

New RC high school for York Region

RICHMOND HILL — A private Roman Catholic high school for Grade 11 to 13 classes has been approved for York Region.

The establishment of the school has received approval from the Toronto Archdiocese. The archdiocese will be responsible for the school's administration through its board of trustees.

Transit riders discontented

RICHMOND HILL — Discontented GO bus riders, protesting recent changes in the transit system, will have a chance to hear why those changes have been made.

A special meeting will be held Thursday morning (Feb. 3) at 8 o'clock at the town council chambers.

At that time, a spokesman for GO Transit will be on hand, along with Mayor Dave Schiller and Councillor Mike Burnie, chairman of the town's engineering and transit committee, to discuss the new system.

Last November, bus services between Richmond Hill and Finch Ave. subway station were integrated, with GO operating the run and not the TTC.

Eliminated in the move was the GO express bus to downtown Toronto. This change is one of the complaints of local citizens.

Another bone of contention is the elimination of the Markham-Yonge stop for the GO bus.

Some area citizens are circulating a petition to get names for a formal protest.

However the school will operate as unit with St. Robert's Junior High School in Thornhill.

The relocatable 10-pack, located next to St. Robert's, will be rented to house the private school students, John Zupancic, separate school education director said last week.

September start
Grade 11 classes will begin in September with an expected 150 students. Grade 12 and 13 classes will be added in 1978 and 1979 respectively.

The York Region Roman Catholic separate school board will provide aid to the new school in hiring of teachers and organizing the school, Zupancic said.

Larry Darby, currently principal of St. Robert's, will assume the additional role as principal of the private school.

Tuition \$500
Tuition fees, expected to total \$500, plus school fund-raising projects will be used to finance the new school.

The archdiocese will provide the borrowing power for the private board. Approval of the new school provides Roman Catholic students with the opportunity to complete their high school education in a separate school environment.

Students previously completing Grade 10 at St. Robert's were forced to enter the public school system for further education or had to attend private schools outside the region.

\$75,000 grant

KLEINBURG — The McMichael Canadian Collection has now received a provincial grant of \$75,000 towards the purchase of Tom Thomson's "Summer Shore Georgian Bay," one of Thomson's outstanding paintings.

The grant from Wintario represents 50 per cent of the total cost.



(Photo by Hogg)

Heavy traffic

This jam around the Thornhill Thunderbirds' net occurred Monday night in a game with Richmond Hill Dynes at Bond Lake Arena. Dynes won 6-4. The

Dynes coach said Thornhill could not win without intimidating their opponent. See story on page B1.

Wright, Schiller seem to agree

RICHMOND HILL — Region Chairman Garfield Wright and Mayor David Schiller were shoulder to shoulder last week fending off questions from Richmond Hill Chamber of Commerce members.

When one questioner was flummoxed by Mayor Schiller's answer on whether Richmond Hill taxpayers would be subsidizing school costs in a fast growing town of Markham, Wright produced the figures to back up the mayor's position.

They showed that Markham's school taxes per capita were higher and the disparity had increased in Markham's rapid growth period to date.

That does not mean that individuals pay higher school taxes in Markham. It means they have more assessment,

said the mayor.

Doesn't matter

Since regional and school board taxes are levied at the regional level, it does not matter so much anymore in what parts of the region growth takes place, said Schiller.

"That was a reason for setting up regional governments in the first place."

An administrative headquarters for the region will probably be built in Newmarket, Schiller and Wright agreed.

The region already has the land for it, a Children's Aid headquarters has already gone there, and a court house will go there.

Political issue

Schiller said there was a planning reason for putting the headquarters in Richmond Hill, near the population centre of the region. But the issue became political.

"It will likely be left in Newmarket near the geographic centre."

"When I said last year at regional council we had not chosen the administrative centre yet, I never saw so many tongues go into so many cheeks so fast," said Schiller.

Sleep fatal

KESWICK — A man who police said spent the day drinking beer and consuming heroin at a friend's cottage last week, died in his sleep.

Police said Joseph Balazs 21, of Fenelon Dr., Don Mills, was found dead in bed the next morning.

Separate trustees favor ShareLife plan

RICHMOND HILL — Although the technicalities have not yet been worked out, the York Region Roman Catholic separate school board voted Tuesday to support the newly formed ShareLife Appeal.

ShareLife was organized last spring when the Catholic Charities withdrew from the United Way campaign.

This decision was based upon the request from Most Rev. Philip Pocock, archbishop of Toronto, that Catholic

Charities withdraw from United Way. This was after Planned Parenthood, an abortion counselling and referral agency, was admitted to the United Way group.

\$2½ million goal

The ShareLife appeal has set a goal of \$2.5 million, executive Paul Robinson told the board.

The Council of Catholic Charities, which includes the seven agencies withdrawn from United Way, will receive \$1.2 million of the goal.

The Development of Peace campaign will receive \$800,000. The balance will go to St. Augustine Seminary and Providence Villa.

Payroll deductions

The board will ask separate school teachers to make contributions to the ShareLife campaign through payroll deductions.

Pastoral zone lay chairman for the appeal in York Region is Bob Simpson. Father Don MacLean, Vaughan trustee, has been appointed clergy chairman.

Nuisance call

AURORA — John Kippen, assistant director of public education for York Region, may be thinking these days an early-morning caller may have some strong views on education, but is too shy to say anything about them.

Kippen told police last week he received telephone calls Jan. 16, 18 and 23, twice at 4 a.m. and once at 2 a.m.

However, when he answered, the party hung up. Police are investigating.

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Board asked to stop Hill school changes

RICHMOND HILL — York County board of education will be asked to rescind part of a motion it made in 1973 when it gets together next week.

The action followed a meeting last week between: three Richmond Hill trustees, Robert Houghton, Bill Monroe and Eric Baker; plus Walter Willms, superintendent Area 3 schools; principals of Beverley Acres Sr. School, Crosby Heights, Jefferson and Walter Scott Public Schools; and parents of children attending those schools.

1973 motion

The meeting was called to discuss the final stage of the 1973 motion, concerning the above-named schools.

The motion suggested that, "because of decreasing enrolment in the junior wing of Crosby Heights School and the opportunities for providing a more effective program for the students in the two neighboring schools (Beverley Acres and Walter Scott), the primary and junior grades be phased out one grade at a time, beginning with Grade 1

pupils in 1973-74, Grade 2 pupils in 1974-75, etc., until Crosby Heights accommodates pupils in Grades 6-8 inclusive, and, at that point, Beverley Acres and Walter Scott will each accommodate pupils from kindergarten to Grade 5 inclusive."

Parents opposed

However, opposition from numerous

parents in the area, to removing children from "feeder" schools a year early, prompted the meeting.

Some 150 people attended, most of them in opposition to the move.

The motion, however, was not opposed when it was first proposed three years ago.

Trustee Houghton said the board will

be asked to rescind that part of the motion concerning the transfer to Crosby.

The board will be also asked to support the idea of leaving students with the option of going to Crosby, or of staying where they are, providing there are enough students to do that.

Parents are up in arms

RICHMOND HILL — A proposal to move children in Grades 4 and 5 in Ross Doan Public School, Weldrick and Avenue Rds., to four other schools in the area because of over-crowding and lack of building funds, has parents of children from the school up in arms.

As a result, they will meet with Richmond Hill trustees and Area 3 Superintendent Walter Willms tonight

(Feb. 2) at the school at 7:30 to discuss the matter.

3 Thornhill schools

Three of the schools mentioned as possible alternatives, are in Thornhill, with the fourth one in Maple.

These include the Charles Howitt, 30 Pearson Ave., Roselawn Sr. Public School, 422 Carrville Rd.; and 16th Avenue Public School, 130 16th Ave.

The Maple school is the Joseph A. Gibson, Naylor St.

Mrs. Sara Carbonell, Springhead Gardens, a spokesman for the group, said a move to any of the proposed schools would involve transporting the children by bus.

At present, her own children only have 2½ blocks to go and are able to come home for lunch.

Immigrants make second start

By Marilyn McDonald

THORNHILL — Hungary, Czechoslovakia. Flights of refugees from these places have made headlines.

But there are other parts of the world which people have left with whatever they could carry to escape the politics of their homeland.

Four very likeable members of a Peruvian family now live in Thornhill. They left their country because of its unstable politics and economy.

Their last name is Menu, pronounced May new.

Carmen Menu is the smiling, blue-eyed, fair-haired mother. Shantal is her bright, eighteen-year-old, dark haired, dark-eyed daughter.

Maurice Menu, the father, and son Michel, were at school.

Father teaches

Mr. Menu is working as a supply teacher with Alliance Francaise until he can get his Ontario teaching certificate.

Shantal's formal education ended abruptly in Grade 11.

"It was so sudden," said the attractive teenager.

"When I came here I thought I was going to study, but they said 'you've got to work.'"

Shantal acts as an interpreter for her mother, sliding easily from language to language.

Carmen speaks fluent Spanish and French and she is learning English.

The Menu's are re-establishing themselves for the second time in two years.

Sold everything

Before leaving Peru, they sold everything they could — the house they lived in where Carmen had her hair-

dresser salon, and the dry cleaning business owned by Maurice.

The country farm where they raised livestock is considered lost.

Because of the political situation in Peru, there is little security in owning property.

"Today you've got it, the next day it might be taken away from you," explained Shantal.

Wild inflation

Inflation is running around 60 per cent and the currency has devalued to only half its former value.

"When we left, you could still get out something," said Shantal.

So they arrived in Canada in July, 1975.

They invested almost \$75,000 dollars in a business dependent upon merchandise supplied by a Peruvian friend already established in Canada.

It turned out to be an expensive gamble.

The former friend went bankrupt.

"All that we had is gone," said Shantal.

"We own nothing, just ourselves."

It should be enough.

Starting again

With a little bit of cash, some big borrowing and Carmen's 20 year experience as a hairdresser, the Menu's have opened a combination clothing boutique and hair salon at Baythorn and Yonge.

It's a comfortable, friendly place.

Carmen's two certificates from L'Oreal in Paris, France are displayed prominently on one wall, along with her licence to style hair in Ontario.

If the business is successful, perhaps Shantal can go back to school and fulfil her dream.

"I'd like to be a stewardess," she says.



Peru to Thornhill

Carmen and her daughter Shantal Menu are making their second start in Thornhill after

leaving Peru two years ago. The Menu's lost \$75,000 invested in a business in Canada.

Inside The Liberal

Outdoor adventure

The Boyd Conservation Field Centre provides a natural environment for students from all over the Toronto area to learn about conservation. See page C1.

The struggle for Christianity in the Middle East is still a budget problem which oil revenues have not helped to alleviate, says Rev. Shafik Farah. See Page C3.

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