

1977 town spending set at \$6,073,006

RICHMOND HILL — At a budget meeting held Monday, Richmond Hill council managed to pare a half of one per cent off 1977 spending figures, leaving a total of \$6,073,006. This is a 6.5 per cent increase over last year.

For the average Richmond Hill household assessed at \$20,000, the budget will mean an extra \$15.35 in this year's tax bill for the town.

The mill rate for town purposes only, at 12.66 before Monday's meeting, is

expected to fall between 11 and 12. The total rate cannot be finalized until school board budgets and the regional budget are complete.

The largest percentage increase in town expenditures for the year is in the area of environmental development services where almost \$200,000 of \$267,000 budget will be allocated to general planning and the development of an Official Plan.

"The Official Plan program is high for this year, no question about that,"

said Mayor David Schiller of the \$50,000 amount allocated to the program. It is hoped, however, that the Official Plan for the town will be completed this year "and then that part of the budget will drop back next year," Schiller said.

Other increases in services have been provided in the transportation category where a 19 per cent increase is budgeted for construction and a 30 per cent increase for winter maintenance.

However the budget for that category

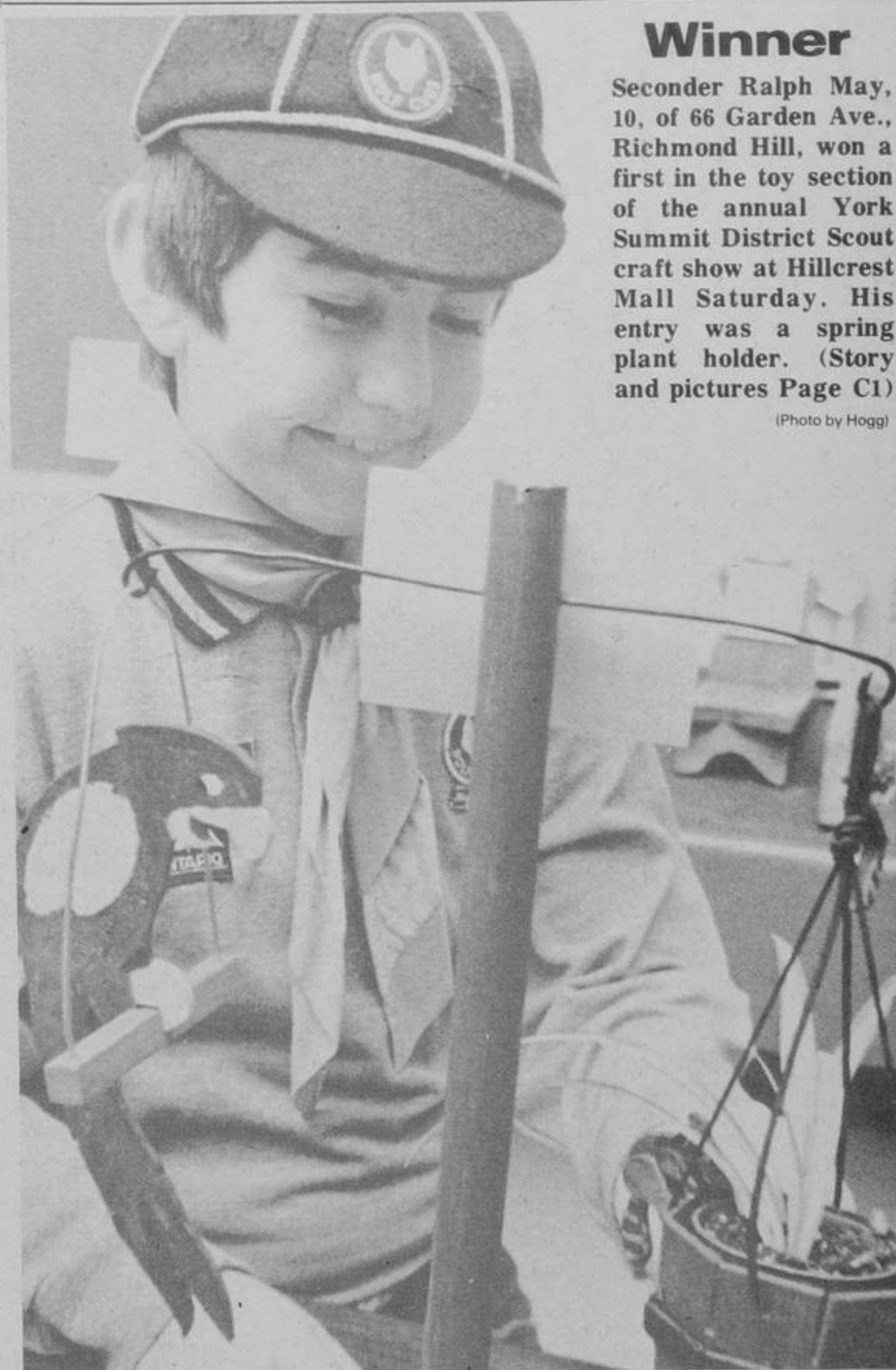
will rise only 9.5 per cent in total.

Percentage increases in other categories are as follows: parks and facilities, 14.3 per cent; recreation and cultural services, 14.5 per cent; general government service, 11.2 per cent; protective services 11.9 per cent; environmental health services, 8.1 per cent; health and social services, 2.6 per cent.

Council will discuss Monday's revision when it meets March 7.

Winner

Seconder Ralph May, 10, of 66 Garden Ave., Richmond Hill, won a first in the toy section of the annual York Summit District Scout craft show at Hillcrest Mall Saturday. His entry was a spring plant holder. (Story and pictures Page C1)



(Photo by Hogg)

Hillcrest parents ask for portables

By Jim Irving

AURORA — The use of self-contained, portable units as a means of alleviating overcrowding in the schools, was suggested by a delegation of parents to a meeting of York County board of education Monday night.

All members of Hillcrest Residents' Association of Richmond Hill, the parents were there to protest against a proposal to transport students from Ross Doan public school, 101 Weldrick Rd., to Roselawn Sr., 422 Carrville Rd., and 16th Ave. (130 16th Ave.) public schools, both in Thornhill, as a means of reducing overcrowding at Ross Doan.

The delegation, headed by Stewart Roberts, president of the association, said the units, if not needed after five years, could be used again some other place.

This would keep everyone within the area happy, he said.

Joan Hooper, another spokesman for the group, said that it was important the students remain in the community.

"The 16th Avenue school is on the other side of Yonge Street," she said. "I don't know why we were considered for that."

Mrs. Hooper suggested a kindergarten to Grade 8 system.

At present, Roselawn handles Grades 6-8, with the other schools teaching Kindergarten to Grade 5.



(Photo by Hogg)

Education Director Sam Chapman said they would have to prove the need of portables, just as they would a new project. It took an "extremely persuasive argument" to convince the education ministry.

In their brief to the board, which was presented by Mr. Roberts, it was pointed out attendance at two previous meetings with Richmond Hill trustees and Area 3 Superintendent Walter Willms, showed the people wanted a "long-term" solution to the problem.

Willms' proposals were short term, "affecting for the main," the 1977-78 term.

"This is totally unacceptable," the brief said.

If the self-contained units were used, Ross Doan could accommodate all the expected increase in enrolment, thus eliminating the need to re-arrange the grades in Ross Doan or Roselawn, as well as the transporting of children from our community," the brief said.

Buses opposed

Trustee Donald Cameron of Vaughan said the ministry had "to get the message" that transporting students by bus wasn't the answer.

He said he would like to see the board support the parents in principle. It should also send the three Richmond Hill trustees and the parents' group to the ministry of education with the mobile proposal.

Even if they didn't "win this round," they might help to bring about a change in policy, he said.

Boundary changes

Chairman Craig Cribar of Newmarket told the delegation that the board would be dealing next with boundary changes in their area and would keep them informed.

The board, however, referred the recommendations from staff on boundary changes to the planning and building committee for a report to the next meeting.

The recommendations cover the 1977-78 season and deal with boundary changes covering Charles Howitt, Roselawn, Ross Doan and 16th Avenue public schools.

Previous awards

Last year The Liberal won two awards nationally. One was for best front page and the other for best sports page. That was in competition with

Late smooch

RICHMOND HILL — Town parks are to be open an hour longer at night, Richmond Hill council agreed Monday of last week.

Open hours are extended from 1 a.m. to 2 a.m. by the council decision.

Rousing goodbye for CGIT leader

CGIT superintendent, Mrs. Uneeta Joyce of 3 Rockport Cres. gets a rousing send-off from her charges at a farewell party at St. Matthews United Church. Mrs. Joyce is moving to Orillia after 25 years with the organization. Going away present

was a porcelain figurine. In recent years Mrs. Joyce organized musical productions for the CGIT. A board member for Camp Big Canoe in Muskoka, she took the CGIT group there every spring.

Puts parkway in Hill jail farm

By Larry Johnston

THORNHILL — Save Langstaff! That's the message sent to the provincial cabinet in the Parkway Belt West recommendations made public last week.

The Langstaff community is comprised of some 223 residents including a wide spectrum of interests ranging through industrial, commercial and residential uses employing over 800 people.

Many people work out of their homes

and small industrial malls have been constructed for the benefit of new and old small businesses.

Unique area

"The unique character of this community... would be totally disrupted and from a social and economic standpoint the alignment of the Parkway Belt in this area is totally unacceptable," said the hearing officers, Ontario Municipal Board Members, Armour McCrae, A.B. Ball and W.E. Dyer.

They point out that neither Richmond Hill or Markham were supporting the

parkway belt recommendations.

"The cloud of uncertainty imposed on the community and the probable high cost of acquisition of lands by the proposed alignment of linear facilities.

The cloud of uncertainty imposed on Langstaff and the probable high cost of buying it for a link in the utility corridor are "out of all proportion to the public benefit that might be derived from locating the belt in this area."

Most extensive

The Langstaff submission was the most extensive made during the course of seven months of hearings on the parkway belt west, a corridor reserved for open space and public utilities stretching from Hamilton to Markham.

The hearing officers "were impressed with the courteous manner in which the many residents presented their evidence, it being clear much anxiety and fear had been generated from the time of the imposition of the parkway belt plan in 1973."

Since that zoning freeze, residents have lived under threat of expropriation, unable to sell or build on their land without government permission.

Innocent

RICHMOND HILL — John Lund Gordon, 21, of Thornhill, was acquitted this week in York County Court of a charge of conspiring to manufacture the federally-controlled drug, PCP.

He was charged last March with conspiracy to manufacture the drug and with counselling an unidentified person to make \$400,000 worth of it.

After a Newmarket girl died four years ago from taking the drug, it was put under controls by the federal government.

2 arrests

RICHMOND HILL — A citizen's suspicions helped bring about the prompt arrest by York Regional Police of two men and the recovery of a large quantity of stolen goods in the area, early Tuesday morning.

Deputy Chief Wally Harkness said police were called about 2:30 a.m. by a man who had seen another man hanging around Becker's Milk, 200 Springhead Gardens in Richmond Hill, and became suspicious.

The man jumped in a car and drove off right afterward, Harkness said.

However, Constable Kevan O'Grady stopped a car at Highway 7 and the 5th Line, Markham, a little later, and arrested two men.

Taken from them was a quantity of goods stolen earlier from Becker's, Kinnear Pontiac Buick in Richmond Hill, and Perry Pharmacy in Maple.

Facing two charges of break, enter and theft, two charges of possession over \$200, and possession of a stolen marker (licence plate) are James Furness, 30, and Richard Davis, 30, both of Brock St., Pickering.

Wednesday, March 2, 1977 27 pages 20¢ Est. 1878

The Richmond Hill Edition Liberal

"In Essentials Unity, in Non-Essentials Liberty, in all things Charity"

Inside The Liberal Research secret?

Former school trustee Joy Horton reveals secret document suggesting resumed psychological research on students without parental permission. See A4 Letters.

The Richmond Hill Dynes Jewellers and Thornhill Thunderbirds battle it out for the championship of the Mid-Ontario Junior B hockey championship. For further details see B-1 Sports.

The index of news and advertising features is:

Sports	B1-5, B11-12	Entertainment	C6	Scheduled events	C3
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The Liberal best

RICHMOND HILL — The Liberal newspaper, Richmond Hill edition, has been judged best in Ontario in the 10,001 to 16,000 weekly circulation class.

The Liberal also won two other Ontario-wide first place awards in the class. One was for best editorial page. The other was for best composition and layout.

This makes The Liberal best weekly in York Region, as judged by the expert panel of the Ontario Weekly Newspaper Association.

Canadian weeklies of 7,500 to 14,999 circulation.

This year is the third time The Liberal entered provincial competition, and it has moved ahead. Last year The Liberal placed third in the class in provincial competition.

The previous year, in its first year of competition, The Liberal won no general excellence awards, but won a premier award among all circulation classes for champion correspondent.

community with what they have a right to receive, and that is a professional product which is well thought out and designed, pleasing to the eye, and brimming with local news stories about people and their activities.

"This is our mainstay. It is our prime concern in the community newspaper business and we will continue to be this way," said Publisher Van Kampen.

To win first place in Ontario in its class, The Liberal had to accumulate the greatest number of points from the judges under the following headings: display advertising, classified advertising, sports, photography, front page, composition, layout, reproduction, editorial page, news and feature content.

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Awards time

This year's national competition hasn't yet been held. The provincial awards will be presented at the Ontario weekly newspaper convention in Toronto this weekend.

In this year's provincial competition The Banner, also with The Liberal a weekly newspaper published by Metrospan Community Newspapers Limited North Division, won the first place award in the 10,001 to 16,000 class for best classified advertising.

"We are interested in the people and want to reflect what their lives are all about within the community," said The Liberal's Publisher J. G. Van Kampen, upon hearing the happy results of the OWNA judging.

Team effort

All The Liberal's staff was involved, from display and advertising person, reporter, editor, artist, columnist, photographer, cartoonist—right through the composing room typesetters and proof readers and paste-up artists to the pressmen and makers.

All these people contributed their part as a team to produce a leading provincial weekly newspaper of the year.

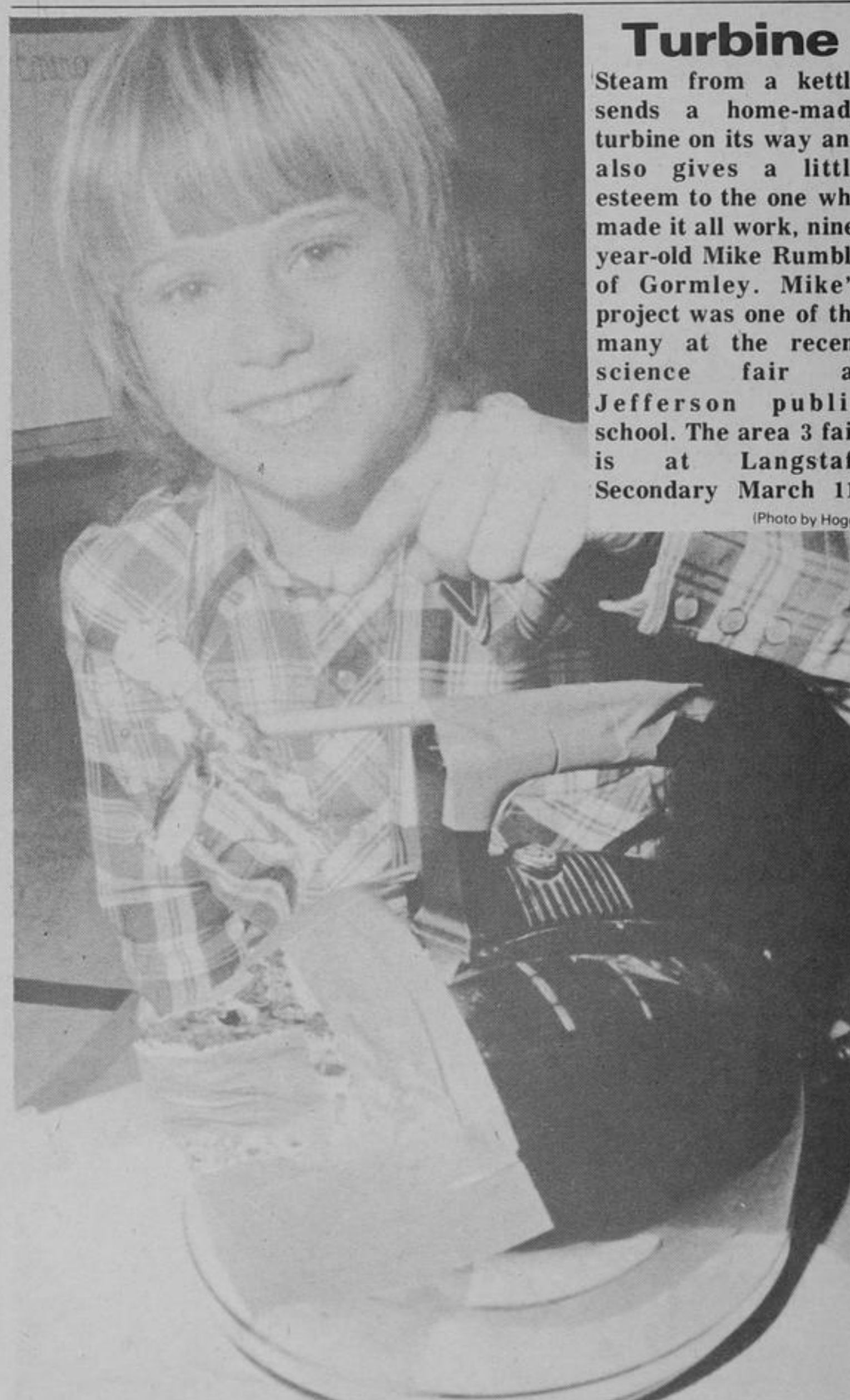
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Local emphasis

"With hard work we provide the



(Photo by Hogg)