

Groups grow to assist refugees

Many groups and organizations in both Richmond Hill and Thornhill are rallying to extend a hand to help refugees fleeing from Vietnam.

In Richmond Hill a formal organization, complete with a constitution, has been set up, designed to minimize the red tape involved in sponsorship of these refugees.

Earl Winemaker, who has offered free legal counsel, said "Operation Lifeline Association of Richmond Hill" is designed to give anyone in town information and assistance in the sponsorship program as well as co-ordinate efforts in the community.

Originally refugees were not expected to begin arriving in Canada for two to four months, but Mr. Winemaker said

time has been reduced to four to six weeks and the organization in Richmond Hill was established to streamline the legal immigration process.

Mr. Winemaker is challenging the residents of Richmond Hill to step forward and respond as a community to the need of these Southeast Asian refugees.

"I'd like to see 50 families sponsored in Richmond Hill alone," said Mr. Winemaker.

Already church groups are forming committees to arrange sponsorship.

St. Mary's Anglican Church is as far in the process as awaiting government approval of a sponsorship application while a group at St. Matthew's United has just sent out a letter advising parishioners a group has been set up to gather resources hoping

to assume responsibility for one or more families.

Bryan Buchan, heading the St. Matthew's group, said already he had pledged of about \$12,000 as well as a house, food, clothing and furniture.

Mr. Buchan and Mr. Winemaker both mentioned the need to find people in the community who speak the appropriate languages, Vietnamese, Khmer (the language of Cambodia) and Lao (the language of Laos).

The Indo-Chinese refugees are very industrious, hard working and ambitious, said Mr. Winemaker, so job offers from the community are also very important.

"These people are not welfare oriented," he said, "no such system exists in their country."

In Thornhill a meeting set up to give information

on sponsorship resulted in five sponsorship groups set up in Thornhill and two in Unionville.

The goal is 20 families in the Thornhill area, said Andrew Meles one of the organizers.

Also as a result of the Thornhill meeting, a clothing and furniture depot has been set up, a committee established to look for employment possibilities, and a list of names of people willing to teach English to immigrants.

Residents of Johnsville Village, a condominium complex at John Street and Bayview Avenue, are in the process of arranging fund raising events, such as a barbeque, baseball game and draw for a bicycle, with all proceeds to go toward sponsoring a refugee family.

A guide for sponsors of

Indo-Chinese refugees is now available from Operation Lifeline, City Hall, Toronto.

This 40-page brochure answers such questions as "What is Operation Lifeline?" and gives information including where to find interpreters, applying for OHIP coverage for refugees and suggestions of food to be purchased for refugee families' first few days.

In Richmond Hill names to contact for information or offers of support are: Bruce McLeod, 883-1970; Elizabeth Loweth, 884-

1394; John Bruce, 889-9364; Marjorie Watters, 884-3604; Ann Gold, 887-5933; Nicolette Davis 773-5707; Carol MacDonald, 889-2705; or Earl Winemaker, 884-9235.

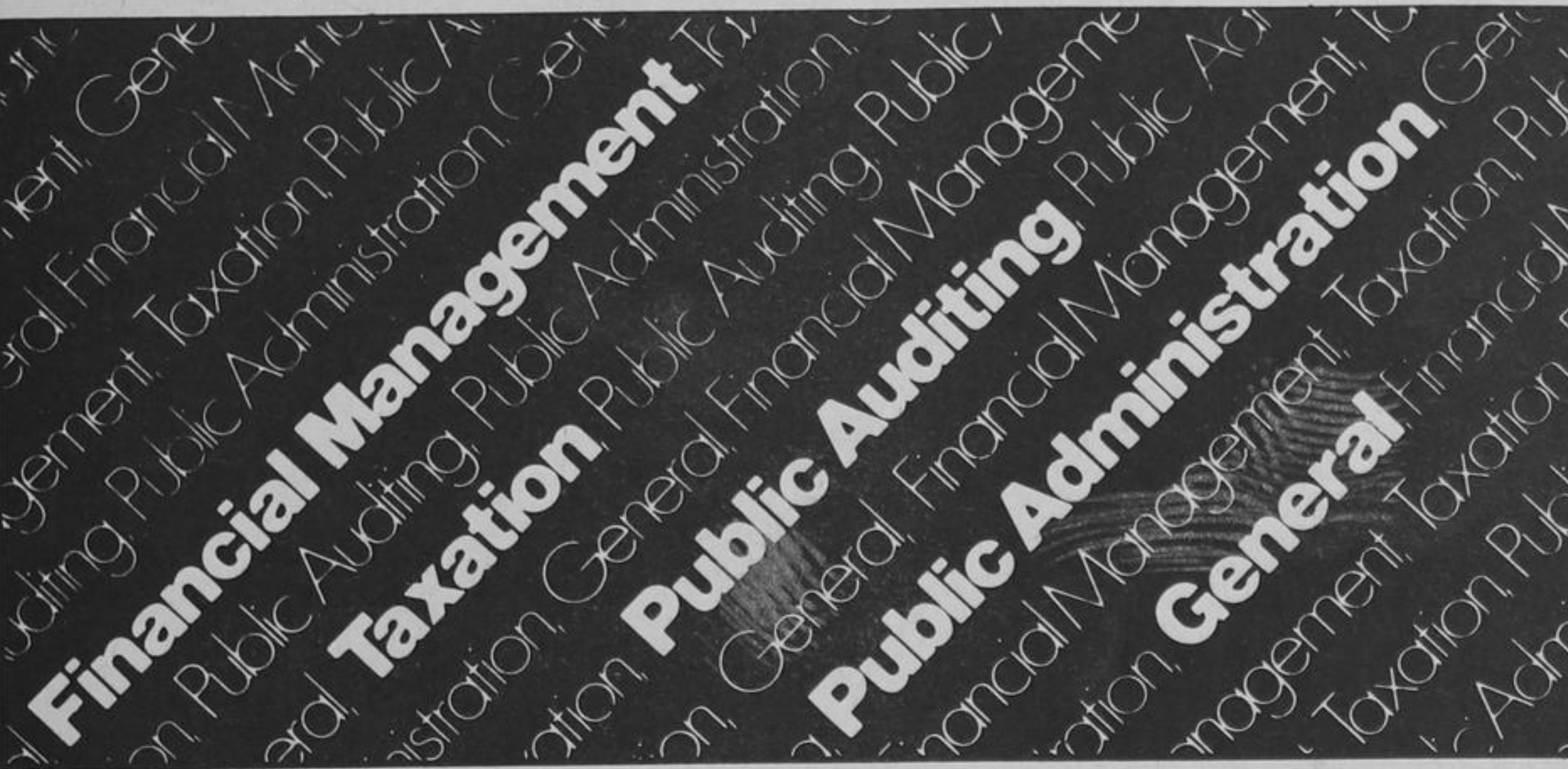
In Thornhill call Andrew Meles, 889-9623; Unionville, Rochelle Glasner, 297-1828; and in Markham, Bruce or Margaret Searle at 294-1817.

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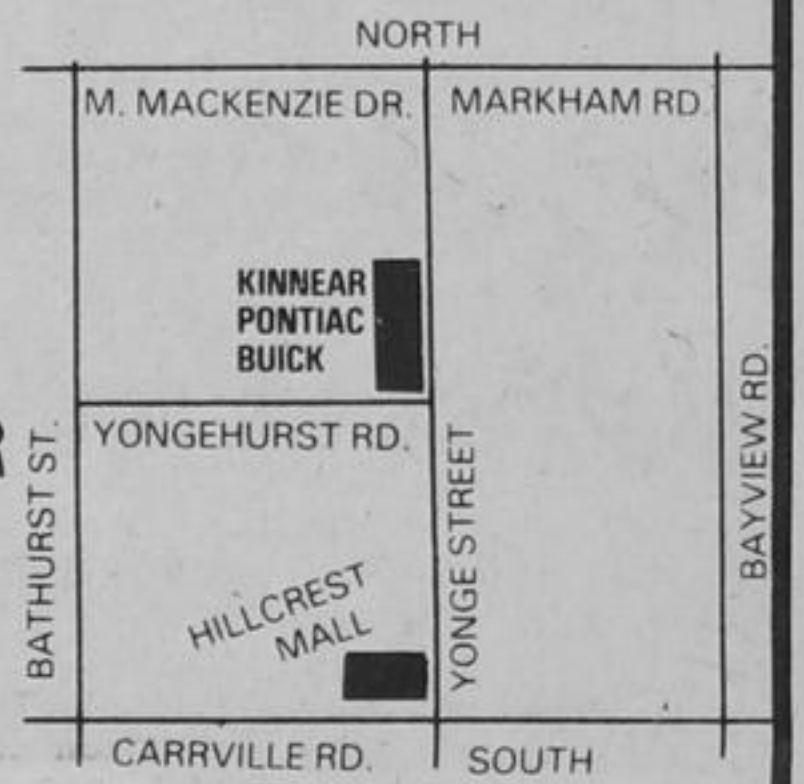
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THE Liberal

4th Annual Beautification Awards

"DEADLINE EXTENDED"

The Liberal newspaper, with the co-operation of the Richmond Hill Chamber of Commerce, announces a Beautification Awards Program for Richmond Hill property owners

Having received the official sanction of the Council of the Town of Richmond Hill, The Liberal and the Chamber of Commerce are pleased to present this Awards Program to the citizens of Richmond Hill.

The program is designed to encourage and recognize the efforts of the people of Richmond Hill to improve and maintain a high standard of appearance of local properties. It is open to individual residents, commercial establishments, industry and institutions.

NOMINATIONS.

To become eligible for an award, a property has to be nominated for judging. The nominations can be made by any person or company. The nominations can be made with the use of the entry form printed below. Forms will also be available from the Chamber of Commerce at the Town Library and the Clerk's Dept. at the Town Hall.

CLOSING DATE FOR NOMINATIONS.

The last day for nominations is Friday, July 31, 1979. All entries must be mailed before 5 p.m. that day.

JUDGING.

All judging will take place as nominations are received. As a guide, judges will rate the following areas on a point basis:

1. Originality of landscape design in relation to building.
2. Cleanliness of building, flower beds, etc.
3. Maintenance of trees, shrubs, flowerbeds in relation to pests and diseases.
4. General appearance and color of lawn.
5. Use of color in flowers and shrubs in relation to building (at time of judging).
6. Contribution of property to beautification of the neighbourhood.

7 AWARDS

A total of 7 awards will be presented for those properties which achieve the highest ratings as scored by the judging committee.

- 4 Residential (Cash)
- 1 Commercial (Gift Certificate)
- 1 Industrial (Gift Certificate)
- 1 Institutional (Gift Certificate)
- All receive personal certificates.

IS THERE AN ATTRACTIVE LOOKING PROPERTY ON YOUR STREET?

NOMINATE IT TODAY WITH THE ENTRY FORM ON RIGHT

AWARDS PRESENTATION

Names of all winners will be published in The Liberal near the end of August.

THE COMMITTEE

The Awards Program committee is chaired by Irwin Peters. Members of the committee are Bob Saunders, Past President of the Richmond Hill Chamber of Commerce; Councillor Dave Barrow and Ron Wallace, Editor of The Liberal.

NOMINATION FORM THE LIBERAL 1979 ROSE AWARDS

I herewith nominate the property listed below for The Liberal 1979 Rose Award.

(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Name of property owner (if known).....

Street address and no.....

Phone number.....

Nominated by:.....

Name.....

Address.....

Phone.....

I understand that the Awards Program is open only to properties within the Town of Richmond Hill.

MAIL THIS ENTRY FORM BEFORE JULY 31, 1979 TO:
THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

P.O. BOX 155, RICHMOND HILL, ONT. L4C 4Y6