

# Weekender

VOL. 2 NO. 46

A Metroland Community Newspaper

Saturday, November 15, 1986

80 pages

25 cents

## Hunter's bullet strikes house

By CHRIS SHANAHAN  
Staff Reporter

An Uxbridge mother said her family is still shaken after a .22-calibre rifle shell ripped through the second-floor of her home and landed at the foot of her daughter's bed.

"The kids won't sleep in their beds, they're terrified," Judy Mercier said in an interview. "Bullet holes in your bedroom aren't actually the most pleasant thing."

Mrs. Mercier claimed a shell was fired toward her Sandy Hook home sometime on Thursday, Nov. 6. It penetrated a wall of aluminium siding, carried through into an upstairs bedroom and landed in another room.

Mrs. Mercier said it was lucky she and her two daughters, Jennie, 6, and 8-year-old Michelle, were away from the house at the time.

"What if they had been playing in there (when the shell came through)?" the Lormick Dr. resident asked. "There's a place for hunting but definitely not in an area like this... They shouldn't be allowed to hunt in a residential area."

Mrs. Mercier is also upset that she has to pay a \$100 insurance deductible fee to cover damage "that I didn't even do."

The incident occurred during the Ministry of Natural Resources' four-day controlled deer kill, held Nov. 3-6 in northern Uxbridge Township and other municipalities.

But the MNR's Ron DesJardine said Friday he had no knowledge of the Sandy Hook incident and is not certain it was related to the hunt. He noted that rifles are not authorized for use in the MNR deer program. And though the Mercier property backs onto bush north of town, the site is not within boundaries of the controlled hunt area.

Durham Regional Police investigated Mrs. Mercier's complaint but don't expect to locate a suspect.

"It's pretty hard to trace," a constable at Uxbridge's Division 26 told The Weekender. "The person who did it probably doesn't even realize he hit the house, unless it was an act of hellery."

## Program launched for adoptive families

By STEVE HOUSTON  
Staff Reporter

Markham families with adopted children now have someone to turn to in times of adoption related family crises.

That was the message conveyed Thursday at a press conference called to launch York Region's Family and Children's Services (FCS) new Post Adoption Program.

Its first group met Thursday night. FCS spokesman Myra Hurst said the Post Adoption Program is the first of its kind in Ontario.

It's designed to offer "a continuum of services" to adoptive families for support, guidance and self-help during such family crises.

And according to FCS Director of Services David Barnes, most adoptive families will experience family situations related to an adoption.

"What we're trying to develop here is a whole continuum of ser-

vices," said Mr. Barnes. "We know adoptive families are going to go through life crises."

Generally, he said adopted children can experience school difficulties, behavioural problems and "normal acting out," associated with growing up.

This program is expected to help parents cope with such incidents and deal with them as family units.

The FCS also pointed out that adopted children sometimes seek their biological parents and noted that they will also assist families deal with that.

And of the 200 York region infants adopted annually in the 1970s who are now reaching adolescence, the FCS sees the program as a service for those children and families.

"For too long adoption agencies have approved families and sent them on their way," said Mr. Barnes. "Now we will offer them support when they need it throughout that life cycle."



### All in a day's work

Markham's Blair Isaac, 4, had his hands full Thursday morning as he took over for Markham Fire Chief Ken Beckett for a day. Here, Blair takes charge as firefighter Jody Brown works the ladder controls while Chris Rouble helps him man the ladder. The young Hamilton Hall Dr. resident was given a tour of Markham firehalls, to inspect his impressive crew and was even saluted by his subordinates. He, in

turn, gave the entire force the rest of the day off. Blair won the chance to become fire chief for a day as part of a McDonald's sponsored Plan to Get Out Alive draw held last month to practice fire prevention. He topped off the day with a McDonald's lunch in Markham with Fire Chief Beckett. He also received a silver hat for his firefighting efforts and it now hangs in his bedroom.

— Sjoerd Witteveen.

## WHAT'S INSIDE



**Jim Ryan**  
"Dog catcher" with a difference/10

Directory	
Comment	P.4
Editor's mail	P.5
Business	P.14
Entertainment	P.23
Church Page	P.26 to 27
Children's page	P.28
Fashion	Second section
Sports	P.20 to 22
Real Estate	P.29 to 37
Classified	P.38 to 47



**Tony Vetter**  
Valedictorian at MDHS/12