grandparents' friends to the supermarket and as a university student she became involved in providing housing for the elderly.

In 1973 she came to Canada

and founded Elder-Watch Service, a company that assists families with elderly relatives.

She also was founder and publisher of The Senior Watch Review, which is now Today's Senior magazine.

Society can foster the attitude that "if you're over 30, you're over the hill," says Mrs. Castle. "But you have a future even if you're 89 years old."

When she talks about the elderly, speaking in an articulate, passionate voice, she often mentions guilt.

Guilt, says Margie Castle, is the result of our neglect of the elderly.

And that neglect can be intentional, as in the case of pushing the elderly into old-age homes, or unintentional, as in the case of middle-aged children who are so absorbed in their own careers and families that they forget their parents.

She mentions the "guilt of leaving parents behind" and describes the feelings of guilt she felt when her mother died alone in her California home.

The new show will end each week with an admonition to "call your mother."

An elderly person's whole week may revolve around a two hour visit or a phone call," she says.

But 50 Plus will have a light side as well, adds Mrs. Castle, who has complete control of the show's content.

The new half-hour series will also have such segments as "What Gets My Goat" and "Comics", a feature which allows humorous unknowns to make their screen debut by telling a joke.

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Toronto and Regional Crime Stoppers is seeking the assistance of the public in an effort to apprehend the driver of a vehicle who failed to remain at an accident scene.

On the 31st of July at 11:30 p.m., the victim in this case was at his place of employment, PALLADINI FORD, on Weston Road at Highway #7, Town of Vaughan. The victim walked out onto Weston Road to assist a customer driving a tractor trailer. While giving directions to the truck driver, the victim was struck by a northbound auto and thrown some 48 feet onto the shoulder of Weston Road. The victim was critically injured.

The suspect stopped and asked the truck driver and another wit-

ness to call an ambulance. While they were gone, the suspect fled in his vehicle.

The wanted suspect is described as: male, white, 5'4" to 5'6", long dark hair over shoulders, slim build, wearing short-sleeve, light-colored shirt.

Debris found at the scene indicated the vehicle could be a SILVER or GREY, G.M. (Chevy), possibly between '74 and '79.

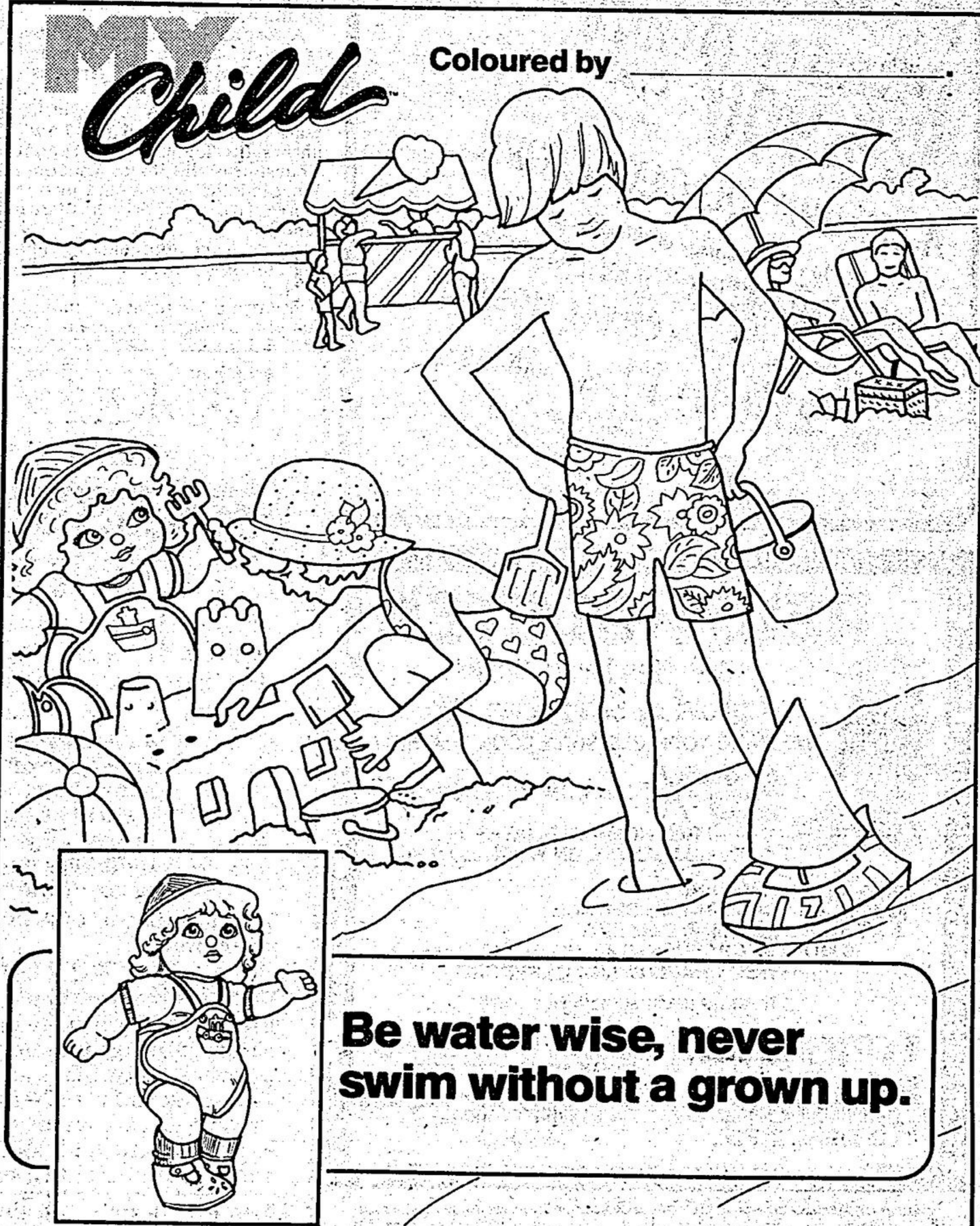
If you have any information about this crime or any other serious case, call CRIME STOPPERS. As a caller, you never have to identify yourself and you never have to appear in Court. If an arrest is made as a result of the information you have provided to Crime Stoppers, you then become eligible for a cash reward of up to \$1,000.00.

If you pay off with information, Crime Stoppers will pay off with cash.

The Crime Stoppers toll free number is: 1-800-387-8477 or locally: 222-TIPS.

Inspector Barry Delaney, Coordinator of the York Regional Crime Stoppers Program, writes this column to help combat crime. A Citizen Board of Directors, administers the local program, one or more than 600 Crime Stoppers in North America.

Reward money is raised through tax deductible donations and cheques may be sent to: Toronto and Regional Crime Stoppers, P.O. Box 86, RICHMOND HILL, Ontario, L4C 4X9.



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