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The Liberal

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

RICHMOND HILL, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 1974

HOME PAPER OF THE DISTRICT SINCE 1878

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Keep Langstaff Jail Farm Green — MP Danson



Crash Takes Boy's Life

A 14-year-old Metro boy was killed, and three other people, including a resident of King City, were injured when this car and another one were in collision at Dufferin Street and the King-Vaughan Line, August 15.

Maurice Spires, 22, of Silverstone Road, Rexdale, driver of the above car, was unhurt,

but his passenger, Paul Anderson, 14, of Chalk Farm Road, North York, was killed. Driver of the other car, Douglas East, of King City, was badly bruised. Two other passengers in the Spires' automobile, Alex Ninnons, 18, and John Todd, 16, both of Gosford Drive, North York, received cuts and a broken arm, respectively.

Second Boy, Several Others Die In Accidents

George Hutcheon, 14, son of George and Arlene Hutcheon, 6 Leonard Avenue,

was killed August 16 when the car he was riding in, was in collision with another vehicle at Major Mackenzie Drive and Bathurst Street, about 11 pm.

Site Plan Agreements

Richmond Hill Council in a meeting called after the committee of the whole meeting Monday night gave approval to a site plan agreement with Richmond Hill Professional Association for an extension to its office building at 10348 Yonge Street. This is a well-designed four-storey addition to the old home which houses the Allen, Brown & Sheriff architectural offices and other offices. A site plan agreement for an addition to the Scholastic Tab Building at the corner of Newkirk Road and Crosby Avenue was also approved. This means that building permits may now be issued for these extensions.

Two readings were given to a bylaw to rezone a residential property on the south side of Arnold Crescent to commercial so that it may be converted into offices. The bylaw will now be advertised before a third reading.

A third site plan agreement for an extension to an industrial building on Centre Street East applied for by William McCord was not available Monday night. Since the prospective tenants, United Flexible, are under pressure to meet a delivery date for their product, a telephone poll of the council will be taken by Mayor William Lazenby, he promised, as soon as the agreement is available.

It was one of two motor fatalities in the area last week. An accident east of Sault Ste. Marie, August 15, claimed the life of another area resident, Gordon Commissiong, 24, of Newmarket. He was one of four people killed when the car he was riding in, was involved in a collision with another vehicle. The deceased had hitchhiked a ride in one of the cars.

An accident near Cobconk, about 35 miles east of Orillia, claimed the life of Mary Margaret Cameron, 57, of Gormley, on the weekend. The other fatality occurred on Dufferin Street at the King-Vaughan Line, August 15. Paul Anderson, 14, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Anderson, Chalk Farm Road, North York, was the victim in the two-car crash.

In the first accident, the Hutcheon boy was a passenger in a car driven by David Gillibrand, 16, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. Gillibrand, 129 Elmwood Avenue, Richmond Hill.

Driver of the other vehicle, was John Schiebelhoser, 42, of 384 Wenlock Avenue, Richmond Hill, who faces a charge of dangerous driving.

The Hutcheon boy had to be cut from the car by members of Richmond Hill Fire Department, following the accident.

The Gillibrand youth was treated at York Central Hospital for injuries. Funeral services for the Hutcheon youth were held Monday, August 19, at Marshall Funeral Home, with

interment at Richmond Hill Cemetery.

Six of his fellow students at McConaghy Public School acted as pallbearers. They were: Jon Gilliam, Bruce Street, Steve Price, Albert Rhuie, Ted Ruffman and Jeff Brownlee.

Besides his parents, the deceased is survived by four sisters, Sharon, Cindy, Tammy and Kathy; and a brother, Joey.

York Regional Police also reported another fatality last week.

Killed was Terrence Van

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Back in his home constituency Monday of last week for a cable TV conference with the local press only few days after being appointed Minister of Urban Affairs was Barney Danson, MP, York North. He's 53 now and a veteran of six years in the House of Commons.

"Keeping contact with the grass roots... for very healthy political reasons," local federal representative Danson went on this week to meet all the heads of the municipalities in his constituency before proceeding to similar meetings in Metro, across Ontario and then coast to coast.

While answering questions from reporters, Danson waded strongly into a number of what are certainly the most controversial local government urban planning issues. And his opinions were very clearly at odds with those of local municipal and provincial politicians on most matters.

Danson wondered at the choice of the proposed international airport site, the provincial housing Ministry's apparent support of a 30,000-resident Metro annex in Markham east of Thornhill, the proposal to develop the Langstaff jail farm property instead of keeping it open space, and at municipal policies which provide only for high revenue large homes and keep out small dwellings for young families and retired seniors.

The local MP said the main thrust of the Ministry under his leadership will be to provide more options in housing, emphasizing the great need for small units on small lots. Danson said he didn't know yet exactly how the supply of smaller residential properties would be increased, but he mentioned factory built (modular or mobile) homes as one of the fastest ways in view, thus hitting on another of the most controversial local issues here and in Whitchurch-Stouffville Town.

Council Plays Thornhill Exec

The Thornhill Softball League executive will try out its prowess on the diamond against Markham Town Council again this year. Council has accepted a challenge to play the Thornhill stalwarts on September 7, the day of the league's big softball parade.

The league's annual parade starts that day at 11 am at Baythorn Public School, moves to Baythorn Drive, south on Inverlochy Boulevard and east on Royal Orchard Boulevard to end up at Royal Orchard Public School, all in North Thornhill.

The council-executive game will be played at the north diamond.

Need Used Furniture For Summit House

Summit House, an extension of the Blue Hills Academy, which will be providing the program for adolescents, is scheduled to open in September. Located just off Yonge Street in northern Richmond Hill, it will be a treatment centre for emotionally disturbed teenagers.

Linda Conner is the senior child care worker in charge of arrangements.

The need at present is for furniture, and it is hoped to secure as much second-hand furniture as possible. Beds, chests, chesters, chairs, to help furnish a five-bedroom house are needed. If you would like to donate any of these, please call Linda at 884-0354 or Mrs. Child at 773-4323. A van is available for pickup.

NO DOGS

On another tack, Mr. Graham charged that when he drives his young son to the arena he can't take his dog in the car with him because of the provisions of the new bylaw. He pointed out that all animals are prohibited, so the rabbits and coons which live there under the protection of the town do so illegally. He also noted that even though a town park might provide the shortest way home for some citizens it would be illegal for them to walk through during the proscribed hours. "I think this was passed without much thought. It reminds me of something Etobicoke might have dreamed up."

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Mr. Graham then attacked the appointment of a head instructor at the pool. "I thought it was the policy of the town to advertise all jobs. But this one wasn't advertised and was not offered to the present staff,

that Metro sprawl is controlled.

The York Region-Willowdale Member came out strongly in favor of the creation of green space here in every conceivable way and the protection and preservation of all open space now in public ownership.

Questioned as to whether anything sort of something like a "Toronto Greenbelt National Park" would be capable of stopping the northward flow of Metro asphalt and concrete, Danson indicated no such major action is contemplated. Instead he called for stopping sprawl by expanding existing efforts to create green space.

"Every little bit helps," he said, mentioning such things as the Parkway Belt plan and power line rights of way.

Saying "I don't think government held land should ever be sold... it should be recycled," Danson called for the creation of something like an agricultural demonstration farm on the municipally-owned Langstaff jail farm property where a huge sports - industrial - residential development is being talked about in council sessions and public meetings.

Danson said it might be all right to put some housing on the corners of the Langstaff jail farm, even some high rise, but there must be lots and lots of open space around. He said open space and good planning can make areas very attractive, even though density is relatively high.

"I'm really worried, the Richmond Hill commuter (rail run announced earlier this year) will make Richmond Hill a magnet... bring development all the way up from Toronto, the town swallowed up," said Danson. "That's why I want to see the Langstaff jail farm developed for something less than high density."

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At an in camera meeting held following the July 29 council meeting, council agreed with the figure of \$90,000 as compensation for this property. It also agreed that Mr. Michael Prokopetz be allowed to lease the house and a quarter acre with the municipality being responsible for the taxes and building insurance. The property was owned by Mr. Prokopetz's son.

This decision was ratified in an open meeting of council which immediately followed the closed session.

BACK TO COMMITTEE

"As far as the staff of the pool is concerned, this matter has been referred back to the committee for study. If they are part time employees (working less than 25 hours a week) they are not entitled to pay when the pool is closed. The same criteria should be used for a member of the permanent pool staff taking a course which would help him in performing his duties for his municipality as are used for other town employees."

"Our pool sees fit to register people for instruction from outside the municipality's boundaries — and this should be stopped — at least they should not be accepted at the same fee," stated Mr. Graham. "That has been rectified," reported Mayor Lazenby. He also reported that the parks and recreation committee has been asked to take another look at the dog ban.

Mr. Graham was asked to take his complaints to the parks and recreation committee at its next meeting. "They can explain what has already happened and help you solve your problems. The policing of overnight parking is our main concern."

Councillor Andy Chateaubert, who sits on the parks and recreation committee, said the committee recognized that there will be times when staff and leaders of organizations will have to leave their cars in the Town Park after 1 am.

94,600 Markham People 51,000 In Richmond Hill

By HAL BLAINE

Did you know it's a foregone conclusion now that Richmond Hill's population is going to almost double in the next seven years to a total of 51,000? Already it's fate.

And did you know Markham Town's population will most certainly more than double in the same seven years to 94,600? This after exploding to over 45,000 from about 30,000 in a much shorter time period.

Then what about the fate of our infant Region of York?

The region's population will hit 305,000 in 1981 at the end of the same seven years.

PUBLIC APATHY

That's the kind of critical and almost frightening information York Regional Council and Planning Commissioner Murray Pound are trying to give an apathetic public a slap in the face with. Their latest gimmick to try to make John Q. Citizen wake up and take part in the preparation of the regional and local Official Plans is a display trailer. It was unveiled to the press and municipal officials last week.

The York Region Official Plan trailer is going to be hauled around to the various communities, to shopping centres, fairs, etc. The above population figures are the kind of information the maps, displays and literature will try to get across to people. Region planning staff experts in many technical fields — geology, geography, engineering, housing, economics, etc. — are giving freely of their time on designated evenings to really give interested citizens an earful at the trailer.

TIME IS SHORT

And people better get interested. The regional Official Plan by the Legislature's Region of York Act only a few years ago was to be completed for ministerial approval at the end of this year. For various good reasons it is somewhat behind the deadline and will

Industry, hard services like sewer and water, transportation and communications patterns, soft services like welfare and health, economics of the region and how much what will burden the property taxpayer. It's to be all there by year's end in about a dozen publications, each one a volume in itself. Two books just printed and now available are the first of the dozen. They're entitled "A Summary of the Historical Development of York Region" and "Physical Base of York Region".

The story in the town's northern ward was different with about 40 ratepayers in attendance. Their main concerns, however, were about the adoption and implementation of the Lake Wilcox Study and Report and the clearing of Sunset Beach Park. Since these matters were not subjects to be discussed at this meeting, the concerned ratepayers were referred to a parks and recreation meeting of council as a whole on Monday evening, we are informed.

VAUGHAN AND KING

Back to that information caravan people will be seeing in their communities in the coming weeks. It tells how Vaughan Town in year 1981 will have almost as many workers as population — 26,850 jobs and 34,500 people — making it a castle of industry admitting very few new residents.

But still Markham will have more jobs in year 1981 to go with its huge population growth. There will be 35,650 workers in Markham, Richmond Hill will have 16,150 jobs while King Township will have a tiny 4,000 workers with a population of just 16,400 after the next seven years.

One Ratepayer At Ward 1 Meeting

The meeting called by Richmond Hill Council's Planning Department for public input into the working goals and objectives of the town's new Official Plan for Ward 1 last Thursday night drew — two members of the planning staff, two politicians, one member of the press and one Ward 1 ratepayer. The reporter and the ratepayer decided to attend the Ward 2 meeting Tuesday night of this week and the politicians left for the Ward 5 meeting in the Lake Wilcox Public School.

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(Photo by Susan Samila)

Fisherman's Dream Catch

Fourteen-year-old David Abbott of 211 Beechy Drive, Richmond Hill enjoyed a real thrill Thursday afternoon when he landed an 18-pound muskellunge on an eight pound test spinning line. The 40-inch long "whopper" was taken from the Trent River at Healy Falls in the Campbellford area. David is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Duncan Abbott.



TOM GRAHAM
Parks, Recreation Complaints

Objects To Charges For Arena Hall, Pool Staff Policies

A long list of complaints against the parks and recreation operation and the new parks bylaw as it applies to parking was brought to Richmond Hill Council Monday evening August 12 by Tom Graham, former president of the Richmond Hill Hockey Association. Mr. Graham told council he was appearing as a spokesman for the hockey association, but also on his own behalf. He was accompanied by Claude Henderson.

NO PAY

"I am in a high state of criticism of things parks and recreation are doing now and highly suspect as to what their point is," he stated. "Let me take you back to Richmond Hill day at the CNE last year. The pool was closed for the day and the staff was promised

they would be paid, and they haven't been."

Mayor William Lazenby pointed out to Mr. Graham that this omission had been corrected at the last meeting of council.

"But the pool is closed several times a year for various events, and they are not paid for the days they miss," continued Mr. Graham. "Besides most town employees sent away to take courses have their tuition, expenses and time paid and this is not done with the pool employees."

RENTAL UP

"I come now to a matter of particular interest to the hockey association. The parks and recreation have taken over the downstairs room in the arena and have set a schedule of fees. In the past we had an agreement with the arena board to use this room, which was satisfactory to both of us. But the new rate now in effect makes our position untenable," stated Mr. Graham. "We are registering young hockey players in early September in that room and have already received a bill for \$30 for its use. That is one registration wiped out. We are trying to provide hockey for the boys of this town at the lowest possible cost. The day may come when parks and recreation will have to take over hockey and this new policy is only hastening that day. Besides, when we have to call a meeting in a hurry there is no staff available in the parks and recreation department on the weekend when most of these meetings must be held."

NO PARKING

Mr. Graham then turned his

attention to the prohibition by

bylaw of parking in town parks between 11 pm and 7 am or 1 and 7 am. "If you take your son to the arena for a 6:30 am hockey practice you would not be allowed to park your car. Many times I am out of town with our hockey teams and if we have a long way to travel we cannot be back in the town park before 11 pm or 1 am, so our cars are parked illegally."

NO DOGS

On another tack, Mr. Graham charged that when he drives his young son to the arena he can't take his dog in the car with him because of the provisions of the new bylaw. He pointed out that all animals are prohibited, so the rabbits and coons which live there under the protection of the town do so illegally. He also noted that even though a town park might provide the shortest way home for some citizens it would be illegal for them to walk through during the proscribed hours. "I think this was passed without much thought. It reminds me of something Etobicoke might have dreamed up."

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