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Farmer loses right arm in harvester

MARKHAM — A Markham area farmer lost his right arm in a forage harvester accident, Thursday.

George Reesor, McCowan Road, R.R. 2, Markham, is a patient in Scarborough Centenary Hospital. If his recovery continues, he could be released this week.

The tragedy occurred on the original Reesor farm, Steeles Avenue, Markham. The 53-year-old man was attempting to clear away corn while the machine was in operation. His hand became caught up in the mechanism, severing the arm below the shoulder.

"He was afraid he might faint in the field," wife Anna told The Tribune, "so he ran to the house to get help."

Ice packs were applied to stop the bleeding.

An ambulance was called but operators had trouble finding the farm, Mrs. Reesor said. Ernie, their son, drove his father to hospital.

En route, they spotted a police officer on radar duty. The constable provided an escort the rest of the way. Mr. Reesor remained conscious throughout the ordeal.

An ambulance driver went to the accident scene, hoping to retrieve the arm and have it reattached. Unfortunately, it was too badly mangled, Mrs. Reesor said.

The accident occurred with such suddenness, the victim couldn't believe what had happened. Anna said her husband complained little of pain, but a blood transfusion was provided immediately on his arrival at Centenary.

"In Emergency they did a super job," she said, "I can't say enough for the way they handled things."

Mrs. Reesor drove first to the 'home' farm, then to the hospital.

It was back in December, 1985, that Anna and George along with son Ernie purchased the Ezra Grove property on McCowan Road.

She told The Tribune her husband's "doing very well and in good spirits." She admits major adjustments lie ahead "but we're pleased everything's going as well as it is." She voiced appreciation for support provided by family friends, helping them through their ordeal of the last few days.

"We'll just go on from here," she concluded.

Fire pumper makes splash

STOUFFVILLE — The Whitchurch-Stouffville Fire Department received delivery, Monday, of its long-awaited pumper truck.

The \$241,000 Mack, powered by a 285-turbocharged in-line six cylinder diesel engine, was driven to Stouffville from Red Deer, Alberta.

The trip took 3 1/2 days.

The unit, equipped with an all-aluminum body, weighs 37,600 pounds. It contains several new features including rotating floodlights, strobe lights front and side and a top-mounted deck gun.

To make way for this most recent addition, the age-old Fargo, belonging to the Stouffville Volunteer Firefighters' Association, has found a new 'home'. It's used

exclusively on parade duty.

All brigade members will be thoroughly briefed on the operation of the new vehicle before it's pressed into service, Chief Bill Brown told The Tribune. It should be 'ready for action' in about four weeks, he said.

CNE champ

STOUFFVILLE — Grand championships are earned, especially at the C.N.E.

Bill Hassard, R.R. 3, Stouffville, added this award to his trophy case, Sept. 1. A Percheron mare, one of six Hassard horses entered, captured the Title in tough competition. A yearling stud colt was Reserve Junior Champion.

"We're really thrilled," wife Cathy told The Tribune.

The mare had to win two of its divisions before advancing to the championships. It's a first at this level for Bill and Cathy. The Hassard Farm is still considered a novice entry compared to some heavy horse breeders who've been a part of 'show business' for years.

To his surprise, a merchant there was holding the wallet for safe-keeping. He said a lady, who he didn't know, had found the purse and turned it in.

"What a relief," said the Guelph University student, on work leave prior to getting married. "I sure didn't want to lose the money." Unfortunately, he said, he doesn't know who to contact to say thanks.

Spotlight

The message is 'Smile' this Sunday at St. James Presbyterian Church, 101 Main Street East, Stouffville.

The 11 a.m. service will be taped by CBC-TV for viewing on the program 'Meeting Place' in October.

Except for television crews and cameras positioned inside and outside the sanctuary, the worship format will remain unchanged. The congregation, however, must be seated by 10:45 a.m.

Rev. Herb Gale will be in charge with special music by the senior and junior choirs. Accompaniment at the organ will be provided by Jean Thomas and at the piano by Susan McMullen.

The program 'Meeting Place' is broadcast nationwide every Sunday from 12 noon until 1 p.m. The viewing date for the service from St. James, Stouffville is Sunday, Oct. 18.



Photo by: GENE COOPER

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