

Hwy 404 necessary?

# Energy crisis may slow York Region development

The energy crisis could "change the ballgame" in housing development in York Region, predicts Dr. Lorne Bordessa, a professor of urban geography at York University.

The high cost of taking the car to work could make this area less attractive than in the past, says Dr. Bordessa, a Richmond Hill resident.

But he thinks that Rich-

mond Hill with its GO Train and frequent bus service to the subway is relatively well off.

Thornhill-Vaughan is in "really good shape" because of its proximity to Toronto.

The places that will grow less rapidly are farther away from Toronto, communities like Newmarket.

"Already there are some subdivisions in

Newmarket that are not selling where houses are being rented," he said.

There is now some doubt that the hundreds of millions of dollars being spent on the York-Durham servicing scheme and on extending Highway 404 north are necessary, he said.

"We might have been able to get along with hooking into the Metropolitan Toronto

sewer system and with upstream sewage treatment plants," he said.

"The trouble was the old Ontario Water Resources Commission (now a branch of the ministry of environment) didn't like upstream plants."

When the York-Durham sewer is in operation, sewage treatment plants in Richmond Hill, Aurora and Newmarket will be shut down. Senior ministry staff have been quoted as saying that the plants will be "bulldozed" rather than simply closed down.

As the price of gasoline continues to climb, more and more commuters will be switching to public transit, he said.

But he expects he will continue to make the 10-mile trip from Richmond Hill to York University in his ten-year-old Volkswagen.

He has never used public transit to get to work, he said. "There used to be a bus. One of my colleagues used it but he was usually the only passenger."

Regional planning commissioner Hershel Weinberg disagreed with some of Dr. Bordessa's "assumptions and conclusions."

"He seems to be assuming that everyone will be going to work in Metropolitan Toronto," said the planning commissioner.

"We are planning industrial and commercial development in close proximity to housing," he said.

He did not think that the cost of energy was as critical a factor as the price of serviced land.

Because land is so expensive in Metro, development is more economical in York. "The alternative is to tear down neighborhoods downtown for rental accommodation."

That judge also said restitution orders often are not effective because the culprit either will not or cannot repay his victims.

"If the guy's a dead-beat, it doesn't matter what the heck the judge directs," Judge Couture said. "If he's not paying to support his wife and kids, if he's not paying his bills, he's not going to pay restitution."

Sometimes, however, restitution can mean the difference between a suspended sentence and a jail term, the judge added.

Mrs. Rolling was querying a case in which the commission granted a commendation to Constable Kenneth Venables for apprehending three persons responsible for numerous offences.

Constable Venables discovered a break-in in progress at Doherty Motors in Vondorf last Feb. 14 and arrested two 18-year-old Markham men, who had driven to the scene in a stolen car.

Further investigation showed that the two had joined a third man from Unionville in a series of break-ins in the Markham area.

The three eventually faced a total of 23 theft-related charges.

Two of the men received suspended sentences and probation. The third was ordered to pay \$1,000 restitution and given two years' probation.

Repairs covered by such programs include roofing, siding, foundation, eavestroughing, electrical and plumbing, said Mr. Coristine.

Monies are designed to help rehabilitate homes, but do not include additions.

In the past, the majority receiving benefits were pensioners, said the program administrator, and stressed the lower the income the greater the amount of grant available.

Anyone interested in discussing the program should call Mr. Coristine at the town office, (884-8101), and he will arrange for a visit by the building inspector to discuss eligible repairs.



**GIFFORD DAVID McCARTNEY** has graduated with a Bachelor of Music (honors) degree from the Faculty of Music, University of Toronto.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. G. D. McCartney, Driscoll Road, Richmond Hill, David, 21, is an Ontario Scholar from Richmond Hill High School and has studied at the Banff School of Fine Arts.

This year, he is working on his Master of Arts in Musicology Degree at the School of Graduate Study, University of Toronto.

# Hill is picked for this study of heat losses

Richmond Hill is one of 18 municipalities in Ontario being considered for a program of "Thermographic Studies."

By taking aerial photographs of a town with an infrared camera, areas where heat is escaping will show up on the photo.

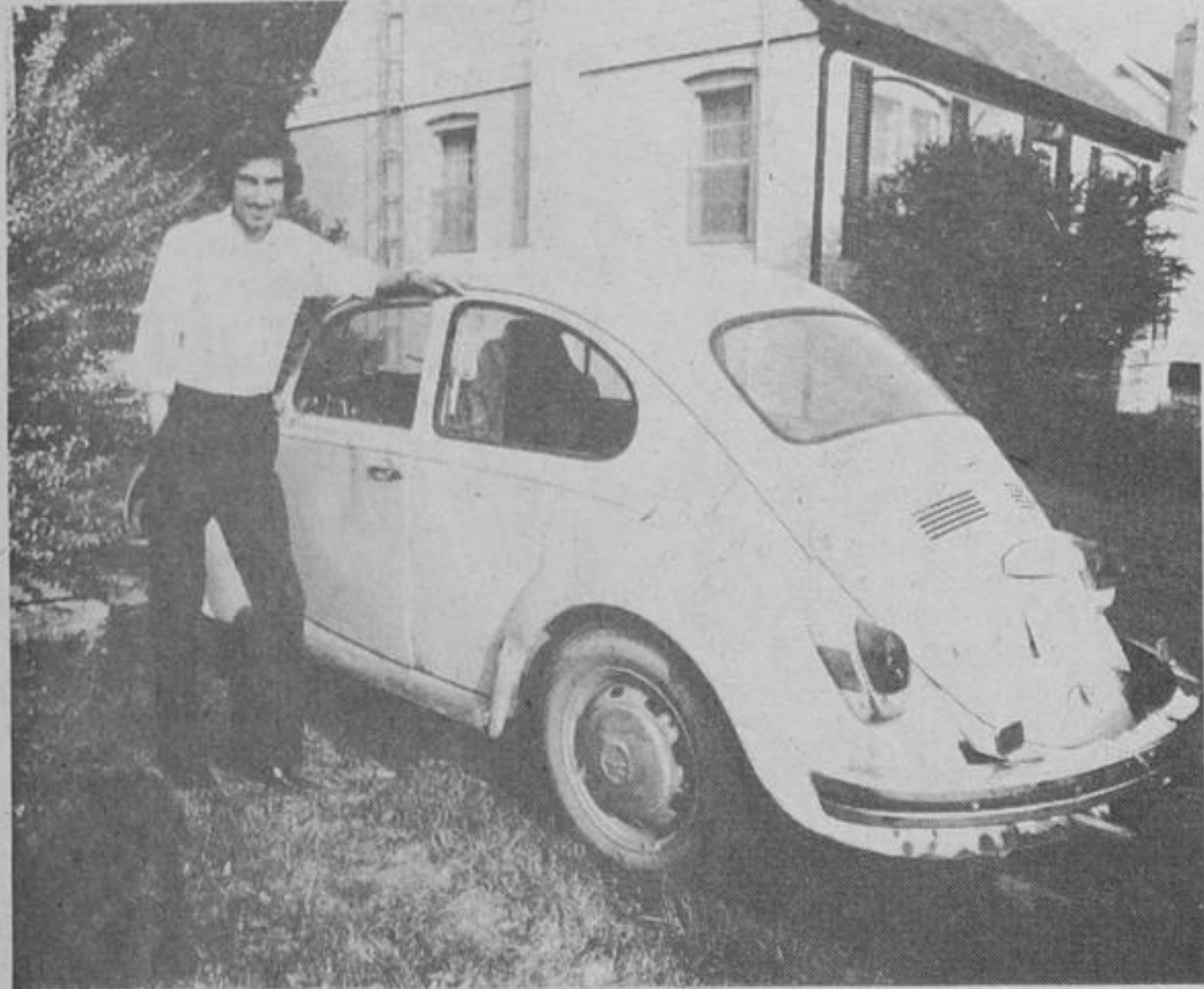
Clerk of the Town, Dave Weldon, said the town would like to be included in such a program with a view to making the results of the study available to members of the community, to assist them in conserving energy in their homes.

The Ministry of Energy reviews such factors as the potential for oil saving, the age of the housing stock and the severity of winter temperatures in municipalities in Ontario and ranks each town to show who would benefit most.

Richmond Hill ranks as number 13 of the 18 on potential savings for oil consumption.

Mr. Weldon said the ministry has indicated to him that if a municipality expresses sincere interest in having the program implemented in their jurisdiction, such an interest might assist in raising it on the priority list.

Council will be asked at the next meeting (August 7) to pass a resolution requesting the Ministry of Energy include the Town of Richmond Hill with the municipalities to be surveyed.



Dr. Ron Bordessa, co-ordinator of urban studies at Atkinson College, York University, and a Richmond Hill resident, predicts that the energy crisis will change the ball game in housing development in parts of York Region. But he personally expects he will continue to drive to work in his 10-year-old Volkswagen.

## Energy woes

# No water problems in Hill this year

The grass should be greener in Richmond Hill this year.

So far this summer, the works department has not had to ration water in town, and Maintenance Manager, Merv Perkins, said he does not feel it is going to be necessary.

This year most areas in Richmond Hill have been hooked up with Metro water, two new reservoirs have been built on Bathurst Street north of Elgin Mills Road, two new pumping stations have been put into action and larger water mains have been constructed by the province and the region, to alleviate the

town's annual problem with water.

"We don't anticipate problems," said Mr.

Perkins. "and I would be very disappointed if we did need to ration the water."

It's often "next to impossible" to enforce court orders directing thieves to make financial restitution for their crimes, Judge Donald Couture told the York Regional Police Commission last week.

Judge Couture, the commission chairman, made the comment in response to a question from Commissioner Gladys Rolling, who

wondered why two teenagers received suspended sentences while a third involved in the same case was ordered to pay \$1,000 restitution.

Judge Couture replied that any victim can apply to the court for restitution. When Mrs. Rolling asked if that is a widely known fact, the judge replied, "I doubt that."

year and people on fixed incomes, to take advantage of these two programs to bring their homes up to minimum standards as set out by municipal bylaw.

Repairs covered by such programs include roofing, siding, foundation, eavestroughing, electrical and plumbing, said Mr. Coristine.

Monies are designed to help rehabilitate homes, but do not include additions.

In the past, the majority receiving benefits were pensioners, said the program administrator, and stressed the lower the income the greater the amount of grant available.

Anyone interested in discussing the program should call Mr. Coristine at the town office, (884-8101), and he will arrange for a visit by the building inspector to discuss eligible repairs.

Races will be open for children 14 years and under.

There will be a free barbecue for everyone present from 2.30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

At 6.30 p.m. an old time fiddlers contest will be held. Fiddlers who have not entered should call the Home (889-5421).

The home is located at 11181 Yonge Street, north of Elgin Mills, in Richmond Hill.

# More grant dollars available to help repair your house

Pensioners and people on fixed incomes needing repairs to their homes will be interested in money now available from the Town of Richmond Hill.

Bill Coristine, ad-

ministrator of the federal Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program and the provincial Ontario Home Renewal Program, said the town is inviting people making less than \$12,000 a

# Home celebrating 58 years' service

The Loyal True Blue and Orange Home will offer tours through the building this Saturday as part of its 58th birthday.

This year, a special program has been set up to include various functions.

In addition to the tours, which will take place between 2.30 and 4.30 p.m., there will be a track and field meet managed by the University of Toronto Track Club.

At 6.30 p.m. an old time fiddlers contest will be held. Fiddlers who have not entered should call the Home (889-5421).

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