Trees, caves housing fate?

Where is the common man going to live? Will it be in trees or in holes in the ground?

Are the only new homes here in York Region to be for high income Toronto commuters who will continue to increase the traffic jams on north-south roads?

Will new local jobs only be filled by middle-income workers commuting from Metro Toronto or Simcoe County on north-south roads?

Is mistaken public opinion housing development. going to continue to keep out semidetached, town and duplex housing? Will this cause worse north-south traffic jams and then a further increase in opposition to the kind of mistakes already made housing development?

Will the housing cost crisis just

grow worse and worse?

Surely not! Yet that is exactly the trend of local events in the news this week and during the past weeks and months.

Thornhill-Vaughan ratepayers fight against economical, mediumdensity, low-rise housing along Bathurst Street.

Kleinburg ratepayers get a municipal board decision favoring estates over regular housing.

Woodbridge ratepayers seek to limit the extent and density of

Markham planners move against realistic densities planned by Vaughan along Bathurst, thus seeking to force Vaughan to repeat by Markham.

Where will it all end?

Letters

Beta Sigma Phi thanks shoppers

Dear editor:

We would be pleased if you could determined. print this letter of appreciation to the Hillcrest Mall prior to Christmas.

pectations.

We credit it to the patience and generosity of Hillcrest Mall's patrons. The proceeds will be put to use in some form of community service work,

but the recipient(s) have yet to be

When a decision is made, we will try shoppers of Richmond Hill and area in some way to publicize it so that those who so generously patronized the Beta who utilized the gift wrapping service Sigma Phi gift wrapping service held at will be made aware of the final results.

Thank you for your co-operation and The financial success for this par- the most sincere wishes for a ticular project far surpassed our ex- prosperous 1977 to all who helped our sorority chapter succeed.

BETTY PEDERSEN, Xi Gamma Mu, 10 Knowles Cres., Aurora, Ont.

Youth is spreading happiness Dear editor:

Perhaps I may have missed an article in your paper on the subject I am about to mention. If so, you may not want to repeat it. It

would warm a lot of hearts to read about the fine young people working weekends at York Central Hospital. They give up social activities to further their education, to help out at

home or for various other unselfish reasons. I recently was a patient at YCH. I

must say it gave me such pleasure and encouragement to meet these fine examples of our youth today.

They are neat, polite, cheerful and compassionate.

seamy side of so much of our young society, the side we see and read about.

THE CAST

DUCATION

I know it raised my spirits tremendously. It probably aided my recovery, just to see the bright smiling faces at my door with the meals and the juice

I would be very remiss in not mentioning also the candy stripers and the volunteer workers who are so willing to do any chore required.

Unfortunately I don't know the names

Outstanding in my mind is a young man who works on weekends and They are a strong contrast to the Christmas Day, coming around with the juice wagon. He has a smile and cheery word for each patient.

Opinion

The work of these people is a great human interest story.

couragement that our future will be better with the presence of these dedicated and willing workers.

(MRS.) ELINOR HUNNISETT, 32 Uplands Ave., Thornhill, Ont.



regional Bowing to Balzac viewpoint Bowing to Balzac

By Jim Irving

"The Human Comedy," Balzac once called it, refusing to take it all that seriously.

Had old Honore been at York Region council's inaugural meeting Thursday, he would have seen nothing's changed. Not that the meeting was a laugh, not at all. But it did have its farcical

moments. It also had its dramatic ones, although in retrospect, they could be seen as part of the farce. The meeting as you are no doubt

aware, put Garfield Wright of East Gwillimbury, back in the head chair for another two long years, council giving him the nod nine to seven over Mayor Bob Adams of Markham. Ascension to the regional throne from another direction just wasn't to be. The gods including those in the backroom - had ordained otherwise.

For awhile, though, it looked as if ever there was going to be a change, it was going to be then. There were certainly two good candidates on hand to do battle with the chairman — Mayor Bob Forhan of Newmarket was also running at that time - and the setting was just right.

People were standing in the aisles newsmen were there, of course, plus century mark. councillors and mayors from Aurora to Zimcoe.

Were they there because they sensed ward into Markham. a close fight and they wanted to be at ringside when it happened? Or was it because that was the first time they had been able to get out of their driveways since the snowstorm?

If it was because of the former, they got it, Wright needing Vaughan Mayor

Garnet Williams' final vote to clinch it. In the bag

However, even though the audience sensed the drama, the race was really over before that, Mr. Wright, sitting along the wall awaiting the formal announcement, didn't even have to tug at his pipe in nervous anticipation.

Wright's reprieve came earlier during Mayor Forhan's address when the latter started right off by pointing out what a poor candidate he (Forhan)

Prematurely grey, with a round, good-looking face, and dressed in a dark suit and vest, Forhan had a nice, Mr. Smith-Goes-To-Washington quality abut him when he stood up to give his speech. Which, incidentally, turned out to be a bit of a bombshell.

He related how he had wrongly Roman of Markham, and his seconder, when he went to apologize later, his son would too. said: "What good are fathers? You're

never home, anyway; you don't listen." the Roman nomination was a token perhaps they acted without listening at beforehand. council, too. Did they ever check with administration first on various things, light-hearted way - when asked about before acting?

from the race and his decision to back not known, nowever

Dramatic moment

no doubt his nominator, Mayor Tony could have been so optimistic.

reprimanded his son one night and Mayor George Burrows of Georgina, In fact, the implication later was that ever been.

Forhan said it made him wonder if, one; that he knew Forhan's decision Roman skirted the issue — albeit in a

it afterwards, as did Forhan. Maybe it was best he stay where he But the answer obviously was yes.

was. He then announced his withdrawal Just when Forhan decided to bow out is

Adams was upset afterwards, although he did his best to take it in his brisk stride. It was obvious with him, It was a dramatic moment and for a too, he felt he had a good chance there while it looked as if Adams had a for awhile. That was Thursday; chance, until you remembered that, if thinking about it the next day, he Forhan was giving his vote to Wright, seemed to be wondering how he ever

Least affected of anyone, seemed to be Chairman Wright who, in his candidate's speech, was as relaxed as he's

And afterward

meeting had ended, when the guests stering the hue and cry that goes up had gone home from the reception in very time another acre of unspoiled the community centre afterwards, and Ind is threatened with development, is the bar there had been closed for the ow few people are out there enjoying night, the chairman and his entourage !. drifted into a room opposite the main However, if esthetic reasons don't table for a bull session.

town reeve - which Wright once was - You can burn off up to 1,300 calories and his council, sitting down for a little an hour cross-country skiing, more talk and coffee afterwards. With the than in just about any other activity. reeve pouring, of course.

Only this pot didn't have any handle, nothing will.

Destroy calories on skis

By Lynda Nykor

lynda's

lashes

We've been bitten by a bug in our

family. Every one of us has caught it. What's worse, we've passed it on to friends and

relatives. It involves some chills and fever, an occasional runny nose, and a few sore

nuscles. Fortunately, it's seldom fatal.

It's called cross-country skiing. It all started back in November, when my daughter asked for cross-country slis for Christmas.

Sudden fling

When my husband and I went to pick them up for her, we decided the whole pækage was such a good deal we'd get five of them.

We hoped our oldest son, who's a chemistry nut, wouldn't be too disapponted at getting skis instead of a meroscope. Ve thought our youngest son, who

pus on his hockey skates in September an doesn't take them off till April, milht have some trouble with the

binlings. A for me, I usually go in the house in falland don't come out again till spring.

My winter hobbies include knitting. realing, house plants, TV, scrabble, molopoly and whining about the

I vondered if I'd survive. O if I'd lost my mind.

First try

Te first time out we went to Bruce's Mil Conservation Area.

Tis is a pretty piece of land at any time But in the winter, with the snow blaneting the trees and everything so siler, it really is exquisite. W skied for hours without coming

acres a single sign anyone had been ther before us.

Ore you get moving right along, we foun, you don't even feel the cold.

Inact, you're more likely to feel too warr, something I'd been told but had figurd was based on a rumor started by Fnnish ski manufacturers.

Every weekend

Wive been going out every weekend It should give us all some en- sinc then, and thoroughly enjoying oursives.

> Itwas so cold my feet went into terrinal decline the minute they hit the grond. Legged off and sat in the car while

thenometer managed to "kayo" me.

the rst of the family took a 45-minute run. Vhining as a good solid hobby was

M brother's family had gotten into cros country skiing too. In a couple of week the even dozen of us are going to go at together.

H tells us about some of the great plaes he's discovered for skiing up

thones we've found around Markham. New world

dferent. It's a whole new world. And when it was all over, when the What amazes me, though, con-

make you get your hat, grab your skis

If that doesn't get you moving,



yesterdays

by mary dawson

Bay Thorne Village

Thirty years ago Thornhill was a and the corridors, and some even small village of 10 streets, featuring managed to get a seat. All the many homes which had passed the

Today it has burst its boundaries and

spread eastward, southward and north-

Hundreds of acres of fertile farmland are covered with luxurious detached homes, smaller homes, townhouses and

The near future will see this spread jump the busy Highway 11 and bring a

high rise apartment buildings.

small city to the Vaughan portion of the one time police village.

Bay Thorne Village Ten-year-old Bay Thorne Village

includes nine streets and 333 homes. John Lyons in 1796. This was Lot 33, Concession 1, In 1820 Lyons' widow sold 841/2 acres

Markham.

settle in Upper Canada.

As such he was permitted to bring his 1967. household effects across the border, duty free.

Brewing, milling

Brewing was one of his occupations. It was developed by Wimpey Homes He also was part owner of the first saw on part of the 190-acre crown grant to and flour mills in the hollow of John St. from 1806 till his death in 1818.

to Benjamin Thorne and Thorne's Lyons was one of the Americans brother-in-law William Parsons from encouraged by Governor Simcoe to Sherborne, Dorset, England, Doris -Fitzgerald recorded in The Liberal in

First postmaster The two men had capital and business

enterprise.

Besides buying the mills they secred cemetery behind it. a post office for the settlement wich began to prosper under the nime Thornhill. Parsons was the first postmaster His

tached to his house on Yonge Striet. The Rev. George Mortimer, first

rector of Holy Trinity Anglican Chirch, Wesleyan and British Methodist

purchased land from Mrs. Lyons in 1835. He built a commodious house.

was purchased for a Wesleyan Methodist Church and a small Add to this the Lyons' married children and their families each living

Another portion of the Lyons' land

on a portion of the original lot. This lot had further been decreased in office was located in a small stor at- area when 50 acres at the rear were

sold to Henry Miller. On the amalgamation of the

congregations in 1852 the church was moved from Lot 33 to Centre Street.

Long a church

It served the Methodist, United and Dutch Reformed congregations as a place of worship until recent years. Some graves were moved to the John

St. cemetery, the remaining headstones were set in a cement slab in the early 1960's and the grass kept cut by the Markham Cemetery Board.

Increased by 33 acres, the Parsons' farm stayed in the family until 1929. Then Stewart Wilcocks sold it to George Davies. He kept race horses

Remember you can always come there. home early if you're bored or feel The next owner was George Wright, a mining magnate who had just pur-

But give us lots of warning. We'll get chased The Globe & Mail. The people who are left here are the the plumber to do a rush job on your Newspapermen shared

He shared the farm's facilities with George McCullagh, publisher of the It was cold enough that the pool table Globe, whose horse Archworth was trained there and won the King's Plate. Charles Smith bought the farm in

> 1950. He later sold the Parsons' house to Dr. H. E. Palmer of Thornhill Veterinary Clinic.

The remaining 116 acres were pursurprise for you. Are there any chased by Wimpey in 1965. Construction of the subdivision started in 1966.

sharon's sunshine

Thornhill, Ontario Dear Mum and Dad.

We got your postcard today. Your motel looks nice, and it must be great to have a maid come in every day to clean

I'm glad you don't have to do it

yourself. Sand is such a wretched thing to try to get rid of, isn't it?

enough, it just goes away all by itself. The weather sounds pleasant enough,

temperatures after a while. But it's never boring here. My car has turned every morning into a will-it.

though I suspect you will be bored by all

those high 22 degree low 16 degree

won't-it drama. It seems to be reliable at anything over -2 degrees, as long as I take the wind-chill into consideration.

New winter friends

We are making some new friends. The man at the service station is becoming just like one of the family. He's the only person I've ever talked to before 8 o'clock.

And you know that man who gave me such a hard time when I complained Not like snow. If you leave snow long about his dog eating my garbage bags every time I put them out? (He never touched the garbage, just the bags.) Well, he smiled at me on his way to work.

> He didn't stop, but at least he smiled. My lovely holiday

I had a lovely holiday quite unex-

pectedly the other day. I was on my

I was stuck in the snowbank at the

became impossible. My car and I quit at the same time. doctor says is not quite pneumonia. I suppose to you, lolling around on the

beach all day, walking two miles to write a long letter. through a snowstorm doesn't sound like much fun. But thanks to my snowmobile suit,

my mukluks, my touque, my mittens, my scarf, and my goggles, I made it home in spite of a 30 mile-an-hour wind, in less time and with less damage than ones who have made this country the you might expect. If I hadn't been so well prepared and

well outfitted, perhaps passing

motorists might have realized I was not

out for a stroll. So don't try to tell me a morning walk along the beach is keeping you fit and healthy. To that I say "Humbug."

Fit from unfit

way to work. Both the road and my car the fit from the unfit. I am now in bed with something the

rigors of winter.

It takes a walk like mine to separate or wear fur coats or shovel snow.

Love that winter!

That's why I have a holiday, and time You say there are all kinds of

Canadians down there luxuriating in the warmth of the sunny south. I call them cowards.

great nation it is today. It took a lot of nerve for our ancestors to stay here when they knew that every year they would have to face anew the

But think where we would have been if they had all done what you are doing. We would all be natives of Florida. We wouldn't know how to play hockey

didn't float far before it froze.

Love, Sharon.

three hours. We may have a little vacancies in your motel?

It's nothing serious, just a couple in the basement.

Time to close now. We miss you.

Can come home

Think about that.

P.S. Roger just got home. Took him

Thre was only one occasion when the

lookig good that particular day.

arend Newmarket. We tell him about

find it's a real eye-opener to see sunmer countryside I've known and loed for nine years looking entirely

one, where they gathered around a really grab you, here's a statistic that'll It looked like a meeting of a small-and leave your worries on the doorstep.

