

Thornhill and District News

PHONE 889-3190

"The Liberal" is always pleased to publish items of interest contributed by its readers in the Thornhill area. Our representative in Thornhill is Mrs. Jo Cruise who may be reached by phoning 889-3190

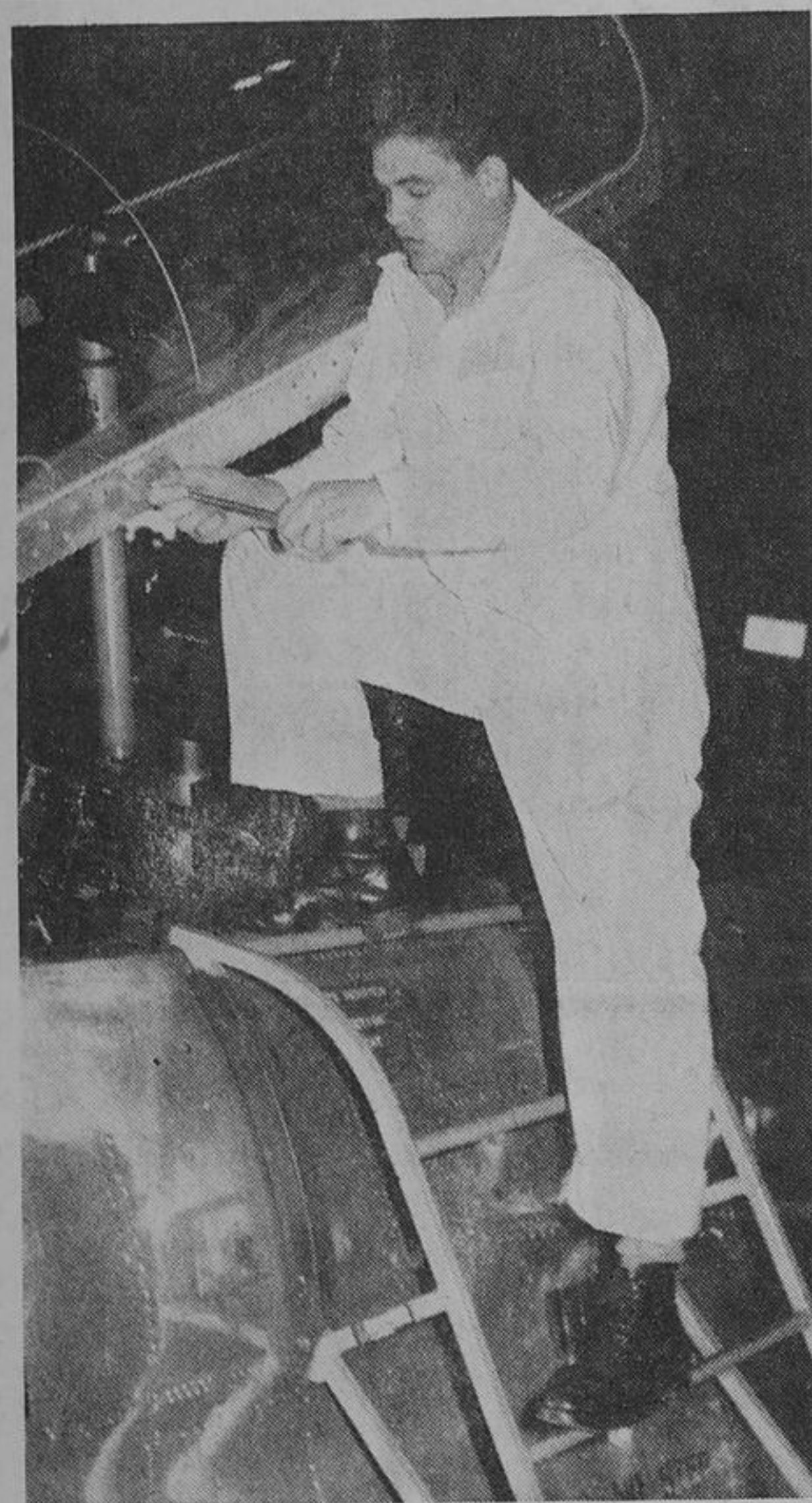
Socially Speaking in Thornhill

Birthday greetings are extended to Ross Marks, Hugh Matheson, Heather Culley, Brian Neely, Jennifer Bjerre, Michael Morse, Cindy Cruise, Brenda Cram, Trish Bean, and all who celebrate January birthdays.

Miss Lauraine Davis, Arnold Avenue, was entertained at a miscellaneous shower December 7 at the home of Miss Sharon Jolicoeur, 108 Pugsley Avenue, Richmond Hill. Attending the shower were bridesmaids, friends and Mrs. W. J. Davis Jr. and Mrs. C. Lucas, mothers of the bride and groom.

Miss Davis is to be married to Brian Lucas January 12 at 7 pm in St. Mary's Anglican Church, Richmond Hill.

Mr. and Mrs. Percy Bone, Kirk Drive, entertained at a family dinner party Christmas Day at their home. Attending the holiday celebration were their daughter, Miss Betty Bone, their son Arthur, his wife Marg-



(Canadian Forces Photo)

Receives Posting

A former student at Thornhill Secondary School, Able Seaman Blain Woodruff is seen above giving a comprehensive check to a Silver Star Jet Trainer during his recent 17-week airframe technician course at the Canadian Forces Base, Borden. Blain completed the course successfully and last Friday was posted to the aircraft carrier HMCS Bonaventure.

Blain, 21, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Woodruff, 7480 Bayview Avenue, Thornhill. He joined the navy three years ago.

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Gail Springer flew down to Pittsburgh, Pa., and enjoyed a week visiting Debbie Morgan and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Morgan, former Thornhill residents.

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Harrington of Waterloo spent Christmas visiting Mrs. Harrington's parents, Mr. and Mrs. K. Duncan, Arnold Avenue.

Liz Duncan spent two weeks with her family over the holidays and returned last week to Calgary where she attends Mount Royal College.

Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Plaxton, 115 John Street, flew home from their winter home at Delray Beach, Florida, to spend the holidays with their family.

Mr. and Mrs. James Timmins, Thornridge Drive, with their children, David, Stephen, Julie, Gretchen and Rachel, spent the week following Christmas at their cottage at Craig Leith. The family enjoyed the late snowfall on New Year's Eve and managed to do a little skiing before returning home.

Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Springer, Kirk Drive, spent a few days during the holidays at the Muskoka Sands Hotel.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Corkill, (described as a busy holiday with their three sons and guests, Keith drove home from Montreal where he attends St. George's Williams College, majoring in French. Keith brought home as his guest Denis Mailloux for a ten day visit. David, his wife Marion and daughter Leslie from Kingston spent four days at home over Christmas before leaving for Ottawa to visit Marion's parents over the New Year weekend.

David and Marion will both graduate from Queen's University this year. Grant drove down with Miss Shirley Homer from Barrie for Christmas Day to be with the family.

Wilma and Ed Boorsma with their baby daughter, Anita, of Milton added to the family reunion when they visited with the Corkills on Christmas Eve.

Mr. and Mrs. Corkill enjoyed a trip out west in the fall when they visited Calgary, Vancouver and Victoria. While in Victoria the Corkills visited with Mr. and Mrs. Glen Higgins. Glen is the son of Rev. A. I. Higgins of the United Church and Mrs. Higgins.

Miss Pat Gain, former Henderson Avenue resident, visited with the Corkill family during the holidays. Pat is in her final year at East General Hospital School of Nursing.

Miss Ruth Harrington, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. Harrington, Charles Street, a nurse in training at Guelph Hospital School of Nursing, is now at Sick Children's Hospital for her pediatric training.

Final respects to one of professional sport's genuine heroes, Charles Conacher, former pro hockey great for the Toronto Maple Leafs, were paid last week at his funeral at St. Paul's Anglican Church, Bloor Street East.

Former hockey player Murray Henderson, Arnold Avenue, acted as a pallbearer along with Mr. Conacher's nephews, Roy Jr., Lionel, David and Brian and Roy Wilson.

Charlie Conacher lived at 263 Steeles East and can almost be claimed as a village resident.

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CBC's Mr. Dress-up Popular Thornhill Resident

By JO CRUISE

Ernest Arthur Coombs, better known to his large following of little people as Mr. Dress-Up, has devoted many years to entertaining young children.

Ernest Coombs came to Canada five years ago from Pittsburgh, Pa., Pennsylvania, where he was the producer of children's programs on an educational television station. He was also very active with the Pittsburgh Miniature Theatre, a touring children's theatre company that travelled throughout the north-eastern United States.

It was an engagement to Toronto with "Ali Baba And The Forty Thieves" that led Ernest Coombs to contact an old friend, Fred Rogers and the subsequent meeting resulted in his move to Canada. Fred Rogers, producer of CBC's children's program, "The Mr. Rogers Show", asked his old friend to come to Toronto and assist him as a puppeteer on his program.

Mr. Coombs and his wife Lynn had been contemplating a move to Maine, birthplace of Ernest, but decided to come to Toronto instead. They originally planned to stay eight months but when Mr. Coombs was offered his own morning show for Channel 6 they became settled residents of Canada. They return to Maine every summer for two months to enjoy the ocean they love but are always happy to come home to Thornhill where they have been residing for three and a half years.

"Butternut Square" was the original name of the actor's television show seen every morning Monday to Friday at 11 am. The program was an instant success and was seen by hundreds of pre-school children for several years. However, when the CBC budget was reduced, programs for children were the first to be given cancellation notices. "Butternut Square" was scheduled to be dropped after 20 shows. When the word got out, let-

ters from irate mothers, letters to members of parliament and from "The Voice Of Women" poured in requesting that the program be kept alive. The response was overwhelming and compared only to "This Hour Has Seven Days" cancellation uproar.

CBC had started looking for a replacement but were unable to find films with Canadian content to fill the 11 am gap. Consequently Mr. Coombs' program was revived under a different title, "Mr. Dress-Up". The sets were smaller, live music was eliminated and Sandy, the popular young lady on "Butternut Square", was written out of the script.

The young audience missed Sandy and more letters arrived at the studio. Mr. Dress-Up was even accused of doing away with his helper. The heavy mail brought results and Sandy was brought back on the program. She now makes appearances several times a week. The program continues to be a highlight of the small fry world.

Mr. Coombs began his career as a commercial artist in Boston. His work in a stock company as set designer sparked his interest in acting and he was launched on his acting career. For a while he maintained both talents with the company but eventually devoted full time to being an actor. He still designs sets for the children's theatre in Pittsburgh on assignment.

The Christmas holiday production of "Tickle-Trunk Too", presented at Trinity Square December 26 - 31, was produced by the talented Mr. Dress-Up and Sandy was enjoyed by many little people.

Ernest Coombs lives on Green Lane, Thornhill, with his wife and children. Kathy is five and Christopher is two and a half. They also have two dogs and a cat and, if Kathy had her way, a horse would be added to the Coombs' household.

Lynn Coombs, an actress

in her own right, attended the Pittsburgh Playhouse School of Drama and worked in the theatre there. She also appeared on television in New York. Lynn Coombs attended the school on "The Friendly Giant" and "Mr. Dress-Up" programs and is always a welcome addition to the shows.

Children from the Thornhill Nursery School had a special treat in December when Mr. Dress-Up paid a visit to the school. Kathy Coombs attended the school last year but has now graduated to kindergarten at Bayview Glen Public School.

Good television programs for the pre-school child are not too plentiful. Let us hope that the CBC will continue Mr. Coombs' delightful program for many months to come and that the Coombs' family will remain in Canada where they have contributed so much enjoyment for hundreds of young children who look forward to 11 am every morning.

THE THORNHILL SPORTS SCENE

ATOMS
December 27
Richvale Ready-Mix 3, Woodbridge 0

Thornhill goalie Doug Barton got the shutout. Scoring the goals were Kevin Smith, Danny Clark and Ricky Rogers. Assists went to Bill Sim, Paul Ralph and Calvin McCathie.

January 6
Richvale Ready-Mix 3, Camp Borden 0

Doug Barton came up with another shutout. Danny Clark soloed for the first goal and then assisted Ricky Rogers on the second. Kevin Smith was good for the third backed by Bill Sim.

PEEWEE HESPELER TOURNAMENT
Eight teams played seven games in this tournament. Thornhill won one game, lost two and tied four ending up in fifth place.

December 22
North End Cleaners 2, Hamilton 2

David Courtemanche scored the first assisted by Barry Howson. Ernie Takuchi tossed one into the net aided by Chris

Sutton and Bernard Souche.

December 25
North End Cleaners 1, Waterloo 1

Barry Howson scored the lone goal for the home team.

December 27
North End Cleaners 3, Oak Ridges 0

Two games on the same day with the Cleaners winning their only game against Oak Ridges and tying the other one with Hespeler.

In the first game Kenny Okada started the ball rolling on a pass from Rocky Pantalone. Bernard Souche added his goal assisted by David Hartwick and Chris Sutton. David Hartwick placed the third with the help of Bernard Souche.

December 30
Two games again with Milton downing Thornhill 5-1. Barry Howson turned in the lone assist by Bernard Souche. Georgetown 1, North End Cleaners 1

Kenny Okada was the hero scoring on a pass from David Hartwick.

Woodbridge 4, Cleaners 1

Back to league games. Neville LePage scored with assists going to David Courtemanche and Kenny Okada.

BANTAMS
January 6
W. A. Stephenson 2, Camp Borden 3

Randy Bagg and Paul Davies scored singles with assists going to Michael Coyne, Bill Law and Bob McIntosh.

MIDGETS
Wilson's Esso 1, Camp Borden 3

Ross Johnson scored the lone goal.

JUVENILES
January 5
DEMS 4, Bolton 3

Scoring were John Stevens assisted by Chris Sills; Angelo Di Vincenzo from Mike Stratton; Chris Sills from Wayne Henry; Captain Paul Lettbridge from Chris Sills and Gary Hughes. Goalie was Gary Petronick.

DEMS 3, Orillia 7

An exhibition contest with Thornhill goals coming from the sticks of Mike Stratton, Wayne Henry, John Stevens, Chris Sills picked up an assist.

The Copper Kettle Corner

People who jump to conclusions often frighten the best ones away.

Marriage is an old institution that teaches a man thrift, regularity and many other fine virtues that he would not need if he had stayed single.

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Crestwood Rd. News

Correspondent: Mrs. Fred St. John
75 Crestwood Road
Willowdale
Telephone 889-3443

Neighborhood Notes
Birthdays congratulations go this week to Dorothy Godson, Barry St. John, Lynn Webster and Dave Hayes.

A speedy recovery is wished for 13-year-old Susan Ryan who broke her collarbone while tobogganing on New Year's Day. The Peters family, Anne, Pete, Larry, Joan and Judy have just returned from a holiday in Florida — just in time to enjoy our record cold snap.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob White and girls, former residents of Crestwood Road, were visiting her sister Mrs. Marjorie Fitchett and family here recently.

Parents of students at Thornhill Secondary School attended an interesting Parents' Night at the school January 4. They were addressed by Principal J. E. Edwards, Vice-principal W. McVicar and York Central District High School Superintendent S. L. G. Chapman.

Parents were asked to make appointments with teachers from then until February 2. They were also given a questionnaire to fill out giving suggestions as to how individual programs for students could best be worked out and how students could best learn to accept responsibility for their own progress and studies.

At the close of the evening, parents were invited to the cafeteria to have coffee and chat with the teachers.

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