



(Photo by Hogg)

Bean bag game teaches metric

Learning the new metric system isn't so hard when it's a game. Here at the O. M. MacKillop Public School open house Thursday mother and child try out the bean bag toss with distance

marked out to 200 centimetres or 20 decimetres, whatever your choice of measuring unit. The players are Mrs. Anne Austin of 163 Altamira Road and Chris.

Council explains Mill Pond improvement

By Mary Dawson
What are the improvements which are about to be made at the Mill Pond?
What will they mean to us in terms of time, bulldozers and end result?
These were the first questions asked by Ward 4 Ratepayers in an informal meeting with Richmond Hill Council in the auditorium of Richmond Hill High School Monday evening.

More than 50 ratepayers attended the meeting to take advantage of the opportunity to freely ask questions of council.
Ward 4 Councillor Marylo Graham came prepared with a photographic map of the Mill Pond area and with the help of Ward 6 Councillor Mike Burnie she explained the work which will begin within the next few days.
Already the water level in the pond has been lowered, she pointed out, and a

ratepayer commented, "And there's a lovely stench".
Mrs. Graham agreed and warned there would be more unpleasant odors while the work progresses, but it is hoped to control this as much as possible by the liberal use of lime.

Limited hours
Mrs. Graham told the ratepayers that the contractor had wanted to operate from 8 am to midnight but the town had had this reduced to a 12 hour operation from 8 am to 8 pm and the whole process will take 18 to 19 weeks.

Building dam
Heavy duty equipment will be moving in within the next few days to build a cofferdam at the north end of the pond and the scrub bush which is decaying and adding to the pollution of the pond water will be cut.
The "very good" swamp will be preserved for nesting grounds, she said, and mature trees which exist will also be preserved.

"By that time all the sludge will be packed in behind the cofferdam and when it has dried out, it will be seeded and will become part of the intensive use area of the park," Mrs. Graham said.
"We know it will not be altogether a happy experience for those living in the neighborhood but are assured the duck eggs should be hatched and the young ducklings well on the way to development. When the work is done the pond will be restocked with fish."

time the island was built in the pond.
Mrs. Graham promised to take these suggestions back to the parks department.
Other ratepayers wanted to know if policing of the park will improve.
"We have dogs, we have jeeps, we have motorbikes, in fact we have everything in the park right now. And it's adults who are involved not children," said one woman.
Later she commented the only recreational pursuits in the shelter built some years ago in the north end of the park by the Rotary Club is wine and beer drinking.

York North Grits

(Continued from Page 1)

"Many people in Vaughan would like to have an MPP," he added. "This is where the action is."

He is not overly confident about his chances of being nominated and then elected because he is not known in the more populated areas of the riding — Newmarket and Aurora.

The riding is now held by Progressive Conservative Bill Hodgson, who will be seeking his third consecutive term in the election expected some time this year.

In 1971, Hodgson polled 15,556 votes while Liberal candidate George Timpon, an Aurora Councillor, received 6,094 and Bob Lewis of the NDP received 8,043.

The riding boundaries will not be the same this time, however.

A new electoral map, approved in the Ontario Legislature May 2, puts Vaughan in York North for the first time.

Other municipalities in the riding include King, Aurora, Newmarket and Whitchurch-Stouffville.

The Thornhill portion of Vaughan, east of Bathurst Street, will remain in York Centre which is now held by MLA Don Deacon. Deacon

has announced he will not seek re-election.

Mayor Brinnell was first elected Mayor in 1972. It was her second try for the seat.

Hollingshead has been a councillor in Woodbridge and Vaughan since 1949, but lost a bid for Vaughan region council seat in 1971.

He recently closed his Woodbridge men's wear shop.

York North Liberal Association meets May 21 in Aurora High School but will only nominate a candidate if an election is called before then.

School budget cutting hits snag

(continued from page 1)

this year's budget was for in excess of \$60,000,000. A subsequent figure called for \$56,367,398.

Barrett's motion would pare \$695,605 from that last figure and it was that Barrett figure Chapman and staff were unable to meet.

Couldn't be done
It just couldn't be done without a disruption in services, Chapman said. They could cut down on utilities, of course, having it colder in the schools in the winter and hotter in the summer.

"That would save a bit of energy," Chapman said. In his stand against the proposal to defer, Houghton said he was "upset when I hear that we're cutting for the reasons being given."

Cutting out textbooks plus certain programs, for example, was "absolutely disgusting."

Wider perspective
"It's time we looked at York County as a whole and not just our own areas," Houghton said.

Such things as cost of living and extra services required money. As a parent he was concerned about his child getting "an inferior

education," because the cuts proposed were in that area. He said the board "was concerned only with dollars and not with education."

Fellow Richmond Hill Trustee Douglas Allen said the board couldn't set the budget until it knew what the teachers' salaries would be.

At present, the board was "running around in circles, lopping off here and there."

He also wondered if the board had enough money to operate for the next few weeks.

George Ford, superintendent of business, said they were "beginning to hurt now" in the area of supplies.

Time important
He said, also, it was important to set the budget before the end of June, so that they could requisition the municipalities for their payments.

At the moment, the board was \$1 million under requisition.

Government grants were based on the 1974 budget and wouldn't be adjusted, so were also below normal.

If the board would give staff permission to spend up to 85 percent of last year's budget instead of the present 50 percent they could get by,

Ford said. A subsequent motion to this effect was approved by the board.

Deferral defeated
Also objecting to any deferral of the staff report was Trustee Donald Cameron of Vaughan.

He said he "had enough confidence in the staff" to feel they couldn't reduce the budget by \$695,000, if that's what they had said.

The motion to defer was lost.

Trustee Donald Cousens of Markham then moved that the committee of the whole get together on the budget again before May 23.

Meeting May 26
The motion was approved, but the date was later changed to May 26, the date of the next board meeting, when it was felt everyone would be able to be there.

The meeting will start at 6 p.m.

Trustee Gary Adamson of Markham said the board could set the budget at \$56.1 million, as per the revised draft, "and tell the staff, teachers and everyone that is the amount they can spend."

Need careful look
Before striking the budget,

the board should examine carefully the salary situation at the secondary level, Chairman Donald Sim said.

They should also "take a hard look" at the 15 percent salary increase proposal. If they ended up with a surplus, so be it; ditto if a deficit.

Adamson said they need the negotiation figures, or "an approximate guess" of the salary figures.

Chapman said they had usually done it that way and had to "stand or fall on their estimate."

Teachers' salaries
At the previous budget meeting, at which staff was asked to cut \$695,000, teachers' salaries were estimated at \$33 million.

At that time, Chairman Sim said the figure represented 60 percent of the budget.

Sounds of war

Victoria Day came to Richmond Hill a little early this year — on May 13 — when the Ontario Safety League conducted a fireworks supervisors' course in the arenas in the town park.

Anyone handling fireworks in a major display is required to have passed this course by provincial legislation.

It got underway at 9 am and after three hours of classroom instruction the students put their newly-gained knowledge of the correct method of handling fireworks to work outside the arenas with loud bangs and puffs of smoke in the sky.

Having experienced the same thing a year ago, the residents and workers in the neighborhood went about their regular routines undisturbed.

Mafia-type crime fight

(Continued from Page 1)

with the commission's decision. "I don't think the board should take that stand," said Commissioner Twinney. "We don't want them (the region) to think we're holding a gun to their heads."

"I don't see it as holding a gun," replied Judge Lyon. "It indicates we're prepared to carry out our responsibilities."

Minds open
He said, however, he didn't want the region to think "our minds are closed and that we wouldn't listen if they said we were overpoliced."

Commissioner Roman recommended any talks with the region should be done "in closed shop."

"A lot of councillors won't ask questions when the press is around," he said.

"Well, they asked a lot of questions at the last meeting," remarked Commissioner Twinney.

When the motions were passed, no recommendation was made to hold a closed meeting. No date has yet been set for the discussions.

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VOL. 98 NUMBER 45

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Home delivery of The Liberal is 80¢ every four weeks; by mail \$9.90 a year in Canada, \$15.00 a year outside of Canada. No local mail delivery where carrier service exists.

Advertising Director — Murray Skinner
Production Manager — Norman Stunden
Business Supervisor — Mrs. Dorell Stong
Circulation Director — Peter Line
Art Director — Louise Zavarella

The Liberal is published each week by Metrospan Publishing Limited. This newspaper is a member of the Canadian Community Newspaper Association and the Audit Bureau of Circulations.

Second Class Mail Registration
No. 0190

EARLY ADVERTISING DEADLINES

Wednesday, May 21st Issue

Due to the Monday, May 19 (Victoria Day) Holiday, advertising deadlines for The Liberal are advanced for the Wednesday, May 21 issue. Please note these deadlines for the coming week:

SPACE RESERVATION

FRIDAY, MAY 16 12:00 NOON

COPY DEADLINE

FRIDAY, MAY 16 2:00 P.M.

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