

The Liberal

"In Essentials Unity; in Non-Essentials Liberty; in all things Charity"

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Kleinburg's A. Y. Jackson, Miss Canada Contestants

The Miss Canada 1974 contestants were pleasantly surprised this week when they visited the McMichael Canadian Collection Art Galleries at Kleinburg and met and talked with the only living member of the original Group of Seven, A. Y. Jackson.

The McMichael Canadian Collection is a collection of paintings by the Group of Seven and their contemporaries and of carvings and prints by Canadian Indians and Eskimos. Jackson, who has recently undergone surgery and currently resides in a convalescent home close by was advised

by Custodian Robert McMichael, that the Miss Canada Contestants were going to pay a visit to the galleries.

A. Y. Jackson spent approximately four minutes talking to each one of the contestants, and spoke in French to Claude Martineau, Miss Quebec City and Line Renaud, Miss Hull.

He told the fair-haired Francine Dufort, Miss Montreal that he was born in the City of Montreal, before giving her a kiss on the cheek, proclaiming that he has a "preference for blondes"!

Ban Smoking

When Mrs. Ellen Bellach, 147 Egin Mills Road West wrote to Richmond Hill Council to request support in an effort to get smoking banned in public areas of the local hospital, she got more results than she had anticipated.

Not only did council endorse her request, but a motion by Ward 4 Councillor David Stephenson to ban smoking in the Richmond Hill Council Chamber was also carried 4-3. Voting in favor of the ban were non-smokers Regional Councillor Gordon Rowe and Councillors Graeme Bales, David Stephenson and William Corcoran. Voting in the negative were Regional Councillor Lois Hancey and Councillors Andy Chateaufort and Charles Stewart.

Councillor Lou Wainwright was absent from the meeting, attending the Solandt Commission Hydro Hearing for the town. Had he been present and voted in the negative, the deciding vote would have been up to Mayor William Lazenby. Since he, too, is a non-smoker, the result would no doubt have been the same.

The mayor, a pharmacist, jokingly offered to bring a supply of phenobarb to council meetings to soothe the jangled nerves of councillors, but the three smokers declared that they would prefer to keep their addiction to tobacco to acquiring a new one.

A bylaw will be prepared declaring the council chamber a no-smoking area, signs will be posted and the ban will be rigidly enforced.

Council Makes Decisions

Advisors Welcome

When a committee endorsed by a public meeting held October 10 to act in an informative and advisory capacity has organized, it will be recognized, was the consensus of opinion at Monday's meeting of Richmond Hill Council. The original committee under the aegis of Richmond Hill Social Planning Council was composed of Buster Vermeulen, Pat Bedford and Marylo Graham. It has now been augmented by 14 people who have volunteered to serve and will be a completely independent organization with an informative and advisory role, Mr. Vermeulen told council.

He reported that opinions expressed at the public meeting were that there was a great need for such advisory citizens or committee to inform citizens and council, to give advice, to attend council and planning meetings and give more information based on areas, to provide an organized channel for opinions to be forwarded to council and committees regarding development and long range planning, to provide citizen participation and to provide information in terms which the public can understand. A need for publicizing the agenda of council and planning meetings was also noted.

WHAT IS ADVISORY? Councillor Andy Chateaufort said he recognized the need for getting more information out to the public "and this council has looked at a number of ways without much results" and also recognized that planning terminology was sometimes confusing. He was concerned about the interpretation of the word "advisory", whether it was to be a method of public input or whether it was to have a say in the final decision. "We as a council were elected to make these decisions. We have professional advice and will welcome public input, but will make the decisions. I would have to take exception to recognizing this as an advisory body. We already have the province, the region, this council, committee of the whole and planning committee involved and this

Family Services Get Reprieve From Region With Added Grant

York Region's four Family Life centres are still in business.

The 11th-hour reprieve to the centres, which have been trying to stretch their six-month, \$70,000 allotment from the region to 12 months, was handed down at a meeting of York Regional Council last week, when the administrative committee asked for approval of payment of \$50,916 for the centre.

At that time, council agreed to an amendment by Richmond Hill Councillor Lois Hancey that it provide a maximum of \$15,000 to continue the four centres until the end of the year.

The four area units are in Richmond Hill-Thornhill, Aurora-Newmarket, Georgina Township and Markham-Stouffville. They provide counselling on marital and budgetary problems.

Partly self-sustaining, the centres require \$140,000 for salaries. This was originally to be split between the provincial government and the region. However, the government reneged last spring, citing a "plethora" of services.

The region then agreed to pay its share—\$70,000—until receipt of a needs study by the government, or until the end of June.

Last week, the administrative committee headed by Mayor Bob Forhan of New-

Reappoint Rumble, Cook

York Regional Police Commissioners Gordon Cook of King and Stewart Rumble of Markham, have been reappointed to the board of commissioners for another three years, starting November 1.

The appointment was made by Elmer Bell, chairman of the Ontario Police Commission, and announced at a meeting of York Regional Council last week.

Both Mr. Rumble and Mr. Cook, veteran politicians of the area, have been with the board since its inception in 1971.

Other members of the commission are Chairman Judge Lyon, of Toronto; Regional Chairman Garfield Wright, and Newmarket Councillor Ray Twinn.

The commissioners receive \$4,000 annually.

\$1 1/4 Million Markham Town Buildings

Confronted with a development explosion almost doubling population to nearly 75,000 in three years, Markham Town is planning a \$1 1/4 million dollar expenditure on a new municipal works garage and administrative offices.

The existing municipal administration building is quite modern. It was enlarged and renovated in 1968 by the former Markham Township at a cost of \$339,500. Since then population and development have

exploded and a new York Region local town municipality was formed from the amalgamation of the former Old Village area with most of the area of the former township.

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Markham Town includes the portion of Thornhill postal area east of Yonge Street between Steeles Avenue and Highway 7 East, and extending east and north to include Victoria Square and Unionville areas as far as the Ontario County boundary.

Plans are to move the works department facilities to a new site on the north side of Miller Avenue, east of Don Mills Road (Woodbine Avenue).

Removal of the works yard and building from the present Buttonville administrative office site on Don Mills Road will make room for a further new administrative office building connected to the old one, says Property Committee Chairman Ron Moran, Councillor for Victoria Square-Dickson's Hill Markham Ward 6.

Vaughan Ok's \$600 To Family Services

A \$600 grant to Richmond Hill and Thornhill Area Family Services was approved October 22 by Vaughan Town Council.

It was pointed out that Vaughan is in the area for which the service is responsible and it serves a number of the municipality's residents.

Out of a total of 129 new counselling cases (189 persons), 13 have come from the Vaughan area.

The Region of York has agreed to pay the salaries of the services' staff for 1973 or until such time as an amount of \$70,000, expected to be exhausted by the end of November, has been spent between the four counselling centres in York Region.

Mr. & Mrs. Robt. Silcox Royal Wedding

King Township residents Mr. and Mrs. Robert Silcox will be guests at this month's Royal Wedding in Westminster Abbey.

Last fall they hosted Captain Mark Phillips when he was in King to inspect the facilities at Jokers Hill Farm. The captain will marry Princess Anne, only daughter of Her Majesty and Prince Philip. The Silcoxes had met the young army officer, member of the British Equestrian team, at the "Horse of the Year Show" at Wembley, England.

The Silcoxes raise hunters on their King Township acreage and are prominent in equestrian circles as well as being active in the community.

Mr. Silcox, a Toronto stockbroker, has given leadership to the GO North movement and the drive for funds for Blue Hills Academy. Mrs. Silcox has served as president of the York Central Hospital Auxiliary and is at present active in the auxiliary to Blue Hills Academy.

No Change Naming Region Chairman

Despite efforts by Mayor Evelyn Buck of Aurora to bring about a change, York Regional Council agreed to a recommendation of the administrative committee headed by Mayor Bob Forhan of Newmarket that no change be made in its present procedure for the election of a council chairman.

Regional Council chairmen are appointed to a four-year term by the provincial government when the new regions are first established. At the end of their initial term, however, they will then be elected by their fellow councillors.

York's present chairman Garfield Wright has another year to go on his four-year provincial appointment.

Mrs. Buck said she couldn't support the committee's motion.

"The people and the council of Aurora and some neighboring municipalities support me on this," said Mayor Buck.

There was a strong feeling that the chairman should be elected by the people, she said.

Council, however, voted otherwise.

OMB APPLICATION

The town has applied to the Municipal Board for permission to issue 20-year debentures for the new facilities without holding a plebiscite. The proposal is for an estimated \$375,000 in debentures for the new works and maintenance garage plus office and a further estimated \$750,000 for the administrative building. It is considered likely the final amounts will be somewhat higher.

Ward 6 Councillor Moran of Dickson's Hill says some members of council are of the opinion the town should wait and build a completely new town hall complex. But regardless of the merits of this idea, says Moran, the town faces an immediate problem that should be met.

SPACE NEEDS TRIPLED

The existing municipal building north of Highway 7 now has only about half enough space for the town administration, while three times as much space is needed by 1980, according to a staff projection of requirements made in January.

The town is now renting

MAJOR DRAWBACK

It has only one major drawback. It isn't in an area with full urban or industrial services and has a sewage disposal problem.

The site is also limited in size, but will be adequate for a good many years when the works yard and building are moved to Miller Avenue. There will also probably be a couple of small works depots in the more distant areas of the town, says Moran.

CALLING TENDERS SOON

The Miller Avenue works site will include the roads department offices, vehicle storage and maintenance, materials and parts storage, lockers and lunch rooms. A 2,000 square foot single storey garage building on the four-acre site is to have 18-foot clear head room and five drive-through bays.

The architects and planners are Allward and Gounilock of 1127 Leslie Street, Don Mills.

Councillor Moran says it is hoped tenders can be called soon, so construction can go ahead this year.

WILDERNESS BATTLE

The B.C. school is the only one of its kind in Canada at present, and the fall class of '73 that John Harris was a part of, consisted of 31 people, including

WILDERNESS BATTLE

two women, from all parts of the country, who somehow all got the same notion at about the same time that what they needed at that particular point in their lives was to get out and commune with nature, as they say in the travel books.

But battle might be a better word.

Up with the sun, a mile-and-a-half run before breakfast followed by a dip (and that's about all) in an ice-cold mountain stream, then a mile and a half back again to camp and a long-awaited bowl of porridge.

Porridge? you say. But in that austere setting, it becomes as necessary to survival as track shoes at a Sadie Hawkins' Day dance.

Then it's off on one of the outings straight up 500 feet of rock face with a rope and pick and the sincere hope that those behind you and ahead of you have the hang of it better than you do.

Or maybe you'd like to try your skill with a kayak? The instruction is fast, but the cur-

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rent is faster. However, after 10 straight duckings you can't beat the thrill when you take on one of those wall-high waves again and finally beat it.

COCKTAIL WAITRESS, TOO

Or maybe you'd like to climb a mountain with a 60-pound pack on your back — John lost

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four inches from his waistline from similar exercises — or go off with the group for nine days in the woods with only your bedroll and food — tents are taboo.

But it's in just such trips that they separate the girls from the boys, apparently. For it was then that one of the two girls — a 21-year-old cocktail waitress, who kept insisting "I can't do anything," proved she could, urging them all on when morale was low and the going was tough.

John also found himself out on a three-day solo jaunt — "a most thrilling experience" — and during this, as on the nine-day trek, was kept under observation by the instructors.

The school wants to see you learn how to survive on your own, but also makes sure that there's no chance that you won't.

On this latter trip, John's supplies consisted of seven ounces of tuna, a package of dehydrated soup mix, 2 ounces chocolate, two ounces biscuit mix, three lumps sugar and

WILDERNESS BATTLE

three tea bags.

No reading material, of course. But then who's got the strength to?

There are also no radios at Outward Bound either, or phones, or money, nor is drinking or smoking permitted.

As they say, it's meant to test your resources, and if you can't do it yourself, then the others there usually come through with enough encouragement to see that you make it one way or another.

WATCHED ANTS

It's not a competition, but still it's hard to treat it casually when others, especially 21-year-old cocktail waitresses are managing to make it.

But back to those three days in the bush by himself. What did he do without a radio to tell him where the traffic was heavy, or without a telephone to call for a pizza when his stomach started rumbling from all that dehydrated soup mix?

"I watched ants," John Harris says.

"I spent the whole day doing

United Appeal Coming In '74 R. Hill Council Grants \$500

After years of effort, it is expected that a United Appeal will get underway in York Region in the fall of 1974. Neil Mann informed Richmond Hill Council at its meeting October 29.

He reported that the Region of York has made a seeding grant of \$2,400 and the Towns of Markham and Vaughan \$500 each to the committee set up by regional council to get the annual drive for funds for charities underway. He asked for a similar grant of \$500 from Richmond Hill and this request was granted, provision to be made in the 1974 budget for this amount. However, Councillor Andy Chateaufort, chairman of council's finance committee assured him that if the money was needed in 1973 all efforts would be made to find it. A similar request for financial assistance will be made to all other municipalities in the region.

Mr. Mann reported that the steering committee had set up a budget of \$6,000 to meet expenses until the 1974 campaign gets underway. He said that a survey of industrial firms in the region showed that 72% would

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give unqualified support, another 7% would give qualified support, 8% probable support and 11% were not particularly in favor of United Appeal. Similarly of 49 agencies contacted, 82% were in favor of supporting United Appeal. These were the agencies which would be expected to provide the canvassers when the system is set up.

Regional Councillor Gordon Rowe asked if a resident of York, employed in Metro, had deductions from his pay cheque made for United Appeal, if this donation would come back to York.

"The Metro United Appeal have assured us they will give us every co-operation in routing such contributions up here," replied Mr. Mann.

Mr. Rowe also asked how distribution of the funds raised by United Appeal would be made. "The agencies who agree to become members of the appeal will meet with the steering committee and establish a budget," Mr. Mann explained. "This will be put into the total budget. Details of distribution will have to be worked out."

Canadian Wilderness Offers Bold Adventure For Venturesome Hill Resident

By JIM IRVING

By the time we have walked two miles to start our climb, I am feeling extremely hot, but O.K. otherwise.

"We press on — the group setting a killing pace. I am slowly falling behind. Half way up I am half an hour behind. The group waits. They give me no choice but take 20-25 pounds of my load and share it around.

"I rest and they leave me a companion and press on climbing."

"My companion Wally wakes me after I have slept 20 minutes. Raisins, salt tablet, chocolate and water, and I'm ready again. Wally makes me go ahead so he cannot lose me. The trail is extremely steep through natural forest. The rise is about two up for every three forward."

"We climb, my pace, but my carrying such a heavy load earlier has taken its toll. I am tired and still a long way to go. By the time we break through the toll line I am in rough shape. Wally keeps urging me on."

"We refresh ourselves on wild strawberries, wild raspberries and huckleberries. Delicious and on we go."

"After another 30 minutes I am really groggy again, missing my footing and slipping all the time."

DEAR DIARY

Pages from some early explorer's journal? The opening lines from some suspense novel? The diary of some member of an expedition in the Canadian wilds?

You're getting warm if you thought the latter.

The lines are, in fact, taken from the journal of John Harris, of 22 Crosby Avenue in Richmond Hill, who set them down all of a couple of weeks ago when he was experiencing just such a dilemma as a participant in Outward Bound Mountain School in Keremeos, B.C., near Pentecost.

It's good to be able to relate at this point that John did make it back out of the wilderness and into camp with the rest of the group. . . the tea tasted

better than any beer I have ever had." But he admits, he has known simpler methods of indulging in his penchant for the physical life.

Such as playing squash, or tennis, or jogging around Richmond Hill—"you'll see me running around this town every night, three or four miles."

Still that's the kind of thing he had in mind when he signed up for the \$400, four-month course in the rugged and beautiful mountain country of B.C. The whole thing is patterned after the survival courses they used to conduct in Britain during the Second World War, presenting its participants with situations they've never encountered before, so that they will be tested both mentally and physically, and in the end, they hope, will emerge more fit in those departments than ever.

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that. I sat on a slab in the sun, and I thought about life, about what had happened and what was ahead.

"I kept asking myself why I was doing it, and then one day I came upon the most beautiful view."

The 35-year-old Mr. Harris was the oldest member of his group, whose average age was 23, but he slugged it out over the four weeks at the same pace for the most part with all the others, and he's never felt better in his life.

He'd like to see a similar camp started in Ontario, and as more word of the success of the B.C. one spreads, it's quite possible that he will before long.

In the meantime, he just wants to savor everything about it, reflecting on the good times and the satisfaction of completing some of those spine-stretching tests, and enjoying the comments of his friends, who wonder if maybe he's found the secret to it all now, because "you seem at peace," they say.

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JOHN HARRIS
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