

Thornhill and District News

"The Liberal" is always pleased to publish items of interest contributed by its readers in the Thornhill area Our representative in Thornhill is Mrs. Margaret McLean, who may be reached by phoning AV. 5-2331.

TELEPHONE AV. 5-2331

Thornhill Notes

Hope you have all enjoyed the fine crop of raspberries these past few weeks. They were plentiful at the market last week and at 25 cents a pint were a good buy. There was a time when I felt I was being robbed when asked to pay 50 cents for a quart of raspberries, but not since I have grown my own. It takes me all of one half an hour to pick one box of raspberries. To pick one box, or even two, is rather pleasant, with the broiling sun making the whole patch smell fragrantly of raspberry jam, but to do it all day would be sheer torture. Even if the commercial grower were to pay 25 cents a quart to the pickers (which I am sure he doesn't) they would only earn around 50 cents an hour, and who will work for such wages these days? I have a strong suspicion that raspberries are picked mainly by women and children. I only hope they are compensated as I am, by the privilege of taking a dish out of the patch, to bring it back and cover the sun-warmed berries with cream and eat them under a tree. Scrumptious!

All you thirsty people on the Vaughan side of the village will shortly be able to drink your fill. Councillor, Ralph advises that the water project is "in the engineering stage" - whatever that means. (He seemed to think it meant you'd get the water fairly soon.)

There will be a 12 inch main come down Yonge Street from the Carrville Well and go along No. 7 Highway, with another similar main running out Arnold Avenue. Water will be available to every house desiring it and of course will be metered.

Seems to me we should see greener lawns next summer, if it is possible to keep the present

water systems attached to the individual wells and use them to water the lawns.

Mr. Ken Wilse, of Thornbank Drive, having a summer home built in Timagami with all the attendant troubles of assembling wood and workmen and keeping the latter busy and sober!

His friends on Elgin Street will all be happy to learn that Mr. Tom Statom is home from the hospital and well on the mend.

Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Enright and family of Elgin Street left last Saturday to spend the rest of the summer at their cottage on Kaminsky Lake, Combermere, Ontario. Combermere is in the Bancroft area. Hope they took their life-jackets and lots of insect repellent, the two main items necessary for survival in our lake country.

To Marry New Brunswick Resident

A well-known Thornhill girl, Miss Joan Wade, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. C. B. Wade of 7946 Yonge Street is returning to the village on August 5th for a brief month. Joan is to be married in Holy Trinity Church on August 22nd to Mr. Robert N. Parker, son of Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Parker, of Grand Manan, New Brunswick.

Joan lived in Thornhill all her life, until the last two years, and attended Thornhill Public School. After graduating from Richmond Hill High School, she trained as a nurse at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto. On her graduation, she went to Grand Manan, N. B. for a year. This past year Joan has been nursing at the Moncton General Hospital, Moncton, N. B.

It was through a former well-known resident of Thornhill that Joan met her husband-to-be. As a youngster, she was a playmate of the L'Adventure girls, Gretchen and Linda, who lived for many years in the house on Centre Street which for a short time housed the Thornhill Public Library and is now the home and office of Dr. Peter Morse. When the L'Adventures left Thornhill some four years ago, they went first to Toronto and then to Grand Manan, New Brunswick where they now operate a summer hotel. It was while holidaying with her old friends that Joan met Robert Parker.

Welcome home Joan! All your friends here will be excited and happy to see you!

CALL YOUR CORRESPONDENT UNFAIR! UNFAIR! Unfair to hard-working correspondents! You have all gone away and/or entertained those fascinating visitors without telling me about it. How about giving me a call when you are doing anything interesting so your friends can keep up with you? The number is Ave. 5-2331.

LANGSTAFF

Correspondent:
Mrs. M. J. Roy
Avenue 5-2806

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. E. Lepkey, No. 7 Highway, on the birth of a son on Friday, July 24th.

Birthday greetings to David Lagzdins, Sussex Avenue, who had a birthday party on Tuesday of this week and entertained the neighbourhood children.

Mrs. Fred Morris, Yonge Street, returned home from Branson Hospital, Sunday, July 19, after a stay of five weeks. Langstaff residents will be pleased to hear that she is making steady progress and improving day by day. Mrs. Morris was overwhelmed with the thoughtfulness of the Langstaff residents who sent get-well greetings and message and wishes to thank everyone for their kindness, also the Langstaff Baptist Church for the beautiful flowers.

Welcome to Langstaff to Mr. and Mrs. Peffer and family, Randy, John and Elizabeth, who have moved into their newly built house on Garden Avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. F. Stotts have sold their home on Church Street and moved to Beaverton.

Camp - Tom - Tom

Every year Willowdale YMCA in co-operation with the Doncaster-Highland Park Recreation Association operates a summer camp for local children, aged 7 to 14 years.

The camp has been held for some years by courtesy of Mr. Silver of the Don River Development Company, in 18 beautiful acres situated on Steeles Avenue East, and was christened "Camp Tom Tom" when it was first established several years ago. The name derived from the fact that the main theme of the initial camp centred around outdoor living in Indian style. Periods of current camps are still directed to this theme.

The camp is actually operated and managed by the Y.M.C.A. and is one of two camps managed by the Willowdale branch. The Doncaster-Highland Park Recreation Association assume responsibility for the maintenance of grounds and buildings. Association president is Tom Dempster of Woodward Avenue, Highland Park. The camp is non-denominational and children of any faith are welcome. Charges are moderate. It costs only \$13 for two weeks on a non-profit making basis with milk supplied free of charge.

The camp which accommodates 180 at one time including about 80 resident campers, while others are day visitors, is in charge of competent leaders and counsellors. Bob Everatt, who is Vice Principal of Finch Avenue East Public School is administrative director in charge of both camps. The second camp, known as Owl Pen, is in North Toronto. Resident Director of "Camp Tom Tom" is Douglas Wilding, a Toronto school teacher. Both men are married. Bob is the father of four children, aged 2, 4, 6 and seven (three girls and one boy). The oldest participates in the camp. There are a total of eight regular leaders plus seven qualified counsellors of both sexes.

Recently the camp has been following an Indian theme, as a result of which the acreage is covered with teepees, Indian shelters, council fires and all the paraphernalia usually associated with Indian life. The shelters are built by the young people themselves and are a remarkable achievement.

A stream runs through the grounds at one point at a level below the average by about 20 feet. The children have carved steps out of the bank down to this stream.

During the Indian week the children learned Indian crafts including all types of interesting leather work, moccasins, etc. Swimming plays a large part in the life of the campers. They have their own bus which takes first the girls and later the boys to swimming sessions and lessons at Northern Heights Swimming Pool.

Schedules are arranged also in archery and crafts and councils. In the office of the camp which is equipped with a telephone, your reporter discovered a telephone list including the numbers of police, fire and hospital, etc. so that the leaders are prepared for any emergency. First aid equipment is available and first aid practice is taught.

Currently a gypsy theme is in progress and the children have lots of fun dressing up as they imagine gypsies to dress and generally making a study and temporary practice of this fascinating life.

From time to time a "parents and friends night" is organized. These are developed to raise funds to contribute to an international fund to assist children in less fortunate lands.

Other practices include camping skills, camp crafts, dramatics, sports, nature lore, cooking and a variety of interesting pastimes and games. Part of the area is closely wooded, mostly with tall silver pines and considerable wild life abounds which provides special opportunities for the study of nature. Muskrats, raccoons, a variety of birds including the pheasant with other fauna can be studied as all these inhabit the woods.

In these spacious grounds a much larger number of children could be accommodated but the total is limited to 160 at any one time because of the safety factor which enters all planning. Too many children would lead to crowded conditions for swimming sessions, for bus travel and so on, and experience has taught that the ideal number is that to which the camp is now restricted.

Visiting the store your reporter discovered a real "Tom-Tom" which is used at "council" meetings. Shovels, brooms, axes and other items were plentiful. Among the interesting books in the library were books on campercraft,

THORNLEA

Correspondent:
Mrs. M. J. Roy
Phone AV. 5-2806

Officials

Mr. and Mrs. A. Wright and family, John Street, returned recently from a holiday at Geneva Park, Lake Couchiching.

Thornlea Home and School Association wish to remind the members and families of the area that they are still saving labels from Canada Packers products in order to obtain a coffee maker for the school for next season. Anyone who has labels to turn in, or who would like further information, can call Mrs. MacQueen, AV. 5-5295.

Also an added reminder that there will be a Fall Fair again this year so please save your used clothing, etc., and be ready when the time arrives.

Picnics - Past and Present

If you had lived in Headford since the days when horses did much of the work on the farms hereabouts, you will remember that on the occasion of the annual Sunday School picnic, we made a "day" of it. It came a little later in July than now, because most of us would then be through or nearly "through hay-making". Having was a more leisurely task then than now. Horses did the mowing; one horse (or a team) on the old sulky-rake gathered it into windrows; and then several members of the family "cocked" it. What if the date of the picnic did find us with several loads still to be brought in? The rest was good for the horses, to say nothing of the "manpower". So off we started, be-frilled and starched, with all our hampers, and the youngsters with their "shining morning face", at 9:30 or 10 o'clock for such places as Muselman's Lake, or Preston's Lake, or York Downs Park; and immediately on arrival the women folk proceeded to get lunch. A very sumptuous affair, almost always including strawberry pie (how did we ever transport it?) and tea strong enough to cut with a knife, for all adults. Then someone would be delegated to keep track of the youngsters to see they did not go into the water too soon after eating. A baseball game followed the swim, often with the larger boys challenging the married men. I do not seem to recall much baseball among the girls at the time of which I write. Then races, with the ladies' races near the beginning of the sports program so they could go to the pavilion to prepare supper. A hang-up supper, and everyone headed for home. It was often quite early when we left (many farmers were refusing to use daylight saving time); but entire families would have been present and cows would be lowing, waiting patiently to be milked. It was a hard job in those days - no milking machines then.

A few years brought some changes. We had found a new and delightful place to go - Woodland Park, nicely conducted by Miss Lapp, a relative of one of our church members.

But the hay-baler had made its appearance on a few of our farms; and some folk doubled up their forces in order to avail themselves of its use. Thus, if the picnic coincided with the day when the baler was available, the hay-baler went out. So, the number of men present at the picnic thinned out; children were piled into fewer cars; and the hour of departure was delayed.

Of course, a picnic would not be a picnic, to the young fry at least, if there were no booth at which to spend one's hoarded savings, so the Headford W.A. has come to the rescue by providing candy and 'pop' for the youngsters to regale themselves. Here again, we had the free use of the Rumble deep-freeze for popsicles, etc. Last year we had 75 present at the supper; this year our number reached 90. Last year there were four "duckings" when some of the youngsters thought they knew how to handle an aluminum were down to one - Norine Simpson lost her balance and fell in the water unexpectedly! This year also, Mr. Briggs brought a wonderful "merry-go-round" for the use of the tiny tots, also a teeter-totter.

When one passes the Rumble place along the road, one cannot guess what is at the end of the lane. A large area, well shaded with trees, and grass cut to make it almost like a park, and off to the left, a lovely rustic stairway (forty steps) leading down to the ball park and the "swimming hole". For those whose hearts (and possibly legs) have seen heavy service, there is a winding trail that brings one back up gradually to the back of the barn.

The Rumble family have treated the Headford folk so well, they just might find themselves stuck with them for quite a number of years!

Silver Linings

by Elizabeth Kelson

Fragrance has been called the breath of God. The Greeks ascribed divine origin to perfume, and in the sacrifices offered to their deities, the victim was covered with garlands of scented flowers. Much of the health and enjoyment of life comes from the many fragrant flowers, herbs and trees that grow on this fertile planet. A person or place, even a country is brought to mind instantly and vividly by the recurrence of some special scent, which may be pleasant or unpleasant. It is not only from flowers that sweet scents flow; they emanate from leaf, stem and branch.

Scents and memories - how inseparable they are. The flowering currant in the back yard filled the new spring air with spicy fragrance, the lilacs with their forgettable sweetness, and the roses in the garden left memories of fragrance that will never die. Many of our fragrant bushes induce thoughts that give life to the past and add beauty to the present. The scent of flowers can give us not only the spring and summer of today but those of yesterday.

Sitting at my desk wherever I may be, or walking the city streets, I can recall and enjoy scents I have known - the smell of earth after rain, the countryside in spring, my garden with its pot-pourri of fragrance; the fresh scents of field and wood; and in mid-summer the stifling smell of new mown hay. I remember the scent of a fresh water lake, and the pungence of pine, cedar and hemlock. I'll remember the odor of leaves and brush burning in the fall. I think of the many haunting perfumes, from herbs, cut grass, fallen leaves, a pruned hedge and sawn wood; these even as they are destroyed give forth the season's infinite variety and sweetness which they have gathered to themselves in life. The fragrance of the air as the wood is sawn comes not from the living tree but from the stripped and lacerated trunks. It is for man to see that when he dies he leaves as fragrant a trail.

SCARBORO: Scarboro Council has decided to ask the Ontario Government to study ways of streamlining the governments of large municipalities of Metro, such as Scarboro, North York and Etobicoke.

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Hints for Happy Holidays

Holiday time should be a happy period of rest and relaxation.

O verexposure to the direct-rays of the sun should be avoided. Sunburn is a real burn.

L earn to swim. Until you do, stay out of deep water and canoes.

I n doubt about the safety of the milk or water supplies? Pasteurize the milk and boil the water.

D o eat nourishing foods suitable to hot weather.

A void over-exertion especially if you are unaccustomed to strenuous exercise.

Y ou should keep first aid equipment handy - even small scratches and cuts may become infected if neglected.

S afe, sane holidays are best.

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TOWNSHIP OF MARKHAM
CIVIC HOLIDAY PROCLAMATION

It is hereby proclaimed by the Township of Markham that Monday, August 3rd, 1959, will be observed as Civic Holiday. Citizens are requested to govern themselves accordingly.

H. CRISP, Clerk W. L. CLARK, Reeve
GOD SAVE THE QUEEN