



You buy it, and Carol will wrap it. She's the owner of Gift Wrap Express, a firm which will custom-wrap any Christmas or special occasion gifts. And owner Carol Clegg has taken Christmas convenience a step further — she'll also buy it. Just give her the information and leave it to her.

— Bill Lanning

# Custom wrapping cuts Christmas chores in half

By CHRIS SYLVIA-PREFONTAINE

There are only 26 days left until Christmas.

Does this fact send you into an absolute panic?

If so, there's a unique service in Markham that you just might be interested in — customized gift wrapping.

The company, Gift Wrap Express, has been operating for one year now and owner Carol Clegg boasts "If you can buy it, we can wrap it."

Her prices range from about \$2.50 for something as small as a ring box to \$10 for a microwave oven or portable T.V. Incorporated into the fee is the cost of the paper, the bow and other decorations.

Clegg has a wide selection of gift wrap to choose from but her clients generally leave the choice up to her.

"Most just assume that I have nice paper and novelties and they just say 'go to it,'" said the Fincham Ave. resident.

### Bit of flair

She likes to add a bit of flair and creativity to her work.

"We don't just slap a bow on a package, we put a lot of time into them," she indicated.

And not all of her presents are decorated with bows. Some are dressed up with Christmas trees

or holly fashioned out of various materials.

Last year when gifts were for men, Clegg found her job a bit more difficult.

"Men don't like a whole lot of frills" she explained, "so what we did in the end was take fancy silver and gold pipe cleaners and design initials out of them."

Clegg believes that it's this personalized touch along with her unique decorations which draw compliments. Those clients who saw the finished product said they "were almost too nice to open."

### Direct shipping

Several individuals chose not to pick up their gifts but had Gift Wrap Express ship them directly to their destinations.

The company offers a choice — they will not only do the wrapping, but for an additional charge, they will prepare the articles for shipping by Canada Post or deliver the gifts themselves if within the Markham-Unionville area.

Last year Clegg delivered 600 poinsettia plants for a local real estate agent.

"The purpose of the service" she said, "is so that (people) can literally drop the things off and forget about them."

Gift Wrap Express advertises that they are fast and convenient. They will cater to business needs as well as personal and will do the

work to accommodate the customer's schedule.

### Shopping too

This year the company has expanded its service to include purchasing.

Provided with information about the recipient — gender and age, and given a cost range, Clegg will go out and even do the shopping.

When purchasing for children she follows the Canada Toy Council recommendations.

She warns, however, that this aspect of her service takes more time and that people should really be giving some thought to gifts now.

"Unfortunately, people wait until a week before Christmas and then the items that they want are no longer there," she noted.

# Police seeking driver

By CONSTABLE GARY MCBRIEN

Toronto and Regional Crime Stoppers and the York Regional Police are 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 April 3 of this year, the victim in this investigation, had been drinking at the Pro-Cafe on Doughton Road in Concord. Shortly before 9:50 p.m. he left the tavern and walked Southbound on Jane Street from Doughton Road.

A Southbound vehicle struck the victim from behind throwing him onto the West shoulder of the roadway. The victim sustained serious injuries and was eventually taken by ambulance to Sunnybrook Hospital Trauma Unit.

The driver of the vehicle involved failed to remain at the scene. The wanted vehicle is a 1976-1978 General Motors product that had been re-painted dark Metallic Blue. This vehicle's original paint color was Tan.

If you have any information about the Fail to Remain Accident or any other serious case, call Crime Stoppers. As a caller, you never have to identify yourself or ever testify in Court.

If an arrest is made as a result of the tip that you have provided to Crime Stoppers, you then become eligible for a Cash Reward of up to \$1,000.

The Crime Stoppers Toll Free Number is: 1-800-387-8477 or locally 222-TIPS.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Constable Gary McBrien, co-ordinator of the York program, writes this column to help combat crime in your community. A Citizen's Board of Directors administers the local program, one of more than 650 Crime Stoppers Programs 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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