

Roman gives up provincial nomination

MARKHAM — Tony Roman is relinquishing the provincial nomination he won from York Centre Progressive Conservatives last spring. He will seek re-election for a fourth term as Markham mayor.

Saying he has "a continuing responsibility to the residents of Markham," Roman announced his decision in a press release, via a Toronto ad agency, Tuesday afternoon. He said he was concerned with "the need to preserve the town of Markham as a municipality of communities."

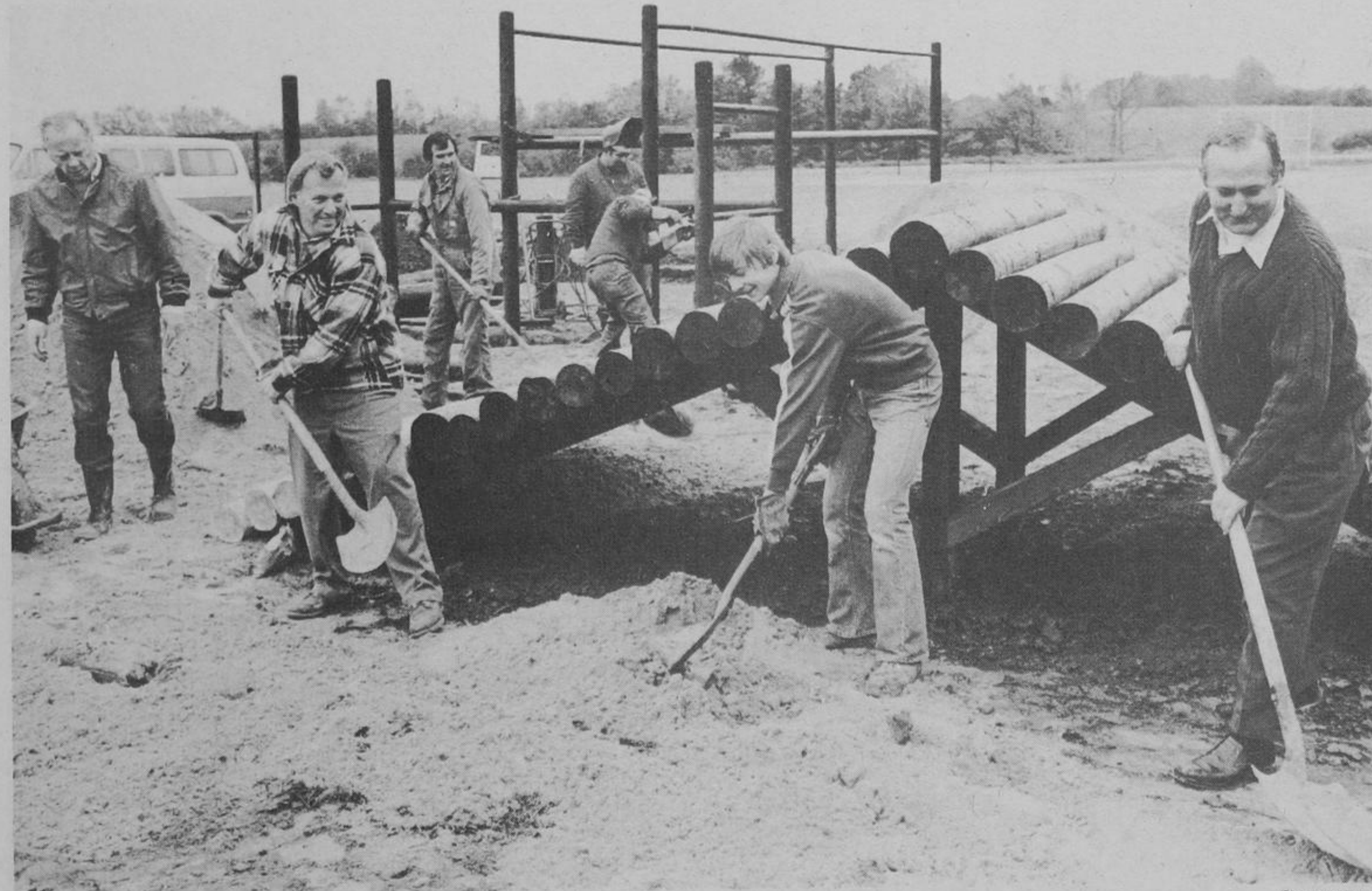
"The town of Markham is in a critical period of growth and is in danger of losing its basic rural heritage. I consider my top priority to see that the quality of this unique community is maintained by continuous sound management."

"Markham has many projects in various stages of completion. As mayor, I aided council in the initiation of these projects, and I feel a deep responsibility to see them through to completion."

The mayor said he is giving up the provincial nomination immediately. He has run provincially twice previously, both times losing to the Liberals. York Centre Tories will now have to organize another nomination convention to find a candidate to oppose Liberal MPP Alf Stong in the next election.



Tony Roman . . . wants to stay mayor



(Photo by Samia)

Hill Kinsmen on the job

Despite the rain and even some snow Saturdays, Richmond Hill's Kinsmen were busy working with local volunteers on their adventure playground project at Jefferson Public School. It's one of 16 Richmond Hill public and separate schools getting financial support and labor

from the Kinsmen for playground construction. (See Page A-3.) In foreground, left to right, are John Smith, John Thompson, Dan Lalonde and Jim Smith. Neil Martson and Gerry Brown are in background.

Apartment proposal reduced

RICHMOND HILL — Captain Development Group has scaled down its earlier proposal for a major apartment-business complex along Yonge Street near Benson Avenue.

The company, in a letter to town planning director William Power, suggests a "down-zoning to provide a reduced density which may be more compatible in the neighborhood."

The new tentative plan is for a townhouse development of about 60 units over the 3.6-acre site known as the Langstaff property.

He also suggested the townhouse project would be more compatible with the surrounding area because of its more limited height and traffic generation.

"Our initial reaction is that the site could accommodate a well-designed quality townhouse project which would preserve many of the natural site amenities."

The proposal is to be discussed by council's planning committee tonight (Wednesday.)

Yonge-May development 'premature'

At present, the town's Official Plan would allow a land use of approximately 300 apartment units and 25,000 square feet of commercial use.

The company's letter to Power stated the new proposal would mean a population increase in the area of about 240 people, rather than 900 if the property were used to its present maximum capacity.

The scaled-down development would also be a relief on sewage capacity, the letter said, "and other obvious amenities such as abutting school lands (Richmond Hill High) would further complement the reduced density uses."

In a memo to town council's planning committee, Power comments:

"A brief visit to the site indicates it is probably much better suited for a townhouse proposal than for the original plan."

"One of the key features of the site is its tree cover which consists of maple, willow and spruce. It would appear they could enhance considerably a town house project, whereas they probably would have been destroyed with the other proposal."

RICHMOND HILL — Town planning staff is recommending rejection of a proposed subdivision of 11 acres on the west side of Yonge Street, north of May Avenue.

The owner, Partnership Holdings Inc., hopes to divide the property into 18 single family lots (14,500 square feet each) and a 2.4-acre lot for 36 townhouse units.

A report from the planning staff, to be presented to council's planning committee tonight (Wednesday), recommends refusal since the proposal does not comply with the town's Official Plan.

The proposal calls for individual sewage disposal systems, but the Official Plan does not allow development of the area unless on full municipal services.

Planning staff also commented:

"Because of the location of these lands adjacent to the future civic centre (between May Avenue and Major Mackenzie Drive), it is felt that any approval for these lands would be premature at this time."

"It is important that this parcel be integrated with the lands to the north insofar as planning for traffic circulation and land use."

"Since the core area will develop as a modern, fairly intensive commercial and municipal complex, it is not advisable to develop adjacent lands on a septic system, at least until over-all planning of the area is completed."

The report also noted that two other subdivision proposals have been turned down for similar reasons in the past several months.

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Catholic school board

Second trustee dismissed

RICHMOND HILL — York Region Roman Catholic separate school board has done it again.

At a meeting last week, Vaughan trustee John Faraci was dismissed from the board after a motion to authorize his three consecutive absences was lost.

At the previous board meeting, Malcolm Massie, trustee from the Township of Georgina was dismissed for the same reason.

"I'm rather shocked," said Chairman John McDermott.

"I just can't understand the dedication of some people."

When contacted by the Liberal, Faraci, who was first elected in 1974 said he intends to attend the next board meeting but will not seek re-election.

"What was the motion of the board?" he asked.

When told the seat was deemed vacant by board vote and that a prospective candidate had been ap-

proached to fill the seat, Faraci said: "In that case I have no comment to make at this time."

The vacant Georgina seat will be filled by Joan Fahey of Northwood Drive in Sutton.

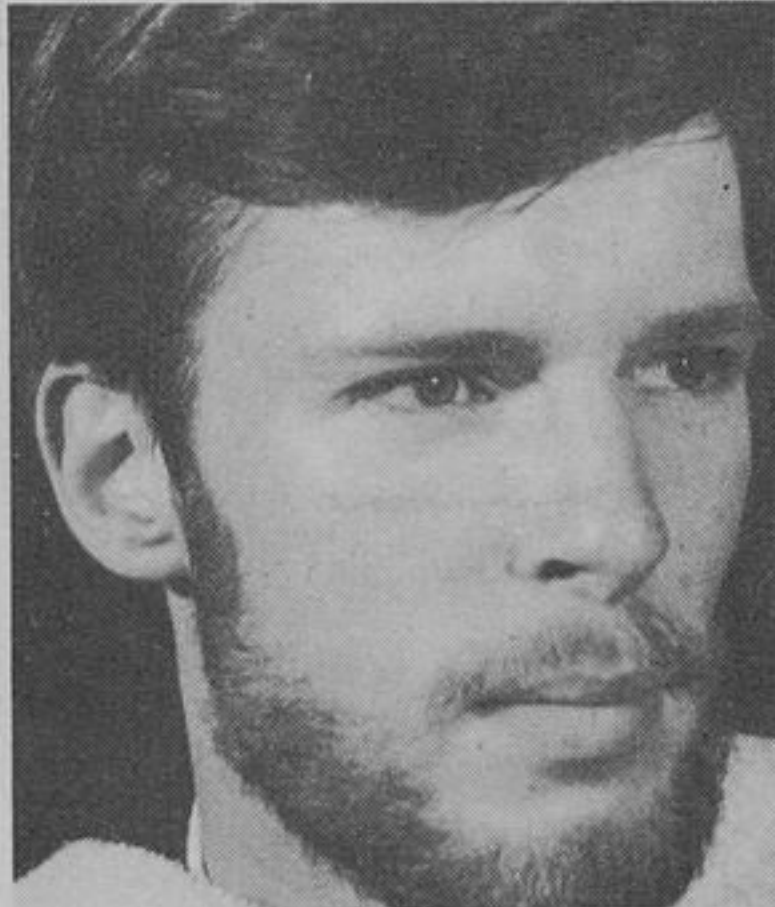
Asked whether she intends to seek the seat in the December election she said she would like to leave that decision until as late as possible.

"I would not want to make any decision on that until I find out what I'm getting into," Mrs. Fahey said.

Mrs. Fahey and her family have lived in Sutton for seven years and she is the mother of five children who attend St. Thomas School in Keswick.

Noreen Lee, of 9 Sylvadene Parkway in Woodbridge, has been approached by McDermott to fill the seat vacated by Faraci. She competed with Faraci for the seat in the 1974 election.

Mrs. Lee, who is completing a masters thesis in school psychology, said she has not yet decided whether to accept the trusteeship.



Malcolm Massie . . . the first to go



John Faraci . . . he's the second

Budget review 'too late'

AURORA — A money-conscious motion presented at Tuesday night's meeting of York County board of education, is just a bit too late, according to Trustee Joy Horton of East Gwillimbury.

The motion, from the planning and building committee, called for the director of education to examine the 1976 budget "with a view to accumulating the largest possible surplus to reduce the mill rate for 1977."

However, Mrs. Horton, who has several times been acting chairman of the finance committee this year, said she was concerned that the \$68,000,000

budget was already over-spent. She said also the board wouldn't know if it had a surplus or a deficit until Oct. 25, as staff had stated it couldn't provide the information before that date.

A notice of motion by Trustee Chris McMonagle of Markham, would have secondary guidance teachers "go back to careers".

Another motion by Mrs. Horton would eliminate the techniques employed in

group discussions, moral dilemma and similar programs, and teacher retraining be applied to the discipline of academic and vocational skills.

134-lot subdivision proposed in Richvale

RICHMOND HILL — A 134-lot subdivision is proposed for a 45-acre site just west of Langstaff Secondary School in south Richmond Hill.

The proposal, from the Lorenzetti Group of Willowdale, is to come before town council's planning committee tonight (Wednesday.)

The property is designated residential under the town's Official Plan, and its R1 zoning allows single-family detached houses with a minimum (lot) area of 9,100 square feet. Minimum frontage is 70 feet.

The developers' draft plan proposal states "the resultant population will be well served by the existing Roselawn and Charles Howitt public schools, both

of which have capacity for additional pupils. This will be augmented by a new school to be constructed in the Baif subdivision."

Under the plan, Garden Avenue, now a dead-end street, would be connected to Westwood Lane. Another access to the internal road system would be provided by Denham Drive.

Housing study financed

RICHMOND HILL — A housing policy study, to be included in the town's official plan, will be financed by a \$10,000 grant from the ministry of housing.

The study will begin shortly, as soon as town council selects a consulting firm to do the work.

Preliminary investigation of housing needs was done last year after Statistics Canada supplied detailed information on population, places of work and income levels of town residents.

Both the quantity and types of housing required will be considered in the study, Mayor David Schiller said.

"It seems we have a housing stock here that isn't matched very well with the kind of industry we have," the mayor added.

"I think the housing stock may have to emphasize lower-cost types of housing."

Similar studies are being financed by the provincial government for other area municipalities and for York Region as a whole.



Joy Horton . . . budget overspent?

New paper proposed

RICHMOND HILL — Richmond Hill will soon have another newspaper — a free-distribution weekly tabloid tentatively called The North Star.

Although the possibility of a new paper has been occasionally rumored for some time, there has to date been no public announcement from any of its principals.

Plans for the paper, however, were confirmed last weekend by William T. Williams, of Toronto, after a chance encounter with a Liberal reporter.

Williams, editor and publisher of the new venture, said publication date is Nov. 3.

The only principals he would disclose are himself and his sons, William G. Williams and Jim Williams.

William G., employed by Trans-Canada PipeLines, is an executive

member of Richmond Hill — a conservative Association. The other son is an employee of the Unemployment Insurance Commission, and Williams himself is a long-time journalist in the Toronto area.

The publisher said there are other backers, too, but he refused to identify them.

He did say that Marknam Mayor and Richmond Conservative candidate Tony Roman had offered financial backing, but the offer was turned down.

Williams also said the paper "will definitely be taking a stand" in Richmond Hill's December civic election; it intends to publish a recommended slate of candidates.

"There is nothing radical in our idea or approach," Williams commented, "but we think we can do a job the

existing paper hasn't done for several years.

"The Liberal does a hell of a good job, but we think there's room for another paper that will devote more time to Richmond Hill as a community."

Williams declined to be more specific, except to mention the usual news sources such as police, town council and sports events.

The paper (its proposed name, The North Star, has not yet been registered) will be circulated free to households in Richmond Hill. It will consist of 16 to 20 tabloid-size pages, Williams said.

Williams, of 55 Pauline Ave., Toronto, said he has been in the editorial-publishing business for 35 years, working on a number of daily newspapers and business publications.

Inside The Liberal

A heritage to preserve

It's obvious to anyone first encountering the Unionville Main Street area that here's a community with a strong sense of its past. For a comprehensive look at what's involved in heritage preservation, see Page C-1.

Sports	B1-4	Service directory	B5	Editorials	A4
Classified	B8-11	Church directory	C3	Letters	A4,A6
King-Oak Ridges	C5	In the Hill	C2	Vital statistics	B11
Entertainment	C13	Scheduled events	C3	Kmart	Km1-8
Real estate	B6-7	Yesterdays	A5	GEM Stores	Gs1-8