



Four-year-old Christopher Hill of Richmond Hill wasn't bothered by last week's blustery snowstorm. All he knows is he has to get his driveway shovelled. (Photo by Steve Pearlstein)

**Storm of 78**

**We were lucky**

Although it was touted as the worst storm to hit Ontario in ten years and responsible for nine deaths across the province, the southern portion of York Region was mercifully spared from weather-related tragedy Thursday.

According to the Oak Ridges detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police, the most they had to contend with were numerous minor

automobile collisions. However, winds reaching gusts of up to 120 kilometres (72 miles) an hour and blowing, blinding snow made it impossible for them to deal with every call they got.

By late afternoon, police were more concerned with closing major arteries than attending fender bender accidents.

Highways 47 and 48 were closed almost at the outset of the storm in the

early afternoon and Highway 7 became so impassable, because of the number of stalled vehicles and the white-out conditions, it might just as well have been shut down completely.

Mervyn Perkins, maintenance manager for the Richmond Hill Works Department, said snowplows were out on Thursday until 4:30 p.m. By then, the storm had

intensified to such a point they had to be pulled off the roads.

"The storm was not really as bad as everyone thought," said Mr. Perkins. "It was the winds that made things difficult. We got our boys out early the next morning and by 9 a.m. the roads were pretty well cleared in this area."

He also added that no extra sanding or salting of the roads had to be done. The trucks stopped sanding in the afternoon but were called to major intersection by York Regional Police to keep ice down to a minimum.

The only problem the Works Department faces now is where to put plowed snow from the next snowfall. Mr. Perkins says there have been so many thaws followed by snow that trucks are running out of space at the sides of roads.

Many of the slowdowns on Highway 7 were caused by motorists. Every 30 or 40 feet saw another car abandoned — some at the roadside but many right in the middle of the highway.

The blowing snow made it difficult to see the cars, especially without emergency flashers on. At times, it wasn't until you were no more than 20 feet from a car when you realized there was nobody inside.

**Vaughan's loan request receives cool reception**

Vaughan's \$2.5 million loan for Ontario Housing Action Program housing did not quite get the blessing of York Regional Council last week.

After huddling with the regional clerk and solicitor, Councillor David Fraser of Vaughan

apologized that not all the documentation was there. "I am not prepared to say whose fault it is but the most we can ask for is that the region allow the town an amount of \$2.5 million for a loan."

Council could not proceed with the approval

of two documents required by the minister of housing before the loan comes through.

The Ontario Municipal Board also has to authorize the amount, which is to be paid back through lot levies.

The loan is designed to lower the price of housing and amounts to about \$60 per year for five years.

Vaughan has two OHAP areas, Pine Valley and Thornhill.

Ironically, Fraser mentioned at another point in the meeting that four of the subdivision plans that have come in so far have been for lower densities than the Thornhill-Vaughan plan would allow.

**Over 65's set Valentine's meeting**

Stormy weather postponed the last regular meeting of the Richmond Hill Legion's "Over 65 Club" from January 10 to 17.

The group meets at 2 p.m. in the Legion Hall

Many members were absent because of illness. If any members hear of anyone confined to their homes because of illness, they are asked to call sick convener Elsie Burnie at 884-3147.

Arrangements are now being made for the raffling of a needlepoint purse.

February 14 has been set as the date for the next meeting.

From now on, if the

**Planned Maple landfill site may be too big for approval**

*Burning chute fills building with smoke*

About one eighth of York Region's sewage capacity for industrial development could be used up for the proposed Maple landfill site.

Gravel pit operators want to convert nearly 1,000 acres of the Maple pits into sanitary landfill sites, but it is unlikely that the ministry of the environment will approve that large an operation.

If the project is approved, the ministry will almost certainly require a connection between the landfill sites and the Maple branch of the

York-Durham sewer to pick up the leachate or contaminated drainage from the landfill sites, according to a regional engineering report.

The region has only been allotted a total of 8,400 acres of industrial acreage to be served by the York-Durham sewer, to be split among five municipalities.

Last week, Mayor Tony Roman of Markham had the region's decision on sizing the Maple trunk sewer delayed until after the industrial allotment

for the whole region is considered.

The engineering committee proposed a sewer large enough to serve a population of 10,500 people in Maple and an industrial capacity of 530 acres including 240 acres for the Maple theme park.

Regional commissioner Herschel Weinberg said that with the 530 acres in the Maple area, almost all of York's allotment has been used up.

The Town of Vaughan

had requested that the sewer be built as far as the Langstaff Road this year to serve new industrial subdivisions there.

Councillor David Fraser from Vaughan suggested that the gallowage from the pits not be counted as part of the quota, something the province would have to agree to.

The region also wants to set the conditions under which the landfill site gallowage will be accepted.

A burning garbage chute caused smoke to fill corridors on three floors in a Richmond Hill apartment building, Monday night.

Richmond Hill fire fighters were called to the building at 278 Cedar Avenue and soon had the smoke cleared.

Damage was confined to the hallways, and costs will be mainly for cleaning.

**Region refers guideline**

The region's new rural population guideline is based on approving "virtually every subdivision that has been submitted".

Richmond Hill Mayor David Schiller said Thursday.

Most municipalities have criteria for accepting estate residential subdivisions such as an interesting topography, unsuitable for farming, well water and the right kind of soil for septic tanks.

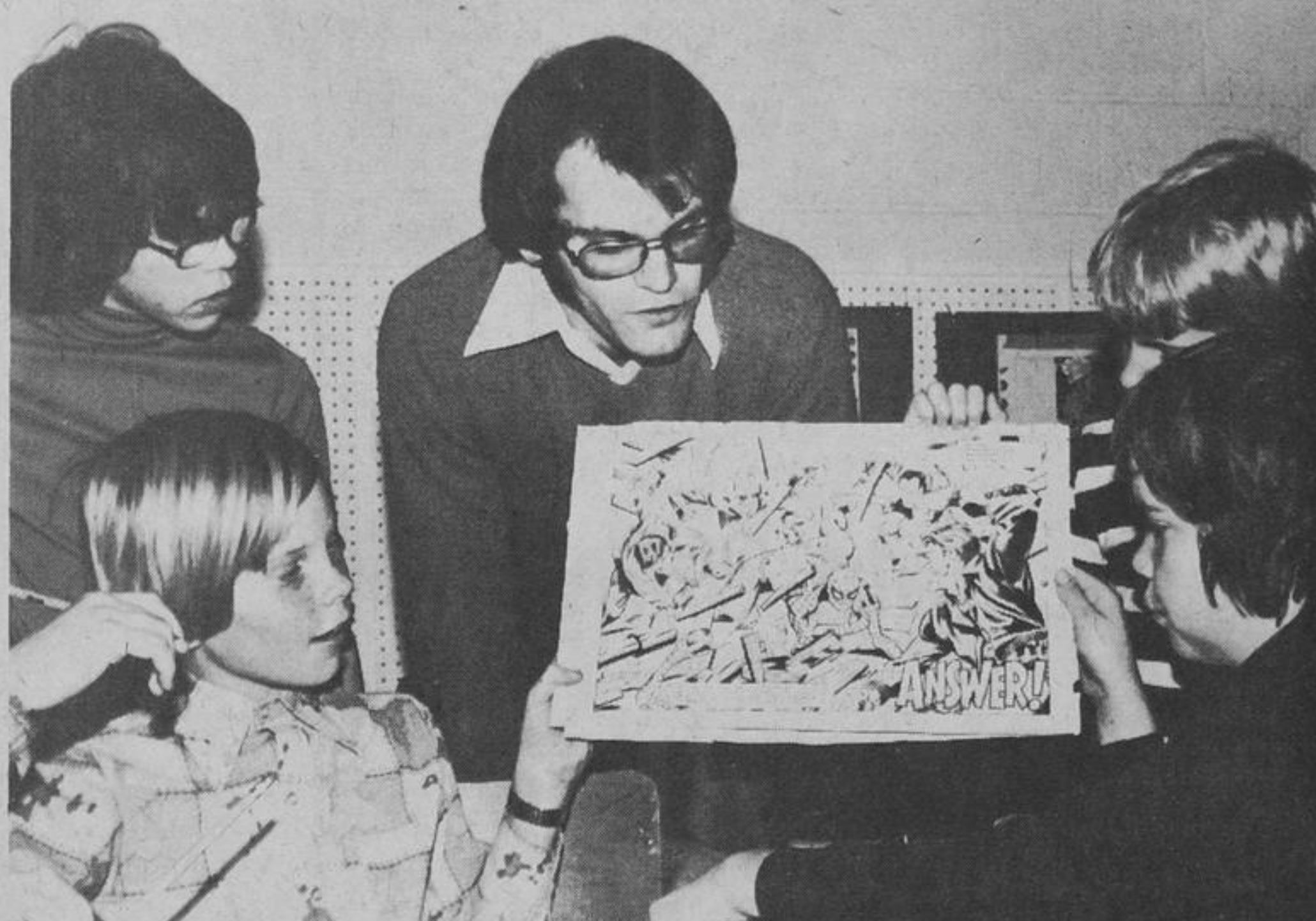
After giving approval in principle, regional council voted to refer the plan for the population goal of 117,000 by the year 2,001 to area municipalities for comment.

Mayor Schiller said he had no major problem with the plan, but noted it used constant birth, death and immigration rates.

The population would be evenly split between "rural centres" from Kleinburg to Sutton and rural areas.

Most of the rural area is in northern municipalities, but Vaughan would have a projected rural population of 7,000 with all but a 99-lot subdivision in the Kleinburg area.

Councillor David Fraser of Vaughan said later that the question in Kleinburg was how big the rural centre should be. The town does not want development in the Humber River Valley north of the village in the area designated as part of the rural centre.



Artist Jim Craig gives tips on comic art to youngsters at the Richmond Hill Public Library. As a Marvel Comics artist, he often draws such favorites as "Spider Man" as part of his job. Jim was invited to participate in Jeff Wakefield's one month cartoon workshop held every Thursday at the library. Jeff, who has run several of these workshops, feels he had one of his most talented groups so far. (Liberal) Photo by Sheila Roberts)

**Spraggett visit is postponed**

Allan Spraggett of "The Unexplained" is in hospital.

Richmond Hill-Thornhill Family Services regrets any inconvenience caused by the cancellation of his planned visit last night to

Bayview Secondary School. A later date for his visit will be announced. Ticket holders should contact Wendy Sinclair at 884-9559 or Betty Wallbanks at 881-0573 for further information.

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**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF RICHMOND HILL**

**NOTICE OF ROAD CLOSING**

TAKE NOTICE THAT the Council of the Town of Richmond Hill proposes to consider the passing of a by-law to sell part of a public highway known as ELMWOOD AVENUE between CEDAR AVENUE and the CANADIAN NATIONAL RIGHT-OF-WAY as shown on Registered Plan 2383.

The portion of the highway affected is shown as Parts 3, and 4 on Reference Plan 64R-6415 and a copy of the plan and the draft by-law are available for inspection at the Office of the Town Clerk, 10266 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill, Ontario.

The Council will consider the proposed by-law at its meeting on the 6th day of February, 1978, and at that time will hear any person or the solicitor or agent of any person who advises the Clerk in writing prior to the 6th day of February, 1978, that he would like to appear.

Dated at the Town of Richmond Hill this 30th day of December, 1977.

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF RICHMOND HILL  
 C. D. Weldon, Clerk.

Date of first publication January 11th, 1978  
 Date of second publication January 18th, 1978  
 Date of third publication January 25th, 1978  
 Date of fourth publication February 1st, 1978

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**THE TOWN OF VAUGHAN**

**1978 ELDERLY HOMEOWNERS' TAX ASSISTANCE PROGRAMME**

To provide financial assistance to elderly homeowners. The Town of Vaughan Council has authorized the Treasurer to allow certain owners of residential property a credit of \$100.00 against the 1978 taxes imposed on such real property subject to the following qualifications:

**TO QUALIFY, THE OWNER OR SPOUSE OF THE OWNER MUST:**

- Be 65 years of age or more by February 28, 1978 which is the last day for filing applications.
- Be in receipt of the monthly GUARANTEED INCOME SUPPLEMENT provided under the Old Age Security Act (Canada).
- Occupy the property on which the municipal taxes are imposed and:
- Have been continuously assessed as the owner of such residential real property in the Town of Vaughan for not less than 5 years immediately preceding February 28, 1978.

If you qualify for this assistance and have not received an application form TELEPHONE S.T. Jones AT THE TOWN OFFICE, 832-2281, and an application form will be mailed to you.

Application must be made each year for this assistance. This credit, which kind, will be an outright grant made by the Town and will not entail repayment of any kind.

For further information or assistance, telephone S.T. Jones, Deputy-Treasurer.

H.C. BURKHOLDER  
 TREASURER.

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