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Joyful Singers Of Gospel Songs

An enthusiastic audience were on hand for the second annual concert presented by the local christian folk group, The Mixed Blessings at St. John's Anglican Church, Jefferson on June 17.

This talented group has been very active for the past three years, singing in churches, nursing homes and coffee houses and last Christmas they appeared on Channel 10, the local cable television station. Every weekend finds them

singing to the glory of God in a contemporary way. They are shown above, front row (left to right): Heather Gerber, Cheryl Marsh, Lynda Earl, Susie Locke, Director Mrs. Betty Carson.

Second row (left to right) Janet Marsh, Cindy Wilton, Debbie Stiver, Kathy Stiver, Billie Locke, Caroline Lomas. Back row standing (left to right) Danny Locke, Ron Stiver, David Wilson, John Gerber and Kent Butler.

Catholic Trustees Say Abortion Moral Issue

The majority of members of the York County Roman Catholic School Board believe that the prime interest of the trustees is the education of children and that as a board they should not take a stand on the abortion issue. The question arose at its July 4 meeting when Trustee Paul Tremblay of Georgina moved that the board send letters to the Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, The Premier of Ontario William Davis and the Ontario Minister of Health Dr. Richard Potter protesting any further relaxation of the restrictions on abortion and asking that these restrictions be more strictly enforced so that they do not permit abortion on demand. However, the board members felt that as Roman Catholic parents, each should make his or her individual protest to the proper government authorities.

Mrs. Noreen Lee of Woodbridge expressed the consensus when she said, "I don't think this board was elected to deal with such issues. There are other moral issues and unless we are prepared to take a stand on all moral issues, I don't think we should focus on any one. As individuals I feel we should protest." Present legislation provides (under the Federal Criminal Code and the Ontario Public Hospitals Act) that hospitals where abortions are performed must set up a therapeutic abortion committee consisting of five members of the active medical staff to review if the continuance of pregnancy would or would be likely to endanger the patient's health or life. Abortions are permitted before the 20th week of the period of gestation.

Ontario's Top Scholar Reticent About Ability

By JIM IRVING

Parents of students having varied success with their elementary studies can take heart, they may have a potential Ontario Scholar in their midst.

At least if the way this year's top scholar for the Region of York—David Ralph Hinton, 17, of 14 Vintage Lane, Thornhill, looks at it, then the above could hold true.

David, who is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Norman Hinton, attained an average of 95.5 percent on seven subjects in grade 13 at Thornhill Secondary School to achieve his distinction. His marks topped 114 other aspirants in the area, all of whom had to average 80 percent or more on at least six credits taken within one school year to qualify for the honor.

However, when it comes to being top student, he hasn't always had the field alone, says the future physician, who also won the Leonard Reuben Wells Scholarship, which will provide full tuition for four years, as well as \$300 cash at the University of Toronto.

In fact, he says, it took him until grade 12 to hit his peak when he pushed his average up 15 percent. Around about grade seven and eight, "I wasn't too good." This year he achieved his "best average yet".

David underestimates his ability, says his mother. "He was always an honor student".

Did he hit the books hard before exams during the school term, cramming in everything but the page numbers in his texts in order to send his average soaring? Nothing quite so dramatic, says David. "I just tried to keep up all the time."

Another thing he tries to keep up with is his music; and although he listens to the modern, it's the classics he's most at home with when he plays the piano, with Tchaikovsky his favorite composer and Glen Gould one of his favorite pianists.

Bikes and badminton are his other favorite pastimes. A summer job as a lab technician at the University of Toronto, however, doesn't leave him much time for hobbies, or holidays. Also, he plans to stay in residence while at school and is working full time so he can finance the latter.

A native of Kingston, David came to Thornhill two years ago when his father, who was chairman of the Department of Biology in medicine at Queen's University, moved to Toronto and a similar post at the university there.

David has four brothers, one older one and three younger ones. Older brother Michael, also got an Ontario Scholarship last year.

And according to David, he too was a late bloomer. Although his mother might disagree as to her son's estimate of his brother's progress, harried parents will want to take note.

Richmond Hill

\$40,000 Price 28 New Homes

A proposed plan of subdivision was recently received from the Department of Municipal Affairs for comment and was discussed at the July 4 meeting of Richmond Hill Council's Planning Committee. The plan submitted by J. Gellany Construction Limited, would divide 4.8 acres of land on Trench Street, immediately north of the Don Head Secondary School grounds, into 28 single family residence lots. Two existing homes will remain.

The construction firm was represented by John Gellany of King City, Consultant Conroy Dawson (former County of York Planner) and Realtor Harry Sadler.

It was explained that this is a land assembly and would extend the continuation of Centre Street and of Brian Street, proposed in the Feeley Subdivision to the immediate east, to Trench Street. The average lot will have a frontage of 53 feet with the corner lots somewhat larger. The homes to be erected will be of a minimum 1,200 square feet, with two bathrooms and attached garage and will be in the \$40,000 range. The average coverage will be a combination of bungalows, split levels and two-story homes.

The committee asked Planning Director Hesse Rimmon to investigate this plan in conjunction with the Feeley application.

Bylaw 1000 designates this area for single family lots having a minimum frontage of 50 feet and minimum area of 5,000 square feet each.

In Water Crisis

Thornhill's House Ban

Markham Town Council more-or-less crossed its fingers Tuesday night of last week when it extended until July 11 a ban against issuing building permits in the municipality.

Reason: Still an inability to solve — for once and for all — the water shortage in the Thornhill area of the municipality.

It was earlier that council had passed a resolution calling a temporary halt to building permits until the water crisis was solved.

It was due to expire July 4 but council, under the urging of Councillors Roy Muldrew and Bob Adams, finally decided to extend the resolution until July 11.

Councillor Muldrew told "The Liberal" that he was "quite frankly stalling for time because I have every reason to believe the water situation will be cleared up for all intents and purposes by July 15." The bylaw will then be rescinded.

Markham Town Council Tuesday afternoon rescinded its ban on building permits in the area, which had been in effect since the end of June.

The ban had been imposed as a temporary measure to curtail building until the town's water crisis was resolved, and was to expire Tuesday.

However, after hearing from two deputations representing developers urging a restoration of the permits, council said the ban would be lifted.

Councillor Bud Bonner said that with water restrictions now in force in the town, council felt there was "enough water to go ahead."

Mayor Anthony Roman said the town was "keeping a constant eye" on the water supply and couldn't "visualize any problems."

Councillor Muldrew also said that a restrictive water bylaw had been passed by council, and the bylaw outlines the watering times permitted for various sections of the Thornhill area.

An advertisement designating the times will be placed in the newspapers.

"Our idea is not to stop residents from watering their flowers," Mr. Muldrew said, "but just to prevent them from wasting too much water on lawns. Lawns may get brown but they won't die," he said.

"The main concern is to keep water in the taps in case of emergencies during the dry spells."

Persons convicted of violating the restrictions are subject to a maximum fine of \$50.

Councillor Muldrew added that "an emergency water shortage does arise the town has the privilege of sending a sound truck through the area telling the citizens to stop watering until further notice." Failure to obey could also result in a \$50 fine.

The watering times, according to the various areas denoted under even and odd numbers, are from 7 to 10 pm.

Even-number watering times are Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday; odd-number, Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Thornhill Firm Four-Day Work Week

Another area firm has decided to try the four-day working week. This time it is the Provincial Service Agencies, located at the corner of Colborne and Yonge Streets in Thornhill, with which the York Fire & Casualty is associated.

The firm also has a branch at Buttonville Airport and employs a total of 60 people.

Although the offices will be open five days a week, half the staff will work Mondays and half Fridays until the end of September, giving them all 10 long weekends. The office hours have been extended from 8:30 to 5 pm, instead of 9 to 4:45 pm and the lunch break has been cut to 30 minutes from 45 minutes for the four days. If the experiment proves satisfactory, it may be continued throughout the year.

It is interesting to note that this firm also operates two company aircraft, which are available to clients from time to time and has built up a large marine market, General Manager Warren Bryce reports.

A problem had arisen when one builder approached council complaining that he had sold 30 lots for another party who refused to consummate the deal because of the inavailability of building permits.

There was some talk of possible legal action against the municipality.

This worried Mayor Anthony Roman who felt that council should take a second look before continuing the building permit ban. He suggested that the municipality should have its solicitor study the matter.

This displeased Councillor Muldrew who argued that the ban should be maintained until the water situation was resolved.

He said he had been assured by the town's engineer that the water problem should "be in hand by July 15."

Muldrew added that the German Mills well should be operating at full capacity by that time as well as two other wells currently being drilled.

The troubled waters were finally soothed by council with the builder in question agreeing to hold off to see if the situation does clear itself.

The Thornhill area has been plagued by the lack of water for some time.

Train Crumples Truck Hurt Driver Pried Out

A Maple gravel truck driver was in satisfactory condition in York Central Hospital at present time after being seriously injured when his truck cab was

crumpled between a multi-ton load of sand and a speeding North Bay to Toronto CN passenger train at about 4 pm Monday.

The 12-car train was scoured from end to end, ripping oil lines from the locomotive and smashing all the windows down one side of the 12 cars. Fortunately nobody on the train was injured.

The Vaughan Town Fire Department rescue squad pried the truck driver out of his cab after he had his narrow brush with death. Driver-owner Pio Lucarelli, 43, of 36 Duncanwood Street, Weston was taken to hospital by York Ambulance. Damage to the new 1972 GMC truck was estimated at \$8,000 by firefighters.

The crash was at Downtown Sand and Gravel Limited, Keele Street North at Maple, between the company pit and Keele. Recently a derailment in the same vicinity spread a maze of broken railway cars and freight over the area and another gravel truck was hit at another company's pit within the past few months.

The two hats were recovered when two young Markham men, formerly of the Victoria Square area and now of Steeles Avenue East, were arrested in a car before it left the Richmond Hill Municipal Building parking lot. They were arrested by Regional Constables Alexander Ryrie and John Hope.

Arrested were Geoffrey Fletcher, 21, and Terry Kingston, 24, both of RR 1, Markham.

Downspouts Must Go, No Discharge Into Sewers

That infiltration of surface water into the Richmond Hill sewage treatment system, as suggested last November by Councillor Lois Hancey, is indeed a serious matter, Councillor David Schiller, chairman of council's works committee, and Construction Engineer Bernard Toporowski agreed in submissions to council Monday evening. However, they did not agree with some aspects of Mrs. Hancey's statements on the subject at the June 5 council meeting.

In a written statement, Mr. Schiller said: "The matter of sewage treatment capacity of the plant located on Markham Road has been the subject of considerable study, concern and confusion for a number of years. The plant proper, which serves essentially that area within the pre-1971 boundaries of Richmond Hill, was designed to handle a flow of 1.6 MGD, or a population of some 16,000, on a possible conservative standard of 100 gallons per person per day. An equalization holding tank brought into use last year provided an increased capacity of some 0.3 MGD, bringing present 'capacity' to 1.9 MGD or a population of 19,000.

"It should be pointed out that these 'capacities' are based on a minimum of storm water infiltration, whereas the Town of Richmond Hill has serious problems in this regard.

"Early in 1972 and following the 1971 OWRC report on water pollution in Richmond Hill, a dispute arose between the engineering department of the town and the OWRC with respect to the accuracy of OWRC flow recordings. It appears as

report to works committee April 18, the average daily plant flow has been within design criteria only during the months of May and June this year, exceeding the criteria by as much as half a million gallons per day in January. Peak daily flow figures have been considerably higher. Evidence now on file indicates the plant would operate at or near capacity if no infiltration of storm runoff was occurring."

Mr. Schiller's presentation went on to say that storm water infiltration results from two sources — from the town's own sewer pipe system by way of poor joints, cracked pipes, walls of manholes, etc.; and from private weeping tile discharge, aggravated by roof discharge in

close proximity to building outfalls. He pointed out that neither of these sources are of recent origin.

"The Sewer Use Bylaw, recently adopted by council, will ensure that further aggravation of this type will not be allowed," Mr. Schiller said. "Prognosis now underway should go some considerable distance in reducing roof discharge — but this town is left with a large legacy."

Mr. Schiller estimated the cost of removing weeping tile discharge from the sanitary sewers at \$1,875,000, based on a cost of \$750 for each removal of an estimated 2,500 connections. Because of the relief coming from the transfer of 0.39 MGD per day into the new BAIF treatment plant from the present sewage collection area, and the possibility of treatment facilities being provided by the province as recommended by the Gore & Storrey report, he does not believe it advisable to commit the town to these heavy expenditures.

Mr. Toporowski's letter said that Mrs. Hancey's comment that the taxpayer is paying extra for storm water infiltration is valid but only to the extent of the cost of operation of the plant which is about \$100 per million gallons of sewage treated.

The engineer believes that the cost of eliminating infiltration entirely is prohibitive and this is apparent in the reconstruction works recently completed on Broaddale Crescent wherein \$50 per linear foot was spent. Should this cost factor be applied to replacing 10% of the existing sewer mains, the cost would be in excess of a million dollars, he claims.

Dye tests will be carried out on buildings where the discharge point for roof water is unknown, the engineer reported. He also reported that no buildings have been connected to newly installed storm sewers.

"Downspouts are the most obvious things to try to catch," commented Regional Councillor Donald Plaxton. "They are readily seen. Where there are no storm sewers, weeping drainage has of necessity to go into sanitary sewers."

"Based on the past experience of the construction engineer, if we can get rid of the downspout discharge we can eliminate 25% of the infiltration," stated Mr. Schiller. "This downspout program is underway."

Mrs. Hancey stated that she would be replying to both statements in the future, after complementing Mr. Schiller on the action taken.

Markham Finances

Of special interest to the almost 20,000 residents of the Thornhill postal area east of Yonge Street is the first annual financial statement of their new regional Town of Markham. The town's annual statement is published on Page 5 of this edition of "The Liberal".

Markham Town now includes most of the area formerly administered by the Township of Markham (Thornhill, Buttonville, Unionville areas, etc.) plus the former Town of Markham at Highways 48 and 7.

Vandals Hit Markham Recreation Facilities

Incidents of vandalism in the recreation areas of Markham Town have resulted in upwards of \$2,000 in damages to date this year according to Recreation Director Bruce Holdsworth. Holdsworth "told Markham Town Council members July 4 that it's "becoming an increasingly serious problem and there's just no logical explanation for it."

He said that municipal maintenance crews are being kept on the go fixing or replacing playground or park equipment. "They steal park benches, garbage cans, destroy swing seats or dump equipment in the river. Senseless vandalism which seems to be increasing."

Holdsworth said that "we report the damages and losses to the police but there's not much they can do. They make out reports but you can't maintain day and night vigilance."

He added that "we should try and impress the residents of Markham that all this is coming directly out of their pockets. Someone has to pay for repainting scarred equipment and it's the ratepayers who are doing it."

"It's gotten worse in the past two months."

Mayor Anthony Roman suggested Holdsworth prepare a written list of articles that have been destroyed or stolen in the various parks and petition the regional police to try and instigate some kind of preventative measures.

Councillor Bob Adams stated that the "public should be made aware to just what extent this vandalism is affecting their pockets as taxpayers."

Councillor Murray Henderson said that in one case "someone removed two steel soccer goalposts. These poles weight 300 pounds and cost about \$450 a set."

"It's not trifling expenses we're talking about. There's a lot of money involved."

Story Incorrectly Quotes Solicitor

It was incorrectly reported in "The Liberal" June 1 that York Region Solicitor Edward Oakes commented that a detoxification centre was not required here at the present time.

Instead, Mr. Oakes stated in a report to regional council that it was his opinion that the regional area "did not qualify for a detoxification centre under the criteria that have been announced by the Ontario Government."

He at no time stated or suggested that a detoxification centre was not required in the region.

Mr. Oakes also reported that the York regional area lies within the Judicial District of York, which also includes Metro.

"It would seem that the detoxification centres allocated to this district are being constructed within the Metro area."

2 Or 3 Major Department Stores In New BAIF Shopping Centre

Two and quite possibly three major department stores will be included in the shopping centre to be built as part of the BAIF development on 45 acres on the northwest corner of Carville Road and Yonge Street, Richmond Hill Council's Planning Committee learned July 4. The information came from Vice-President Stan Whitkin of the Fairview Corporation which will be building the centre in association with Cadillac and the BAIF group.

The original minimum floor coverage under the agreement between BAIF and the Township of Vaughan was 180,000 square feet, Mr. Whitkin noted, and indications are that this has grown to more than 500,000 square feet.

Mr. Whitkins and Bruce Patison were present at the meeting of the planning committee to inform that body that Fairview Corporation has lodged an objection to Amendment 5 of the Richmond Hill Official Plan with the Minister of Municipal Affairs and the mayor. This amendment would add shopping plazas to the uses permitted under highway commercial zoning.

They apologized because of a misunderstanding they were not represented at the public meeting held in May on this proposed amendment which is now awaiting OMB approval.

"Immediate prospects for growth in the area are very limited," claimed Mr. Whitkin, "just barely able to support one regional shopping centre. We feel that council should have awaited the results of the retail needs study being under-

taken before proceeding with this amendment. The timing is quite critical to us."

Councillor Louis Wainwright (formerly a councillor in Vaughan) recalled that the people of Vaughan were sold on the idea that they were going to get a shopping centre, regardless of what happened in Richmond Hill. "The development hasn't changed since then."

"We haven't taken any steps to rezone to implement the amendment," pointed out Regional Councillor Donald Plaxton, who noted that planning committee and council were under constant pressure to change the official plan, then under pressure to change the zoning and then under pressure to sign a development agreement. "No steps are being contemplated to implement the official plan change, at least until we have the results of the study."

Chairman Councillor Lois Hancey told the two men that council felt under an obligation to honor commitments made at the time of annexation of land north of the Elgin and that the retail floor area study would govern anything new. "We're fully aware of your reasons. They are sound and well-based from your point of view. I will convey your opinions to council Monday night."

Mr. Whitkins stated his firm was trying to concentrate more facilities in one centre, rather than fragment them. "You must appreciate our position," Mrs. Hancey told him. "Because of regionalization we are left with five Official Plans and zoning bylaws in bits and pieces."