



(Photo by Susan Samila)

A highlight of the annual open house at Don Head Secondary in Richmond Hill last week was an auction sale. The major items were a snowmobile and a car rebuilt and refinished by students. Many shops contributed items for the sale conducted by Auctioneer Gord Orr. Included were a wine rack, gun rack and other items from the building construction shop, cushions and footstools from the upholstery shop, items from the horticultural department, jewelry and retail

merchandising projects.

Bidding was brisk, particularly for the car, which went to Mr. and Mrs. Hal Murphy of Richmond Hill for \$1,280. The snowmobile was bought by Norman Hackey of Thornhill for \$360. As Auctioneer Orr calls for bids, Principal Charles Seath displays a jacket and trousers for the benefit of the

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Ratepayer Meeting

A ratepayers association is being formed for Ward 3 and the first meeting is being held in the Walter Scott School in Richmond Hill, at 7:30 pm on Tuesday of next week. There will be a representative from the council.

Topics to be discussed at this meeting are: "The future of the Langstaff jail farm, do we want it to be all high rise or do we want some of it kept green?" and "Development of the surrounding areas"; "Zoning. Beefs—here is a chance to express your beefs—one very good one is the ever overflowing German Mills Creek. Every time we have a rain storm our basements on Duncan Road are filled with Richmond Hill's refuse from their sewers and our gardens are ruined." "Another one is the condition of the roads such as Duncan Road, Elm, Maple, Fern. "These are just a few things that could be straightened out if we pulled together. So here is our chance to make a few important changes," say the organizers.

Neighborhood Notes

A kitchen ware party is being held in the gym of the Sixteenth Avenue Public School on Thursday (tomorrow starting at 8 pm). The proceeds from this party will be in aid of the Korean Boy which Mrs. Judy Vasilaros and her grade 1 class have adopted. The party is being organized by Mrs. Grace Nikolaus of Duncan Road. Come and meet your neighbors.

Happy birthday greetings to Annetta Grelezak of Dun-

can who celebrated her 10th birthday on Saturday. Happy birthday to Gary Tripp of Sixteenth Avenue on his 14th birthday on May 10. Birthdays greetings to Umberto Gonzales of Sixteenth Avenue on his 10th birthday May 12. The best to all of you.

NEWMARKET: Owners of the Newmarket Plaza have hotly denied reports that the plaza will be demolished and apartment buildings constructed on the site. All but one store in the plaza are leased through 1981.

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"What Am I Bid?" Auction At Don Head Open House

By MARGARET LADE

An open house at a secondary is usually pretty predictable — interesting but predictable — displays of students' works, posters and paintings in the corridors, demonstrations of physical education, arts, music, shop work, and parents teeming through the corridors directed by helpful student guides. But do you find an auction sale in progress in the foyer next door to a campsite where students are preparing dandelion salad, bullrush potatoes, in an Ojibway kitchen, cooking groundhog and trout over "buddy burners", and handing out samples to the visitors?

Do you empty your pockets buying plants, baked goods, pottery, having a manicure or a shampoo, a hot dinner or snack? Not likely, unless it is Don Head Secondary in Richmond Hill that you are visiting.

An estimated 1,500 people milled through the halls and shops and classrooms on the evening of May 1. And in spite of the crush, the student parking attendants report that all cars were located in the proper areas. No parents or friends have reported banged fenders, and parking, which extended far beyond the confines of the school's own property, was free.

SERVE 400 DINNERS

Food services students sold 317 hot beef dinners, over 100 chicken dinners, and at their snack bar dispensed tremendous numbers of hot dogs, hamburgers, chips, demonstrating their expertise as short-order cooks.

The competence of students in other areas was most evident in the displays in the foyer where a Japanese car and a snowmobile were rebuilt and refinished by students in the auto body shop where the major items

featured in an auction sale conducted by professional Auctioneer Gordon Orr.

Interest was keen and bidding brisk. The car was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Hal Murphy, Bent Crescent, Richmond Hill, and the snowmobile to Norman Hackey of Royal Orchard Road in Thornhill. Numerous other items made by the students were included in the auction.

There was also a draw sponsored by the committee for the development of outdoor education in York County — the prize a boat or \$200 cash, and the winner was Mrs. Jackie MacDougall of Aurora.

OUTDOOR THEME

Foyer displays also included clothing for outdoors and a model house, completely furnished, built by students.

The theme for the year at Don Head has been education through the outdoors, and the open house, "Over-view '74" carried through this theme in almost all areas of study. The Ojibway kitchen in the foyer was in effect an exercise in survival. Camp equipment was made from available materials (coat hangers, aluminum foil, tin cans, and for food — common wild vegetation). The "buddy burners" for cooking were tin cans filled with tightly rolled corrugated cardboard and filled with paraffin wax. The menu: dandelion salad, bullrush potatoes, plantain, leeks, groundhog and fish, Queen Anne's lace mixed vegetables, raspberry tea, and it was very well received by those who sampled it.

In art and jewellery the students drew on their outdoor education work experience at Camp Richildca, featuring wild-life drawings, Canadian Indian masks and pottery.

Although the auto body shop's major achievements

were in the foyer, several students were in the shop working on cars. One student, to his own dismay and to the amusement of an interested audience of about 50 people spilled primer over himself and the floor. No school is perfect, not even Don Head.

CHICKS ON SCHEDULE

In the auto service shop there were students checking brakes, turning brake drums, rotating tires, removing a transmission and answering questions about small engines on display.

In the science area, the baby chicks burst out of their shells in their incubator right on schedule and stole the show. Movies were shown of students on scientific expeditions outdoors, and there were microscope slides made and collected in a crowded three hours in the lab. There were also displays of preserved plant and animal specimens.

In the hospital services area, students demonstrated first aid techniques as well as some of their nursing skills. The language arts display was chiefly visual, but visitors were able to relax on a "Pop Patio" and enjoy cool drinks while they viewed the displays.

In home management, students prepared picnic lunches which they later ate in the display area of a picnic site. One student explained research and preparation of natural foods: fiddleheads, granola, homemade yogurt and home-grown bean sprouts, while others gave shampoos and manicures in the grooming area.

BUSINESS BRISK

Business was brisk in the retail merchandising shop where clothing made by the students, baked goods and candy attracted many customers.

Other shops had static displays. The building mainte-

nance shop displayed oil heating equipment, cleaning equipment, plumbing and painting equipment. The displays were manned by students who answered many questions about their training and use of the equipment.

In the upholstery shop re-upholstered furniture was on display along with throw cushions and footstools, as well as chairs that had been re-covered by students in evening classes. Some students were at work through the evening in projects underway in the shop.

"KISSOMETER"

New this year was the "Kissometer" in the electrical repair shop. It was also very popular, enjoyed by both participants and observers. The box of chocolates was won by the team of Brenda Crane and Shane Croft who came up with a sizzling score of five.

The driver education area was also a busy place. In the classroom, model roads and small cars demonstrated various teaching aids, while sectionalized engines showed students how an engine operates. Groups of students operated the driving simulators, learning basic skills before venturing onto the road.

Parents showed great interest in the students' notebooks, charts and projects completed by students were on display. The cars used for on-the-road training were prominently positioned in front of the school. The theme of the driver training course was emphasized: "Learn and Survive".

Horticultural students had already made the entrances to the school attractive with shrubs and spring flowers. On Open House night they demonstrated transplanting and sold plants to home gardeners.

COST OF TRAVEL

Mathematics had been put to use in practical ways. Six classes had charted modes of transportation — from Richmond Hill to Vancouver, created a huge map with travel routes by car and camping, bus, plane, train, motor-bike, bicycle and camping, with each route lit up by mini-lights of various colors. They had also calculated the cost of tickets, food, lodgings, equipment, etc., for each mode of travel and for added interest had an electric train circling the map. Their display included a camp set-up complete with campfire, bikes and motor bikes, films and other travel equipment.

Mathematics students had also plotted migratory routes for birds of North America, mapping spots where birds were banded and where the same birds had been shot.

Bird houses and turtle traps made by the students were on display and houses for wood ducks are being put up on the grounds at York Central Hospital and at the Mill Pond so that the students can do a long term study and graph of the travel patterns and habits of these birds.

EXCELLENT RESPONSE

The theme of outdoor education has been enthusiastically supported by all staff, the teachers report, and the children have responded well. Even in the academic field there has been active participation, studying the social and scientific aspects of outdoor education.

There are four outdoor education teachers on staff, but all departments have joined in contributing to the learning possibilities to be realized in field trips and on-site studies of the outdoors.

The possibilities were endless — demonstrations of dancing, slides on hunter safety presented by the senior gun club, a film "The Death of a Hunter" in the cafeteria, audience participation in fly-casting and other activities, demonstrations of gymnastics.

It was a busy and very successful night for all concerned in the fifth annual open house for York County Board of Education's first and only junior vocational school.

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Education Through Outdoors Theme For '74

On open house night, May 1, Don Head Secondary School resembled a cross between a massive camp-site and super market as students demonstrated their skills and sold many of the fruits of their labors in the current school year, which has as its theme "Education Through The Outdoors".

Pictured above holding the spider plant she is going to buy, Mrs. Ona Lawton gets some advice on how to keep it healthy from horticulture student Bruce Kennedy. With Mrs. Lawton are her children, Dorothy and Terry. Their dad is Douglas Lawton, a building construction and woodworking teacher at the school.

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