

## Energy conservation: how much is it worth?

We should be thankful for small mercies, shouldn't we?

Therefore, we'd expect that at the next meeting of the steering committee for the Richmond Hill Energy Project, someone will recommend a letter of thanks go to the Town of Richmond Hill for their contribution to the project.

Even though it was only half what the group requested.

The town's finance committee made the recommendation to council Monday, and a string of excuses spewed forth.

"Project is redundant," said Councillor Gord Rowe.

"I don't think they can tell me anything," said Councillor Bill Corcoran.

"We have other priorities," said Councillor Dave Amos.

Councillor Lou Wainwright actually did his own survey to show people in Richmond Hill don't agree with the project. He called 10 of them.

Corcoran, Wainwright, and Amos are on the finance committee with Councillor John Birchall.

After having been committed to the nation-wide project months ago — Richmond Hill was one of only three municipalities in Canada chosen — it would be just great, wouldn't it, if the town fell on its collective butt at this stage of the game.

Aside from the obvious advantages of bringing energy conservation and its necessity to the community, this project has brought together a group of people in a common cause and has linked parts of this town which have never been linked before.

The publicity to be gained from such a project will be worth its weight in gold, and ideas which develop from the project could provide the means for several area firms to capitalize on the energy crisis.

If it fails, and if the energy problem mushrooms to crisis proportions, we hope we won't have to listen to certain members of Richmond Hill Council wondering "what happened?"

## Briefly, then...

When you think about it, there are a number of ways to embarrass yourself when compiling The Liberal's "Look Who's Arrived" baby column each week.

We found one of them last week.

Seems we noted the birth of a boy on October 4 to Linda and David Morris of Richmond Hill.

Linda phoned us rather promptly. Dad's name is Robert, not David.

Oops.

Recently, Regional Councillor Ron Moran produced his personal newsletter. A commendable effort, considering printing and mailing costs (now about \$2,000) have limited his communication sheet to once per year.

He mentioned a small piece about councillors' availability and went to the trouble of using information from The Liberal to remind readers of a string of five meetings missed last winter by Mayor Tony Roman.

Ron himself has an excellent attendance record at council meetings... the last one he missed was on September 25 — the date set aside to vote on the squeamish issue of removing another member of council from his position on the Markham Library.

Sorry you couldn't make it that night Ron 'cause everything was smoothed over. Then again, election year doesn't officially start for another couple of months.

The Canadian Progress Club, York Central, will be holding its second annual Pumpkin Sale and Children's Halloween Party October 26 and 27 at the Richmond Heights Plaza.

All proceeds from the sale of pumpkins will go to support local charities.

The editorial staff at the Liberal hates to split hairs, especially when it comes to spelling and grammatical errors. Heaven knows we make enough of them.

That said, we've taken notice of the most recent official arm of the York County Board of Education: "Board Meeting Highlights".

Not a bad idea, except some of the language used in it isn't exactly exemplary of an Information or Communications Officer.

Examples: according to Dave Disney, the Division of Human Resources is basically a support operation which interfaces (?) with other divisions. If he could only explain that verb!

Did you know the board participated in Experience '79 by providing employment and a learning experience for student "tutors". Must have taken awhile to get to this century.

If this is going to be Board Highlights, let's highlight it with some proper English.

Nice job by Speedy Muffler King in getting people to come to their Yonge Street, Richmond Hill, location.

A sketch of the whole community, as seen by a bird, appears on one side of a pamphlet showing Speedy's location. On the other side, from the same viewpoint, is a sketch of the area surrounding the shop.

Speedy's giving away an emergency travel kit, which includes a road flare, auto distress flag, mouth rescue breather and a first aid kit, to anyone who drives to their location at 10695 Yonge.

## ENERGY SAVERS

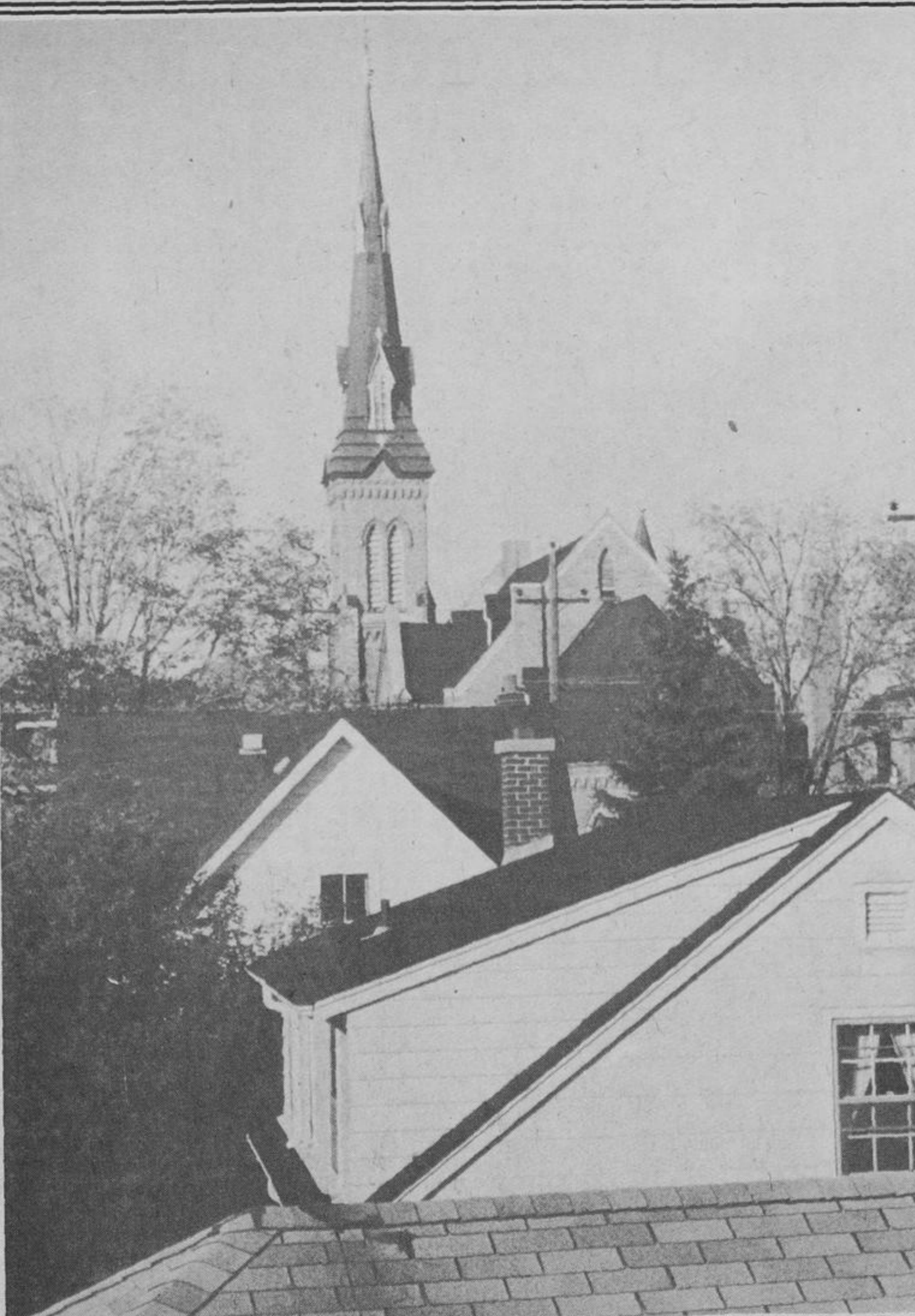
The Town of Richmond Hill has been energy conscious for a long time.

Evidence of this fact is now occurring at the town Works Department Yard.

Town Arborist, Eugene Storozinski, said about seven dead pine and hemlock trees were taken

down in the Mill Pond Park last spring and milled to make approximately 3,000 board feet of lumber soon to be used by the town works department.

With the high cost of lumber these days this latest move shows the town is not only energy conservation and ecology conscious, but also aware of the dollars.



(Photo by Bruce Hogg)

## LIBERAL SPRINKLINGS Sports, sports, sports

By STEVE PEARLSTEIN  
Liberal News Editor

Aside from being one of the nicest months of the year, October provides a rare opportunity for those who closely follow the world of sport.

Right now, we are in the thick of the World Series of baseball, that frenzied annual championship which glues fans to televisions and radios in more than 20 countries for two weeks.

But if baseball's not your bag, look at all the other sports in gear you have to wile away the hours. The National Hockey League is just under way. Though the Maple Leafs haven't gotten off to a smashing start, they did beat the Montreal Canadiens for the first time in nearly three years, in a pre-season game.

American football is in full swing and the dear old Argos of "wait 'til next year" fame, have managed to lose six games in-a-row. After winning four at the beginning of the season, they're now fighting to see which will be the worst team in the Eastern Conference — themselves or Hamilton.

The racetrack at Woodbine is running its Fall season, though it has lately been having some minor problems with the track due to poor weather.

Kids in school are also into their seasonal sports. Football, rugby and field hockey are on the agenda until the snow makes things too cold to play.

Stop. You're a sports person but nothing I have said so far interests you, right? Who really cares about all those activities you can either read about or watch lazily in front of the TV?

It's true I haven't played any of the above seriously (at my own calibre) since I was a kid. My only real exercise has been limited to a few lousy sets of tennis over the summer.

But last week, I was introduced to a sport I think I could play all year 'round and never tire of. Many of you are probably already familiar with the game — which friends have described for years as a cross between tennis and badminton.

I think squash is much more. It's something that requires agility, stamina,

mobility, strength... and brains. The uninitiated, like myself, are helped tremendously if they have played either tennis or badminton before.

I owe thanks for my first game to my sister-in-law, Susan, who introduced me to the Toronto Squash Academy. The club is designed mainly for the downtown business person who likes to get in a few games either at lunch time, off-peak morning or afternoon hours or before and after work.

The dues there are only \$65 per year plus \$2.50 per hour in peak playing times. I wish I could find a club so reasonable here in Richmond Hill. The only two I've looked into are substantially more expensive.

I feel a little guilty about the first couple of games we played. Of course it took awhile to get used to the odd-shaped racket (compared with tennis) and the feel of the small, squishy ball.

We spent about half our allotted time (we paid a little extra for the larger American-sized court and 40 minutes of playing time) just bashing the thing around. Once I understood the rules and the mechanics of the game, Susan thought it might be fun to try a game or two.

You have to understand she hits the ball quite well, though her running game isn't up to scratch because of a slight weight problem.

I guess I turned into a bit of a cad because I learned how to use the side walls to make tricky, unreturnable shots. She was a good sport and played her best, though I noticed advanced signs of disgust on her face.

Her feisty forehands weren't enough to keep the score from running to 9-1. She emphasized it is the sort of game men should challenge each other at 'because you have a different kind of stroke'.

Anyway, it was all in fun and she made a real convert out of me. After finding a regular place to play, I guess my next step is to pick up a new racket, some squash shoes and a few sets of balls.

Once the World Series, Grey Cup and Super Bowl are gone for another season, I'll still be swatting away.

## Letters We moved to Thornhill because of GO

Town of Markham, 8911 Woodbine Ave. Markham.

RE: Markham Transit vs. the GO Bus

As a resident and ratepayer of the Town of Markham, I would like to formally convey my strong objection to the changes in the GO Bus service — Richmond Hill via Bayview — and would request that this decision be reconsidered.

For three years I have lived in Johnsville Village (south-west portion) and have enjoyed the excellent bus services available to our community.

Indeed one of the reasons for our moving to Thornhill, as opposed to elsewhere, was for this

reason (average travelling time being approximately 35 minutes to Bloor-Yonge area).

With the cancellation of this service to Thornhill the travelling time is a minimum of one hour. Markham transit does not provide nearly such an efficient service to the "Trunk Route".

My main reasons in that order are:

- 1) — less frequent service;
- 2) — not punctual, hence unreliable;
- 3) — no exact fare or ticket system — increasing travelling time;
- 4) — no air-conditioning;
- 5) — inferior vehicles — less comfort;
- 6) — 10 cents more per trip.

As a regular commuter I could suggest a number of changes which would make the Markham service more attractive: however, the ones that stick in my mind are:

- a) — schedule the buses in-between the time schedule of the GO Bus — people use the first to arrive and leave. There is nothing more infuriating than having paid 50 cents to sit on the Markham bus and watch the GO Bus arrive and depart while you are still at the subway.
- b) — Twice a week I arrive at Finch at approximately 9:30 a.m. and wait 25 minutes for the GO Bus. Five minutes later the Markham bus leaves. Invariably the GO Bus is full and the

Markham bus empty, while the commuters sit at the terminal and wait another 55 minutes, should they miss these two.

I am in the process of obtaining signatures in

support of the foregoing this change and will be general "will" is not sending these to you good. Thank you for your request and please pay attention to this matter. I would just like to conclude by saying a lot of people are very upset and inconvenienced by

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Mrs. Jean Drain  
71 Harris Way,  
Thornhill.

## Centre offers one-day seminar entitled "Crucial Transitions"

This Year of the Child has brought children's education to the focus of many people's minds.

The purpose of the Centre for Waldorf Studies is to bring to the public's awareness the system of education given by Rudolf Steiner.

On October 27, we are holding a special one-day seminar entitled "Crucial

Transitions: the Ninth and Twelfth Years of Cycles, from Grade One Childhood" given by Rudolf Copple.

The activities include lectures, demonstrations, and group participation. For further information education students, and please call Mrs. Diane a Hughes at 884-6047.

This active day will focus on promoting learning readiness

Louise Betts  
The Centre for  
Waldorf Studies

## Time of year to search out the catalogues

Oh joy, oh bliss, tis that wonderful time of the year when our teeny weeny mailboxes are stuffed to the top with those wonderful, marvellous Christmas catalogues.

I admit unashamedly that I, Robert Bruce Rice, am a catalogue freak... an affliction from which there is no cure!

For the next few weeks I will spend every available moment pouring through the various books and flyers that the enterprising merchants are sending our way and, toughest of all, will have to control my urge to order every new thingamagig that has been introduced this year.

Following a cursory examination of the latest in men's fashion, I skip the pots and pans section and eagerly seek out the latest in stereos, TVs and other electronic gadgets.

Next stop is the appliance section to see what new technology exists in the microwave phenomena as well as any new goodies that have been added to the refrigerators and stoves!

Backtracking to the jewelry pages I scan the latest innovations in digital watches before moving on to the usual advertisements for rings and other neat things.

As my excitement grows I quickly flick to the back of the catalogue and peruse the section devoted to the home handyman with its seemingly endless array of drills, routers, saws and other electric devices.

### TOYS

And then... when I am almost at a fever pitch with anticipation... my hands clammy with expectation and my heart pulsating wildly with joy... I slowly and deftly turn to my favorite part of the Christmas offerings, the one section that will raise my happiness to new heights... THE TOY SECTION!!!!

You would have to be a cad... you would have to be able to go throughout this world with no feelings whatsoever... the lowest of the low... the meanest of the mean... if you could admit honestly that you have never ever taken a long long look through this most marvellous of departments and wished that you were a kid again.

Even Scrooge would be hard pressed not to sneak a peek or two at some of the fantastic toys that grace the pages of the 1979 books of delight, toys that would warm even the coldest of hearts.

Wouldn't it be nice to be able to get down on the living room rug and spend about half an hour directing the actions of a robot that not only beeps and boops with flashing lights but can also manoeuvre anywhere within 25 feet and pick up all sorts of paraphernalia with its mechanical arms?

Howabout a series of plastic tubes that, when assembled together, provide a means of transportation for a bunch of little space creatures that whoosh and wish around the room driven on a stream of air from a tiny electrical pump?

Then there are the construction sets that can be used to build everything from a small mechanized truck to an orbiting earth satellite.

While you are busy with your fun and games your wife could be whipping up some tasty delights with a miniature stove or, perhaps, outfitting a three-storey dollhouse with her choice of perfect scale tiny furniture complete to a chandelier and even itsy-bitsy towels for the bathroom.

Even the games today are much improved over the old standbys such as Monopoly and Chinese Checkers.

### COMPUTERS

Computers are in and with the advent of these marvels have come new ways to fill in the quiet moments by trying to beat the dealer at blackjack or outguessing a flashing sphere on any question from the world series to operas by Verdi.

Sooner or later I close the pages and come back to reality. My mind dwells on mortgage payments instead of Star Trek Communications, on the latest hike in gas prices as opposed to HO scale Grand Prix racers.

I resign myself to the fact that I am 36 years old and each day brings another battle against skyrocketing prices and spiralling inflation. But whenever the weight gets too heavy, the Dragon too big, I quietly slip downstairs, close the door, put another log on the fire... and open the catalogue one more time.

The ol' Millpond Philosopher once said... 'Looking over your shoulder too often... will give you a pain in the neck!'