

# Markham Road remains ...for a while at least

Markham Road won an 11th hour stay of execution last week.

In a hearing to decide on proposed new names throughout the Region of York, Judge Ben Grosberg dismissed the Region's proposals because the land

registrar was not notified two weeks in advance of the hearing.

York Region solicitor Ted Oakes told Regional Council Thursday he had made the procedural error. The Region was proposing to change

Markham Road to Major Mackenzie Drive East, a change the Town of Richmond Hill didn't like.

The town sent Clerk Dave Weldon to the hearing last Tuesday, armed with a resolution to call Markham Road

'Mackenzie Drive East' and drop the word 'Major'.

His, and three other objections were never heard, as the county court judge, after discovering the regional error, refused to continue the hearing.

Solicitor Oakes said Thursday he will await the judge's written decision before seeing what action, if any, he will take regarding the proposed name changes.

The matter, he said, had been overlooked in his department's concern to see that all the other requirements were looked after.

These included advertisements in every newspaper in the Region on specific dates, plus notices in two Toronto papers and the Ontario Gazette.

The advertising bill alone cost more

than \$6,000.

Whether the Region will be required to repeat the advertising remains to be seen.

Oakes said he had asked the judge for an adjournment, in order that he may advise the registrar, but Judge Grosberg had told him the matter would have to be dealt with later.

The regional solicitor said he would check the written decision to see if it were based on legal grounds.

He could then ask the divisional court to see if it were in accordance with the law.

**Richmond Hill Edition**

## The Liberal

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

Established 1878

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### Stop work order posted when cheque "bounces"

Work on a \$3,395,000 eight-storey building in Richmond Hill was held up Friday afternoon by a town stop-work order.

The order was posted when the \$14,000 improvement fee cheque from owner 359203 Ontario Limited "bounced", according to town Building Administrator Ken Naylor.

A representative of the contractor Kossar Properties Ltd. of Hamilton immediately called from Ottawa and promised a certified cheque would be delivered to the town on Monday morning.

The cheque arrived as promised, the stop-work order was lifted and work on preparing the foundation footings resumed.

Little time was lost since only a few truckers, excavating machine operators and a job superintendent were on the site Friday, Naylor said.

The trouble with the fee payment apparently was due to delay in financial arrangements between the new owner and the former owner Captain Developments as to payment of the \$14,000, Naylor said.

The building on Yonge Street at Crosby Avenue will have 92 apartments and stores.

### Walkers to try again

Third time lucky... maybe? A planned walkathon and bikeathon, originally scheduled to happen a month ago will try again this Saturday.

It will be the third attempt to outsmart the weatherman, who for the last four weeks has been showing the worst possible side of his personality.

Assuming everything works out Saturday, the event will begin at 9 a.m. from St. Mary's Anglican Church.

The 16-kilometre route has been laid out for the walkers. Those on bikes will complete the course twice.

For further information, call Win Gray at 884-3878.

### Residents want sewers

About 60 ratepayers from the Elgin Mills Road, Regent and Oxford Streets area petitioned Richmond Hill town council for sewers Monday night.

"The time is appropriate for you to install these services. The area has been semi-developed for over 60 years. It is adjacent to existing serviced areas," said Ray Crowther of 71 Oxford Street.

Crowther was spokesman for a delegation of 20 citizens who turned out to the council meeting in support of the petition.

Mayor David Schiller promised the request would go to town staff. A report on carrying out the people's wishes would be prepared.

Councillor Marylo Graham, planning committee chairman, told the petitioners the Official Plan being prepared for the town will indicate which areas should be developed more intensely first.

Regional Councillor Lois Hancey said the area drains into the Pugsley Street sewage treatment plant which the provincial authorities already consider to be overloaded.

### Langstaff spared from belt

Langstaff will almost certainly be spared from the Parkway Belt.

Provincial Treasurer Darcy McKeough released his recommendations on the 55,000 acre belt from Hamilton to Markham last week.

Langstaff with its 223 residents and more than 100 small businesses would have been all but wiped out by the transportation, utility and open space corridor.

The provincial treasurer took almost the same position as the parkway belt hearing officers who listened to objections to the belt hearing officers who listened to objections to the belt for weeks at the Thornhill Community Centre last year.

"We won 95 per cent said Ross Hitch, lawyer for the Langstaff Community Association.

McKeough is recommending that two corners of Langstaff, at the intersections of Yonge and Bayview and Highway 7 be retained in the belt to provide for interchanges with the future highway 407.

Hitch expects the provincial cabinet to adopt McKeough's recommendation early in the new year.



### Shrine dedication

## Diamond Jubilee celebrated at St. Mary Immaculate

By RON WALLACE  
Liberal Editor

Diamond Jubilees are not weekend events.

And when they happen, people like to acknowledge them.

But Thursday night at St. Mary Immaculate Church on Yonge Street, in Richmond Hill, one "Diamond Jubilee" was acknowledged with all the pomp that could be mustered by the few priests, sisters and staff at the church.

The occasion was the 60th anniversary of the Blessed Virgin Mary's appearance to three poor children in the parish of Fatima, Portugal, October 13, 1917.

St. Mary Pastor Rev. C. J. Schwalm, still recovering from a recent ailment, covered all the bases in readying his church for the event.

And... he almost didn't make it.

Late Thursday afternoon, workers were still frantically attempting to construct an altar, which would be the scene of Thursday night's Mass.

But by the supper hour, things began

to fall into shape and Father Schwalm began greeting his guests... a list that read like the Who's Who of the Roman Catholic Church.

There was The Most Reverend Philip Francis Pocock, Archbishop of Toronto; The Most Reverend Nicholas T. Elko, Archbishop of Cincinnati; The Most Reverend Isidore Borecky, Eparch of Toronto; The Most Reverend Michael Rusnak, Auxiliary Bishop of the Eparchy of Toronto.

They and several others, sat down to dinner, before participating in the 8 p.m. Mass which was highlighted by the dedication of a huge, bronze shrine.

The shrine of "Our Lady of Fatima" stands some 13 feet high and weighs about 2,800 pounds. It was cast in Italy and arrived in Richmond Hill about a month ago.

The shrine has been compared in scale and complexity with the various bronze reliefs in St. Peter's by Manzer Greco and Fazzini.

Sculptor Bill McElcheran was on hand Thursday for the ceremonies.

Also taking part in the event were children from the area's four Separate Schools.

From St. Mary Immaculate School were Bernadette De Jaspertis, Christina Derritsee, and Joanne Mulcahy.

Luciano Roman, Corine Callaghan and Lori Bordignon represented St. Charles Garnier School.

Our Lady of the Annunciation School sent Gemma Duley, Grant O'Meara, Jackie Bowen, Michael Russo, Sandra Flood, and Susan Verbakel as representatives.

Eight students represented St. Robert's High School.

They included Celine Cowan, Deborah McLean, Cathy McLean, Rick Murphy, Francine Beck, Elizabeth Chittenden, Susan Madden and Lydia Foch.

About 200 people were in attendance for the Mass.

### Near Maple

## 320-acre amusement park okayed by York

They haven't been cleared at customs yet, but it looks as if Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck, or their counterparts, will soon be in our midst.

Despite the efforts of Councillors Margaret Britnell of King, and Dave Schiller of Richmond Hill, York Regional Council last week approved a report of its planning committee, which would see the Town of Vaughan's proposed Theme Park become part of its official plan, with all its attendant classifications.

The American-owned park, modelled along the lines of Disneyland, will take up 320 acres in Vaughan, and is to be located west of Jane St., east of Highway 400, north and south of Major Mackenzie Dr.

It will feature a regular midway and game preserve, plus various transient residential accommodation, such as motels and trailer parks, as well as a gasoline service station.

Mayor Schiller told council that he knew it wasn't "nice to speak against Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck," but he felt that Maple was going to have "a bad time, with a garbage pit (Maple dump) on one side and the Theme Park on the other."

While the park would increase employment, it would be Canadian money spent on an American firm; the money wouldn't stay in Canada, he said.

Schiller said he felt it would also hurt such attractions as Ontario Place and Black Creek Pioneer Village, as well as use up valuable farm land.

"Five to 10 years from now, you will look back and see that the decision is a wrong one," Schiller said.

"The people of Maple should have a major say as to whether it should proceed."

Agreeing with Schiller was Mayor Britnell, who was concerned that the

people "have to resort" to what she termed a "plastic, picky, pecky environment" for recreation.

Mrs. Britnell was also concerned with the extra traffic, which she said would have "a significant spill-over effect on Jane and Keele Sts."

Speaking in favor of the park, Councillor Ron Moran of Markham, the matter had been placed before the electorate and "discussed and discussed."

He had been to Disneyland and found it "a great place."

So far as the agricultural land in question, there always had to be some go for development.

"Theme Park is better than high rises," he said.

Councillor Eric Larsen of Georgina, said it was wrong to say that 320 acres of land were taken out of production.

There were 23 acres that weren't producing, 20 acres were low lying, and nine with their top soil removed, he said.

The project would bring in \$3 million in revenue, 2,000 summer jobs and 250 permanent jobs, he said.

Newmarket's Ray Twinney, said he was "very happy to see something of this magnitude come to York."

Councillor Dave Fraser of Vaughan, said that the people at Pioneer Village had told him they felt the park would bring them more visitors.

The person who sold the land for the project, received \$10,000 an acre, which had been re-invested in the region.

The park would be a "major attraction," he said.

Having the last word, however, was Mayor Britnell.

It would be a major attraction, all right, she said "with major traffic jams."

### She needs operation

Jennifer Woods, the tiny Thornhill baby whose life was saved two weeks ago by an apartment superintendent, is going to have an operation this week.

Doctors at the Hospital for Sick Children last week discovered Jennifer has an unusual condition in

which a heart artery is blocking almost three-quarters of her breathing.

About four such cases a year are discovered at the Hospital, Mrs. Heather Woods said.

Jennifer will be in hospital for two to four weeks. She is expected to be perfectly fine after surgery.

### Daughter wins race against the clock

For York Regional Police detective Dick Witeman, this sort of thing has to stop.

Two years ago, right in the middle of the Grey Cup game, Dick's wife Lynn had to be rushed to hospital to have a baby.

She made it.

Saturday, right in the middle of a World Series ball game, Lynn again had to be rushed to hospital.

This time, she didn't make it.

And, it was up to hubby Richard to provide the necessary assistance as Lynn gave birth to a daughter in the car on the King Sideroad.

The couple attempted to make it to York Central Hospital in Richmond Hill, and Dick was confident.

"We'll be there in 10 minutes," he assured Lynn.

Lynn couldn't wait.

"Stop the car... right now," she instructed.

Daughter Rebecca Lynn and mother are doing fine in York Central.

Dad took a week off to recover, and he simply wasn't available for comment.

Dick is a detective working out of 28 Division in Richmond Hill.



Lynn and Rebecca "doing fine"