



This fire act is one month away. Disco dancers Chris and Learie McNicolls pose with lovely Suzie Gower who will perform the first fire dance in Richmond Hill.

This dancer plans to heat things up at disco evening

By SHAARON HAY
Liberal Staff Writer

As if it hasn't been hot enough this summer, a Richmond Hill resident is getting ready to dance on fire.

Suzie Gower, 28, is practising an exotic calypso dance she will perform August 25 at Summit View Gardens on Yonge Street, north of 19th Avenue.

The dance will be done on a tray of fire with the dancer carrying two flaming torches that she will pass over her body.

At one point in the act, Suzie will attempt to swallow the flame.

Suzie Gower, and her husband Rick, are part owners of Summit View Gardens, with Lois and Carl Harris. Because of her experience in the field — she sang and danced with The Platters in Miami, New York, and Jamaica — she said she is in charge of entertainment.

The fire dance will be part of a disco dance act. Suzie will perform with Learie and Chris McNicolls, an acrobatic dancing group also from Richmond Hill.

Learie and Chris call themselves "Mainforce" and performed at Summit View Gardens in April. Suzie said when she saw the boys dance, they were so good she felt she would

like to get a good show together with them. "I love dancing," she said.

There will be two shows August 25.

The first will begin at 10:30 p.m. and will be the three dancers doing a strictly disco and calypso routine.

The second act will include the fire dance that Suzie said "has always been my act".

She said she used to watch two friends in Miami do the act until she got the nerve to try it herself. Then it just took practice.

During the act Suzie will go to members of the audience and ask them to light their cigarettes from her torch to prove it is real flame.

Carl Harris checked with the fire department and got their approval as there is "no danger," the dancer said.

But, they will keep the fire extinguishers close to the floor "just in case".

About the dance, Suzie's partner 19-year-old Learie McNicolls said, "It's exciting, I've never taken part in a fire act before."

His brother Chris said, "The crowds haven't seen anything like this before."

To those who attend the regular Friday disco sessions at the restaurant, Suzie is the beautiful lady who usually sits behind the cash register.

Yonge's newest high rise ready September 1

Availability of rental accommodation in Richmond Hill is looking up.

It is expected that 92 rental units will be available for occupancy, right in the centre of town, September 1.

"Barring an act of God, an earthquake, flood or strike," said Jerry Greenberg of Ascot Real Estate, agents for the high rise

building located on the west side of Yonge Street, midway between Benson Avenue and Wright Street.

The building has eight floors of one, two and three bedroom rental suites and Mr. Greenberg said they have received a big response and already many of the units are rented.

The main floor commercial

space has not been leased as yet and the agent expressed a desire not to have retail stores.

"We are hopeful to have professional occupancy," he said.

Each unit has the normal amenities, said Mr. Greenberg, including broadloom and frost free refrigerators but it is the location that is the unique selling

point. "Right on Yonge Street — steps to everything," he said.

BAIF has proposed 287 units at Baif Boulevard and Yonge Street in the Hillcrest Mall area.

Clarence Cheung, planner for the town, said BAIF have now entered into a site plan agreement, which means, if approved, they can get a permit

to begin construction at any time.

Mr. Cheung said the planning department has not heard when they will be ready to proceed, but he said "it will probably be available some time next year".

These three buildings will help meet the demand for rental accommodation, said Mr. Cheung.

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"Stupid idea" - Cumming

Timpson wants York to assume Children's Aid Society control

Aurora Mayor George Timpson last week called for the takeover of the county children's aid society by the Region of York.

But regional councillors who also serve as directors of the children's aid staunchly defended the principle of an independent board, made up, as Richmond Hill Mayor David Schiller said, of "near volunteers".

The board of the York County Children's Aid Society has been under fire since it received the resignation of its former executive director, Donald Van Camp, in return for \$50,000 in severance pay.

The society normally receives 80 per cent of its funds from the province and then 20 per cent from the Region of York.

But the provincial ministry of community and social services was not consulted in advance about the amount of the severance agreement and is balking at payment. The question of payment is now before the provincial cabinet.

Regional council has not yet been faced with the decision on its share.

The board borrowed the money to pay Mr. Van Camp.

Rev. Alf McAlister, the former pastor of Thornhill United Church who was board chairman at the time, and an employee of the society signed a promissory note.

Mayor Schiller had opposed the payment, warning board members that they could be held personally liable if a source for the funds could not be found.

But at last Thursday's health and social services committee

meeting, Mayor Schiller said he was not sure that making the board a function of the social services committee was the solution to the problem.

Under new legislation, the health and social services committee has just absorbed the board of health of the Region of York. More legislation would be required to dissolve the present board of the children's aid.

Social services director Allan Wells said such a move had been recommended in the review of regional government in Ottawa-Carleton and regional chairman Garfield Wright said there had been "many such requests".

The regional clerk, Bob Vernon, said there had been trouble with the society "in the old county days".

But Whitechurch-Stouffville Mayor Gordon Ratcliff said there was a "terrific amount of volunteer work" being done by board members.

Councillor Ron Moran said he could not even get to the board's committee meetings. "It is a complex organization with a lot of problems".

Mayor Schiller said the role the near volunteers play "is pretty important".

Peter Cumming, a member of the board of the children's aid society from Thornhill, said the takeover was a "stupid idea".

In principle, a community based agency would be more responsive rather than throwing everything into a regional government.

Mayor Timpson's comment "sounded as if it was made in the context of a cheap shot, the kind

lesser politicians make," said Mr. Cumming.

Markham pharmacist Bill Crothers, another member of the board, called Mayor Timpson's comments naive.

He thought the government would come up with the money. "Who else is going to pay?"

But first the government wants to develop a policy covering the situation. "Governments don't like to deal with requests on an individual basis so that an individual has to be responsible for the decision, (on whether funds are released or not)."

He thought that was the level at

which the cabinet was involved. Once the policy was set, the severance pay issue would be dealt with quietly, he believes.

The society's board has 19 members, 15 of which are elected by its members and four of which are appointed by regional council.

Richmond Hill's train station may be shunted down the line

Meetings are underway to find a new home for the old Richmond Hill train station on Station Street north of Centre Street.

Canadian National Railroad has erected a small shelter to serve the limited number of passengers travelling their Northland train to North Bay, Cochrane and Kapuskasing.

Robert Doty, regional manager of governmental and community relations for CN, said the present station building requires extensive repairs and from an economic point of view CN felt it was best to "remove that which is in disrepair and replace with something more appropriate".

David Fayle, chairman of the Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee said he felt the building was "in pretty good shape" and would like to see it retained as a typical example of a rail station built in that time — about 1905.

Dr. Fayle and Mayor Dave Schiller met with representatives of the Toronto Area Transit Operating Authority to suggest the old station be moved to the south end of the property owned by TATO at Markham and Newkirk Roads.

Mayor Schiller said, if possible, the town would like the historic rail station used for some related purpose.

At the meeting TATO representatives outlined future plans — sometime in the next five to ten years, depending on demand — to expand their platform facilities south of Markham Road.

Both Mayor Schiller and Dr. Fayle felt the old station could fit into these long range plans well and could be used as a rest spot or place to serve coffee to commuters.

Jack Clark, Methods and Procedures Officer for TATO said, "We're actively looking into the possibility of honoring the request of the municipality, however, it would be premature to say our thoughts were formed in any direction."

Dr. Fayle said he felt TATO was not adverse to the idea but it would probably be a question of cost; the cost of moving the old station as well as renovating the building.

He mentioned the possibility that TATO and the town would

Black Hawk exotic dancer is charged

York Regional Police officers seem to be spending more time watching the entertainment at local inns.

Last Wednesday they took in the exotic dancers at the Black Hawk Motor Inn in Richmond Hill. They deemed the show to be immoral and two people have been charged.

Ana Paula Campbell, 20, of Oriole Road in Toronto has been charged with an immoral theatrical performance, and Giuseppe Zito, 27, of Martin Grove Road in Woodbridge, who is the manager of the Black Hawk Motor Inn, has been charged with permitting an immoral theatrical performance.

About a month ago, police made several similar arrests at The Richmond Inn.

each pay a part, or there might be a possibility it could be done through an Ontario Heritage grant.

"But," said Dr. Fayle, "we did not pursue the financial aspect at this time."

Mr. Doty said the rail company would like to have the building out of the way as soon as possible, because it intrudes into the area

and does not allow much access to the new structure.

"We would expect the town to move it before the bad weather," said Mr. Doty, but he did not put a firm deadline on the municipality.

Dr. Fayle said he had approached a house moving company to get an estimate of costs involved.

Richmond Hill cadets all over the country

Members of the 778 Squadron, Royal Canadian Air Cadets, Richmond Hill, would be hard pressed to find a quorum these days.

Many of them have been deployed to all parts of the country.

Commanding Officer Frank Barrott told The Liberal Monday that 23 cadets are studying in various courses throughout Canada.

Farthest away is Sgt. Sandee Simpson, 16, of Axminster Drive, who is taking a rifle-coach course in Patricia Bay, British Columbia.

The course will teach her how to be a rifle instructor, and she'll spend another month in the western community.

Master Warrant Officer Glen Wood, 16, of Oak Ridges, is taking a senior leaders course at Canadian Forces Base, Cold Lake, Alberta.

He will also be there another month.

Sgts. Glen and Greg Hardy, brothers from Axminster Drive, Richmond Hill, are involved in air studies for three weeks at Trenton.

Cpl. Mark Morrison, Oak Avenue, Richvale, is on a six-week gliding scholarship at Mountainview, near Trenton, and Doug Wood of Toronto, who is a member of 778, is taking a survival course at Trenton for three weeks.

Sixteen cadets are in Trenton for basic summer camp, a two-week event.

They include John Turner, Brian Stacey, Ian Matheson, John O'Brien, William Harris, A. Paulowsky, William Mitchell, J. Leach, Janet Kirby, S. Muus, U. Moritsugu, William Gardner, R. Fleming, Frank DiCandia, Benny Muus, and Brian DaSilva.

Cpl. J. Inks is on a three-week Junior leaders course at Trenton.

Other cadets, Mr. Barrott said, will be attending similar courses throughout the summer months.

They're going monster hunting

By MILLIE STEWART

Thornhill's Mike McQueen and Jim Wilkinson are going monster hunting Saturday.

They're serious. Mike and Jim believe they will find, lurking in the deepest part of Lake Simcoe, the almost-famous Kempenfelt Kelly.

The pair will be accompanied by Carolyn Humphreys and Darshna Tanna, both of Willowdale, and Bob Frost of Toronto.

They plan to set out this weekend to unearth (unwater?) Lake Simcoe's answer to the Loch-Ness Monster.

Kempenfelt Kelly has never really been seen, although some pretty suspicious things have been happening in Lake Simcoe.

Like a wave, three feet high and 40 feet long, erupting on a calm day, with no boats in the area. Mighty suspicious.

Carolyn Humphreys wants to have a chat with it.

"I would talk to it," she said. "I want to say hello and find out if it's lonely."

Kelly, who is as popular in the Barrie area, as the Oookpik, is the reigning monster of Kempenfelt Bay, and the five-person expedition wants to have a look.

The group has been practising this week at Lake Wilcox.

McQueen, a Thornhill freelance journalist, advertised

TV visits jail farm

Saturday and Sunday at noon, Classicom, Cable 10, will take viewers on a 45-minute walk through the former Langstaff Jail Farm, located at Yonge Street and Highway 7.

Mill Restaurant owner and Thornhill resident, Nikitas Tzembelicos, will present to Richmond Hill Planning Committee his plans to make the area into a giant recreational complex, August 1, using this film made by his planner, and Cable 10.

Mr. Tzembelicos said he has sent a letter to councillors of Markham and Vaughan, inviting them to the committee meeting to share their opinions.

for assistants, and 300 people replied.

"I wanted people with the right attitude about hunting monsters," he said. "We don't want to harm Kelly, and when one guy said he would ram the monster with a jet ski, I knew I didn't want him along."

The team has been learning how to operate the "jet skis", one-person surface propulsion devices, supplied by Kawasaki, which will be used to dart around the bay.

Kelly, by the way, isn't a young monster. He's been around awhile.

Huron Indian legends call it "Igoopogo", and described a long-necked reptile-like creature.

For Mike McQueen, this will be

the second trip onto the bay this year.

In June, he and a friend set out, but all they got for their efforts, was very wet.

"After we had left the water for the day without even a sign of the monster, we saw a huge wave," McQueen said. "It had to be 40 feet long and at least three feet high."

"There wasn't any reason for a wave that size," he said. "I bet it was Kelly checking to see if the coast was clear."

Accompanying the expedition will be divers from Tam Dive in Toronto. They will use a sonar equipped boat to record everything to the bottom of the 120-foot deep bay.

The area in question is the

deepest part of Lake Simcoe, and there is an underground spring that leads from the bay to Little Lake.

Experts believe that if the monster has a home, that's where it must be.

Besides the five people involved, the expedition does have some believers.

Kowasaki supplied the jet skis, worth \$2,500 each; Sea Queen provided the girls with two bathing suits each; and all life jackets are courtesy of Jacobs and Thompson.

While the team is searching for Kelly, it will also be raising money.

Sales of T-shirts and buttons will assist the fight against multiple sclerosis.



Here, boy

Mike McQueen of Thornhill and Carolyn Humphreys of Downsview show the ease of handling of the Jet Skis. They are going on a monster hunt, Saturday in Kempenfelt Bay. The Jet Skis will travel five miles per hour faster than Kempenfelt Kelly, the monster, so they say. But, how do they know? (Liberal photo by Bruce Hogg)