

Thornhill and District News

"The Liberal" is always pleased to publish items of interest contributed by its readers in the Thornhill area. Please call Miss Margaret Govan, 14 Deanbank Drive, 889-5372

Socially Speaking In Thornhill

Thornhill Swimming Pool

The Royal Life Saving Society Exams for the bronze medal and the senior resuscitation award took place July 21. Patty Lewis, Bernadette Berthlott, Kathy Lash, Megan Hinds, and Jean Gourley all passed the bronze requirements. Patty Lewis, Kathy Lash, Meegan Hinds, Jean Gourley, Debbie Tong, Liz Pinder and Ruth Roachman received the R.R. award. Congratulations to both teachers and students!

Senior Adults

The senior adults who meet at Thornhill United Church had a very pleasant afternoon with the Opportunities For Youth group working in the Town of Markham this summer on an ecology project. They showed a film on what is happening to the Great Lakes, demonstrated crafts from junk, and then had refreshments together.

The next meeting will be August 17, a pot luck supper at five o'clock. The entertainment will be provided by the Memory Trio, three students from the Toronto Conservatory of Music who have a 45 minute repertoire. For further information contact Thornhill United Church at 889-2131.

Opportunities For Youth

The same group of OFY took about 30 boys and girls on an expedition to Bruce's Mill, last Wednesday. The rain did not stop them. They had a fascinating walk following the nature trail under the able and inter-

esting guidance of a girl from the conservation authority. It was a great success.

Church News

Last month Rev. Alf McAllister drove a bus full of young people from the Uni-teens, Seekers and Inquirers with a few adults, too, up to Midland. They had a wonderful day exploring

and going on tours. A very interesting as well as a 'fun' project.

Miss Leslee Campbell is the student assistant at the United Church this year. She has completed her first year at Emmanuel. I asked her about her experiences as a student in a church.

South Thornhill and Bayview Glen

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Neighborhood Notes

Friends and neighbors of Mrs. May Barbour, 136A Henderson Avenue, are pleased to learn that she has survived yet another heart attack.

This time, while she was at the Hamilton General Hospital to see her mother, admitted for fairly minor surgery slated for July 23, Mrs. Barbour collapsed and was herself admitted as a patient July 22. She remained there for a week and a half before being discharged.

Meanwhile, during the operation on her mother, Mrs. Smith's heart stopped beating. The surgeon pounded her chest in a desperate attempt to get her breathing again and was successful. However, the 82-year-old patient suffered a broken rib, a punctured lung and internal bleeding, which required immediate surgery.

After two weeks Mrs. Smith is still fighting for life. Some

days she looks well and her other times they fear the worst. Mr. and Mrs. John Barbour are remaining in Hamilton to ride out the crisis.

The Barbour home is being occupied by son Dave during their absence.

The Peter Harlick family, 140 Henderson Avenue, returned home the mid-part of last week from an enjoyable visit to his parents in St. John's, Newfoundland. They drove to the east coast by car and thence by ferry to Newfoundland, a trip which they described as tiring with two small children.

For special summer activities designed for youngsters, of educational and recreational nature, taking place in the South Thornhill area, please phone Markham Parks and Recreation Department at 297-1900. All such activities and events are free.

Doctor Elizabeth Govan Revisits Australia - Finds Many Changes

By MARGARET GOVAN

The year before the war, Dr. Elizabeth Govan of Deanbank Drive, Thornhill went to teach social work in Sydney, Australia, on a two-year contract. As things turned out she was not able to return for seven years. Last June she went back to Australia for her first visit since that time. She is on sabbatical leave from the University of Toronto, and is doing some research in welfare methods in Australia. She is delighted to be 'down under' again. Although she has kept in touch with her friends, and also read whatever was news about Australia, the changes of 25 years have amazed her.

Sydney too has gone in for high rise apartments, she reports. It is making use of every bit of land to the extent of using stilts for front foundations in order to allow people to live on the cliffs over-hanging the ocean!

There is a much larger population. Australia wakened up to the fact that restricting immigration as it did, kept the continent insufficiently populated for safety, so they opened the doors to Europeans. There is still a color bar though, although the University of Sydney has many Asiatic students.

Education is flourishing with community colleges sprouting up and many more students at the regular universities. The students do demonstrate but not nearly as much as over here. Neither do they dress in the latest innovations - not so many beads, no bare feet, but that may be because it is winter (40° at night; 60° in the daytime).

Dr. Govan was able to rent a small apartment by the day,

weekend, week or longer. The one room is well laid out, the kitchen is in a cupboard! She was glad to see an electric heater - they were not so common when she was there before.

This building is a redevelopment area, and quite convenient to the university. It costs 35¢ to go by tram down town, a three zone distance.

The stores still cater to the single person more than happens over here - she used to be able to buy one serving of pie and has not said anything about this so far! They also expect you to bring an ample shopping bag for packaged food, tins, and bottles are not wrapped. This would help with our pollution problem.

The new money is heavy; copper, silver alloy, and larger bills. Since she has no phone, she has to use a pay one, and the calls are 7¢. This means she always carries quite a bit of change. Even if she is Scottish by ancestry, I think she would prefer a straight 10¢!

The Australians are still tea drinkers. Coffee is served up, hot, or with thick cream, either Nestle's, or a 35% cream thickened with gelatine. She has decided on Carnation milk! The tropical and semi-tropical fruit is as delicious as ever. Home-grown camellias are the present table flowers.

Australia has had the highest car accident death rate per population for some time, but it is congratulating itself on a drop. This is the result of new rules, although there is no speed limit other than 'safe driving speed.' However the roads are very winding and hilly.

Unemployment is low, about 2% but this is high for Aus-

tralia. Many of the bus conductors are women; they do not wear a uniform. Neither did the waitresses in the hotel at Canberra where she stayed for three days. Instead they had very fashionable dresses.

The sports news takes precedent over all other broadcasts. She feels most uneducated since she does not know the cricket terms. The race courses are worrying about the non-attendance of young people at horse races; they are betting still but not going, and there is some loss of entrance monies. A serious state of affairs!

There was a strike of porters at the airport. Now there is a strike affecting the delivery of fuel oil and gas. It is being rationed by the service stations, and the outlook is bad for traffic, and the many many commuters. There was a demonstration because the government did not see fit to give the Chinese table tennis team an official welcome.

There will be a federal election before December, the last date possible under the constitution. A coalition of Liberals and the Country Party has been in since '49. The bets are that labor will take over. So there is a good deal of legislation going on to influence voting.

Dr. Govan expects to visit all the capitals of the Australian states and New Zealand. So I may have another report later.

Cannata-Jolliffe

Married In Holy Trinity Church Will Be Living In Hamilton

Friday, July 28, Karen Leigh, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ross Jolliffe, Riverside Boulevard, became the bride of Ronald Joseph, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Cannata of Agincourt. The wedding took place in Holy Trinity Church and Bishop Marsh officiated.

The matron of honour was Mrs. William Boothe, nee Francie Baird, and the other attendants were Miss Debbie Cannata, Miss Nancy Rivers, and Mrs. Byron Southern of Hamilton. Byron Southern was best man, and Murray Turner, Scott, Brock and Eric Jolliffe were ushers.

The bride wore a traditional wedding gown of angel lace with Spanish embroidery crepe, a train and a waist length veil; she carried white flowers. The attendants were dressed in long skirts of navy blue tulle, swart with long white turtles, square necked and sleeveless. They wore multi-colored flowers in their hair, and carried small bouquets. Mrs. Jolliffe wore an aqua chiffon gown, and Mrs. Cannata a salmon silk crepe long dress.

The reception was held at the Bayview Country Club. Mrs. Cannata chose a white pantsuit for her going-away costume with a multi-colored corsage.

Mrs. Boothe, Mrs. Tom Cannata, Mrs. Southern and the teachers of the E. J. Sand School entertained the bride at

showers, and Mrs. Wilfred Jolliffe, her grandmother, had a luncheon for her.

Among the wedding guests were the pupils of the third grade at E. J. Sand School. It was a most exciting event in their lives. Mrs. Ronald Cannata will be teaching another third grade in the fall; this time in Burlington. She and her husband will be living in Hamilton. He is finishing his doctorate in physics at McMaster University.

Markham Gets Grant \$9,100 For Milne Park

A grant of \$9,100 to the Town of Markham for Milne Park has been announced by Leo Bernier, Minister of Natural Resources for Ontario, and Donald Deacon, MLA York Centre.

The park is located in the old village of Markham, just west of Highways 48 and 7.

A development plan for the park, which is being proposed by the town, will include construction of a change house and washroom facilities, road improvements and other works. Markham will contribute an amount of money equal to the grant, which is made available under the Parks Assistance Act.



(Photo by Stuart's Studio)

A Program For Markham Children At Bayview Fairways

Throughout the Town of Markham this summer, a very active recreation program has been, and is still, underway. The program is varied, combining sports, crafts, story hours, the study of ecology and imaginative projects and varies widely from week to week and from playground to playground.

Thursday afternoon, August 3, at Bayview Fairways

School the girls brought their dolls and as can be seen in the above picture had a very good time at the "Dolls' Tea". At the same time the boys were enjoying soccer and baseball games.

Other interesting events have been a "Jar of Bugs", "Music Day", "Robin Hood Day", a jelly bean hunt and a balloon day at other sites.

Thornhill Pioneers Built Well --- Century-Old Houses Still Standing

By MARGARET GOVAN
Thornhill Correspondent

One of the intriguing features of Thornhill is the centennial plaques on the houses which were over 100 years old in 1967. The person's name and how he made his living and the date of the erection of the house are spelled out on the plaque for the passerby to read. So we know where the brewer and the cooper, the physician and the teacher once lived; also the tradesmen, craftsmen, and the professional men came in when there were people who needed their services. There were business opportunities in the area.

For the most part the houses were clapboard, although there are one or two stone ones. They were comfortable and attractive and well built. The people who own them now are house proud (but all of them have had additions!)

The first houses to be built were very different buildings. They were raised by their owners who were the architects, builders and whatever else was required. All this happened at the end of the 18th Century and the beginning of the 19th.

SIMCOE'S 2 GOALS

Lieutenant-Governor Simcoe had decided that it would be strategic to open a road between York (Toronto) and Lake Simcoe; he had two goals in mind: a trail which could be travelled by horse-drawn vehicles which would supplant the carrying Place portage, and a means of crossing the country away from the American frontier. He let it be known that crown grants would be made available to respectable citizens (respectable was spelled out) on either side of Yonge Street and it would be the duty of the citizens to keep the road in order.

The respectable citizens arrived. Some came from the new Republic of the United States. They or their ancestors had been through the pioneering process before and had an idea of what it was all about and some know-how. Then there were emigrants from the British Isles or Europe, seeking a new life, some with money, most with dreams. They had little idea, if any, of the hardships entailed in building and clearing, the hard work, the loneliness, and the necessity of being able to turn one's hand to anything.

PEOPLE NEED SHELTER

They were faced immediately with the problem of shelter. As I have driven through the bushland to the north, I have often wondered how you would begin to clear land, to build a house, to make a home. And the bush land I am thinking of has all been cleared once by the lumber companies; there are none of the gigantic trees which the early settler found on his land. Besides tools are more available, and more suited to the purpose, than those he had in his possession.

There were a few alternatives for that settler. If he had a little money he could employ labor to help him; if he had relatives he could live with them for a time; the early settlers were most hospitable; if he had travelled in a Conestoga wagon

he could continue living in it for the time being. It was not up to our conception of a 'camper' but it did supply a roof over one's head. The last alternative was to get to work and build a shelter himself.

Most of the settlers built a one-room log cabin. It had a hole in the roof over a hearth, to allow the smoke to escape from the cooking and heating fire. It might not have a window but if it did the hole would be, in all probability, covered with a piece of oiled paper, for glass was a scarce commodity.

FITTING LOGS TOGETHER

Have you ever tried to fit logs together? I once made the attempt. I had read in a woodcraft book about making a four-sided affair, filling it with stone and clay, and using it for the basis of a cooking fire. The saplings I collected looked straight enough but when I tried to persuade them to lie on top of each other, they were so crooked! Finally I bought boards.

The pioneer could not go off and buy boards. He had to use what nature had provided. He fitted the corners together and the gaps were filled with moss and mortar. I expect Mrs. Pioneer did the filling. She also did the cooking under difficulties, the washing, the sewing, the child bearing and rearing, and anything else which came her way.

So the shelter was made—not very high, not very large, not very well built. There was no problem of sturdiness for the wind blew through crevices and holes which hadn't been chinked as well as they might have been; on the other hand it helped get rid of the smoke.

ROOF OF BARK

The roof was made of bark or light logs, the floor was trampled earth—but it was a shelter and would serve. Actually once the logs were ready, two men could rise the cabin very quickly. If you had neighbors within travelling distance they were always ready to help.

There is one sad story about the earliest settlers which Mrs. Doris Fitzgerald tells. There were no neighbors so the man and his wife restricted themselves to small timber which meant much more cutting. The day they had chosen to put up the house, some of Governor Simcoe's soldiers were working on the road and came over to help. So the heavy timber could have been used after all!

BUILD 2ND HOUSE

As soon as there was cleared land sufficient for the farming needs, and there was more time and more available neighbors, house number two was built. In this case its size and general structure depended on the character of the woman! If she were demanding and strong minded, she'd get what she wanted; if the man was boss he'd have a better barn than a house.

But there would be also many cases where the man wished to please his wife, or his wife, being a true helpmate, would insist that the farm buildings were necessary too. It would be easier to get better tools, and perhaps some ironware for nails and hinges

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If you are a mother - a career of your own; is it possible?

If you are an adult - work must be more than earning a living; the choice of career is a major decision

If you are between 30 and 45 - the "half way point" potentially the most creative and productive of all are the years to come!

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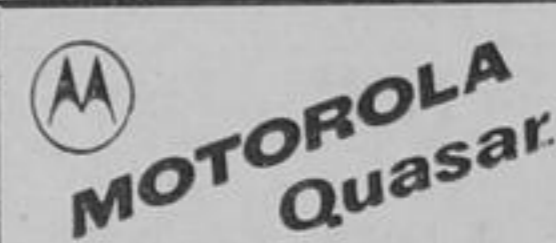
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Too Little Money Local Area Girl Won't Be In Olympic Games

Carol Martin, of Highway 7E, Langstaff, discus thrower, reached the acceptable level for the Olympics. She was told she was going. She came the bolt from the blue.

A smaller team had been decided upon. Carol was not on that smaller team. The Canadian team is short of money and can send only its most likely Olympic winners.

It has been a most upsetting and disappointing time. There were to be more meetings. They were cancelled. No one knew the score, or what the future held. But now Carol has given up any hopes she may have had.

She grew up in Thornhill, attending the Thornlea Public School and Thornlea Secondary. She joined the Don Mills track group in which she took part in all events, until it was dis-

covered that discus throwing was 'her thing'. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Martin.

She explained that discus throwing is different from many of the sports. The peak of one's ability comes later on, as late as 30. In some cases even older. The woman who got the gold medal in 1968 was 39. Carol has a good many years to go yet at that rate.

She is majoring in dance at York University and keeping in trim for track work. She is still hoping for a break one of these days.

"The Liberal" has a very soft spot in its heart for Carol since she was a newspaper carrier girl at one point in her career. We and her many friends sympathize with her in her very great disappointment, and wish her better luck in the future.

Don and Ian Weir belt it out in Attila's Cave starting August 14

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