



(Photo by Stuart's Studio)

Richmond Hill Civic Improvement Awards

Big smiles all around as William Klees, proprietor of Klees and Son Wholesale Meats of 69 Industrial Road, receives the Richmond Hill Civic Improvement Award for 1969 in recognition of his efforts in keeping his property in an attractive and presentable condition. Also honored this year was the firm of Scholastic Publications Ltd., 123 Newkirk Road.

Left to right are Councillor Ivan Mansbridge, council representative on the civic improvement committee, Chairman Douglas Allen, Mr. Klees, and Member David Fayle. The thought behind the annual award is to encourage local industries as well as commercial firms to maintain their properties in a pleasant and pleasing way.

Youth Back Drop-In Centre

By MARGARET LADE

Youth and adults are agreed that Richmond Hill needs a Drop-In Centre for young people, but where it will be located, who will finance it and how it will be administered are points that still have to be resolved.

More than 150 people — about 90 of them under 21 — assembled Sunday night in the basement hall of Our Lady Queen of the World Roman Catholic Church on Bayview Avenue North to thrash out ideas relating to such a centre.

The meeting had been preceded by a smaller gathering in the York County Board of Education offices, 59 Yonge Street North, on November 4, and it was generally agreed that there is wide concern about a place for youth in the community.

Early in September Richmond Hill Businessman John Griffin, a principal in Richmond Heights Centre and Richmond Hill Golf and Country Club, approached the town council with a proposal that the now vacant Trailways Bus Terminal on Enford Road be leased by the town at a cost of \$4,730 on a five year lease.

He suggested parents, merchants and service clubs might be willing to contribute capital for renovations, and the young people could do the painting and other work necessary to make the building into a drop-in centre.

It would provide 4,300 feet of floor space in a high-ceilinged building where many activities could be carried on at the same time. There was ample parking space, Mr. Griffin pointed out, and it was away from residential properties, but centrally located.

Council initially responded with enthusiasm to the idea, but later pronounced the building "not suitable".

Fearful that prospects for getting a centre were going out the window, concerned parents, youth workers and young people hastily called the public meeting Sunday, inviting members of council, clergy and any other citizens and young people for an open exchange of ideas.

The meeting was chaired by Brian King, a grade 12 student at Bayview Secondary School, who presented the case for youth. Young people he has talked to, said Brian, want a place to have dances, play games, and get together off the streets and out of the plazas.

The average student, he said, cannot afford the type of entertainment that is available. School dances are too expensive for the average student's pocketbook.

Mayor Thomas Broadhurst asked what the young people were prepared to do for themselves. He pointed out that council is handling public funds, that although he personally was in favor of such a centre, the case would have to be properly presented to council before it could be discussed.

Councillors Lois Hancey, William Lazenby and Ivan Mansbridge also expressed personal sympathy, but wanted to know what the young people want and what they are prepared to give. Some of the adults were concerned at the insistence of the young people that they would want to govern their own centre. Others supported the idea that if the young people are responsible enough to organize and operate their own programs, they should be permitted to operate the centre without on-premises adult supervision.

The young people agreed they would welcome the support of an adult advisory committee, but not the type of committee that would organize and oversee the complete operation of the centre.

Proposals ranged all the way from a completely publicly supported and furnished centre to a sharing of existing centre facilities.

zons' facilities in the community.

Father Francis Robinson, rector of Our Lady Queen of the World, offered the church hall as a temporary quarters for the young people to meet on a Friday evening until they can consolidate their plans and a place can be found for a centre that will be open at certain hours every day of the week.

Some of the young people spoke of drop-in centres they had visited in North York and Barrie where teens gathered to play records, get together in informal musical groups, play ping pong or just chat.

The chairman asked Mayor Broadhurst about a house the town is in the process of buying on Wright Street just west of the library. Brian said he understood there had been talk of converting it into a Drop-In Centre.

The mayor pointed out that the town is buying the property so that it will have space for expansion of municipal facilities west of Yonge Street behind the municipal buildings.

Whether or not it could be used for a drop-in centre would be a matter for the whole council to decide, said Mr. Broadhurst.

Some of the adults were concerned that young people from outside of Richmond Hill would be coming into town to use the centre. Several supported the idea of a small membership fee and admission by membership only.

Others suggested a nominal charge of perhaps 25 cents — if a dance was planned, and that proceeds from the sale of soft drinks and coffee could be put toward the cost of maintaining the centre.

The young people came up with ideas for providing their own entertainment, bringing in their own games, records and musical instruments.

"If it is ours, and we are running it, we won't let anyone wreck it", one young man declared.

Brian agreed there would be no objection to a policeman dropping in for a look around in the course of his regular patrol duties, but to have a policeman on duty at the door would have the effect of removing responsibility from the young people and would discourage some from using the centre.

Councillor Lazenby, who is council's representative on the Richmond Hill and District Social Planning Council, assured the young people of his full personal support, adding that if the house on Wright Street seems suitable, he will ask council to make it available for a youth centre.

Mr. Griffin, who was present at the meeting, and local businessman Thomas McQueen, both offered their support in helping the young people to organize a plan for the centre and prepare a presentation to put before town council.

If a house is available, said Mr. McQueen, the ideal would

be to have a recreation area in the basement, a place for record playing and discussion on the main floor, and room for card playing and quiet games above. This, he said, would involve knocking out partitions and other major changes.

Meanwhile, he said, you have to cut down the first tree before you can clear a forest. The first tree would be to prepare a proper plan and present it to the community. If the centre was to be put to full use, he declared, it should be centrally located.

Brian told the meeting that, from talking with other young people, he would estimate that, on a Friday night, as many as 200 young people might be attracted to the centre. After school and week nights the turnout would be smaller, but there would always be a considerable number who would want to use the centre.

Father Robinson cautioned that, if the centre is in a residential area, the hours would have to be limited so as not to disturb the neighbors.

After the two hour meeting, Father Robinson invited everyone to remain for coffee and soft drinks, and discussion continued informally until midnight.

The next move, it was agreed, is up to the young people, who will include some interested adults in working out concrete plans and proposals to present to the people of Richmond Hill.

When one adult objected that to have a youth centre with no adult involvement would only widen the generation gap, Mrs. Hancey replied, "This has nothing to do with the generation gap. There has always been a gap between generations. They want to be with people their own age, just as we want to talk to people our age."

The clergy was well represented, with ministers from most local churches present.

Rev. Fred Jackson of St. Mary's Anglican Church came out in favor of encouraging the young people to work out their own program. Rev. James Burn of St. Matthew's United Church, president of the Richmond Hill

Social Planning Council, said he would not allow his daughter to go to an un-supervised drop-in centre.

Rev. John Lawrence of St. John's Baptist Church was strongly in favor of adult program advisors and supervisors, at least in the beginning stages.

An adult supporter of the youth plan asked that they be given an opportunity to run their own program, saying, "There is nothing wrong with young people but boredom."

There were several very young teens in the audience.

Most of the young people were casually dressed, and many of the young men had long hair. A few also had beards, but all of them were clean and well combed. Their manner was respectful, and as the evening wore on most of them had spoken out, attempting to assure the adults that they are responsible and that they would not tolerate any attempt by "greasers" to crash or disrupt their activities in a community sponsored centre.

WILLOWDALE: Mayor James Service will ask North York Borough Council to remove all cigarette vending machines from borough property, including the municipal offices and area recreation arenas.

Service, who doesn't smoke, failed to win board of control approval for his plan last week after Controller Frank Watson said he wanted to know first how many machines there are now in municipal buildings.

PRE-WINTER SALE

The next best thing to a new car is a "Guaranteed Used Car" from H. J. PFAFF MOTORS LTD.

1969 PONTIAC LAURENTIAN 327 V8

Metallic blue, automatic, radio, power steering and brakes, sharp. One owner. Lic. 625-128.

\$2095

1968 DODGE DART 270 V8

Automatic, light metallic blue, 4-door, power steering & brakes, radio. Like new. Lic. 145-605.

\$2195

1968 RAMBLER AMBASSADOR SST

2 door hardtop V8. Factory air-conditioned, power steering & brakes, maroon red, factory warranty, one owner. Lic. K57792.

\$2495

1962 FORD GALAXIE V8

Automatic, radio, as is, a clean car.

\$175.00

A full selection of 100% reconditioned Volkswagens in stock at all times. See your Authorized Volkswagen Dealer.

H. J. PFAFF MOTORS LTD.

315 Yonge St. N., NEWMARKET

364-7917

Town of Richmond Hill



REGIONAL GOVERNMENT PUBLIC MEETING

On Tuesday, November 18th at 8:00 p.m. a Public Meeting will be held in the Richmond Hill Council Chambers to give information on Provincial Government Policy concerning Regional Government as set out in Design for Development Phase 2. Tentative proposals for areas and/or responsibilities of Municipal Councils will also be discussed.

R. LYNETT, Clerk.

Don Head Secondary School DON HEADLINES

Editor: DAVID MAXWELL

Consultant: R. R. Hyde

ASSEMBLY

By Joe Fleming and Randy Brancati

William Babcock and students put on an assembly, November 5. It was all about Don Head students and their activities.

Slides taken on outdoor education trips were shown. There were slides showing the preparations in the food shops for the thanksgiving banquet. In upholstering, Mr. Seath's chair was shown stripped of its old cloth. The students had put the springs back together and put gold cloth in it. There were slides from other shops.

Mr. Babcock, Hollie Pike, Joe Fleming and Phil Cowley named students who were working in the slides.

J-3 students put on a skit to advertise the Year Book.

Ron Woodward explained what a Year Book is about.

STUDENTS' COUNCIL

By Danny Grayson, Tim Morrill and Dave Maxwell

Students' Council met November 3. They were deciding if they should have a "Slave Week" or not. That's when you can purchase someone to be your helper. The organizers are: Rodger Woodward, Wayne Brown, Lynda Woodhouse and Joan Tremblay, who were named to a special committee to

discuss money-raising student activities.

The Students' Council discussed meeting every second Monday but will meet again next Monday.

The Year Book Committee asked, and got, a loan of \$50.00 for cameras for a Camera Club, which will supply the Year Book with photographers.

MILL POND

By Dave Maxwell

November 3 there was a science trip to the Mill Pond. At about 9.30 the workmen would come to feed the ducks. The Department of Works is trying to restore the Mill Pond properly. The Mill Pond is situated in Richmond Hill.

THE BRUCE TRAIL

By Garrie Wayne

Barry Bethune, Mrs. Phyllis Lenney, Phillip Jones, Brian Smith, Don Rixon, Murray Rutherford and Garrie Wayne walked two miles along the Bruce Trail south of us went on the hike to find out what the trail would be like to take other kids on. We found out that it was very interesting and in the odd place it was mucky. But it was real fun. There were rocks, or should I say boulders, all along the trail. November 10 we took 80 students of Don Head School for 11 miles along the trail. I feel it was well

worth the walk.

SPORTS NEWS

By Gordon Houston

Volleyball — Don Head's teachers played the boys' intermediate volleyball team in a gruelling game to the death. But, luckily for the boys' team, it was the teachers' death. The boys won two games to none, even with Miss Marjorie Gibson refereeing the game.

Better luck next time, teachers!

Boys' Batinton Tournament — Amongst the boys P.E. classes a batinton tournament is being held to see who is the top player in Don Head. "Batinton" is a combination of badminton and tennis. A badminton paddle is used on a tennis court, and instead of a ball, a birdie is used. The results of the tournament will be posted in the near future in the main foyer. The 20 class champions will start competing this Friday to declare a school champion.

We hope to hold handball, deck tennis, and paddle tennis tournaments in the near future.

Boys' Basketball — A practice for all boys of all ages will start soon. The boys who make it will be split into junior and intermediate teams. After Christmas the teams will play against teams from other schools.

WEDDING Invitations

ASK FOR
Forever Yours

INVITATIONS
ANNOUNCEMENTS
ACCESSORIES

COME IN AND
ASK FOR YOUR
FREE BRIDAL GIFT
REGISTER

The Liberal
63 Yonge St. S.
Richmond Hill

NOTICE!

FOR YOUR ADDED SHOPPING CONVENIENCE THE FOLLOWING ...



Richmond Heights

CENTRE STORES ARE ...

NOW OPEN

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

UNTIL 9:00 P.M. — NOW TO CHRISTMAS

- BARTH'S CLEANERS
- BURROUGHES FURNITURE
- ELK'S MEN'S & BOYS' WEAR
- FIRESTONE STORE
- KRESGE'S
- LOBLAWS
- MR. DONUT
- PATTI-LU SHOP
- PET FAIR
- RICHMOND HILL MUSIC CENTRE