



### Half-million dollar blaze levels Sleepy Hollow Clubhouse

Loss has been estimated at a half-million dollars in a fire, early Saturday morning, that destroyed the lavish clubhouse, on the site of Sleepy Hollow Golf Course, Hwy. 47, north of Stouffville. Arson is

suspected, since several other buildings in the same area have been razed within the past three weeks. The blaze was already out of control when firemen arrived and nothing was saved. —Jim Thomas.

## 'When I'm at the wheel - head for the hills'

By Madeline Harrison

LOC HILL We didn't go to a party Saturday night. Amazing! Simply amazing! The answer, of course, lay written in the wind and blowing snow.

I'll do just about anything to get out to a party, except drive on a wild wind-swept night like that. My husband doesn't like to drive any more than he has to. After commuting to the city each and every day, he would just as soon leave the truck in the lane on the weekend.

I am chicken. There is a yellow streak a yard wide down my back. If I am going to die I would rather be in a nice, warm, comfortable bed than all messed up in a tangle of cold steel.

If I am driving I need a good wide road, dry and no traffic. Driving into Toronto reduces me to a chattering nincompoop (no comments, please). When I am on the road all of the other drivers should stay off the route I'm taking.

The only other mode of transportation I dislike more than cars, are airplanes. I take what is known as the "white knuckle flight". Eyes glazed, knees firmly clenched together, elbows jammed into the ribs

(both my own and fellow passengers), fingers frantically clutching the arm rests and feet planted firmly on the brakes. Then the flight attendants carry me out to the waiting aircraft (have you ever tried to walk in that position?)

Once on board, I become extremely busy. All engines, wings, windows, seats, seat belts, life jackets and oxygen masks are checked for flaws. Seat pockets are checked to see that plenty of bags are available for emergencies. All passengers are checked as they board.

Any shifty-eyed persons carrying brief cases or having strange bulges in the wrong places are reported to the stewardess. Just as I am beginning to relax the stewardess stands up at the front of the plane and goes through the whole spiel about emergency procedures. Back to the "glazed eyes routine."

There is the moment just prior to the wheels leaving the ground, just after the plane has made that mad, earth shuddering stampede to the end of the runway, when I have the wildest urge to scream "I want out of this wretched machine!"

Once airborne I become even more occupied. Feet again planted firmly on the brakes one must keep continual checks on the wings (to make sure they don't fall off), on the engines (to make sure they are functioning correctly and that they don't catch fire and fall off, course corrections must be made and an all-out watch for approaching aircraft must be maintained.

We have been to England twice. Both times returning home, we crossed the path of another jet. Both times, I had to be

persuaded to get up off the floor by three stewardesses. Turbulence is another hazard that sends me diving under the seat. Suddenly in mid-Atlantic the "Please Fasten Seat Belt" sign flashes on. I can't move. Again it takes three people to fasten me in and then they have to feed me oxygen.

Before my husband met me, he was a pilot. Now he is so embarrassed to be seen with me while on board an aircraft, he spends the whole flight time in the men's room.

Some time I must tell you of our

motoring experiences - they are harrowing. Suffice it to say, if you see a female driving a green and white truck head for the nearest ditch.

Somewhere between my neurotic fear of flying, driving and other fiendish devices, there is a happy medium of safe mechanical operation. We hope you have found the answer and enjoy a very Merry Christmas, whether you are flying to the Bahamas or are driving to Sudbury.

For the "Stay At Homes", the Locust Hill Church will be holding a combined

Sunday School and worship service at 9.45 a.m., Dec. 24.

Anniversary congratulations to Rolph and Elaine Baker, celebrating on Dec. 29.

Christmas Pantomime

Plan to attend the pre-Christmas children's show, "Mother Goose", in Latham Hall, Stouffville, Friday at 7 p.m., and Saturday, at 2 and 7 p.m. The pantomime is being sponsored by the Stouffville Players. Admission is free.

## Puppets host party

by Rene Rennie  
CLAREMONT - Cy Leonard brought his puppet friends 'Happy' and 'Cuddles', from Uncle Bobby's T.V. show, to entertain at the Legion Christmas Party, Sunday afternoon. Before the party lunch, Santa arrived and presented each child with a gift and candy.

Kim Budd received three stitches on her lip, the result of a dog bite, Sunday.

Good food and fun was the order of the evening at the Legion Ladies Auxiliary party. Agnes Ferguson took the role of Santa. During the proceedings, a second St. Nick arrived to present Mrs. Ferguson with her past president's pin.

Sympathy of the community is extended to Mrs. Stan Slack and members of

her family in the passing of her husband, Friday, at Port Perry.

If anyone has Boy Scout or Cub uniforms not in use would they please contact Mrs. Jean McNish at 649-2834.

A gala Christmas dinner and dance for bus drivers, their wives and husbands, was held at the Legion Saturday night. About 120 people attended.

Claremont Lionettes held their annual Christmas party at the home of Mrs. Grace Cooper. On Thursday, the Lionettes took lunch and treats to the Claremont Rest Home, and enjoyed carol singing with the patients.

Marion Britton received 4-H Provincial Honors at Achievement Day, Saturday, at Whitby.



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**Fred Lewis - Upset!**  
For many years, Fred Lewis and his firm Altona Feed & Supplies Co. Ltd. have enjoyed a mutually satisfactory advertising agreement with the Stouffville Tribune Ltd. In fact almost to the point of being able to read each others minds.  
Until last week and OOPS! The great minds did not think alike. Fred informed The Tribune to print a BIG "THANK YOU" to his supporters in the Uxbridge Twp. Election, and this was done.  
But not to the satisfaction of Fred Lewis, being a modest chap, in his opinion, the Tribune printed his "mug shot" 20 times too big and the "THANK YOU" 20 times too small.  
The Tribune apologizes to Fred Lewis for the undue embarrassment.  
**P.S. - Notice there's no picture this week.**