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Historic Markham cemetery wrecked by vandals; more than 30 monuments smashed

Girl trapped in auto

BLOOMINGTON - An 18 year old Stouffville area girl was trapped for over half an hour in the front seat of a car, Friday, after the vehicle was hit broadside by a loaded gravel truck.

Sandra Hamilton, Musselman's Lake, suffered fractures to both legs and internal injuries. Also injured was the car's driver, Manfred Libertus, 19, of R.R.2, Claremont, and a second passenger, Jane Work, 20, of Stouffville.

The truck driver, Alan Powell, R.R.2, Stouffville, was not badly hurt, although his vehicle overturned following impact.

Police said the motorist, southbound, stopped at the intersection, then pulled out into the path of the eastbound transport.

The three occupants of the car were taken to Scarboro Centenary Hospital. Miss Hamilton, the most seriously injured, remains under intensive care.



His day

On July 1, residents of Whitchurch - Stouffville and surrounding communities, will honor Arthur Latcham, the man who has done so much for so many, in this area. A program of events has been lined up in the Stouffville Park, beginning at 10 a.m., with the official opening of Latcham Hall at 8:30 p.m.

MARKHAM - The First Markham Baptist cemetery site, conc. 9, three miles south of Stouffville, has been desecrated beyond repair.

The rampage, that occurred sometime during the weekend, was discovered by Murray J. Lewis, formerly of R.R.1, Stouffville and now residing near Ballantrae.

Thirty-four of the seventy stones on the grounds had been toppled - some badly smashed. Several of the markers date back to the mid-1850s.

The rows of monuments closest to the road bore the brunt of the senseless act. One marble stone, erected to the memory of Elijah Miller and dated 1887, was broken into three pieces. Part of the inscription read: "Great is the loss we here sustain".

An open window indicated the vandals had also entered the adjacent church, but interior furnishings had already been removed. Several panes of glass were broken.

The little country chapel, built in 1848, has been closed for several years. The Markham Cemetery Board had been approached to take over the maintenance of the grounds, but

no agreement had been finalized. "There's not much left to take over now," said Mr. Lewis. Through The Tribune, he is asking next-of-kin to visit the site and complete whatever repairs are possible.

Supermarket to expand

STOUFFVILLE - The A. and P. Store in the Stouffville Plaza, is soon to grow - three times its present size.

At a meeting of Planning Committee, June 23, members studied an application that would increase the area from 6,000 square feet to 19,450.

Since part of the new addition would be only 23 feet from Westlawn Crescent, it must be dealt with by the Committee of Adjustment. Present zoning regulations require a 50-foot setback. A question of drainage must also be discussed.

No opposition is anticipated.

Missionary killed

GORMLEY - The tragic death is reported of Miss Edna Pridham, a missionary in Nigeria since 1945, and well-known in the Stouffville - Gormley area.

Details of the accident are not clear.

Miss Pridham had recently worked with the Christian life classes in day schools and training seminars. She was highly respected. News of her passing was called through on Monday.

At press time, funeral arrangements were not complete.

Ten Ontario scholars here

STOUFFVILLE - Ten Grade 13 graduates of Stouffville Dist. Secondary School are winners of \$150 Ontario Scholarships. Each has an average of 80 percent or over in six subjects.

The students are - Lawrence Bacon, Heather Bangay, Douglas Greenfield, Patricia Houston, Boyd McAdam, Evelyn Patrick, Charles Ramsey, Jane Sanderson, Lorraine Wooller and Lyla Yip. At Markham Dist. High School, Ontario Scholars are - Annette Lenters, Deborah Fernandez, George Fishcher, Jensen, Janice Stubbs, Deborah Shalhorn, Michael Riley, Susan Rutka and David Scott.

At Uxbridge Secondary School, Ontario Scholars are - Lorraine Jones, Vicki Brunne, Gerry Kydd, Evelyn Menary, John Perreault and Christine Williams.

More prestige than monetary value

MARKHAM - The proposed withdrawal of the Dept. of Education's \$150 Ontario Scholarships, should create no real hardship on student graduates, feels Howard Christie, vice-principal of Markham Dist. High School.

"I don't think it will keep anyone out of university," he said.

Mr. Christie said that in recent years, the award was looked on more as a prestige symbol rather than a thing of great monetary value.



This is a section of the cemetery at First Markham Baptist Church, Ninth Line, south of Stouffville, following a rampage by vandals, over the weekend. Thirty-four stones were toppled, many smashed beyond repair. —Jim Thomas.

Liquor questionnaire

All a mistake claims student

STOUFFVILLE - There were raised eyebrows in several Stouffville homes, last week, when sons and daughters in Grades 7 and 8, presented their parents with a 'liquor questionnaire', received, they said, at the High School.

The introduction read: "This is a questionnaire dealing with the consumption of alcohol in the community. We are doing this for a geography report. Please, no names. We are just interested in the answers. Please consider all members of your family."

A few of the questions follow: "Do you drink any alcoholic beverages? If so, what? How much do you buy a month on the average? Do you buy more on holidays and/or special occasions? Would you like to see a licensed restaurant in Stouffville? Would you like to see a tavern in Stouffville? Where would you situate the tavern? What effect would a tavern have on your life? And so on.

The questionnaire contained the names, Sheila Roper and Murray Pattenden, with accompanying phone numbers.

Murray Pattenden, when contacted by The Tribune, described the distribution as "all a mistake".

He said the project was related to a Grade 13 'field report' whereby members of the Geography Class went door-to-door, obtaining a cross-section of opinions on several subjects. From this information, a thesis was prepared.

About 2,000 of the pamphlets were printed, Murray said, but only 1,000 were required. The left-overs were kept in his locker until recently, then deposited in a wastebasket.

Someone obviously found them there and perhaps, as a prank, distributed them among the students.

"I should have burned them", Murray admitted. He said the poll was meant for adults only, particularly his part in the project.

Sheila Roper described the incident as 'purely accidental'. She said her left-over pamphlets on the same subject, were

Ask opinions on industries

VANDORF - The feasibility of locating two new industries on a site near the intersection of Don Mills and the Aurora Road, will be discussed at a public meeting, July 6. The firms are Helmac-Roth Limited and Mold-Masters Limited, both seeking to expand present facilities, now established in Metro.

Persons wishing to speak either for or against the proposals, are asked to attend.

The location is, Vandorf Hall, and the time, 8 p.m.

taken home.

Staff teacher, H.J. Waite agreed that in school distribution of the questionnaire was never intended.

Out-raced

STOUFFVILLE - This town will gain a respite from the noise of one local drag-racer.

Police report they were summoned during the evening of June 24, when residents complained of a driver racing up and down Main Street. The wanted car, chased by two cruisers, sped north on Highway 48. During the pursuit, attempts were made to ram both cruisers, and one police car was damaged by an object thrown from the speeding auto.

The chase came to an end near the Sulton Road, when the pursued car rolled over in the ditch.

Charged with criminal negligence, assaulting a police officer, and having liquor in a place other than his residence is Harry Neil Brown, 17, of R.R.1, Claremont.

Town councillor urges subdivision extension

STOUFFVILLE - The controversial Felray residential development at Ballantrae, was the subject of still further discussion, at Planning Committee, June 23.

The issue was re-introduced by councillor Betty vanNostrand, who asked whether any member had changed his mind about allowing the expansion to proceed. She reminded the Committee that Council rejected the proposal prior to the Airport announcement.

"We didn't know how restricted we would be in future development at that time," she said. "It seems to me we're stopped or hampered at every turn."



New setting - old memories for former students

Saturday, was truly an historic day for former students of Markham High School (1880-1954). More than 900 attended the reunion, many from a distance. Shown here are (left to right) - Mrs.

Mary (Tully) Wideman (1922); Russell Wideman (1922), of Markham, and Florence (Wideman) Cowie (1912), of Bowmanville.

—Jim Thomas.

Ontario Scholarships

Student assistance program supported by school principal

STOUFFVILLE - Principal Wm. E. Duxbury of Stouffville Dist. Secondary School has voiced regret over an Ontario Dept. of Education decision to withdraw the \$150 Provincial Scholarships for Grade 13 students, in 1973.

The awards have been made annually to 5-year graduates, averaging 80 percent or more in six subjects.

"Some count on it," Principal Duxbury said, "every little bit helps. I feel it's too bad."

Mr. Duxbury noted that at one time, the amount was \$400. This was later reduced.

Initially, the scholarship was to be dropped this year, but the recommendation aroused so much protest, the Government re-considered. Now, the Ontario Secondary School Headmasters' Council, of which Mr. Duxbury is a member, is asking Education Minister Thomas Wells to re-consider again. In a

letter, it was pointed out that college enrollees face a higher tuition fee; a rising cost-of-living and increased difficulty obtaining summer jobs.

Last year, 5,794 Grade 13 students were paid a total of \$869,100.00 in cash awards through the Department's scholarship fund.

C. W. Perry, executive secretary of OSSHC, said principals and teachers have found that the \$150 awards have motivated many students to aim for them as a goal in Grade 13, and have influenced many to carry on past secondary school.

As it stands now, Mr. Perry said, schools could be presenting cash scholarships and bursaries to students whose averages are less than 80 percent, while others, whose averages are higher, would receive no monetary recognition.

The recommendation by the principals has been endorsed by

the Provincial Executive of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation.

Took saddle left horse

MUSS LAKE - York Regional Police are on the lookout for a half-hearted horse - thief, who took the saddle, but left the horse.

The incident occurred June 17, at the Wagon Wheel Ranch, Musselman's Lake.

The owner said that a man, about 18, rented a horse at 11 a.m., for the balance of the day. The animal was later found wandering about the field, minus both a rider and a saddle. So far, neither has been located. The loss is valued at \$65.