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About CRASH Youth Hostel
Hill Council Asks For More Facts

A hostel for transient youth during the summer was proposed to Richmond Hill Town Council by a group of six young people Monday night. After intensive questioning by members of council, they left the meeting, following Mayor William Lazenby's assurance, "We haven't said no. If you strongly wish to get this thing going do come back. But this municipality is not going to commit itself until it knows what your proposal is exactly, particularly as to financing."

The name of the hostel to be established on the Nipigon Stock Farm on 19th Avenue at Bayview is CRASH (Community Rest and Sleeping Hostel). It would operate under the federal government's Opportunity For Youth Program, and run from June 25 to September 1, in co-operation with an information booth to be established on Yonge Street at Highway 7.

The staff would be composed of six people with the help of an advisory committee from the drop-in, YAC, and two social workers and professional workers (doctors, lawyers, etc.) when needed. They would be responsible for maintenance and operation with one male and one female present each night, working a 12 hour shift. Stay at the hostel would be limited to a maximum of two nights.

Tents will be used for sleeping accommodation with separate areas for males and females with a total of 40 beds. Clean bedding and hygienic needs will be provided and soup and cereal will be on hand at all times. Medical aid would be available through YAC and a common room for registration will be separate from the sleeping areas.

The group reported that the project would be funded by Ottawa, but that they had been informed they needed approval of the municipal government before making a formal application.

Members of the group are Marlene Yoteff, 101 Traybort Drive; Bob Puern, 7 Stancroft Drive; Mike Brown, 130 Harding Boulevard; Brad Playford, Brookside Drive; Kathy Willock, 389 Tyneview Lane; and Janice Jones, 210 Richmond Street.

Mayor Lazenby pointed out that the site is far out of the main core area of the town, five miles from Highway 7 and a mile and a quarter from Yonge Street. In reply to a question, he was assured that the group was asking no financial support from the municipality and that the group's budget is \$6,000.

The group warned that the influx of youthful hitchhikers will occur whether a hostel is provided or not. "The problems without a hostel could well outweigh those with a hostel," their spokesman pointed out. "You may find the kids sleeping in the parks and in ditches, breaking into cars, with high vagrancy rates. This site is far from the residential areas. For us it will provide a learning experience and summer employment."

Council's questions ranged from sanitary and laundry facilities, to control of overflow demand for the 40 sleeping spaces. Regional Councillor Donald Plaxton pointed out that one of the first steps would be to get health unit approval of sanitary arrangements. The young people reported that it did not plan to provide showers but only rudimentary wash facilities with well water in basins and that the health unit also required prior approval by the municipality.

Mayor Lazenby questioned the 25c per night token charge, pointing out that in Europe where hostels have been popular for years, the nightly charge is \$1. He felt the young people were taking on a grave responsibility. "If I were in your shoes I would like to have the right arm of the law sitting beside me," he said as he expressed concern about the hikers lingering on the property past the 10 am deadline. He was assured that this was an area in which volunteers could assist, that the owner of the property would be available and a telephone and alarm system would be installed.

"I've done a lot of soul-searching on this project because I felt we were receiving a request of this nature," stated Councillor Lois Hancey. "I think it is very worthwhile for the youth of this country to get to know the country. I have been very vociferous in the past on behalf of youth aid projects I have supported, but I object most strongly to the tokenism involved in the federal government's present program. I think they have put the cart before the horse and should have been erecting proper buildings for this purpose in strategic places. I am afraid that undesirable people will infiltrate and use such a facility to the detriment of other decent kids who have accepted the federal government's invitation to hike around this country."

"I did a bit of travelling myself," admitted Councillor Andy Chateauvert, "although not to the extent of the present trend. I don't think the kids are looking for the comforts of home. As long as the bare necessities are met — a place to sleep, a place to get out of the rain, they will be happy. I give you my support in principle."

"Before I give approval in principle, I want to see figures and conditions", stated Regional Councillor Gordon Rowe. Regional Councillor Plaxton questioned adequacy of the facilities and suggested the Langstaff Jail Farm buildings could have been used for this purpose with advantage.

Councillor Dave Schiller stated that council was "not in a position to give approval in principle, or otherwise, at this meeting. We are leaving the door open for you to do some more digging. We would require some sort of agreement from the government in writing before giving our approval."

"It was against the federal government giving this amount of money, nearly \$50 million. I would like more information before coming to a decision," stated Councillor Lou Wainwright.

Dump Injunction

A group of concerned ratepayers of the Town of Vaughan, including the Kleinburg Ratepayers' Association has secured an injunction against the operation of the Connor Gravel Pit, located on Highway 27, as a sanitary landfill site (garbage dump).

The injunction will run until June 9 and a choice of action is open to the town council, "The Liberal" learned. Future action by the ratepayers will depend on what action council takes.

The funds for legal counsel have come from the concerned private citizens "who do not want the Town of Vaughan to be turned into a huge garbage dump for Metro," according to Ron MacDonald of the Woodbridge area, one of the leaders of the fight.

Social Planning — Focus On Youth, New Ward Five

(Continued from Page 1)

skills and prepare them for kindergarten as well as assisting the mothers in developing new interests and expanding their own horizons.

The citizens association, said Mr. McElhinney, is a grass roots organization designed to co-ordinate the efforts of the people in dealing with issues that affect residents of the area.

"There was an undercurrent of concern about the 'take-over' of Oak Ridges and Lake Wilcox by Richmond Hill, and these communities were ripe for an organization that would bring the people together," Mr. Felix explained. "There is no membership fee, yet everyone is involved."

Mr. MacLean introduced John Rance and Carl Nixon, youth representatives elected to the SPC board of directors at the 1970 annual meeting.

They had been added to the board, said Mr. MacLean, in recognition of the growing importance of youth involvement and interest in the affairs of the community.

"Until then, we kind of blew it as far as youth was concerned," he admitted.

ASSESS DROP-IN PROGRAMS

Mr. Rance described the work of an eight-member board set up to assess needs and programs for drop-in centres. Various experiments had been launched and operated for varying lengths of time in different locations, he told the meeting, but the greatest achievement had been building up a working relationship between youth and the town council.

The board is now in the process of assessing what has been done, and needs for the future. It plans to hold seminars with resource people who can offer constructive information and to meet with young people from the Ward 5 area to exchange ideas that can be mutually beneficial.

The background of the Youth Aid Centre was outlined briefly by Mrs. Graham. Many segments of the community had been concerned about troubled youth, and their concern was sharpened by increasing incidents of drug use.

At the same time, she said, "Two young people, Barbara Fawcens and John Raynor — at that time students, now graduates in social service, were doing something practical. They opened their house to kids with problems, cherished and counselled them."

Concerned citizens, the social planning council, and Addiction Research foundation became involved and the ARF agreed to provide funds for three months for a pilot project in the summer of 1970 provided the community would provide a place and funds to run it and pay salaries to the two directors.

The SPC suggested a separate board be set up and incorporated to raise funds and administer a centre.

TOWN AIDS CRISIS CENTRE

"This was done with financial help from the Town of Richmond Hill and interested people and lots of hard work," said Mrs. Graham.

The area of troubled youth she continued is puzzling with no set answers to problems. Maximum responsiveness to need and flexibility, blended with awareness of responsibility to the whole community is necessary.

Directors include concerned parents, representatives of clergy and community service groups as well as professional, medical and psychiatric services.

The summer pilot at 190 Markham Road was rated a success.

"Kids who would go to no existing agency came to YAC and were usually helped," said Mrs. Graham. "Though it is hard to assess, we feel much of the work was preventative. But the summer also revealed the dimensions of the problems of our youth which were beyond our resources of space, money of personnel. In June, 375 kids used the centre, in July 400, in August 581."

When 190 was demolished to make way for apartments, YAC moved to 160 Markham Road. It was a house that would be warm in winter, central, but far from perfect in size, condition or layout for a centre.

With financing from the town, then with assistance from the Department of Health and the York Region Public Health Unit under Dr. Owen Slingerland, commissioner of health and social services for the region, the centre was able to continue.

"The urge to come (to YAC) came from a variety of sources," said Mrs. Graham. "About a third came because they wanted to, but many were referred by the educational system, especially special education; by friends; by medical doctors and public health nurses; by parents; probation and police; by children's aid societies; by mental health services; by ANKH (the crisis centre in Newmarket); by addiction research, etc."

All of these sources in turn became resources to help staff in re-establishing the young people in coping with the world around them, whether at home, at school in employment or under treatment.

"Usually, of the cases on hand 52 percent are improving, 12 percent are worsening, 36 percent are new, recurring sporadically or presently unchanging."

NEED HALF WAY HOUSE

The centre is constantly assessing its services, their effectiveness, its place in the community, limitations and course for the future. Mrs. Graham continued, and the year has pointed out other areas of pressing need for community youth. These include a residential treatment centre, not on the level of a psychiatric hospital, but staffed by qualified professionals; a residence to serve as a halfway house in adjustment; a real and continuing drop-in open more than once a week to provide a "sort of large living room or old corner soda fountain atmosphere"; and a job placement agency with youth orientation.

Except for a closedown in February to reorganize physically and to re-establish priorities, YAC has been serving from 500 to 700 young people each month, Mrs. Graham concluded.

"The need is there — we hope to improve our service."

In her statistical report, Mrs. Graham informed the meeting that 82 percent of the young people served came from Richmond Hill and surrounding communities; 71 percent were male and 29 percent female; 75 percent are in the 16 to 18 age bracket, with 16 the most vulnerable age; 14 percent are 19 or 20.

In 67 typical cases, the young people had a total of 305 problems. More than half had problems in interpersonal or personal relationship, education or vocational, accommodation, drugs and family. Other had medical, employment, legal, financial or acute psychiatric problems.

Of those coming to the centre, 59 percent had been living at home, 15 percent on the street, nine percent came from jail, seven percent were on welfare, seven percent were self-supporting, and three percent came from hospitals.

ELECT NEW DIRECTORS

The meeting broke up into informal groups for further discussion with resource people from the various groups represented following a break for coffee and refreshments.

A 15-member board of directors was elected, and officers will be elected from this group at a meeting of the board on June 17.

Directors for 1971-72 are Stanley Elson, Gary Felix, Mrs. Marjorie Gleason, Rev. Fred Jackson, Patrick Killian, Neil Mann, Ian MacLean, Mrs. Winona MacDonald, Basil Muncey, David Porter, John Rance, Rev. Francis Robinson, Mrs. Doreen Wright, Mrs. Pat Wynne and George Young.

COMING EVENTS

JUNE 17, THURSDAY — Tour of homes, Markham. 1 pm - 5 pm. Proceeds to Family Life Centre. Tickets \$2. 294-3671. c1w50

JUNE 19, SATURDAY — Community Day, auspices Victoria Square Lions, Community Centre, softball game, bake sale, chicken barbecue, pony rides, euchre, dance (M.C. Frank Barkey). Lucky draw, all expense trip for two to Bermuda, many other prizes. All proceeds to support community projects. c2w50

JUNE 20, SUNDAY 11 am — Teston United Church, Sunday School anniversary service. Rev. W. Eric Nelson, Padre of the Pubs. Music, Teston Sunday School Choir. Everyone welcome. c2w50

JUNE 21, MONDAY — 8 pm Metropolitan United Church Silver Band, and other artists, Bayview Secondary School. Admission \$1.50. Sponsored by Richmond Hill Presbyterian Choir. c2w50

JUNE 22 TUESDAY — York North Progressive Conservative Nomination Convention - 7:30 p.m., at the Aurora Highlands Golf Club. The Honourable George Kerr, Minister of Energy and Resources, M.L.A. Halton-East, will be Guest Speaker. c2w50

JUNE 22, TUESDAY — Carrville United Church Strawberry Festival. Ham, salads, strawberries, ice cream, tarts and cakes. Adults \$2.00, children under 12 \$1.00. c2w50

JUNE 23, WEDNESDAY 4:30 - 8 pm — Teston United Church Annual Strawberry Festival. Salad plate, strawberries, and home baking. Adults \$2.00, children 75c. c2w50

Whitchurch-Stouffville And King Men Arrested On Liquor Charges

Four Whitchurch-Stouffville and King area residents were arrested by York Region Police last weekend in Richmond Hill on liquor charges.

Charged Saturday at 8:10 pm with having liquor in a car on Leventdale Road were: Robert Gallimore of 62 Market Street, Whitchurch-Stouffville; Douglas MacKay of Lot 5, Concession 2, Scott Township; and John MacKay of Lot 6, Concession 6, Whitchurch-Stouffville. A quantity of beer was seized.

Charged with consuming liquor under age in a vehicle on Trench Street at 12:55 am Monday was Peter Wray, 20, of Schomberg.

There was a burglary over the weekend at Crosby Senior Public School.

Entry was gained by removing a pane of glass from a window.

About \$25 worth of items were stolen, including some mineral samples and a light fixture.

On Monday morning at a Richvale home on Carrville Road burglars took a small amount of money from a purse. They also took a bottle of liquor.

On June 4 there was a break-in at a display cottage at Beaver Lumber Company on Keele Street in Vaughan.

Property valued at about \$50 was removed. About \$20 worth of vandalism was also reported at this location.

On Saturday burglars took a carburetor and \$50 from Hall's Esso Service Station on Highway 7 West in the Concord area of Vaughan Town, according to York Region Police.

Leonard Poole of Richmond Street, Maple, had about \$225 damage.

2 Torontonians Hurt In Crash On Woodbine

Two Toronto motorists were injured at 1:45 am Saturday in a collision on Woodbine Avenue at Esna Park Drive in Markham Town.

Both suffered a cut bottom lip and knee scratches.

They were Terry Merlin, 20, of 8 Muriel Avenue, driver and John Hemstead, 33, of 53 Valley Drive, his passenger. Their car had an estimated \$500 damage, according to York Region Police.

The other driver was charged under the Highway Traffic Act and had about \$375 damage.

He was Joseph Milton, 25, of 290 Morningside Drive, West Hill.

Cars from Richmond Hill and Maple collided Sunday on Elgin Mills Road.

Diane Farrows of 109 Rockport Crescent had about \$500 damage to her car, according to York Region Police.

Leonard Poole of Richmond Street, Maple, had about \$225 damage.

Accident Report

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York Brief Presented At Trustee Convention

York County Board of Education had two representatives at the Ontario Public School Trustees Association's third annual convention in Sudbury earlier this week.

Newmarket Trustee Jack Hadfield was spokesman for the board in presenting a resolution Tuesday, the third and final day of the convention. He called on the association to support a York County Board brief regarding financing of new schools which has been submitted to the Department of Municipal Affairs and the Department of Education.

The brief contends that school boards should have authority to impose lot levies or dwelling unit fees on new developments to pay costs of providing educational facilities for students who will move into these developments.

It points out that municipalities impose lot levies for services such as sewers, water, roads, and that schools are also in service. The board has recently been giving only conditional approval to plans for new development in the region, asking that the developer or municipality involved pay a \$900 dwelling unit fee to cover capital costs to the board.

Mr. Hadfield attended the convention for only the one day. He was present at the regular meeting of the board in Aurora on Monday.

Communications Officer Mrs. Margaret McLean went to Sudbury last weekend to set up a display on communications, and remained for the conference.

Education Minister Robert Welch was speaker for the wind-up banquet on Tuesday night.

Theme of the convention was "Education — Structured and Unstructured".

East Gwillimbury Trustee William Bales told the board Monday that a copy of the brief had been sent to the new Minister of Municipal Affairs, Dalton Bales, more than a month ago, "and the last time I talked to him he said he was seriously considering it."

NEWMARKET: A 12-year resident of this town, Warren Melville Grimes, 69, a sandpaper manufacturer for more than 50 years died in Toronto Western Hospital May 29 after a brief illness. He was born in Maine and founded with his father, Canada Sand Papers Limited. His family has been manufacturing sandpaper since the 1890s.

Soccer Team Captain Still Critically Ill

May 30 hit-and-run victim Thomas Young, 37, of Bluegrass Boulevard, was still in critical condition in York Central Hospital at press time this week.

The captain of the Richmond Hill Rangers soccer team had survived a bout with pneumonia and was considered to be doing well, although he was expected to continue for about a week breathing through a tube inserted in his throat by doctors.

Young suffered open compound fractures of the right arm and leg, plus head and chest injuries, when he was hit by a car near his home in the early Sunday morning hours after returning home from a bowling banquet.

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