

**Municipal Board
Hearing March 16**

The Ontario Municipal Board informed Markham Township Council Monday that a public hearing regarding the present zoning of the south-west corner of the township will be held on March 16.

Council has "frozen" the area in question to any further development until such time as certain amendments are approved by the provincial government. The subdividers, impatient with the delay, have applied for a municipal board hearing in an attempt to have the area opened up for development.

**Scots Honour Rabbie Burns
Bi-Centennial January 25th**

On January 25 — "Rabbie" Burns' birthday — good Scotsmen, wherever they are, will feel a nostalgic pull toward their homeland. In their imagination, they will smell heather, taste haggis, and hear the bagpipes of home. Scots-at-home and Scots-in-exile throughout the world will pay a very special homage to their national poet on this day in 1959 for it is the bi-centennial of Rabbie's birth.

Thousands of glasses will be raised in a toast to his "immortal memory" as Burns Societies from Edinburgh to Vancouver, from Inverness to Toronto honour the

ploughboy whose lyrical genius made him Scotland's poet laureate without portfolio. Recitations of his poems — in broad Scot, of course — resound wherever there is one Scot to recite them and another to listen.

For Burns, to Scotsmen, is more than a poet — he is the voice of Scotland. The fact that his message made him loved throughout the world is to them a source of pride.

Naturally enough, the heart of the Burns' celebration is in Ayr, Scotland, the poet's birthplace, where special events will mark the 200th anniversary of his birth. But in a sense, "Rabbie" Burns' country will be holding open house throughout the year, and visitors at any season will find local people eager guides to places closely connected with the poet's life.

In all probability, they will suggest that the visitor start his tour with the house two miles outside of Ayr, near Alloway, where Burns was born. Restored only recently, the cottage has a snug thatched roof, and fresh white-wash sparkles on its walls. A museum beside the cottage holds original manuscripts and some of Burns' personal belongings.

On the road from Ayr to the cottage in Alloway is the Tam O'Shanter Inn, with a collection of associations which no Burns devotee should miss. From the Inn to the Brig O'Doon, the route is the same as that taken by Tam and Meg, when in the Alloway Kirk, according to Burns' tale, "Tam saw an uncouth sight! Witches and warlocks in a dance!"

Nearby are the Monument Gardens — no need to ask, in Burns' country, to whom the monument is dedicated. Opposite the gardens is the tartan-carpeted Burns Monument Hotel, well worth a visit. (Try to get there between 4.30 p.m. and 6.00 p.m. for a real Scots high tea.)

Seven miles from Ayr is Tarbolton, where Burns danced many a night away with belles from neighbouring towns. One of the poet's regular haunts, the Bachelor's Club of Tarbolton, has recently been revived.

Mauchline, some five or six miles beyond Tarbolton, is the very heart of the Burns' country. Here lived Rabbie's wife, the minister and Holy Willie, and many other colorful characters who appear in Burns' poems.

Opposite the Mauchline churchyard is Poosie Nansie's Inn, one of Burns' favourite hangouts. Here he is believed to have written "The Holy Beggars" while in company of the somewhat disreputable characters who frequented the old lodging house. Time has left Poosie's place respectable, however; it now has a hotel license, and visitors can find a comfortable bed and breakfast under the roof that sheltered the poet and his cronies.

Next to Poosie Nansie's stands a store, where a plaque reminds the visitor that it was once the Whiteford Arms, an inn owned by Pigeon Johnny Dow and a favorite resort of Burns and his pals.

In the house beyond this Inn, Jean Armour, Burns' tragic sweetheart, lived with her parents. Her own house in the village is still preserved as a museum. The story of their ill-fated love affair, which brought heartbreak to them both, echoes still in the simple lines: "Had we never loved sea kindly, Had we never loved sea blindly, Never met, or never parted, We had never been broken-hearted."

"Dear Mr. Editor"

Comments on Local Hockey
Dear Mr. Editor:

Recently there appeared in "The Liberal" an article written by Mr. Dick Piller, president of the Richmond Hill and District Minor Hockey League.

In his letter Mr. Piller lamented the fact that Richmond Hill's representatives in the North York and Ontario Hockey Association were not getting efficient ice time to practice. Mr. Piller apparently feels that in order to represent our town at other centres we should send a properly trained and conditioned team, and I agree with Mr. Piller one hundred per cent.

But unfortunately Mr. Piller was not very diplomatic and not fair to our local arena board or to some of the hockey players. Mr. Piller was all fired up because of the apparent lack of attention on the part of the Richmond Hill Midget Rams, but perhaps the players were not in condition and perhaps they were. I think what was bothering Mr. Piller was the fact that a local hockey club was beaten by a small centre like Beeton. Now I personally know Mr. Piller and know that he has, and did have when he was a hockey player a few years back, a tremendous competitive spirit and he hates to lose. I also want to lose a hockey game, therefore I think that I understand how Mr. Piller felt that particular evening. But I witnessed the same Beeton team, again trim the Rams last Friday at Beeton, by a 5 to 3 score and again the Rams seemed to run out of steam during the last period.

Now it is a well known fact that there is ice time available for practice periods at the Richmond Hill Arena, BUT, and this is a big but, it is not available at the times needed by these youngsters to practice. Unfortunately Dick didn't think when he wrote that letter to your paper, because if he had stopped to think, there are about 450 boys playing hockey in the local arena at the present time. This is the breakdown: pee-wee, 16 teams, 270 boys; eight minor teams, 165 boys; and the Bantam "Blueiners" and the Midget "Rams" with about 20 each, as well as a few drifters. Now as you can see there certainly isn't the ice time available for any one club and I know for a fact that some Richmond Hill clubs have to go elsewhere to get enough time to practice. But the fact does remain, and I will back Mr. Piller, to the hilt on this, that the local hockey clubs that go out of town to play should be the best that we have, the best coached and in the best possible condition.

After all, as stated by Mr. Piller, they are representing our town and they are a fine bunch of boys and a credit to our community, but they can all stand some more ice time. Mr. "Wick" Mills, who is sponsoring the midget team and Mr. Ted Terry, who is sponsoring the "Blueiners" have invested a great deal of money in these clubs, but are they millionaires? They must have some support, besides my wishing. It must be very disheartening for these generous gentlemen to find someone like Mr. Piller blasting the team that happens to lose. But as stated above, Mr. Piller hates to lose, and that doesn't necessarily mean that he is a poor sport either. It boils down to this, that the teams representing Richmond Hill out of town should have more ice time available to them. But where is it coming from? I'm sure I don't know. The arena board gives every consideration to the teams

concerned, but they still must look after all the other youngsters. The way our town is growing there is only one answer — a new arena, or some outdoor artificial rinks, or both.

I hope that this letter will in no way cause any hard feelings but facts are facts. I feel Mr. Piller was unduly criticized for his statement, but I know also that he did not mean to slight any individual or group of individuals with his letter.

Incidentally, there are a lot of fine hockey men in town, like Jim Grainger, "Tubby" Barrow, Barry Brent, George Chassie and foremost among them is Dick Piller who has done a fine job of organizing minor hockey here in town. This is a rather long winded letter, but I hope it has cleared the air, temporarily at least.

Yours in sports,
ED "RED" GARNER,
Langstaff, Ontario

The following letter was received by president of the Curtain Club following their recent success at the Central Ontario Drama Festival.

Box 248,
Aurora, Ont.,
Jan. 14, 1959.

On behalf of the Aurora Drama Workshop I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Richmond Hill Curtain Club on their recent winning of the Calvert Regional Challenge Trophy presented for their excellent presentation of "Clerambold" at the Central Ontario Drama Festival. I am sure you must all be very proud.

I would like also to express congratulations to the actor and actress who won "Best Actor" and "Best Actress" awards for this section of the festival.

We wish you much success in all your future endeavours.

Yours sincerely,
Aurora Drama Workshop
(Joyce McMain, Sec.)

Finds "The Liberal" Excellent Advertising Medium
Dear Mr. Editor:

Just a note to let you know that I have found "The Liberal" to be an excellent medium for advertising purposes.

We received immediate and numerous replies to an advertisement which was inserted last week, and am pleased to advise that we sold the six different items offered within 24 hours of the issue being distributed.

We wish you continued success and we will be pleased to recommend "The Liberal" at any opportunity.
Yours truly,
F. N. CANN,
Elmbank Road,
Thornhill.

**Garbage By-Law
On Page 9**
Some prosecutions are pending under Richmond Hill's garbage and waste by-law. There are very definite regulations in this regard and a word to the wise should be sufficient. For the information of all citizens of Richmond Hill a copy of the by-law with all regulations is published on page 9.

LANGSTAFF NEWS

CORRESPONDENT: MRS. M. J. ROY
Phone Avenue 5-2805

The January meeting of the Langstaff Young Women's Institute was held at the home of Mrs. Colleen Jones in Richmond Hill with Vice-president Mrs. Ruby Manol, presiding. Members answered the roll call by bringing one dozen home made cookies which were distributed back to the members as mixed cookies for a small fee.

Mrs. B. A. Heslop, guest speaker, gave a very "down to earth" talk on house plants providing information on proper soil and drainage, care of cuttings and special care for African Violets, Cactus, and bulbs, etc., as well as general plant care. Mrs. Heslop donated four African Violets for a draw. These were won by Mrs. Gladys Smith, Mrs. Betty Pattison, Mrs. Pearl Wilson and Mrs. Colleen Jones.

Refreshments were served by the hostesses.

March Of Dimes
The annual March of Dimes campaign will soon be in full swing again. The Langstaff "Mothers' March" will be held on February 2nd, from 7 to 8 p.m. and every householder is asked to turn on their porch light to welcome the canvasser. In this area, Mrs. Glassy, Garden Avenue, is the Lieutenant for the area west of Yonge Street, and Mrs. Hicks, Essex Avenue, is in charge of the area east of Yonge Street. Please co-operate as much as possible on this campaign.

Langstaff Home and School Association
Parents and teachers of Langstaff School pupils met on Tuesday, January 13th, for the regular monthly meeting of the Home and School Association.

It was announced that the York Central Home and School Council is holding a workshop at the Prince Charles School, Newmarket, on February 5th, at 8 p.m. Anyone interested in attending is asked to get in touch with the president, Mrs. Fairfield, so that transportation can be arranged.

The skating rink at the school is now in operation, and it was announced that there will be hockey; played on Saturday mornings and pleasure skating in the afternoons. There will also be pleasure skating on Sunday afternoons from one until four. These week-end skating sessions will be supervised and 12 volunteers were called to assist in this supervision.

Plans are now being made for the yearly dance and details will be announced at the next meeting. These dances have been a huge success in the past and every effort is being made to make this another especially good evening.

Mr. Urquhart introduced a new teacher, Mrs. Budge, a "Native" of Thornhill. Mrs. Budge is taking Mr. Toyama's place and is teaching grade 5.

There was also a reminder that dogs are not welcome at the schoolyard and a warning that the dog catcher is once more making his daily rounds.

The next meeting of the Home and School Association will be held on Tuesday, February 10th.

The guest speaker for the evening was Mr. Al Goodman, head of the Department of Physical Training, Forest Hill Jr. High School.

School News
Teacher, Mrs. Clare, had a bad fall on the ice recently and broke her wrist and fractured her arm in several places. We are glad to report that she is back at school with her arm in a cast and naturally going about her duties a little more slowly.

The pupils are getting a good deal of pleasure from the ice rink and both the junior and senior school hockey teams should begin this week. The area hockey games will be played at Unionville Arena between the hours of 5 and 6 p.m. on designated days.

Langstaff senior hockey team will play their first games on January 26th at 5:30 p.m. against Thornhill. It would be appreciated if any parents could help in providing transportation for the players. Please call the school if you can help in this way.

After receiving several complaints of people being molested by dogs, the dog control officer, Mr. Avalis has made two visits to the school. The dog pound is located on the 6th Line past Highway 400.

We are pleased to report that Kathy Jones, Karen Joffit and Ann Bennett were promoted to "Golden Bar" Brownies recently.

Mrs. R. Evans, Essex Avenue, returned home from hospital on Tuesday of this week after a recent operation.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Johnstone, Essex Avenue, motored to Bolton last Sunday to visit with Mr. and Mrs. Wes. Blackburn formerly of Langstaff. Mrs. Blackburn was ill with pneumonia recently but is recuperating nicely.

Evelyn Roy celebrated her fifth birthday on Monday, January 19th. She had a party on Saturday the 17th and entertained her playmates on Sussex Avenue.

Birthday greetings also to Gerald Charles, Sussex Avenue, who celebrated his birthday this month.

York North Progressive Conservative Association

Annual Meeting
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**Mothers March Feb. 2
Need More Canvassers**

"Once more, the people of Richmond Hill and Thornhill are being asked to turn on the lights of hope for the disabled," said Mrs. Jean Nugent in announcing the community's Mothers' March for the March of Dimes. Scheduled for the night of Monday, February 2nd, the hour-long canvass of Richmond Hill homes will raise funds for rehabilitation work throughout the district. Between 7.00 and 8.00 p.m., Marching Mothers will call wherever a porch light is burning. "I am confident that our forthcoming March will be most successful," Mrs. Jean Nugent said. "Here in Richmond Hill as in other parts of the country, interest in rehabilitation is mounting rapidly and this is bound to be reflected in the response to the 1959 March of Dimes appeal."

Mrs. Jean Nugent has been active in support of this project, and is serving this year as Chief Marching Mother for the Richmond Hill area. Sponsored locally by the town's Kinette Club, the March of Dimes campaign is part of the province-wide activities of the Rehabilitation Foundation for Poliomyelitis and Orthopaedically Disabled. Under its former title — The Canadian Foundation for Poliomyelitis (Ontario Chapter) — this organization has long been noted for its efforts on behalf of disabled persons.

In launching preparations for this year's Mothers' March, Mrs. Jean Nugent outlined the campaign's three main objectives. "First, of course, we are seeking financial support for rehabilitation work. Obviously little can be done without sufficient funds. While governments are spending increasing sums in this field, private donations are essential if we are to meet the tremendous need. Our second purpose is to search out disabled persons who can benefit from rehabilitation. These include not only victims of polio but also those crippled in accidents, individuals with con-

genital deformities and amputees. Many of these people may not realize that help is available. We hope to bring them this good news and put them in touch with sources of assistance.

"Finally, our campaign is directed toward educating the public at large on the problem of disability and the promise that rehabilitation now holds in this area. For example, we want to get across to employers the fact that rehabilitated persons can function well in many jobs, and, indeed, can be important assets to their business."

"After all, the rehabilitation process is not complete until the individual is given a chance to pull his full weight in society and achieve the maximum independence of which he is capable."

Summing up, Mrs. Nugent emphasized that the greatest need in connection with the Mothers' March at this stage is volunteers. Last year we received wonderful support from individuals and from women's organizations, both. We ask for this support once more. I am sure everyone who took part before will want to do so again. I hope too that many others will join in this worthwhile undertaking. As Chief Marching Mother, I would urge all the women of our community to volunteer their services.

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