

# Letters to the Editors

(Continued from page 4)  
 were delivered to as many homes as possible. Wenlock was not the only street missed as was implied—Concession 3, Rockwell area, Briggs and Bayview were others. We just didn't have enough people to cover these streets. Mrs. Sharpe has told me that she will do Wenlock in future and if any resident on the other streets missed would call MacKempston at 884-4377, he would be pleased to have their help. Mr. Major received a personal invitation to the first meeting April 8, but no other personal invitations were extended.

A lot of people have put many hours of work in the formation of the Ward 3 Ratepayers' Group. We have had two excellent meetings and hope to have many more. Your editorial of May 29 points out the advantages of citizen participation.

Thank you for the opportunity to put forth my point of view.

**JUNE KIRBY,**  
 320 Markham Road,  
 Richmond Hill.

## HIGH PRAISE YOUTH CONCERT BAND

Dear Mr. Editor—  
 I was pleased to be present at a concert of the Richmond Hill Youth Concert Band at Richmond Hill High School May 23. As a music teacher in downtown Toronto where community bands are almost non-existent, it was encouraging to hear such fine performances from the band and choir, and to see such involvement of so many members of your community.

Band concerts often become dull after two or three numbers. Not so here. This band played a pleasantly varied program that never dragged. They played with considerable musical finesse and did not fall into the trap of performing numbers too hard for them. From the quality of performance, I was surprised to hear that the group only rehearses one evening a week.

The choir from MacKillop School was a tasteful addition to the program. Good teaching and the obvious enthusiasm of each child made what might have been just another public school choir sound inspiring. A special bravo for the ecological song with words adapted to refer to the Richmond Hill mill pond.

Credit for this concert is due to Robert Thiel, a resident of Richmond Hill, who, in his spare time, has conceived and nurtured the Richmond Hill Youth Concert Band; Mrs. Mary Fleming, a volunteer from the community who conducts the MacKillop Public School Choir; and the community itself for its active support and involvement in things musical.

Bravo,  
**STEPHEN SMITH,**  
 President,  
 Toronto Secondary School Music Teachers' Assoc.

## PROPERTY OWNERS' RIGHTS

Dear Mr. Editor—  
 For 12 years we had a dog. During those years we kept him in our own yard, or took him to vacant fields for a run, and always on a leash when nearing home. We cleaned up after our own dog. He never once went roaming on his own and fouling up our neighbors' lawns.

Now that the snow has gone, we can see a dozen spots where dogs have chosen to stop. Worse still we have a fire hydrant in the middle of our lawn that invites more visitors. It is also a fine target for pop bottles, etc.

We are paying for our property, it is supposed to be private. Is there no law that can prosecute owners of animals for fouling up other people's lawns on which a lot of money is spent each year to keep them looking nice? My main job here the year round is cleaning up other people's dirt.

I think someone ought to start looking after the rights of property owners.  
**MRS. J. MCGINNIS,**  
 10548 Bayview Avenue,  
 Richmond Hill.

## HEARTY AND HOPEFUL

Dear Mr. Editor—  
 Although I have lived in Richmond Hill for 13 years and have always valued my neighbors and grown to love my own district, it was only last week when I had occasion to enumerate another section of town that I realized how very fortunate we are to live in such a friendly, carefree and safe town.

Everyone I met was cooperative, helpful and appeared contented and happy—some more prosperous than others, but all hearty and hopeful.

Of course many were not in favor of another election and grumbled at the cost, but the overall sentiment was thankfulness that we are lucky enough to live in the best town in the best country in the world.

It is heartwarming to see that in these troubled times, so many people realize their good fortune in being Canadians.

**RITA BUTT,**  
 86 Cartier Crescent,  
 Richmond Hill.

## A PEACEFUL (?) SUNDAY AT HOME

Dear Mr. Editor—  
 It's spring again, and the sun is shining... and unfortunately it is also Sunday! For those of us who are foolish enough to cling to our homes near the Buttonville Airport flight paths, Sunday is a day of continuous noise.

I'm not naive enough to think that all flying is going to cease simply because it pollutes the countryside and irritates the citizens who pay taxes for the use of the land underneath the flight paths. And after all, just because we have to pay for new mufflers to replace salt-eaten faulty ones on our cars, it's no reason to expect plane owners to muffle their noisy engines—planes are costly enough now—and think of the cost to the pilot for gas! No sense hoping for expensive mufflers or varied flight paths!

However, one does accept the fact of flight as a necessity for important executives to get about quickly... one learns to live with the noise, on business days, of planes taking off and FLYING AWAY!

It does not seem just that we have to suffer the really aggravating, distracting, overwhelming, continuous noise of the fun-flying on Sundays! Airport officials assure us that planes make no more noise than gravel trucks... but just imagine continuous streams of gravel trucks circling one's house and gardens from dawn to dusk on Sundays. And then remind yourself that none of those flights are necessary. All that noise for the amusement of the pilots!

We have been extremely fortunate not to have had any forced landings in our fields and orchards... the last two came down within a mile of us but missed our tall evergreens around the house. One should count one's blessings! But who can hear oneself count on Sundays?

Trouble with farming is that on Sundays the animals want to eat... one can't go off to the quiet of the north woods and abandon the livestock... one can relax, plant petunias or beans and carrots... but not with the noise at present. Sundays-on-the-farm on the east side of Richmond Hill have to be spent indoors with the windows shut! Evenings after five or six pm are noisy too, but as I say, one learns to close the windows and turn up the radio.

No one hopes to return to the old dead-quiet, depressing Sundays when one had to amuse oneself and family at home BUT it would be nice if we had the freedom to choose to spend a quiet Sunday at home! It is unfortunate that the few people who are free to fly about in the sky should disturb the peace of all the citizens on the ground on Sunday.

**MARILYN WATSON,**  
 Box 240,  
 Richmond Hill.

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