

Two Weeks After Speed Limit Raised

Boy Dies On Steeles Avenue East

An eight-year-old South Thornhill boy was killed July 15 when he was thrown 60 feet from a Steeles Avenue East crosswalk by a car. The fatality occurred two weeks after the speed limit there was raised from 30 to 40 mph.

Mathew Brookman, a student of St. Luke's Separate School and son of Seneca College teacher Joseph and Mrs. Brookman, 164 Steeles Avenue East, was thrown into the path of a second car.

Driver of the first car that hit him, according to Metro Police, was a Chicago school caretaker, Lino DiPietro, 39, father of two who was visiting Willowdale.

DiPietro is charged with criminal negligence and was freed on \$5,000 bail July 16. He faces trial in Willowdale Provincial Court.

Driver of the second car was Bernard Klieb, 56, of 225 Van Horne Avenue.

Police said the accident victim was struck by an eastbound car in the passing lane near the crosswalk on Steeles East.

Another vehicle had stopped in the curb lane as the boy and a companion were crossing Steeles just a few doors from the Brookman home, police said.

Mathew was thrown 60 feet by the initial impact, police said, into the path of a westbound car on the other side of the centre line.

The Brookman boy's constant companion Darrel Sturrock, also eight, of 14 Rayneswood in Thornhill, witnessed the accident. He was a few feet behind Mathew and escaped uninjured.

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Sturrock and other neighbors of the Brookman's charge that the six-lane Steeles Avenue has been turned into a speedway by motorists who come down a steep grade eastbound between Yonge and Bayview "at 60 miles an hour."

Speed on that stretch was boosted to 40 miles an hour two weeks ago after Metro took over jurisdiction.

But home owners in the completely residential and school area have been asking in vain that a 30-mile-an-hour limit be strictly enforced.

They said they have been told the 40 limit is to make the speed on Steeles uniform, but point out that the limit is 35 west of Yonge where there are fewer homes and many open spaces.

Parents of both boys said they had been warned many times not to cross Steeles, but had taken a sudden notion to play in the Brebeuf College grounds opposite the Brookman home.

When they got there they saw a sign reading "private road" and turned back. It was while they were trying to return to the north side the accident occurred.

The crossing is not at an intersection, but is mainly for the use of students attending Brebeuf.

The Sturrocks said the boys had been planning to spend the night together at the Brookmans and had made several trips back and forth between the two homes.

Mathew was a grade 3 student at St. Luke's Separate School in Thornhill and a star player on its tyke hockey team in the municipal league.

He scored two-thirds of his team's total goals during the past season and was due to attend the National Hockey League player Ron Stewart's Hockey School at Tam O'Shanter Arena in Scarborough.

He was buried July 17 following Mass of the Angels, the new Roman Catholic liturgy for children's funerals, in St. Paschal Baylon Church at 92 Steeles West.

Besides his parents, he is survived by two sisters, Catherine 10, and Linette nine, and a brother Glen 5.

Campers Report On "Instant City" At First Convention Held In Canada

By WARREN BAILIE  
55 Denham Drive, Richmond Hill

Camping isn't what it used to be. This was clearly demonstrated at the National Campers and Hikers Convention in Brantford July 9 to 15.

The campers rolled into Brant Park with trailers of considerable variety. Some of the units are complete with gas stoves, refrigerators, bath tubs, flush toilets and television sets.

Not all of the over 30,000 campers at the 12th annual convention have all these conveniences. Many tent trailers were in evidence, and some campers even slept in ordinary tents. The group from the United Kingdom, and there were 20 families of them, were in tents without floors. Beside the UK group there was one family from Japan, giving the big campout an international flavor.

The "Instant City" included a large supermarket, bank, police station, firehall and hospital. A large swimming pool that could accommodate over 700 swimmers, complete with ten lifeguards, helped to cool the group off on hot days. The weatherman was very co-operative, and we had only about one minute's rain on two occasions in a week.

The Richmond Hill Busy Bees, a recently formed chapter of NCHA, was represented at the convention by Mr. and Mrs. James Milne and family in their VW camper van, Mr. and Mrs. Alan Whaley in their tent trailer, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Houghton and family in their VW camper van, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Henty in their four wheel fully equipped trailer home, and Mr. and Mrs. Warren Bailie and family in their cabin trailer. Godson Michael Brown of Richmond Hill accompanied the Bailsies.

The Busy Bees Chapter has about 12 families as members, and hopes to double that number in time for the 1972 convention, which will be at Camp Atterbury, about 40 miles south of Indianapolis, Indiana.

The password for this year's convention, the first ever held in Canada, was "Chimo", which is an Eskimo greeting meaning, "Welcome, friend".

The campers from nearly all the 51 states and most of the Canadian provinces seemed to enjoy themselves. They competed in all kinds of games and contests during the week. The most popular contest was the "Miss NCHA Teen Queen" contest, and this year for the first time a Canadian girl was first runnerup, Miss Carol Weber of Texas was crowned queen, and a Nova Scotia girl, Nadean O'Hara, 17, was first runnerup. Third spot went to Rebecca Worth of Florida.

The Wandering Canadian Chapter from Galt won the award for the chapter with the best public service program over all other chapters from the U.S. and Canada.

The campers all try to live up to the motto of the association, "Campers are the friendliest people in the world".

The American visitors seemed unanimous in their praise of the way they had been welcomed by the Canadians. They had a good time and enjoyed themselves. Many of the trailers seen leaving the park for distant states had attached signs saying, "Thank you, Ontario, we sure had fun in '71".

Anyone interested in joining the Richmond Hill Busy Bees could contact Mr. and Mrs. Dave Taylor at 884-6353.

Your Legion Reports  
Branch 375, Royal Canadian Legion  
By Chris Ratchford — 884-5260

Friday Evening Social Popular Even During Summer

Another week has rolled around and there doesn't seem to be much the matter with the world. Our friends and neighbors are staying healthy I am happy to report. It seems to your reporter that people are like a giant body of water. Never still. Members are busy packing up and leaving on summer holidays. Others are not so fortunate — they have returned from vacation spots and returned to work. Ugh—poor souls. There are others of us yet who have still to look forward to holidays. Lucky stiffs! Like the oceans — continuous movement.

Birthdays are passing by for so many people that they are too numerous to mention. You extend sincere wishes that all celebrants have many more happy days. To the Mighty Green Leprechaun I really did forget to mention your special day. Besides you folks were on holiday. Anyway do have a very special one next year.

Friday social evenings at the branch keep swinging right along. It is now held in the ladies and escorts room. A very friendly atmosphere! One could almost complete a book of the various topics discussed over some refreshments. What do you choose; fishing — painting the cottage — construction of one — road guides (these human ones are best — they never get lost. Seems to me they have their own homing devices) — best spots to vacation — education — or what have you? A very pleasant way to spend a warm evening.

This past Friday night several members of the Newmarket Pipe Band and their ladies turned up just to join us in some relaxation. What with telling jokes, discussing coming tours and band practice — they sure yakked up a storm. It was a howl. Only one thing lads — watch your dressing (slow on the turns in closed counter marching). Do hear a rumor they had such a ball that they will return another time.

The prize winner on our mystery draw this week was Al Binnington. Congrats Al. Say, did you ever see such handsome ticket sellers in your life? You are doing a good job, Harry. Sorry for such a short column this is summer time and as the song says "everything's easy". Stay hale and hearty till next week.

At long last the construction and paving of Yonge Street north of Elgin Mills has been completed except for the erection of signs. Sod has been laid at all private residences and grass seed sown on the other banks. All entrances previously paved have been resurfaced and the final effect is of a vastly improved road in just a little less than two years ago.

Unfortunately, in spite of all the improved corners, lights and islands at Elgin Mills Road, there have been two or three minor accidents at that point.

Been away on a summer vacation? A motor trip to the coast, a cottage holiday — then why not phone your correspondent so it can be included in this column.

ELGIN MILLS AND JEFFERSON NEWS  
Correspondent: Leonard Lomas  
Telephone 884-3000

Church News  
Our acquaintances were renewed on Sunday last when Rev. Fred Jackson returned to St. John's Anglican to celebrate Holy Communion and preach at the morning service.

Next Sunday the service of morning prayer will have Leonard Lomas officiating.

Mrs. Joy Hamden is taking a month's leave from her duties as organist and her place will be filled by John Larkin.

The new font has been delivered by the Exeter Furniture Company. Constructed of the same red oak and stain as the pews, it replaces the large stone font removed when the new carpet was laid prior to the installation of the new pews. The font is a gift from Mrs. Greta Noble in memory of her late husband.

Neighborly Notes  
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