



Trophy winner

With a bark obviously worse than its bite, this ferocious looking creature made up a small part of a very impressive El Shamaly Shrine Club float. The Richmond Hill club entry was selected the winner of the best non-commercial float, and won The Liberal Trophy for its efforts.



Heading downtown

Looking east on Markham Road, Richmond Hill's Santa Claus parade, led by York Regional talking police car Sparky, heads to the downtown area. Crowds, estimated at 7,500, lined the streets to welcome Santa Claus to Richmond Hill. More parade photos, See Page C-2.

Richmond Hill Edition

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Outstanding people honored by community

At the 14th annual Awards Night, sponsored by the Town of Richmond Hill, members of the Sayers family did very well, thank you.

Harry Sayers, who has been serving the community for numerous years, was honored by the town, after he was invested by the Governor General of Canada, as a Serving Brother in the Order of St. John.

His list of achievements date back to 1952 when he served on the Richmond Hill Library Board.

But Harry's mother, Grace, was also honored by the Town Friday, and her list of achievements is as long as her son's.

In July of 1924, Grace Sayers, with her husband, the late William Sayers, came to Richmond Hill, and she has been here ever since.

A charter member of the Richmond Hill Senior Citizens, Grace Sayers has served in many executive capacities and until recently was responsible for keeping in touch with the sick and confined.

The two Sayers' awards were only part of a long list of presentations made to outstanding Richmond Hill citizens Friday at the Summit Golf and Country Club.

The Good Brothers of Richmond Hill, Bruce, Brian and Larry, were honored,

but they were performing at Massey Hall, which indicates the calibre of talent in the community.

Six representatives of the sports community received honors, with the most popular being Raymond Jackson, the blind Oak Ridges teenager who excelled in competition this year.

At the Canada Games for the Disabled, he was the 200 metre breaststroke champion, while at the Ontario Games for the Disabled, he won the 50 metre breaststroke championship and the 5,000 metre walk championship.

Also honored were Anne Frickleton, ladies' field hockey; Liz Peterson, provincial trampoline champion; Mike Bell, junior boxing champion; Steve Cox, tennis title; and George Leary, trap shooting champion.

Other citations went to Marilyn Payne, Richmond Hill Spring Fair Queen; and Sue Whalen, Richmond Hill Winter Carnival Queen.

Volunteer recognition went to Jack Douglas Follows (Cancer Society); Elizabeth Armstrong (Red Cross); and Father F. Robinson (Richmond Hill Ministerial Association).



Winner

Harry Sayers, a popular Richmond Hill resident, wasn't the only one in his family to win a citation at the Town's Awards Night Friday. His mother, Grace, was also a winner. Event was held at the Summit Golf and Country Club.

Health ministry's schedule is running 18 months behind

Improvements and renovations at Richmond Hill's York Central Hospital are now underway, although a Ministry of Health statement says they won't begin until after April 1, 1979.

Health Minister Dennis Timbrell said the ministry had given approval for the hospital to "renovate its building services and complete its obstetrics unit".

"The project will start after April 1, 1979, and cost more than \$900,000," the ministry statement said.

However, the hospital's executive director Jim Hepburn told The Liberal that work was presently underway.

At a cost of \$1,350,000, the hospital is relocating its obstetrical and delivery units, is carrying out mechanical, electrical and air circulation im-

provements and is building locker rooms for the female staff.

Obstetrics and delivery are being moved from the fifth floor of the Langstaff wing, back to the old section of the hospital.

For the existing work, the hospital expects to get \$900,000 in grants and loans from the ministry.

After April 1, 1979, Hepburn said, work will begin on relocating the maternity ward to the older section of the building.

At that time, work will commence on the intensive care unit, the in-patient psychiatric unit; a new medical-surgical ward for long-term patients; and a nuclear medical department.

All units will be located in the old building, Hepburn said.

Thornhill Lions may really move Manse with big donation

The Thornhill District Lions Club is considering a substantial donation to Richmond Hill's Save the Manse Fund.

The fund was set up to raise \$5,000 to move the original manse sitting beside the Presbyterian church on Yonge Street to Pioneer Village.

Just over \$1,000 has been raised, says Dr. David Fayle of the Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee, and the Thornhill Lions had agreed to pick up the balance.

But a senior member of the Lions Club said a final decision has not been made.

"We had one side of the story. We have since heard from the other side," said Bill Trow, who is also president of the Society to Preserve Historic Thornhill.

The question is to come up at an executive meeting of the club Monday night.

Napier Simpson Jr., Thornhill's resident heritage architect, told The Liberal when the fund was first launched that he would prefer to see the manse preserved in Richmond Hill and that it stood a better chance of being eligible for government funds for restoration on its original site.

If the Thornhill Lions do not take the fund to its target, Dr. Fayle hopes their interest will get Richmond Hill service clubs moving.

The manse was once occupied by the Presbyterian minister for Thornhill as well as Richmond Hill and there have been several individual donations from Thornhill as well as \$150 from Thornhill Presbyterian Church, said Dr. Fayle.

Here's a chance to meet Schiller

You may like him; you may not. You may wish to fry him or praise him. You might just want to talk to him.

Whatever your pleasure, the opportunity is yours Wednesday, November 30, when a "Meet The Mayor" night is planned.

And H. David Schiller will be there, waiting for you.

Sponsored by the Citizens Advisory Group, the evening will feature a brief talk by Mayor Schiller, followed by a question and answer period on an informal basis.

Beginning at 8 p.m., the event will be held in the Blue Flame Room at Consumers' Gas Company on Edwards Street, off Elgin Mills East.

Big parade draws big Hill crowd

Crowds estimated at between 5,000 and 7,500 lined the streets of Richmond Hill Sunday to watch what has been termed as one of the best parades ever held in the community.

The Richmond Hill Santa Claus Parade has found a home in this town's list of annual events.

Until Sunday, the parade was a sporadic event, happening with little regularity.

"There were problems," co-chairman Dave Barrow said, "but overall it was a real success."

The problems were too minor to ever worry about.

It was the looks on the children's faces which indicated the success of the venture.

And they were still delighted, despite the fact some of them had waited nearly an hour for Santa to arrive.

While thousands braved the nip in the air, numerous others parked cars along the side streets, in parking lots, and in car lots, to watch the mile-long parade.

The presentation of trophies to winners of float categories was lousied up a bit, and most of those presentations will be made tonight at a special meeting.

Winners were:

Best theme float: Richmond Hill Library - CFGM Radio trophy; Best Elementary School float: Crosby Heights - Dairy Queen trophy; Best Secondary School float: Richmond Hill Secondary School - North Star trophy; Best non-commercial float: El Shamaly Shriners' Club, Richmond Hill - The Liberal trophy; Best Majorette group: Richvale Lions Majorettes - Classicomm trophy; and the Mayor's trophy went to the Kinsmen soccer club float.

The parade impressed Richmond Hill Councillors, too.

At a council meeting Monday, Councillor John Birchall recommended a letter of congratulations go to the parade committee for the job it did.

Council unanimously agreed.

Maple Theme Park hearing concludes

Whether or not urbanization in Vaughan is to be allowed north to Major Mackenzie Drive seemed to be the main issue as a 320-acre theme park hearing ended Thursday in Maple.

The Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) two-member hearing panel reserved decision on the town's Family Leisure Centre project bylaw.

The OMB held the three-week hearing because of Maple and area citizen objections.

After all the evidence was in Wednesday morning, solicitors for the town and the developer argued their case Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning.

The lawyer for Maple's citizens then argued his case Thursday afternoon. Counsel supporting the project, having argued first, had an opportunity for rebuttal at the end.

Several other solicitors appeared at the hearing to argue certain aspects of, or special interests in, the situation.

The lawyer for a Milton area developer wanted a time limit put on any OMB approval for the Vaughan plan.

Mrs. J. E. Bradley said her client, York Hanover Developments Ltd., is interested in developing theme parks in Ontario.

She said the firm believes there is room only for one proposal at this time in Southern Ontario.

If the Vaughan plan gets approval, it will be to the benefit of the province, she said.

But if the Vaughan proposal is approved and just sits without action, other proposals would be held up. The company has a proposal for a smaller similar park at Milton.

Mrs. Bradley said her firm feels the economic out-fall or spin-off from the completed Maple proposal will make the Milton project possible and successful.

She said the firm favors the Vaughan project, but is concerned it may not be built by 1981 or even by 1983.

"It's a new thing for Ontario and involves a very large expenditure. The province is unlikely to approve another while this project is outstanding," she said.

Ontario needed such facilities to draw badly needed tourist dollars.

If the Vaughan plan stood still, her client or anyone else would be precluded from building. Thus the Vaughan situation was a unique case.

It was an Ontario first, approval of the project bylaw would create a kind of monopoly situation, Mrs. Bradley said.

Hearing Chairman Armour McCrae didn't encourage Mrs. Bradley's request.

"You're asking us to be industrial commissioners for Ontario... they'd take us out and hang us in effigy," said Chairman McCrae.

Mrs. Bradley replied the developer

should have five or six years to go through with the project.

That was enough to be fair, with some leeway. Not only Vaughan, but all of Southern Ontario, would be affected.

"I realize I'm asking the board to do something it doesn't usually do," concluded Mrs. Bradley.

"This matter isn't one we regard as that unique," said McCrae. "This board isn't going to get involved in the industrial growth aspect of the community."

"All you'd be doing would be making somebody move very fast in order to get under a wire."

"It would set a precedent. We would need a greater reason," McCrae said.

Lawyer Howard Ungerman, representing 50-acre Maple View Farms Ltd. on the north side of the project site, said his client opposed the park.

This was because of concern it would disturb a 200,000-birds-a-year poultry raising operation.

Arguments for both sides, See Page C-8.

Hill wants Bayview widened

Bayview Avenue, between Highway 7 and Markham Road, should be a four-lane road as soon as possible, Richmond Hill Council agrees.

Councillor Lois Hancey proposed the resolution Monday which suggested to the Region of York the widening of Bayview should take place "as a logical program in view of reconstruction of Bayview south in the Town of Markham".

Bayview is a four-lane road north to Highway 7, becomes two lane to Markham Road, then resumes as a four-lane road, north to Elgin Mills Road.

Councillor Hancey also included in her resolution that the York Region Engineering Commissioner had given assurance the widening would continue northward on Bayview.

A second part of the resolution called for the studies of Bayview realignment north of the Gormley Sideroad, around Lake Wilcox and north to the Bloomington Sideroad.

Both parts of the resolution were approved by council, although Mayor Dave Schiller opposed the latter.

He said studies of Bayview in the north should be made after the completion of Highway 404, because "I think there will be a great shift in traffic."