BURTON HOUSE

Disgusted at indifference of Markham Council

Here are a few valid comments I would like to make with reference to the controversy over Burton House. As a resident of Thornhill since 1968, my wife has lived here since

1951, I would like to express my disgust at the apparent indifference of the Town of Markham Council towards historic sites in the Thornhill area.

It seems to me that council's main concern is to please the developers and ignore the concerns of Thornhill

residents. We have witnessed in recent years the demolition of Annswell, including the destruction of many magnificent trees, some of which were very rare; the strangulation of Cricklewood by townhouses; and the building development of many acres of prime agricultural land. It is obvious that because of the

proximity of Thornhill to Yonge Street, the Town of Markham regards Thornhill only as a good tax

This may be sound economic reasoning but it is no reason for the desecration of Thornhill's history.

I sincerely hope that the recently formed committee to study the feasibility of retaining the Burton House will not be - as with so many committees and commissions - an exercise in futility, but that council will listen to ALL the recommendations of the committee before, through crass ignorance, denying future generations the opportunity of appreciating the fine architecture of a bygone age.

> Graham Upcraft 7 Albion Close, Thornhill

A parking lot would replace Burton House, he wants to know "an object of beauty"

the official "planning" (and I use Toronto (a newcomer to anything quotation marks) to replace an but the utilitarian), even Moscow, object of beauty and joy with one are enhanced by the buildings more sterile acre of macadam . . . a preserved amid the masifs of parking lot.

I realize even more fully why mature cultures pronounce us still barbarians.

I am referring, of course, to the plan to demolish the Burton House with its link with the past, with the history of the community, by a parking lot for yet another shopping mall:

(Twenty years ago I watched 500year-old oak trees being felled in order that hydro poles could raise their ugly utility in a straight line).

Today, all cities are realizing the value of beauty, of contrast, of remembrance of things past and are preserving their visible history, their historic buildings.

Having just read in The Liberal of London, Hamburg, Rome,

modern building centres. Let the drivers pay to park underground. I am a driver and I hate paying for parking, but it is a smaller price to pay than breaking the bricks of our heritage into dust.

Are we going to allow the destruction of something that when gone is irreplaceable?

(Today hydro poles are going underground. That sacrilege of destruction is largely a thing we've put behind us . . . at least where we can SEE it.)

Mrs. Cicely Thomson 120 Major Mackenzie Drive, Richmond Hill

Letters

Some residents paying \$200 more for sewers

discrepant charges which of the about 300 parts of the community.

over the next 15 years conditions were difficult. until the public debt is

historical interest, were it Richmond Hill for the

Among these are that a As is well known, pumping station was residents in the south- necessary, that expensive eastern parts (Area II) easements had to be pay about \$200 per lot bought on Garden more than those in the Avenue, that the area adjacent south-westerly contains several areas of unassessable public This amount will double parks, and that the soil

However, a recent

Project could have long A number of excuses proposed Silverberg been a matter of were given by the Town of subdivision between Garden Avenue and were levied in various homeowners in Area II. serious doubts on the Town's conduct in this

> were levied against the Silverberg development as far as sanitary services are concerned, are Project. for oversizing of the collector pipes.

No mention is made of

Markham tournament big success - Daurio

Markham Hockey And while there were a competition was again a Week is completed once few problems left for us to

down organizationally."

So says Shaaron Hay in

widely separated sen-

tences in her article in

of this type in its history,

to an organization that is

non-denominational,

Christian, holds informal

meetings in members'

last week's Liberal.

value

Exactly.

organization."

reasonably easy to pin is a critical time in life.

"It is difficult to cap- Does the Town have

As Corporal Renfrew of Brothers, all our schools,

All I would like to know the councillors should

makes the biggest grant makes application.

the RCMP would say - all our churches, etc., etc.

that money) to give away to a

group of about 28 young

people who seem to be

doing exactly the same

'Y', Boy Scouts, Big

I believe at least one of

ture and pin down the \$5,000 money (our

resolve next year, the

The boys and girls who competed worked hard for their respective teams How come group and provided exciting entertainment for the spectators." got \$5,000 grant,

great success.

Executive members, conveners, coaches and managers of the hockey associations of Unionville, Markham and Thornhill, and Town staff "Young Life, in black "meaningful" songs and gave generously of their and white, solid print is believes that adolescence time and help.

> And again, the dialogue resulted in a healthy exchange of ideas and operating techniques; new friendships were

I want to thank you, Mr. sort of youth work Editor, for your coverage already being done by the of this great annual event.

> And, in particular, I would like you to convey our thanks to Fred

His sensitive analysis of is why, in these times explain their generosity some of the events, and when all governments are with our money and tell his sense of humor, cutting down on many us whether they are going captured some of the worthwhile programs, to be equally generous to spirit of good house our local government any other group who league competition and excitement.

> Gerald C. Crack 19 Leonard Street, Richmond Hill

Stan Daurio 1979 Markham Hockey Week Chairman

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Energy Probe, 43 Queen's Park Crescent East, Toronto, M5S 2C3,

Avenue Road, questionable. Toronto, M5R 2G3.

faced with.

We all must be involved the environment scene feel involved in obtaining in CONSERVING elect the Richmond Hill Recycling Depot is in If you reverse the first need of additional Committee for Recycling two letters of nuclear you Saturday morning get "unclear" and I workers (one week in suppose that is the main five) due to illness, etc.

possible, we require a We have the right to volunteer to assist every want to feel nuclear other Thursday with the power is safe and at the office paper pickup,

or Greenpeace Toronto, present time this is most preferably with a car or van. Call Marlene 884-Switching, locally, to 6671.

> Marlene R. Turner, Secretary Richmond Hill



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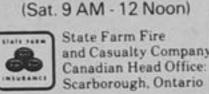
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Town report on the any of the other costs publicized openness of the are concerned.

This indicates either not for the utterly rather unjust treatment Roosevelt Drive along that certain costs never Yonge Street, casts existed, or that the developer is being given a free ride at the expense of the residents in the area. Surely this calls for a The only charges which public inquiry into the

Town's accounting practice with regard to the Richvale Sewer It is clear that the elected representatives

do not look after the interests of the electorate in Area II. A request by residents to examine the Town's

financial records on the

sewer project was refused by the Treasurer. The Town's Court of Revision declined to discuss the overall costs of the project when hearings were held last

which made Area II so municipal government in Richmond Hill ends when the ratepayers' purses

G. Springer 52 Roosevelt Drive, Thornhill

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