

# Metric speeds

RICHMOND HILL — Motorists will be able to drive one mile-an-hour faster on city streets—legally—after Sept. 30. That's the target date for switching to metric traffic signs.

The present 30 mile-an-hour limit works out to 48.3 kilometers. That is to be rounded off to 50 kilometers-per-hour.

On regional roads and highways a speed of 40 will become 65, 50 will become 80 and 60 miles-an-hour will round off at an even 100 kilometers-per-hour.

In addition, any signs showing a distance in feet or other imperial measure will have to be changed.

For example, "no stopping within 30 feet" will become "within 10 meters."

## September deadline

Town council Monday received a letter from the Ontario ministry of transportation and communications reminding council all traffic signs across Canada must go metric by September.

The actual changeover will be made during that month.

The ministry advised that an inventory should be made now of all signs requiring changes and overlays be prepared well in advance of the September conversion.

The overlays with metric figures will be baked onto existing signs over the old imperial measurements.

## Taking inventory

Richmond Hill's works department is already making an inventory. Until it's completed, no estimate can be made of the number of signs to be changed or the cost of conversion.

Council referred the ministry letter to the engineering committee.

## The Liberal community news

Wednesday, March 16, 1977

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## Best in district Scout show

It's pretty good, no matter how you look at it, seems to be what these members of the First Richmond Hill Scouts seem to be saying, as they gather around the Tara Lynn Bullen Trophy. The trophy was the top award in the Scout hobby show, and was

presented to them, along with the George Harvey Trophy. They were co-winners of the latter with the First Richmond Hill Cubs. Left to right: Robert Suchy, 12; Markus Heinecke, 13; Andy Keller, 12; and Steven Arai, 11.

(Photo by Hoggi)

## Library's spring break

Correspondent  
Millie Stewart  
773-4424

OAK RIDGES — The winter break from school is next week. The Charles Connor Library has several activities planned for the amusement of young and old.

Starting on Saturday, there will be the film program for all ages. The films to be shown are: Rookie of the year and a film called the Ride.

All Beatle fans will just "flip" at the Beatle film which will be shown Tuesday at 7 p.m. The film is called The Magical Mystery Tour. Hurry up and reserve your tickets for this one.

The tiny tots and young school children will really enjoy the Storybook Favourites. These are films of stories from the world of make believe that are always a hit with the youngsters. This program is on Wednesday at 2 p.m.

Friday is also a very special day. The puppets are coming. Puppet shows are

## oak ridges lake wilcox

always a hit. The puppets will perform at 11 a.m. in: Eyore loses a tail, The three bears and Loud Mouse.

As usual, all performances at the library are free, but to be sure of tickets, they must be reserved in advance at the library or by calling 773-5533.

## Lions win

The annual dart tournament between the seniors and the Lions is always a hit. This year, the Lions were the victors with their team of Marion Neil, Wayne Murphy and Don Cook.

## Cancel dance

For all the folks who are interested in the Viking Club's dances because they are so much fun, I have some news. The St. Patrick's Day dance scheduled for Saturday has had to be cancelled. Nobody remembered the winter break starts this weekend, and it seems that a lot of the members are vacation bound.

Don't despair, there is a dance planned for sometime near Easter.

## YCHA meets

The Oak Ridges and Lake Wilcox Branch of the York Central Hospital Auxiliary will meet tonight at 8 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Lil Hafenbrack on Lakeland Cr.

All area ladies are welcome to attend. For more information, please call Mrs. Stewart at 773-4424.

## St. John's

Sunday, there will be a service of morning prayer at 10:30 followed by a coffee hour.

The junior young people will meet Friday March 25 at St. Mark's Chapel in Oak Ridges.

## Skating win

Two young women from Bond Lake Skating Club, Penny Seymour and Cathy Cheeseman, won gold medals at Sutton in the novice ladies similar dance pairs in the inter-club skating competition.

## Education

## week in April

RICHMOND HILL — April 17-23 has been marked as Education Week by the York Region Roman Catholic separate school board.

The board approved a motion to allocate \$750 for the week's activities. The theme is "Growing with Dignity".

Keynote speaker during the week will be Dr. Charles Galloway, professor of curriculum at Ohio State University.

## Why outsider?

"Why is it necessary to have an out-of-country educator come to speak? Are there not Canadians who could speak to us," asked Trustee Frank Kelly of East Gwillimbury and Georgina.

"Local prophets speak to deaf ears," replied Frank Bobesich, superintendent of programs.

"We got a line on what we thought would be the best," Bobesich added.

## civic corner

RICHMOND HILL — The following meetings of civic interest have been scheduled during the next two weeks:

Wednesday, March 16, 7:30 p.m.—committee room 'B', by-laws, procedures, fire and personnel committee.

Thursday, March 17, 8 a.m.—office of the commissioner of works, engineering committee.

Thursday, March 17, 7:30 p.m.—council chambers, parks and recreation committee.

Monday, March 21—council meeting normally scheduled for this evening is cancelled.

Monday, March 28, 8 p.m.—ward 5 public meeting at St. Charles Gartner separate school.

# Wants marijuana decision

By Larry Johnston

KING CITY — Attorney-general Roy McMurtry said recently he may make a direct appeal to the federal government to make a decision on marijuana.

In King City to address the annual meeting of the York North Progressive Conservative Association, McMurtry answered questions from the audience of about 60 people with an off-the-cuff discourse on the marijuana issue.

"I want to make it clear I am not saying legalize marijuana," said McMurtry. He then went on to present most of the arguments in favor of legalization.

He said it was time the federal government made a decision on the

issue. The LeDain commission on drugs made its report five years ago "and I understand there is a Senate committee recommending the same thing".

He said the courts were not treating possession of marijuana as a criminal offence, in that the sentence was an absolute discharge, in which case there was no record of the accused even having been in court, or a conditional discharge.

He explained this was something the judges had decided, not the politicians. "The judges are independent, that's part of our system, and it is a good thing they are."

But he felt respect for the law was being undermined by the present situation.

"We think of a criminal offence as a

serious thing, but these cases are going through the courts like a revolving door."

In the United States possession of marijuana was once treated as a very serious offence and many young people went to jail. Then the courts changed their attitude and in most states marijuana has been treated as a minor offence.

But in the meantime, "a whole generation of criminals was created".

Police officers says there is nothing wrong with marijuana but it leads to hard drugs.

"That is like saying don't neck because it leads to rape. It does in some people," said McMurtry.

On the question of how to control marijuana if it was legalized,

McMurtry was quoted earlier as saying it might be sold by the government as liquor is now.

After disclaiming the idea, he was asked by a riding executive member, why not?

"I don't pretend to have thought it through that far. I agree the criminal element is involved in the sale now," said McMurtry.

Most of the criminal empires in the U.S. were founded on bootlegging business. That's why the federal government has to make up its mind whether it is legal or illegal, said McMurtry.

"If the federal government does not think it is a criminal offence, they should have the guts to tell the Canadian people."

The federal government has sole authority over the Criminal Code. McMurtry, the province's chief law officer, said after the meeting he had not made any direct representation to the federal government requesting a decision on marijuana.

But judging from the uproar resulting from the chance comment made in answer to some students' questions in Belleville the previous day, "maybe that is what we should do".

The night before in Belleville McMurtry made a speech on confederation which he had worked on all weekend. George Hees, MP and former cabinet minister, had told him it was the best one he had ever heard on the subject.

"There was not one word on it in the paper. That's politics," said McMurtry, who also told the audience he was still learning about the game.

## Spring Fair May 13-15

RICHMOND HILL — Plans for the 128th Richmond Hill Spring Fair are well under way as officials plan to hold the first seniors' Fair King and Queen contest.

Scheduled for May 13-15 at the Richmond Hill fairgrounds, this year's events will include the Fair Queen contest, needlecraft, domestic science and school competition.

Regular events will include the hunter and jumper show, quarter horse show, Welsh pony and junior riding and showmanship events.

However, due to the small number of competitors, the Arabian horse and Western Riding shows will not be held this year, says Hilda Baxter, fair board secretary-treasurer.

## On for sure

The York County Jersey Show, horse drawing competition, sheep show and the heavy horse show will be on the agenda.

But still "not for sure", Mrs. Baxter said, is the sheep shearing competition. Shorty Bowen, co-ordinator of the horse show pitching event, said this year there will be six classes for men and women with \$65 top prizes in each adult class.

Entries in the competition are not finalized yet. Ontario ladies champion, Mary Archer of Scarborough is expected among the list of competitors, Bowen said.

Entertainment co-ordinator, Stella Lexx said that although the weekend's entertainment program is not yet finalized, plans are nearing completion.



## Manse will be moving

The 140-year-old Presbyterian manse will be sent to Pioneer Village. The building, in need of major repairs, is in danger of being torn down, unless funds

can be found to move it to the village. \$12,000 is needed. Town council last week donated \$100.

# Manse to Pioneer Village

RICHMOND HILL — The Richmond Hill Presbyterian manse will be sent to the happy hunting ground for historic buildings — Black Creek Pioneer Village, council decided last week.

The 140-year-old plank-on-plank constructed building will be donated to the Metro Conservation Authority for restoration.

Rev. William Wallace, Presbyterian church minister said the building was no longer suitable for congregation purposes and was in danger of being torn down.

"After the ceiling fell in upstairs and the roof started leaking, the

congregation had to do something," Rev. Wallace said.

Until 1970, the building was used as a residence for a janitor.

"We were the last congregation in Ontario to have a resident janitor," Rev. Wallace said.

The manse, north of Major Mackenzie Drive, has caught the attention of the local architectural advisory committee.

It's chairman, David Fayle, urged council to endorse moving the building to Pioneer Village.

The cost of the move is estimated at \$5,000. "That of course is just the start," said Rev. Wallace, who

estimated restoration costs could be around \$12,000.

Rev. Wallace said the Richmond Hill Presbyterian Church was "part of a three-point charge 100 years ago with Aurora and Thornhill".

He said that attempts will be made to gain financial support from the other congregations to help move the building.

Russell Cooper of Black Creek Pioneer Village said recently the Village is interested in acquiring the manse, but hasn't the money in its budget to move it at the present time.

Council decided to contribute \$100 to the moving expenses.



## \$2 million project

The Tri-Bell Club, a 275 member social and recreational club, is moving from its Steeles Avenue location to a new home in

Richmond Hill. Plans for the \$2 million project are nearing completion.

# Recreation club moving to Hill

By Larry Johnston

RICHMOND HILL — Construction on new facilities for the Tri-Bell Club, a social and recreational club now based in North York, is expected to begin in May.

Detailed plans for the \$2 million building to be located on Bathurst Street between Highway 7 and Birch Avenue, are being completed.

The \$2 million building will include four indoor tennis courts, two squash courts, two racquet ball courts, a health club and dining facilities.

Outside, there will be 12 more tennis courts, a swimming pool and a smaller pool for children, said architect Irving Boigon.

The family membership club has grown from modest beginnings over 50 years ago.

It was located on the south side of Steeles Avenue between Dufferin and Bathurst for the past 18. Executive director Tom Case said it now has about 275 members.

The club's Richmond Hill property consists of 36 acres on both sides of the North Don River. Eighteen acres of ravine land will be given to the town.

The club buildings will be on the 12 acre portion on the Bathurst Street side.

There are no plans for the remaining six acres of table land on the east side of the river behind Westwood Lane and Maryvale Crescent.

The entire property is in the Parkway Belt.

Tri-Bell was successful in having belt regulations loosened for its property to allow the proposed use.