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Raps Parochialism In Markham

By HAL BLAINE

"I will not apologize for what we have done and the money we have spent in Thornhill. It has put Thornhill on an equal footing with other areas of the town," says Markham's North Thornhill 2 Councillor Roy Muldrew of Romfield Circuit.

Councillor Muldrew was rounding up his views on current municipal affairs in Markham in an interview. He was expressing concern about apparent rivalry in current opinion in various parts of the new regional town. Since 1971 Markham has been York Region's largest single municipality and has stretched from Pickering to Yonge Street, from Steeles Avenue to Victoria Square and Dickson's Hill. Before 1971 the area was divided between two municipalities, a township and a town.

Muldrew vehemently denies that he has been a councillor for Thornhill only. He asserts he has always worked for the town as a whole.

"Markham is basically a town made up of many communities. But there are three major ones (Old Markham Village, Unionville and Thornhill). When you're a councillor you've got to be conscious of the whole town, not just your own ward," he says.

WIDE RESPONSIBILITY

Taking as an example the question of public transit, a development which during the past two years has been probably his major chairmanship within council, he points out the wide and general responsibility which falls on a ward councillor.

"Transit is basically for the whole town, all across, although admittedly it is mostly confined to built up areas. One of the main things about it is that it joins the parts and helps integrate the town. And it draws the town together more than anything else has done. There is still more improvement needed in that, but we are on the right step," he says.

Switching to the present two-year council's biggest current project, the Thornhill community complex, he denies point blank any suggestion that Thornhill is being favored over other areas of the town.

"We've been criticized about the amount of money we're spending on that corner, at various stages, by some individuals throughout the town, and even by certain councillors on occasion. If you think back, I've been on council 3½ years. And 3½ years ago Thornhill was strictly a bedroom community, oriented to Metro only. People in South Thornhill didn't know the people in North Thornhill, etc."

NO TOWN TIES

"There were absolutely no ties in Thornhill to Markham (what was until 1971 the town of Markham along

etc., ahead for the Old Markham-Unionville area.

UNIONVILLE POOL

"We also recognize the need for an additional outdoor pool in the Unionville area, and this requirement is being considered in the same breath as the indoor pool on Concession 7."

Councillor Muldrew makes another point about Unionville. "Council supported the much needed improvements in the Crosby Memorial Arena (in Unionville) with approval of a \$200,000 debenture to support their local financial drive.

"To speak for myself, anyhow, my concerns are for the whole town of Markham," declares Muldrew.

"When I went on council, the budget for parks and recreation was approximately \$150,000, with — I'm sure — about \$100,000 of that going into grass seed. Whereas now we have created a parks and recreation department on the same level as other departments in the town under the direction of the very capable and experi-

enced Dan Costea, with a budget of approximately \$600,000 per year. About half of that is capital for parks development.

"There's been criticism about the fantastic growth of all communities in Markham Town. But it must be realized that planned, good

growth is required if we

want to supply the people's needs, as we have in recreation. It is because of good growth that we've been able to have a very realistic growth in our tax bill.

"We've had a very realistic tax picture, two years of no increases at all and two of very realistic limited increases. This past year only a very small part of the increase was due to Markham Council's share of the joint regional, schools, and town local government tax levy."

ALWAYS CHANGING

Muldrew agrees each community and every citizen has the right to go after what is wanted within the municipality, and each has a right to have a fair share. But as projects are undertaken and new subdivisions bring large numbers of new citizens, the situation is ever

changing.

He says parochialism has no place in the over-all operations and policies of the town. A tremendous amount has been done during the past few years and it's a question of getting on with the job, there is so much to do. There's no time for fighting over what goes where, when energies should be directed toward handling the huge work load.

"The Town of Markham has experienced a tremendous improvement in satisfying the basic needs of all areas in the past 3½ years. It's a continuous thing, a never ending job."

"As a councillor I'm determined to see every area gets its fair share of attention and to see no area is to be deprived. No area is ever to be allowed an unfair advantage," says Muldrew.



THORNHILL'S MULDREW
Fairness For All

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Big CN Bowl Scandal

"If the Federal Govern-

ment is serious about improving commuter service in the Toronto area, the toilet bowl in the Aurora Station washroom would be a good place to start," says York Region's leading rail transit booster John Medcoff of Mount Albert.

Medcoff says some progress is being made in getting Canadian National to recognize some of the requests of the York Region Railroad Boosters, but still reports that nagging nuisances are still being encountered by commuters trying to make use of the Barrie-King City-Maple-Toronto service.

There is going to be a huge jump in rail passenger levels on the Barrie run when figures are in for August, because of the Toronto Transit Commission and Gray Coach strike. But even before the strike there was a steady and strong surge in commuter rail passenger traffic in July, says Medcoff. In July about 4,692 tickets

were sold, up from 3,485 in April and 3,959 in May, with about 700 daily riders being carried during the TTC strike, he says.

PAINT MAPLE STATION

"CN advises that they painted the Maple Station, arranged for shelters at King and Lefroy. They will advise later about the installation of pay telephones at these stations, all as we requested."

"Shortly after the train started in April, the Aurora Station washroom was locked up. In June of 1974 the toilet bowl was removed, now CN announces plans to replace the station agents at the Aurora, Maple, Stouffville and Unionville stations by part time ticket sellers. They haven't yet replaced the bowl," says Medcoff in a press release.

CN's Regional Manager of Passenger Sales and Services J. J. Menary wrote Medcoff recently to report on the level of traffic on the Barrie-Toronto run.

Detoxification Clinic

York Region may at last get its detoxification clinic; only it won't be a project of the regional council.

Last week, Major Austin Miller of the Salvation Army, said a decision will be made soon on whether the Army would build an alcoholics treatment centre in the Newmarket-Aurora area.

Miller, who is administrator for alcoholic clinics for the Salvation Army, said "We certainly want a centre in York region," but felt that summer holidays might have delayed any decision.

The centre, which is being urged by York Regional Police and York Central Hospital, would have been between 20 to 30 beds.

Just such a centre was the pet project of former Regional Councillor Donald

Plaxton of Richmond Hill, who tried unsuccessfully to get the provincial government to establish one two years ago.

At that time, the health and social services committee had recommended the committee explore the possibility of setting up the centres in nursing homes.

However, under the Liquor Control Act, nursing homes were ruled out; a detoxification centre meaning a hospital. Subsequent letters from York County and York Central Hospitals indicated they were too crowded to undertake a centre at that time. Mr. Plaxton said the province should be establishing a detoxification centre, and one that should be supported by all levels of government.



(Photo by Susan Samila)

Critical Blood Donor Shortage

With the worst shortage ever reported at the Toronto Region Red Cross Blood Bank and a long weekend's heavy demand looming, local hospitals are depending heavily on the turnout of donors at the regular Richmond Hill area August Red Cross blood donor clinic tomorrow afternoon and evening (Thursday) at the Lions Hall, Centre Street East and Pugsley Avenue, two blocks east of Yonge Street. Last week the blood bank was 1,000 units short and there was especially a lack of the rarer blood types on hand. At the last clinic here the turnout of donors showed a serious drop, the 203 units collected falling far short of even the immediate local requirements at York Central Hospital. The local target is 300 units.

In an effort to boost donations the local Red Cross supporters recently placed a special display at a local major shopping centre, the Hillcrest Mall. Here two of the leading local clinic supporters are shown. Mrs. Vera Kenny (left) receives an honor certificate for giving blood a lifetime total of 37 times. Handing her the scroll is Mrs. Anna Dewsbury who is considered to be the local clinic's most faithful long time booster. With the help of others Mrs. Dewsbury has been looking after the provision of refreshments for blood donors here over many, many years. Clinic times are 2-4 pm and 6-9 pm.

First Lady Mrs. Jean Williams Of Vaughan Dies In Home Fall

Residents of the Town of Vaughan this week are mourning the untimely passing of Jean Williams, wife of Mayor Garnet Williams who passed away August 22 as the result of a fall in her Nashville home. She was found at the foot of a staircase shortly after midnight by her husband on his return home from a meeting and was pronounced dead at Etobicoke General Hospital two hours later.

Mrs. Williams was alone in the house, except for a three-year-old grandchild. She bathed the child and was packing to go to the Williams' cottage near Bradford in the morning. She apparently fell on the way down the basement stairs of the 118-year-old stone farm-house on Huntingdon Road. The stairs had metal treads and no railing. There were signs she'd been doing up a bit of the couple's laundry before the trip the next day.

Mayor Williams was away representing the town and region on a bus tour of the York Region forest. The tour ran behind schedule and he arrived home late. When he arrived home his grandchild said Mrs. Williams was upstairs. He saw the lights were on and didn't look for her for about 10 minutes. He became concerned and searched the house, finally finding her in the recreation room in a pool of blood at the bottom of the stairs. The house has belonged to the Williams family since 1928.

Mrs. Williams, the former Jean Dale, was in her 54th year. She is survived by her husband; three daughters, Betty Lou (Mrs. Henry Vanderpost) of Bradford, Margaret (Mrs. Ward Boddy) of Gilford, Dianne (Mrs. William Hemmings) of Ket-

tleby; five grandchildren, Garry, Darlene and Joanne Vanderpost and Deborah and David Hemmings; a brother Norman and two sisters, Laura (Mrs. William Wilson) and Rhoda (Mrs. James Ryan).

At a special meeting of York Regional Council (of which Mayor Williams is a valued member) held August 23, Chairman Garfield Wright extended that body's sympathy to the bereaved family and a minute's silence was observed in memory of the deceased.

The funeral service was held Sunday at the chapel of the W. R. Scott & Son Funeral Home in Woodbridge with Rev. J. A. Hodgeson of Woodbridge United Church conducting the service. Interment followed in Nashville Cemetery.

Honorary pallbearers were Minister of Urban Affairs Barney Danson, York Region Chairman Garfield Wright, Vaughan Regional

Councillor Jack Gilbert, Vaughan Councillors Dave Fraser, Milt Savage, Fred Savage, Fred Armstrong, Jim Cameron and Ab Hollingsworth and MPP William Hodgson.

Active pallbearers were Fred Jones, Joseph Kersey, Al Stephenson, Sam McCracken, Kenneth Mactaggart and Mike Booth.

Flower bearers were Jesse Bryson, John Hostrawer, Gordon Troyer, Ray Rowley, Jack Boddy and Howard Ella.

Dates To Remember Month Of September

- 3 — Richmond Hill Planning Committee 7 pm (other dates to be announced)
- York Region Roman Catholic School Board 8 pm
- Town of Markham Planning Committee 7:30 pm
- Vaughan Council Standing Committee 7:30 pm
- Region of York Engineering Committee 2 pm
- King Township Council 1 pm
- 4 — Region of York Planning Committee 2 pm
- 5 — Markham Council Standing Committee 7:30 pm
- 9 — Richmond Hill Council 7:30 pm
- Vaughan Council 2 pm
- King Council Committee 1 pm
- York County Board of Education 8 pm
- 10 — Markham Council 2 pm
- Vaughan Planning Committee 7:30 pm
- 11 — Richmond Hill Work Committee as a Whole Council on road assumption 7:30 pm
- OMB public hearing Markham Wards Redivision 10 am
- Region of York Council 2 pm
- 16 — King Township Council 7:30 pm
- 17 — Region of York Engineering Committee 2 pm
- York Region Roman Catholic School Board 8 pm
- 18 — Region Planning Committee 2 pm
- 19 — Markham Council Standing Committee 7:30 pm
- Region Health & Social Service Committee 9:30 am
- 23 — Richmond Hill Council 2:30 pm
- Vaughan Council Standing Committee 7:30 pm
- Region Administration Committee 9:30 am
- King Council Committee 7:30 pm
- York County Board of Education 8 pm
- 24 — Markham Council 7:30 pm
- 26 — OMB public hearing on Phase 2 BAIF 10 am
- Region Council 2 pm
- 30 — Vaughan Council 2 pm

Second King Mystery Death

No conclusion had been reached at press time as to the cause of the mysterious death of a young woman whose badly decomposed body was found in some bushes near Seneca College campus by a security guard about 2:05 pm Sunday, east of Keele Street and one mile south of Green Lane in King Township. Hers was the second young female body found on Green Lane within two years.

Police have made tentative identification of the girl, but still have to notify her next of kin, who are not in Canada. Deputy Chief Robert Hood did say, however, that the girl was colored. He said too, that, if their identification is correct, the girl was not a student at Seneca.

A post-mortem was conducted Sunday on the body, which was that of a woman anywhere from 18 to 23, black or Oriental, about 5 feet, 4 inches and about 100 pounds, with good teeth.

The body was naked from the waist down. Nearby were the girl's bluejeans and brown belt, black high heeled sandals, and a red body suit with long sleeves and a frill around the neck.

YRP Inspector Don Hillock said police aren't convinced foul play was involved. "There are no broken bones and no apparent cause of death," he said. She'd been dead from five days to a month. He was not carrying any identification.

York Regional Police said it was difficult to tell whether or not the girl had met with foul play. They have asked that anyone who may have information about a missing girl fitting the description, to please contact headquarters at Newmarket.

In December, 1972, the body of youthful Yvonne Leroux of Toronto, her head badly smashed in, was found in Green Lane, just off Jane Street.

Her murder is still unsolved. There is still a \$2,500 reward outstanding for information about this murder.

Members of Vaughan Town Council Monday of last week received Minister of Urban Affairs and local representative in the House of Commons, Barney Danson MP, York North, for an official visit at the Municipal Building in Maple.

In the constituency to visit the local mayors for the first time since his appointment to head the Urban Affairs Ministry, Danson told the councillors he will be just as available to them now that he is a Cabinet Minister as he was over the past six years. He assured them of his continued cooperation in meeting local needs.

Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau appointed the York North MP to the Urban Affairs Ministry three weeks ago during a Cabinet reorganization which followed the July 8 federal election. Danson won a clear majority over New Democratic and Progressive Conservative Party opponents.

Danson said his time necessarily will be split between his Ministry duties and his constituents when the House of Commons sits early in the fall. Therefore he is establishing in the near future an office in the York

North riding. He said his policy of making Ottawa that much smaller and a little closer to his people will continue, with added facilities for communication arranged.

The local MP expressed appreciation for the telegrams and letters which poured in from across the country from local residents, mayors and councillors, following his appointment. He is the first Minister of Urban Affairs to be appointed from the Metro area.

Asked after their meeting Monday at Buttonville if he poked Danson in the eye for beating his uncle Steve in the last election, Mayor Tony Roman of Markham said he didn't do anything like that. Mayor Roman, a very solidly built gentleman, agreed he would be in the heavyweight class and the slightly built Danson would at least be in the lightweight class, so it wouldn't be a fair match.

Turning seriously to the matters discussed during the meeting with Danson, Mayor Roman said they covered three or more points in general talk and he described the session as an exploratory meeting. They covered a

few things pertinent to the local riding and Markham municipality, including the proposed new international airport on land to be taken from Markham - Pickering local municipalities.

LOCAL TRANSPORTATION They also discussed transportation and the need for a possible tri-level conference to solve local problems, particularly since industries on the fringes of Metro need good transport both ways between Metro and the Regional Municipality of York.

Roman is chairman of the region's engineering committee as well as being mayor of the town, so is particularly concerned with this subject.

The Markham mayor said the rest of the discussion was general, covering the cost of housing, another area where Danson said he hopes to work on a tri-level basis (federal-provincial-municipal) to resolve difficulties. They agreed it would require cooperation at all levels of government to straighten out the housing cost and supply situation, said Roman.

They also very briefly discussed the ever increasing tax cost to ratepayers because of the necessity for major local programs. Ro-

man suggested the Federal Government should now take a look at the possibility of making municipal property tax payments deductible for income tax purposes. Danson agreed to take the matter up with the finance minister, the mayor said.

Danson Meets Mayor Roman

Local and national politics took one of those unusual human twists Monday afternoon when Barney Danson MP, York North, the new national Minister of Urban Affairs, made his official call on Mayor Anthony Roman of Markham Town.

Mayor Roman is the nephew of Stephen Roman, the Progressive Conservative Party candidate here that Danson defeated in the local constituency during the last two federal elections. However, this element of political rivalry didn't stop the two men from meeting cordially to discuss local federal-municipal affairs as Danson continued his round of meetings with all the municipal heads in his riding.



(Photo by Stuart's Studio)

Barney Danson MP, York North and newly appointed Minister of Urban Affairs, was in his home constituency last week meeting with local government officials for discussion of local questions and matters relating to his new Ministry. Here he meets Monday with the Vaughan Town Council in the mayor's office in his first official visit to the municipality

since his appointment. Shown (left to right) are Councillors Ab Hollingshead of Woodbridge and Fred Armstrong of Woodbridge; Regional Councillor Jack Gilbert of Maple; Mayor Garnet Williams of Nashville; Danson; Councillors Jim Cameron of Maple and Dave Fraser, QC, of Concord.



Mrs. GARNET WILLIAMS
Fell Down Stairs