

\$150 Million Domed Stadium Proposed

Pamarta Holdings, a consortium of Canadian companies with head offices on Avenue Road in Toronto, Monday night asked Richmond Hill Council meeting in committee to act as a go-between in negotiations with the City of Toronto for the purchase of the Langstaff Jail Farm at \$10.5 million. Pamarta proposes to build a domed stadium or recreational complex with a hotel-motel and some commercial development between the CNR tracks and Yonge Street, with some showcase industries and office buildings at the junction of Yonge and Highway 7.

East of the tracks on the highway frontage they plan in Phase 2 of the development (more prestige industrial development with residential multiple units and single multiple housing to the north).

STARTED IN 1971

In introducing Norman Similas and three principals

Olympic training centre on the 632 acres of the jail farm. The idea was to include a domed stadium and parking for 30,000 cars. At that time there were 30 proposals for such an amenity before the province and Metro and the Richmond Hill proposal was added to these.

CROMBIE WAS LATE

These proposals were narrowed, first to eight and then to three (Richmond Hill, Downsview Airport and near the Woodbine race track). The whole matter lay dormant for a while.

"Recently Pamarta Holdings made a proposal to Metro. Alderman Eggleton made the assumption that Richmond Hill didn't want the domed stadium (how he reached that conclusion I don't know) and the proposal was turned down on that point. Pamarta then contacted me and a member of council and after discussion we agreed to reintroduce their proposal. A meeting was set up, Mayor Crombie turned up an hour and a half late and said he was embarrassed at not meeting with council but with the developers. There evidently was some misunderstanding, but I don't believe it was on our part or on the part of Pamarta," Mayor Lazenby said.

"The purpose of this meeting is to orient council on the proposal. If a public meeting on this is held in the future, it will be well publicized," he said.

SEAT 50,000 TO 60,000

Mr. Similas reported the proposed domed stadium would seat from 50,000 to 60,000 spectators and with the motel-hotel-commercial development would be in the neighborhood of \$150 million. He noted that at present Richmond Hill receives only about \$3,000 annually in taxes on the property. He said the domed stadium could be completed within 2 1/2 years of signing the agreement, that it would be financed by private venture capital and would be no burden on the taxpayers of Richmond Hill, Toronto or the province by subsidies of any kind. However, Similas suggested his company might ask for tax relief for the first three years.

He reported his company is at present engaged in the development of 720 acres at Hart Lake and another 174 acres in Scarborough at Finch and Midland Avenues, has substantial land holdings in Montreal and the Province of Quebec and several shopping centres in the Metro area.

ALL CANADIAN

Mr. Similas said his company employs all Canadian labor, uses all Canadian materials and the design for the stadium has been done by a Canadian. "This is the most exciting, challenging and historic undertaking in our company's time," he declared.

OFFER \$10.5 MILLION

"We were going to spend a quarter of a million dollars to study the feasibility of the project, but are willing to waive that," he said. "We are now willing to make an offer of \$10.5 million for the property. If we could make the offer to you and have you negotiate with Toronto we would be much happier. We think your council can make decisions more readily, as we can."

Mayor Lazenby told the developers he knew of no conditions under which the town could give them tax relief. "I think our planners would want two-thirds of the remainder of the property in industrial development and only one-third in residential."

LANDLORD ONLY

Similas explained it is his company's plan to be the landlord of the stadium only, not to run a team or teams. "If you have a team we'll rent you the stadium. If this plan goes ahead I don't think the CNE Grandstand extension will go ahead. It still has to be approved by Metro. We also plan to set aside a month each year to promote athletes on an Olympic basis — they could be housed, trained and compete there."

He also said his firm would be carrying out negotiations with CN to straighten out the railroad line through the property instead of having it veer to the west as it does now.

Councillor David Stephenson called it the "most exciting proposal I've heard since being on council" and suggested a meeting be arranged with the consultants on the Yonge Street South study.

750 FOOT DIAMETER

Similas also reported the proposed domed stadium will be 750 feet in diameter (the Houston Astrodome is 710')

and its height above ground will depend on the soil conditions. "If these conditions are what we want all 32 rows of seats may be below the ground level, as the stadium becomes an amphitheatre."

He said the development was more suitable to this site than any other in the Metro Toronto Planning Area since no trees will be destroyed and since the land can no longer be farmed economically with the value being \$15,000 to \$16,000 an acre.

It was the unanimous decision of council to receive the submission and study how it will affect the municipality, if it is feasible for Richmond Hill to act as the middleman and report back to a public meeting.

Adjourn OMB Hearing Oak Ridges Moraine

A Municipal Board hearing on an application for estate development on a property on Bayview Avenue south of the Gormley Side-road was adjourned after 15 minutes Monday. The solicitors for the applicant objected that relevant information had not been received from the Town of Richmond Hill or the Region of York in time for them to review it and prepare their argument on behalf of their client.

The applicant, Mrs. Rex Battle, had asked for an amendment to the town's Official Plan to permit rural residential development. It is zoned as "rural" in the plan.

York Regional Council agreed at a recent meeting to examine interim policy on development in this area in the light of possible detrimental effects to the environment. Regional Planning Commissioner Murray Pound and Richmond Hill Planning Director Heissie Rimon were both present for the hearing.

APPLICANT'S WISH

Mrs. Battle's Solicitors Robert Reid and Aloysius Kennedy, former chairman of the OMB, objected they received reports from the town and the region on Thursday of last week and had not had time for proper examination of these documents in preparation for the Monday hearing. Mr. Reid

asked for an adjournment. OMB Members Peter Brooks and Barry Smith agreed.

Ratepayers present asked to be notified of the date of the next hearing. Charles Peacock of RR 2, Gormley, said his property adjoins that of Mrs. Battle, but it was only by accident that he learned the date and time of the hearing and that it was open to the public. He told the chairman he was also speaking for two other property owners, Henri Gustin of RR 2, Gormley, and Mrs. Peggy Temple of Sugar Maple Lane, Richmond Hill, who also had property adjoining Mrs. Battle's.

NO PUBLIC NOTICE

Mrs. Ann Gold also objected that there had been no public notice of the impending hearing, adding that she represented a group who are "quite concerned." She asked if notices could be issued or published in the local press.

The solicitor for the town, Thomas Fraser, agreed the ratepayers should be notified and their names and addresses were recorded.

Planning Director Rimon

told "The Liberal" it will probably be two or three months before another date can be set.

Teachers, Trustees Bargaining

(Continued from Page 1) other boards could settle their disputes, but not with the teachers here.

MONEY TALKS

Trustee John Honsberger of Markham, chairman of the board's negotiating committee said that half the issues were about money, and the other half involved various other aspects. But the "big problem" was salaries," he said.

When asked what the board's policy was on teachers who taught less than 50 percent of their specialty, Mr. Honsberger said the board had taken the position that, if the teachers used their qualifications most of the time, they would get paid for them.

Trustee Doreen Quirk of Markham praised the members of the trustees' negotiating committee for the lengthy hours they had put in so far on negotiations. The negotiations were really secondary to their regular jobs, but they had to deny the latter for the former. This was in contrast to members of the teachers' committee, who were only doing their normal job. The remark drew some groans from the many teachers in attendance.

Mr. Honsberger, when asked why a news blackout had now been imposed on the meetings, said that, at one stage there had been eight to 10 public meetings. But once the matter came to negotiations, it was decided that any public airing might adversely affect conditions. Later on, Education Minister Thomas Wells also decided it would be in the best interests of all to keep negotiations quiet.

Narrow Escape For Hill Family In Fire

A Richmond Hill family narrowly escaped death when a flash fire roared through their house Monday evening about 5:40 pm, trapping them inside.

The fire occurred at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fortunato Pizzimenti, 315 South Taylor Mills Drive when it is believed fumes from gas that Mr. Pizzimenti had been using to clean some paint brushes downstairs, ignited, filling the stairway and kitchen area with smoke and flames.

Ralph Harris, 81 Died On Sunday

Ralph W. Harris, 81, former engineer for York Township and public relations counsel for Household Finance died Sunday at York Central Hospital.

He obtained his civil engineering degree in 1917 after serving with the Royal Engineers in World War I. He was associated with a firm of consulting engineers and the planning bureau of the Toronto Transportation Commission before becoming the York Township Engineer.

In the mid-1930's, he abandoned his engineering career to become a full-time public relations counsel of Household Finance and was one of a group that successfully presented arguments to the government in favor of revisions in small loans legislation.

He served on the Wartime Prices and Trade Board during World War II and after retiring 21 years ago did some consulting work on conservation developments.

He leaves to mourn his loss his wife, the former Edna Starr, and daughter Audrey of Kerrybrook Drive, Richmond Hill; sons Douglas of Toronto and Donald of Guelph. He is also survived by six grandchildren.

The funeral service was held in the chapel of the Marshall Funeral Home Tuesday afternoon and was followed by cremation.

Tom Broadhurst Seneca Board

Three new members have been appointed to the Board of Governors of Seneca College of Applied Arts and Technology to bring the board membership up to its full complement of 12 persons.

Thomas Broadhurst, 77 Starlight Crescent, Richmond Hill, is one of these appointees. Mr. Broadhurst served this town for more than a decade as councillor, deputy reeve and mayor. He was elected deputy-reeve in 1962 and mayor in 1964. He is also active in the YCAMR and a veteran of the Royal Air Force, having taken part of his training in Canada. He is manager of Marketing Services, Worthington Canada Limited.

Another former deputy-reeve (and reeve) of the town, Donald Plaxton is also a member of the board, which is chaired by Norn Garrowick of Vaughan.

Chief Robert Kennedy of Richmond Hill Fire Department, which answered the call, said that Mr. Pizzimenti then ran out the side door of the house and around to the front, where he tried to break the glass in the front door to open it and rescue his wife and three children, who had been sitting at the kitchen table.

He then smashed in a front window, suffering a severe gash in his arm. At the same time, a neighbor, Walter Laite, 318 South Taylor Mills Drive, came over and knocked in the picture window with a board.

Between the two men, they managed to rescue the rest of the family although Mrs. Pizzimenti and one of her children had their hair singed.

Mr. Pizzimenti was taken to York Central Hospital, where he was said to be in satisfactory condition Wednesday.

Damage to the house was estimated at \$20,000, with another \$1,500 being done to the contents.

OBITUARY

Fred Scandrett, 86 Harbor Gen. Manager

Fred Scandrett, 86, 76 Powell Street, Richmond Hill, died on the evening of February 5 at his home. He entered the employment of the Toronto Harbor Commissioners in 1918 and remained there for 33 years, five of them as general manager. A harbor icebreaker has been named after him.

Scandrett was both an engineer and a lawyer. He obtained a degree in civil engineering from the University of Toronto in 1911. Within a few years he enrolled at Osgoode Hall Law School, was called to the bar in 1918. He was an honorary Life Member of the Law Society, Upper Canada.

He is survived by his wife, the former Ethel Maybee. The funeral service was held Monday at the Marshall Funeral Home with interment following in the Necropolis Cemetery, Cannington.

AURORA: A 200-suite hotel for this town is a certainty according to Lawrence Grossman, lawyer for Aurora Holdings Limited. The principal is negotiating with a major chain to put a hotel on the property on Yonge Street in this town's south end.

Added Features Raise Cost New Townhouses In BAIF

An upgrading in the townhouse development proposed for Block E, Phase 1, BAIF-Cadillac Development was pointed out by Planning Director Hesses Rimon to Richmond Hill Councils Planning Committee February 7.

The next townhouse development will occur on 1.8 acres on the south side of BAIF Boulevard and is bordered on the south by Hillcrest Mall, Twenty-nine townhouse units will be built here. On the east side an application has been made to sever a one-acre site for a church.

The town was successful in negotiating a 50-foot road allowance, leading from the mall parking area to BAIF Boulevard between the townhouses and the church site, Mr. Rimon reported. This corrects a lack in the original BAIF agreement with Vaughan.

The townhouses will be served by a private internal road. Each unit will be larger than those built previously, will have an individual garage plus three bedrooms and 50% of the site will be landscaped. The playground area allowed in the plan is 2,177 square feet and the by-law requires only 1,450 square feet.

GARBAGE COLLECTION

The agreement with the developers will spell out regulations about garbage collection. This will be carried out by a truck on the internal road picking up at each individual home. (The first townhouse development did not have an internal road and so garbage collection de-

Scientology Members In Hill Protest

Members of The Church of Scientology in Toronto took advantage of striking York County teachers last week, who were meeting in the Legion Hall in Richmond Hill, to demonstrate against Eric McLean, executive assistant, District 11 of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation, who they claimed was a one-time parishioner of the church.

The members said they were protesting because of remarks allegedly made against the church by Mr. McLean on a CTV television show in April of 1973. Gary Jepson, a minister of the church, said that McLean had slandered the church and the latter had instituted a law suit against the TV network and those associated with it, as a result. Sidney Katz of the Toronto Star, who interviewed McLean on the program, hung up on a reporter

for "The Liberal" when queried about the latter.

When asked why the campaign against McLean, Jepson said: "I could sit back, but it's my church and it bothers me."

Why single out one man? Said Philip McAiney, another minister of the church, "Why one guy? Adolf Hitler, that's why."

The same McAiney when asked if the Christian ethic wasn't to turn the other cheek, replied: "No, it's to kick him in the ass."

The basic belief of the church, according to Jepson, is that "man is a spiritual being and he is basically good."

Mr. McLean, who seemed visibly upset by the demonstration, said he had never been a member of the church.

Winter Carnival Contest Results

(Continued from Page 1) view Secondary won this one with effort of Freddy the Frog.

Grade 11 — Oscar in the Garbage Can was created by Richmond Hill High to win a first for their school for a Sesame Street character; Grade 12 — None of the high schools had an entry for the Grade 12 class of ice sculptures.

Grade 13 — Bayview Secondary's grade 13 class won this with an entry of a Kangaroo. This is the sixth time the Bayview grade 13's have won this event since the Carnival opened six years ago.

LOG SAWING CONTEST

There were four possible groups for those interested in log sawing at the Mill Pond on Saturday.

The first group was the mixed doubles, won by Betty Skanes and her partner Eric Store.

The next class was the men's doubles. First place went to Mel Cull and Bruce Peck.

In the ladies' singles it was Annette Herbert in the winner's circle.

Bernie McKinlay won the first place honors in the men's singles.

TUG-OF-WAR

In the first in the high school tug-of-war battle Richmond Hill defeated Langstaff in one semi-final, in an unforgettable tugging match.

Bayview Secondary then met with Richmond Hill for the final pulling match and soundly defeated Bayview for the championship.

SNOWMOBILE RACES

There were over 75 entries in the snowmobile races on Elgin Mills Road Sunday afternoon, with an anxious 400 spectators looking on with excitement.

There were 13 different engine classes to choose from and all of them were loaded with excitement.

In the 250 stock the winner was Dave Jones. Larry VanDyke won the 340 juniors division. In the 0-340 class women's it was Bev Reif the winner.

Dave Mumford took first place in his Arctic Cat in the 300 free air class. Ron Rytek won the 300 modified, 440 fan cooled, and the 340 modified. Larry VanDyke also won the 340 free stock.

Doug Herron won first place in the 340 fan cooled, and the open which was any sized engine. Dave Mumford won two more this time in the 300 fan cooled and the 440 modified.

In another 300 fan cooled class the winner was Bob Walls.

The most evident machine at the meet was the Arctic Cat which won a number of the classes. There were two Snow Jets and a Yamaha which made their marks against the other competitors.

The Kinsmen Club of Richmond Hill will be holding a big snowmobile racing meet on February 24 at Yonge Street and Elgin Mills Road with all proceeds going to the cystic fibrosis fund. There will be trophies for all the races, it was announced.

SKATE RACES

There was a skate racing event for the kids at the Mill Pond, Saturday.

Other success because of the old race the winner was Melissa Hunt. For the girls four-years-old Kelly Bell took first place.

Darlene Whitmarsh won the girls' five year old race. Heather Maclean won in the girls six and seven-year-old race. In the girls eight and nine-year-old there were three heats. The winners were Christine Lockery,

parents had their fun on it too. Everyone is looking forward with anticipation to next year's Winter Carnival at the Mill Pond and are hoping for it to be as much fun and successful as it was this year.

Coming Events

DUPLICATE BRIDGE — 3 sessions, Mondays and Fridays 8 pm, Wednesdays 1 pm, 12 King Side Road, Oak Ridges. Marie Cole, 773-4280. tfc32

FEBRUARY 15, FRIDAY, 8 pm—Richmond Hill Naturalists will meet in St. Mary's Anglican Church Hall. Dr. Ralph Davis will give an illustrated discussion on birds and the pipeline of the Mackenzie Valley. clw33

FEBRUARY 16, 9 pm to 1 am—February Fling Dance at Richmond Lions Hall, 31 Spruce Avenue, \$8 per couple, includes buffet and door prizes. Bar privileges. Sponsored by the Richvale Lionsettes. Tickets 889-3780. clw33

FEBRUARY 23, SATURDAY, 10 am to 2 pm—St. Matthew's United Church Rummage and Bake Sale, 333 Crosby Avenue. Free coffee. c2w33

RICHMOND HILL LIONS CLUB

BINGO

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18th

LIONS HALL

106 Centre St. East

STARTING TIME — 8 P.M.

Early Birds 7:40 p.m.

20 REGULAR GAMES — 3 SPECIAL GAMES

JACKPOT \$500 — 58 No.'s

Help Keep Richmond Hill Beautiful

Inviting friends home?

We would like to help you make it a successful happening. Your important friends will not want to stop eating the delicious and well displayed food laid out for them. Make it happen... give your friends an unusual treat.

We cater for little parties with Oriental food such as... Samosas and Khebab as starters; for main dishes... delicious Curried Chicken with Basmati Rice or plainly prepared Chicken Pilav or beautifully cooked Curried Prawns; finish off with lovely Faluda as a sweet dish.

Just try us once and you will be glad to have known us. Contact Karish at 884-4297.

Here Are Scheduled Events In Southern York This Week

MEET ME IN THE VILLAGE

Nineteenth Century store fronts, including a hardware store, clock shop, barber shop, toy shop, china shop and a dressmakers and haberdasher shop, have been reproduced by the North York Historical Society and are on display in the upper gallery of the museum wing of the pre-Confederation Gibson House, 5172 Yonge Street, behind Willowdale Post Office. Articles used in the exhibition are authentic 19th Century and are on loan from various sources. They will remain on display to the end of March. The house and museum wing are open to the public from 9:30 to 5 pm week days and noon to 5 pm Sunday. Admission is 50c for adults and 25c for children.

VALENTINE DANCE

The King City Figure Skating Club is having a Valentine Dance in the community hall on Saturday. Tickets are \$20 per couple and include cocktails, dinner and dancing to the music of George Cowie and his orchestra. Call Andrea Stemmlé at 773-5772 for tickets.

ANNUAL OYSTER SUPER

The King City Lions are having their annual oyster supper at All Saints Anglican Church Hall from 5 to 8:30 pm next Tuesday. Proceeds from this event are used for community projects. This event has become a highlight of the winter season in the area, and the Lions really go all-out to make it an occasion to remember.

COFFEE BREAK BAKE SALE

Volunteers of Richmond Hill - Thornhill Family Services aided by the AMO (a morning out) group of Richmond Hill United are having a coffee break and bake sale in the church from 9:30 to 11:30 am Wednesday of next week. Proceeds will go to the family services agency, and everyone is welcome.

RICHVALE FEBRUARY FLING

The Richvale Lions are having their February Fling Saturday in the newly redecorated hall at 31 Spruce Avenue. The \$8 per couple admission is for dancing and buffet, bar privileges and door prizes. For tickets call 889-3780.