

People

Marguerite Murphy's been a Music Maniac for 30 years

BRUCE STAPLEY
Correspondent

For 30 years Music Mania veteran Marguerite Murphy, a view from the floor has led to a

decade of positioning lights, adjusting sound levels, and dreaming up special effects for the well received variety show. Murphy, who has served as

coordinator of the Music Mania technical committee the past two years, said she first developed an interest in the technical side of the show after com-

ing down off the stage to direct the 1977 and '78 productions. "Sitting back there one day, I saw just how important lighting positions and things like

that were," she said in a recent interview.

"You take it for granted when you're on stage. Then a few years later I was given a spot light to operate. I guess I did ok. I'm still here."

In her role as technical coordinator, Murphy is responsible for putting together the work days to set up the various lighting, sound, and special effects equipment in the Stouffville District Secondary School gymnasium that serves as the Music Mania theatre.

The role is one of many she has assumed through the years. When she and her husband Bill joined the show for its second ever production in 1961, she was a member of the chorus in what was then a black face minstrel show.

She got involved in costume making in her second year with the production, and eventually went on to head up the costume committee. She then tried her hand on the music committee before assuming the director's position.

Murphy has also done chorus choreography for a number of years, and, along with her husband, is the co-president of the United Church Couples Club, which acts as the sponsoring body for Music Mania.

Like everyone involved with Music Mania through the years, Murphy has had her share of memorable experiences. One which stands out could have had disastrous results for the show. "It was

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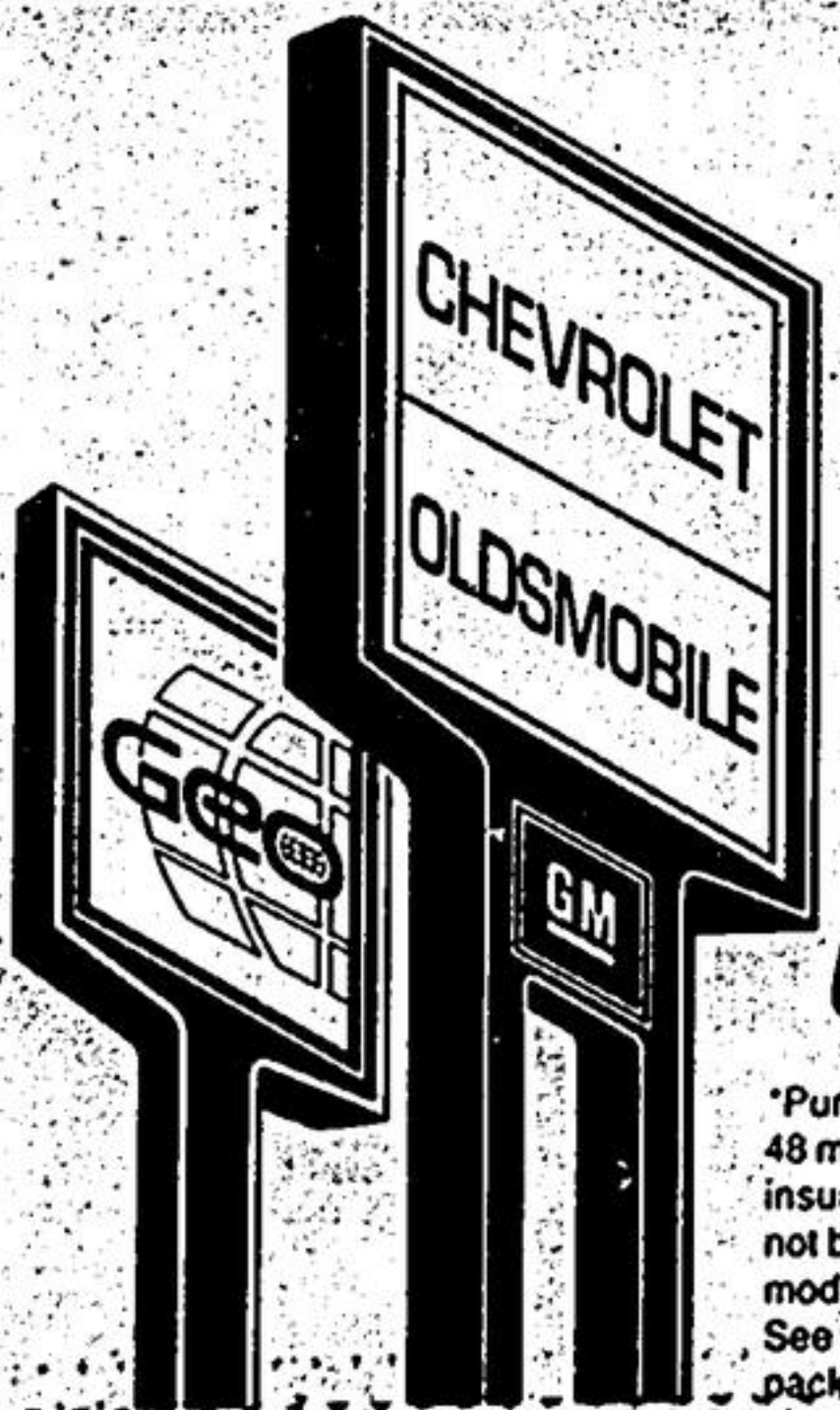
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