



What is it like to spend 24 hours without food, with only a small glass of juice every four hours? Their smiling faces would belie the fact, but the CGIT members of Brown's Corners United Church learned first hand about hunger on a recent weekend. Pictured above from left to right are: Secretary Sue Gibbins, Treasurer Wendy Craigie and President Janice Parton, with their leader Margaret Hallett in the background, as they present a cheque for \$400 to

Mrs. Carolyn Dancey, member of the Board of Directors, Markham Family Life Centre. The group of 15 girls, aged 12 to 16, spent Friday night and Saturday at the church with Mrs. Hallett and her assistant Beverley Walker. A program of films, discussions, crafts and other activities had been arranged for the girls. Families, friends and relatives had sponsored the members of the group in their "Starvation".

CGIT starvathon raises \$400 for family services

Recently, when members of the Brown's Corners United Church CGIT group sponsored a Lenten Starvation, they raised approximately \$400 in aid of the Markham Family Life Centre.

A special CGIT meeting at the church April 21, Mrs. Carolyn Dancey, of the Life Centre Board of Directors, was present to receive the gift on behalf of the organization. Those who participated in the Starvation the weekend of

March 21 were Cathy Vanderkooy, Kathryn Rumney, Lori Stewart, Wendy Craigie, Kim Webster, Susi Gibbins, Karen Ambrose, Suzanne Parton, Janice Parton, Kathy Cunningham, Sue Wood, and Vicki Murgaski.

CGIT leaders Mrs. Beverley Walker and Mrs. Allen Hallett were assisted by Mrs. Cal Parton and Mr. and Mrs. Garnet Stewart as chaperones, and also contributed to the fund and joined the experience.

Buttonville hospital auxiliary plans spring benefit and euchre

Buttonville branch members of the York Central Hospital Auxiliary met at the home of Mrs. Alvin Robinson, Thornhill, for coffee and a business meeting.

It was agreed to hold the spring benefit for the YCHA, a sale of baking, crafts, and a euchre party, at Buttonville WI Hall May 23.

They will also hold a luncheon and euchre at the hall June 11.

The branch has an enviable reputation of service to the hospital.

In the past year Mrs. Robinson alone has knitted 100 baby ponchos for the hospital gift shop, and others are constantly at work on crafts or volunteering their time at the hospital.

Neighborhood notes

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Wood (nee Susan Tennyson) on the birth of a son at York Central Hospital. The proud grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Alex Wood, Lunar Crescent and Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Tennyson, Hughson Drive.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Reesor and Mr. and Mrs. Keith Hood, flew to Nipigon recently, for their cousin's wedding.

Eight-year-old Raymond Brown has been in Scarboro Centenary Hospital for abdominal surgery recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Keith Carson spent the winter break at Montego Bay, Jamaica.

There were 21 tables of players at the euchre sponsored by the Buttonville Women's Institute to aid the Canadian Cancer Society, April 11.

Prizewinners were Mrs. Russell Boyington, Mrs. Harvey Swain, Mrs. Isobel Brooker, Mrs. Tim Paterson, Alvin Robinson, Ed Fraser, Howard Gehring, and Ernie Fisher.

Mrs. Brooker and Mrs. Clara Kidd won lucky draws. The freezeout went to Mrs. Bea Thompson and Mrs. Margaret Chadwick, Mrs. Russell Burr and Mrs. Alvin Klinck.

There was some excitement in the area April 13, when a single engine Otter and its airforce crew, flying from Downsview to Trenton, made a forced landing at the rear of the Clifford Cox residence and St. Robert's Separate School, east of Leslie Street, and south of Highway 7.

BUTTONVILLE
Correspondent:
Mrs. F. H. Leaf
Markham
Telephone 294-5290

Mrs. Harold Ashley and her mother, Mrs. Moore, are presently visiting family members in Denver, Colorado.

Fraser Craig, son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Craig, is a Pitt Construction employee who has been in Newfoundland for the past few years.

He returned to the Toronto home office during the week of the 'big storm', and found himself snowed in at a restaurant in a small Quebec community for two days.

Church news

More than 60 guests were present at Brown's Corners United when the UCV entertained members from the sister organization at Eastminster United in Toronto at a smorgasbord luncheon and meeting.

Mrs. Jean Rumble of Headford gave a fine devotional.

Mrs. Jean Nauta of Lemonville was guest speaker.

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The guest soloist was Miss Margaret Rigby of Markham, accompanied by Mrs. Doris (Little) Anderson.

Mrs. Walter Craig chaired the meeting and Mrs. Don Reesor was pianist.

WI executive Mrs. Kenneth Stots was elected president of Buttonville WI when the group met at their hall April 16. She succeeds Mrs. Lloyd Baker. Other officers remained virtually the same. Mrs. Garnet Francey conducted the elections, and there were reports by Mrs. James Rodick, secretary-treasurer, and members of standing committees.

Thornhill, Richmond Hill men on indecency charge

Two area men, one from Richmond Hill and one from Thornhill, face a series of gross indecency charges as a result of a series of assaults carried out against nine different Richmond Hill children between December and April.

The children ranged in age from three to 14.

According to York Regional police, one group of children, aged 8 to 12, were taken by one man in his vehicle April 13 to a remote area off Concession 6 in East Gwillimbury, where he performed acts of gross indecency on each.

He then returned them to Bayview Plaza.

Police said he had also been involved with another youth in December.

In the other instance, police said a man took the children with him while making his delivery rounds, committing the acts both then and later back at his home.

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Work parties need help Saturday restoring historic home

Help is needed from those interested in preserving a part of the heritage of Richmond Hill this Saturday.

Volunteers are needed to help rehabilitate the century-and-a-half-old home at 528 Carrville Road, so that it may become the Rowland Burr Craft House.

The hometowhich Rowland Burr took his bride in 1819 is located two doors west of Roselawn School.

It is owned by the town and

leased by Richmond Hill Historical Society for \$1 a year.

Plans for Saturday include cleaning windows, washing ceilings, washing woodwork, lifting old tile and plywood sub-flooring, scraping wallpaper, cleaning out woodshed and summer kitchen.

Workers will also be cleaning out the cellar, raking up outside, trimming shrubbery, digging

away from the foundation, brushing down the driveway and raking the floor.

Work is scheduled to start at 9:30 a.m.

If you have some skills to offer, with emphasis on elbow grease, you will be most welcome. Please bring your lunch and coffee, tea and cookies will be supplied.

Also wear your oldest clothes, bring along a stool to sit on when you are tired, a stepladder, rake, shovel,

pruner, wallpaper scraper, scrub brush, rags, pails, cleaning agents and make it an old-fashioned "bee", working alongside your neighbors in the community and getting to know them better.

Volunteer help has already accomplished some very necessary work on the house: Crane Supply supplied a new toilet and basin with fittings.

A complete replumbing

was done by Jim Langstaff assisted by Doc Atkinson, who also removed boards from the windows, opened shutters and did other carpentry jobs.

Michael Howe, carpenter specializing on renovations of older homes, repaired windows, at a specially reduced rate.

The wiring has all been replaced and baseboard heaters installed, as a first step in making the house habitable as a craft centre.

Rowland Burr Craft House - Heritage/Richmond Hill project

By Janet Fayle, president Richmond Hill Historical Society

In 1808 the 10-year-old son of Reuben Burr decided to learn to be a carpenter.

For the next seven years Rowland worked in his father's shop at Aurora, learning the skills of carpentry and mill construction.

He later became one of the outstanding millwrights in York County.

This enterprising lad went into business for himself at the age of 17, promising to pay his father \$500 for sustenance and training, a sum that he paid in full before he was 20 years old.

Three years later he had built himself a house and thought it time to find himself a bride.

He built many handsome residences in Toronto — possibly even the Grange. On many of these he lost heavily, so his fortunes went up and down.

In 1836 he sold his land and mills and moved to Toronto.

He stayed only one year then moved to a hewn log house on the Humber where Woodbridge (then known as Burwick) now stands.

He built a sawmill, flour mill and woollen factory then moved downstream to the Weston area and built three more mills.

Adelaide Street in Toronto.

In 1836 a blacksmith shop was built on the property in front of Rowland Burr's house on Carrville Road. This shop was large enough for three teams of horses, and was still in operation when George Wood bought the place in 1899.

An advertisement in THE LIBERAL of 1896 reads "FOR SALE: A Good Blacksmith Stand with eight acres of land (more or less), is for sale at the Village of Carrville. On the premises are a good blacksmith shop, good house on stone foundation, seven rooms, fine cellar, plenty of hard and soft water. Stable and other outbuildings. Also a number of fruit trees. A beautiful stream of water runs through the place. It is convenient to church, school, store and post office. Good reasons for selling."

Later family

The Wood family continued to live there until very recently and the house is known locally as the Woods House.

It came into the possession of the town when Cadillac-Baif deeded their portion of lands of the subdivision over to the town for parks purposes.

Several other old houses were demolished but town librarian and historian Patricia Hart persuaded the town to keep this one.

When the Richmond Hill Historical Society was formed, it was able to lease the house from the parks department for \$1-year. The department has been most cooperative, agreeing to pay maintenance expenses if the society would restore the house to habitable condition and open it to public use.

The society decided to develop it as a viable entity in the community rather than as a museum, and proposes to teach and

demonstrate pioneer crafts there.

Worth preserving

Of the Burr House, Russell Cooper of the Historic Sites Division, MTRCA, wrote: "The cottage is obviously one of the earliest and most interesting historical buildings still left in the municipality, and well worth preserving. It is almost as sturdy as the day it was built, and, with a wee bit of paint and wallpaper and repairs to the glass in some of the windows, can be put into usable condition in very short order."

"The front part of the building is plank-on-plank, with stucco on the outside, and of course, plastered walls inside. There was probably a centre fireplace in this building which was altered when the addition was built on the back. The six-panel doors, the trim, plus the centre fireplace would indicate that this part of the building was constructed well before 1840.

"The back section which

includes a brick cooking fireplace, was added circa 1850, and the combination of the two buildings gives quite a sizeable floor area, making it ideal for the proposed teaching of pioneer crafts and skills."

Money needed

Eventually, as funds become available the society plans on restoring the house to reflect its original period.

Right now it is faced with the problem of finding funds to make it usable. The town has agreed to a grant of \$3000, subject to final ratification of the budget.

It is hoped to find some funds through government historical and cultural agencies. But the greatest source will have to be the community.

A campaign to "Buy a Piece of Burr House" is planned. One major fundraising event is also planned but the help of the whole community is needed to bring these plans to fruition.

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