

## NDP nomination meeting

The Mississauga East New Democratic Party Association will hold a nomination meeting for its provincial election candidate at Thornwood Public School, 277 Mississauga Valleys Blvd., on May 22.

Guest speaker will be Ted

Bounsall, MPP for Windsor West, who is the NDP's labor critic and women's rights spokesman in the legislature. His topic will concern labor relations in Ontario.

The only declared candidate is Larry Taylor, a member of the executive of

Mississauga Valleys ratepayers' association.

Taylor ran unsuccessfully against Mississauga councillor Ron Searle in the 1972 municipal election.

The meeting begins at 8 p.m.

## Developer's sales practices under fire

# Story sparks barrage at council

About 200 people, who got reservations for homes in Rockwood Estates, booted and shouted down a Newmarket couple who told councillors they refused to get a reservation because the developer insisted they protest to council about delays in the development.

Cries of "it's a made-up story" and "liar" greeted Jack and June Spencer, who volunteered to tell a special council meeting their story.

Spencer said a woman in the sales office had urged him to go to an earlier council meeting to support developer John Prusak's request for city go-ahead to build multiple-family units.

Prusak said he could offer homes to prospective owners at a lower price, if the multiple units were released and he could use bulk-purchase buying methods. Otherwise, Spencer was told, the price would go up \$20,000.

When Spencer was told that the company was not interested in his application unless he would go to the council meeting, he said he wasn't interested in applying.

Councillor Frank McKechnie thanked the Spencers for "having the guts to stand up and tell their story. I think the people in the audience should apologize for their conduct," he said.

Councillors Caye Killaby and David Culham said they received several similar calls complaining of the developer's sales practices. Council has already asked the provincial government to investigate.

Some prospective home buyers have told reporters that they were told to attend the meeting or their application would be put at the bottom of the list or discarded.

Councillor Mary Helen Spence asked Isadore Prydatok, lawyer for Prusak, why a roll call had been read outside council chambers before the meeting in question. He said that some people wanted to assure Prusak that they had attended.

"Why were all the names read out?" Mrs. Spence asked. "We felt it wasn't fair to call out just one name, so we called out all of them," Prydatok replied. He said that he had been "assigned the unfortunate task" of reading the names by Prusak.

McKechnie pursued the subject by asking the lawyer whether he would sign an affidavit swearing that the roll call was designed for the purposes he had described.

"In view of council's resolution of last week, the minister probably wants to make enquiries. I think we should leave it to him, not to council," Prydatok said.

"If they hadn't answered the roll call, would they have lost their reservations?" McKechnie asked. When the councillor got what he considered another evasive answer, he said he assumed Prydatok would not sign an affidavit under oath.

"That's right," the lawyer replied.

Council has asked the ministry of consumer and corporate affairs to look into the sales practices of the development. Almost all councillors, including two of the three who favored

releasing Prusak's multiple units, said they didn't agree with "pressure" tactics and regretted the method in which the matter had come before council.

## Say, what was that again?

That old experiment where you pass a story in whispers around a circle of people and compare the original to the end product got a new twist at Mississauga council this week.

During a special meeting on the Sullivan Construction development in North Dixie, councillor Frank McKechnie prepared a motion. He took it to councillor Harold Kennedy to be seconded.

But by the time the motion came back to Mayor Martin Dobkin it said the opposite of what McKechnie intended.

Kennedy and councillor Bud Gregory were listed on the same piece of paper that started around the council table as mover and second of a motion opposite in intent to McKechnie's.

McKechnie, the most senior councillor, objected.

"It's improper to take my name off a motion," he said. He also objected to writing which appeared near where he had initialled the original motion. "That's not my writing," he said, asking that his initials be removed.

Despite McKechnie's protestations, Dobkin said he had to accept the motion as the first one to be put before him.

In the interests of clarity, Kennedy wrote out a new motion with the same content to replace the original. Lines were crossed out and scribbled over on that one.

"This is the first time I've seen this happen since I've been mayor," said Dobkin. "It's highly irregular but I'm going to rule that it's not illegal."

The motion was eventually defeated and the motion McKechnie had originally written out was passed.

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## School contract

An \$815,000 contract has been awarded to Elmont Construction Ltd. for construction of a 21,300-square-foot addition to the Woodlands school on Erindale Station Rd.

Elmont recently completed the addition to Forest Ave. public school in Port Credit. Its bid for the Woodlands school project was \$14,000 below its nearest competitor.

Cost of the project will top \$1 million, when \$59,614 in architects fees are included along with \$217,413 in furniture costs and \$11,665 in miscellaneous expenses.

Don't think of it as fitness, think of it as funness.



Rock singer "Rompin'" Ronnie Hawkins (above) of Mississauga and Carla Jean Cleveland (left), 26, of Hawaii after appearing in Peel provincial court on drug charges.

## Rock singer Hawkins waives drug hearing

Rock singer Ronnie Hawkins has waived the calling of evidence at his preliminary hearing on charges of possession of cocaine, possession of heroin and possession of marijuana for the purpose of trafficking.

Hawkins, 38, appeared in

provincial court with Carla Jean Cleveland, 26, of Hawaii, who was also arrested April 4, 1974 during the early-morning raid on his home at 4198 Mississauga Rd. by the Peel police morality squad. She was charged with possession of marijuana.

As a result of further in-

vestigation, Hawkins was jointly charged with Gary Lucas, 29, of Toronto with conspiracy to traffic in marijuana. He is jointly charged with Owen Tweedsmuir Shepard of Toronto with possession of an unregistered .38-cal revolver.

The preliminary hearing is a judicial proceeding to determine if there is sufficient evidence to warrant a full trial.

The case will now go before a grand jury which will consider the evidence. The jury may return a true bill of indictment, which will allow the case to proceed to trial in county court, or may decide to grant a no-bill, which would quash the charges.

At the time of the raid, police said that a quantity of alleged drugs, including "elephant sticks" — marijuana wrapped into short stalks — were seized at Hawkins' home. Hawkins' extensive gun collection, which includes a submachine gun, was examined by police and the unregistered weapon charge subsequently laid.

Hawkins, a native of Arkansas, has been a popular rock singer at night clubs in Toronto for many years. He moved to Toronto from the United States after a successful series of hit records in the late 1950s and early 1960s.

## Faulty equipment sparks hijack alert

A false alarm from an emergency transmitter aboard a Yugoslav jetliner triggered a hijack alert for over 30 Peel regional police officers at Toronto International Airport Sunday night.

The airliner, which took off from Split, Yugoslavia, had refueled at Shannon airport in Ireland and was due to arrive in Toronto at 7 p.m.

The aircraft's "black box," an emergency radio transmitter, sent out a hijack alarm, and the airport lost radio contact with the plane for about seven minutes.

A team of police, including sharpshooters, rushed to the airport and surrounded the plane's landing area. Senior officers, including chief Douglas Burrows and deputy-chief William Teggart, also arrived at the scene.

When the plane pulled up to the landing dock, staff inspector Des Rowland boarded. They learned the signal had been sent out because of an equipment malfunction. The aircraft was a Boeing 707 jet, carrying 160 passengers.

## Thief 'uses' milk box

Peel police believe a burglar broke into a Mississauga house where \$3,675 in jewelry, liquor and radios was stolen, by reaching through the milk box and opening the door.

The house is at 1408 Elaine Trail. No suspects have been arrested and investigation continues.

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