



7 NEWS

WARD 7 COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER
265 Gerrard St. East 920-8632
Office at 80 Winchester St.

FEBRUARY 12, 1977 VOLUME 7, NUMBER 16



Come to our General Meeting

The staff, volunteers and board of 7 News — and anyone else who is interested — are getting together this Friday to get acquainted, eat dinner, talk about the paper, and have a good time. The occasion is the 7 News "General Meeting and Potluck Dinner", which is happening at the Queen Street East Church, 947 Queen St. E. (at Carlaw) at 7:00 p.m. on Friday February 18.

If you are interested in 7 News, if you have ideas about what should go into the paper or how the paper could serve you better, if you'd like to meet the people who put the paper out and chat with them, then try to make it out on Friday night.

If you plan to take part in the eating — and we hope you are — then bring along a dish to contribute to the meal. And please phone us at the paper if you can (920-8632) so we'll know how many to expect when planning drinks, etc.

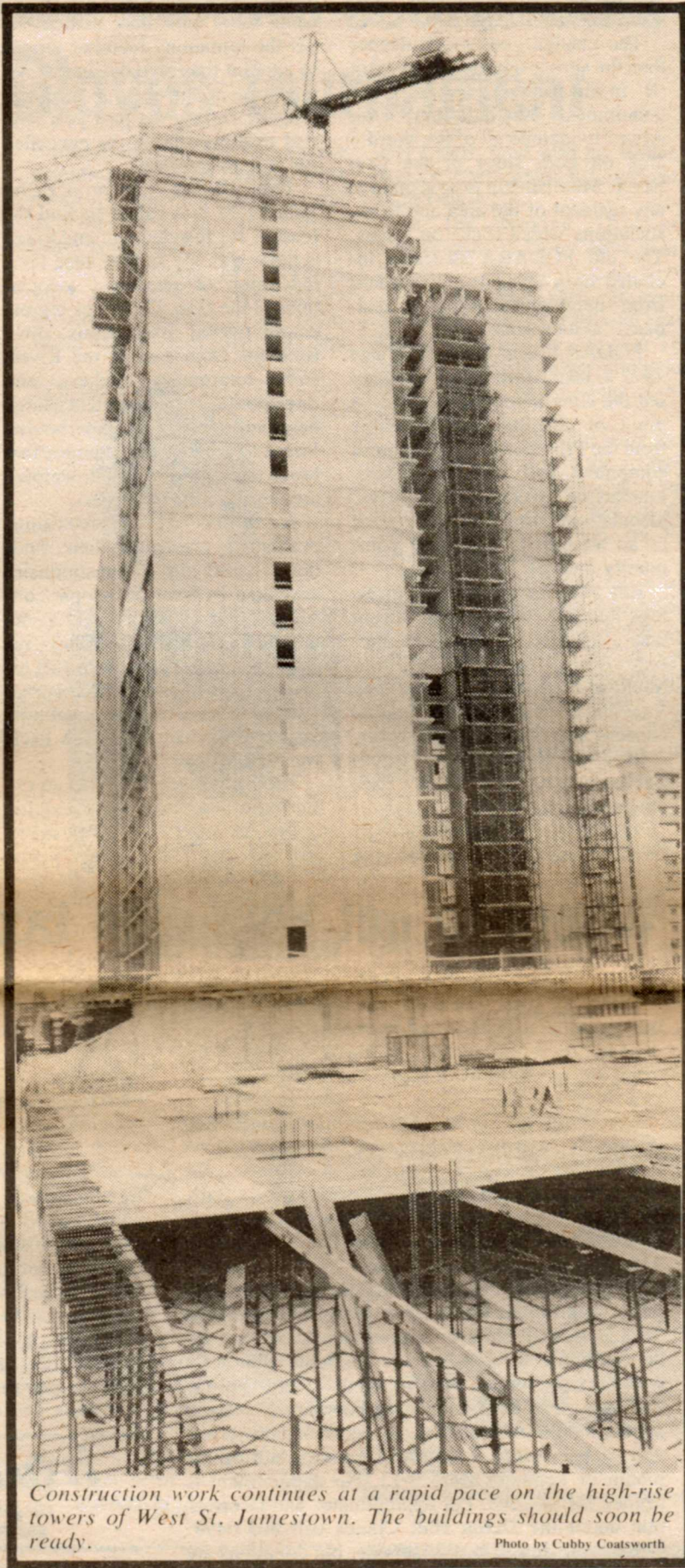
Hope to see you there!

Win Harris is honoured at Woodgreen

Sixty friends, staff and board members of Woodgreen Community Centre gathered last week to honour Woodgreen's long-time Nursery School supervisor Miss Win Harris. Win's work with kids spans some 40 years, beginning in the first Woodgreen nursery school held in Rev. Ray McCleary's home on Boulton Avenue before the present Woodgreen Centre on Queen Street was built.

In appreciation of her very special contribution to the Centre and daycare services, Woodgreen nursery has been officially renamed Win Harris Day Nursery.

A sketch of Win was presented to the Centre and will hang in the nursery school. Gifts, including a colour television, were presented to Win.



Construction work continues at a rapid pace on the high-rise towers of West St. Jamestown. The buildings should soon be ready.

Photo by Cubby Coatsworth

Purse snatching is a worry

By DAVID VEZINA

The ladies at the Second Mile Club on Carlton Street are having their afternoon bingo game, and talking about purse snatching. The idea of being attacked and robbed is very real to the ladies. So is the fear. Stories circulate concerning other women who have been knocked down or roughed up by someone intent on taking their purse.

"We just don't go out," says one.

"I carry a police whistle," says another, "but I don't see how you can use it until after the crime." Chris Gaudette disagrees with the other ladies. "I'm not afraid. I haven't been attacked yet, so why should I be? I've gone to bingo for years and when I come

home I walk in the middle of the road." "And," she adds, "I haven't been bothered yet."

Despite what Mrs. Gaudette says many other elderly women have a real fear. Some don't go out at all at night. Others do venture out but only if they have a friend come along with them. On bingo nights at many of the clubs the women get together after the games to chip in for a taxi to take them home.

When asked about the frequency of purse snatchings in the district, Officer W. Rombough of the Information Services at Police Headquarters on Jarvis Street says, "It certainly isn't an epidemic."

Crime Prevention Officer Bob Copeland of 55 Division agrees.

"It's not what I would call a serious problem right now. I don't know if we've had a purse snatch

yet this year, but come the spring we'll get one or two a week."

Officer Copeland describes it as an "outdoor activity" that comes with the warmer weather. "Kids will ride along on their bicycles and snatch the purse from the victim as they ride by."

Evening seems to be the most frequent time for the crime to take place, but if the right type of victim passes in sight of a purse snatcher, "it can happen at any time."

Purse snatching is a crime of opportunity with most of the thefts being committed by young men 19 years of age or younger. The Metropolitan Police have issued a pamphlet on the prevention of purse snatching. There are several points made in it that will interest

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Rents up 18%

Bain Co-op hit by rent strike

By ULLI DIEMER

Faced with an 18% rent hike, a group of tenants at the Bain Avenue Co-op apartments have declared a rent freeze, and are continuing to pay their rents at the old rate.

They say that low-income tenants simply cannot afford the new rents, and that as many as 25 households will have to move out if the increase stands.

The group, however, is acting in opposition to the Residents' Council, consisting of all residents of the co-op, which passed the increases in the fall and which voted down the idea of a freeze by 115 to 16 at a residents' meeting, the largest in Bain's history, in December.

Spokesmen for the Council criticize the group for saying they would abide by the decision of the residents as a whole, and then going ahead anyway when the vote went overwhelmingly against them. Council representatives also charge that the freeze action jeopardizes Bain's chances of moving to resident ownership of the project. Bain is currently paying off a \$6.5 million mortgage to Central Mortgage and Housing.

However, supporters of the freeze say that they cannot sacrifice themselves to the idea of ownership when they are faced with immediate economic hardship. Steve Oltuski, a supporter of the freeze, says that ownership is meaningless if tenants cannot afford the high rents necessary to remain living there.

The new rents are \$193 for a one-bedroom apartment, \$253 for a lower two-bedroom, and \$266 for a lower three-bedroom. Up-pers cost an extra \$20. The increase which brought them to this level is the third at Bain in little over 2 years. Earlier increases averaged 21% and 10%. Ironically, because it is non-profit housing, the co-op is not covered by rent controls.

About half the tenants at Bain are covered by government rent supplements. But many low-income people don't qualify for them. Organizers of the freeze are now calling for a universal subsidy. On one of their leaflets, they "demand that no one — including students, wage earners, UIC or welfare recipients, singles, married or common-law couples — be required to pay more than 25% of their income in rent."

In this, they are supported by the Residents' Council, which has agreed to start pressuring the government to change its policies in this regard. Says Alexandra Wilson, property manager and Council spokesman: "We don't agree on the tactics, that's all. If we freeze the rents, we'd have the force of three governments upon us and we wouldn't win." She also

says that 10 households at most would be so hard hit by the increases they would have to move. Meanwhile, the council has set up a committee to find a way to help those hardest hit by the increases.

Supporters of the freeze maintain that through united action it would be possible to hold off the government and keep rents where they are. They point to a housing project in Montreal which battled a similar rent hike and won.

Estimates of the amount of support for the rent freeze at Bain vary. Linda Jain, one of the organizers, claims that 50 unsubsidized units are involved, and that another 50 subsidized units support it.

However, spokesmen for the Residents Council say that only 26 units paid at the old "frozen" rate on February 1st. Similarly, Jain estimates that 50 people turned out to protest the rent hike at a demonstration on February 1st at the co-op offices, while Peter Tabuns, an opponent of the freeze, says there were only half that number.

"No love lost between us and the city"

Tabuns says that the freeze has already cost Bain \$1000, which it "will have to make up with higher rents" in the future. He accuses the supporters of the freeze of "taking money out of everyone else's pocket."

Tabuns also says that the City of Toronto Non-Profit Housing Corporation is "very happy" over what is happening. According to him, the Non-Profit Housing Corporation would be only too happy to see the tenants fail in their attempt to achieve ownership of the project. "There's no love lost between us and the City," he says.

He is a strong supporter of the idea of co-op ownership, although he admits that costs are high at first. He compares it to buying a house: a high initial cost, but "costs won't rise at the same rate as market rents. In the longer run, co-ops are cheaper than the private sector," he says.

In contrast, Linda Jain says that although she was formerly a "strong supporter", she personally is now "sitting down and re-evaluating co-ops". She wonders whether they can ever work while the financial power structure of society remains as it is. "You've got tenants fighting tenants," she says. "The basic problem is that there is always a landlord. In a

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7 NEWS is a community-owned newspaper published every other Saturday by Seven News, Inc., 265 Gerrard St. East. Editorial offices are located at 80 Winchester Street, phone 920-8632.

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LETTERS

Seven News: you goofed!

Dear 7 News:

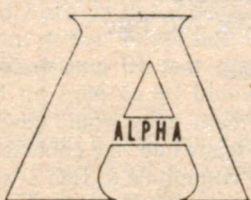
I think you made a mistake on

the year on the top of the page. You put 1976 instead of 1977. So please put the right year in on the top of the pages in the 7 newspapers from now on every week.

Sidney Forsythe
Age 11

Staff note: Sidney, you're right! We were so used to it being 1976 that we forgot and put the wrong date at the top of the pages in our January 15 edition. Thanks for telling us.

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FODARA is dead; long live FODARRA!

By JIM HOUSTON

The four-year-old Federation of Don Area Residents' Association (FODARA) went through a transformation at a conference on Saturday, January 29, emerging as the Federation of Don Area Residents and Residents' Associations (FODARRA).

The change goes much deeper than the simple addition of an extra 'R' in the name. Delegates voted unanimously to redefine "Don Area" to include all of the Ward 7 area on both sides of the Don River. Membership is now open to any resident of the area and to associations which focus on issues. The old FODARA structure included only delegates (two each) from neighbourhood-based residents' associations.

FODARA was founded in late 1972 to take control of an idea called the Community Secretariat. A grant of \$10,000 was available from the Province to open a central equipment and resource centre. Leaders of several area residents' associations formed the Federation as an attempt to guarantee community control.

But FODARA's regular meetings quickly became the forum where activist citizens from Trafalgar Court, South of Carlton, South of St. Jamestown, and Don Vale identified problems of mutual concern and planned joint action.

In 1973 Regent Park, South Cabbagetown, and Moss Park joined and appointed delegates.

In 1974 Sherbourne 155, DACHI, Barbara Apartments and

Spruce Court came into the Federation.

But signs of weakness had already begun to appear in the structure. Some of the original groups had gone out of existence; others seemed to exist more on lists of associations than in reality. It became more and more difficult to get the remaining member groups to appoint their two delegates. Attendance at the regular meetings fell off. During the past year several meetings had to be cancelled for lack of quorum.

The all-day conference on January 29 was called to find the reasons for this decline, and to see if there was any further need for a federation of residents' associations in the Don. Delegates representing twelve associations, three residents from east of the River, eight community workers, and three politicians gathered in a large basement room at 155 Sherbourne Street to look at the changes that have swept over the downtown area in the past four years.

A team of professional evaluators presented their findings, based on a questionnaire answered by over 50 people connected with FODARA or its member associations. They reported a general consensus that although the Community Secretariat seemed to have become an almost essential service, FODARA itself was really dead.

The conference moved to an examination of the reasons for FODARA's decline. Janet Howard and Margaret Campbell pro-

vided the needed focus for this part of the discussion, speaking from their perspective as alderman and MPP respectively.

Alderman Howard noted that geographic neighbourhoods no longer seemed to be the focus of citizen organizing. There has been a shift to organizing for action around large issues, such as social welfare, tenants' rights, daycare, etc. These new alliances have nothing to do with neighbourhood boundaries.

The delegates concluded that FODARA as it had existed was no longer a valid structure for the changed circumstances. But it was unanimously agreed that a new structure was needed.

What emerged is a new federation called FODARRA, looser in some ways than the old FODARA. Individual residents, as well as organized associations can participate. Associations can still appoint delegates and require them to report back before committing the association to any decision. Quarterly forums were seen as much more realistic than the monthly meetings of the old FODARA.

The Community Secretariat will be operated by a board of seven directors elected at an annual meeting of FODARRA.

The community conference to evaluate FODARA and the Community Secretariat was considered by the exhausted delegates to have been a great success. One of them was overheard to say at supper: "FODARA is dead, long live FODARRA!"

Where to get help with tax forms

By CINDY WILKEY

With Tax Time here again many people are looking for ways to avoid total frustration and still get their tax forms in on time. Below are places in the Ward 7 area where you can go to get some help with your income tax.

Len Willis at Central Neighbourhood House, 349 Ontario St., will do tax forms for \$2-\$5 depending on how simple or complicated they are. Leave your forms and necessary information (T4 slips, Baby Bonus payments total rent for 1976, etc.) at the reception desk, and pick them up a few days later. Call 925-4363 for more information.

At Dixon Hall, 58 Sumach St. staff will be helping those with simple (rent-rebate only) tax forms on Tuesdays and Fridays by appointment only. A regular tax clinic for low income residents who were working last year and have T4's will be held Tuesday evenings, 7:30-8:30, beginning February 17. Again appointments are necessary. A special seniors' clinic will be held every Wednesday morning during the month of February from 9-12. No appointment is needed for this one. For appointments and information about the Dixon Hall Clinics call 863-0499. There is no charge for this service, but donations are certainly welcome.

The Neighbourhood Information Post staff and volunteers are doing tax forms for those on low incomes at various daytime and evening times from Monday-Thursday. Evening clinics have volunteers from the Institute of Chartered Accountants on hand to help those who have been working or who have complicated returns. NIP is also running a Thursday evening tax clinic at 325 Bleeker St. for St. Jamestown residents. Appointment is necessary for all of NIP's clinics and can be made by calling 924-2543. There is no charge, but donations are greatly appreciated. Volunteers are also available to help seniors' clubs in the Ward 7 area who would like to set up a special clinic day for their members.

Mr. Montgomery has volunteered to operate a clinic in the St. Jamestown at 275 Bleeker on Tuesdays and at 375 Bleeker on Thursdays. Appointments can be made by calling the St. Jamestown 'Y' at 923-4402.

In Regent Park, residents can have their tax forms filled out for \$2 by dropping them off, with all necessary information, at 63 Belshaw Pl., Apt. No. 101, between 9-5 Monday - Friday. This service is provided by the Regent Park Community Service Unit for Regent Park and the immediate neighbourhood. They will also be trying to arrange some kind of shut-in service for Regent Park residents. For more information call 863-1768.

The Silayan Filipino Community Centre, 520 Sherbourne St., will help Philipinos with their Philipino as well as their Canadian Tax forms. Tax for senior citizens is done on weekdays, while those who have both Canadian and Philipino tax can have their forms done on Sundays. In either case appointments must be arranged by calling 922-3977.

For low income Riverdale area residents, Operation Economic Concern, a LIP project, is providing free tax clinics at various locations in both Chinese and English. A clinic is presently open weekdays from 9-4 at Morse St. School, 180 Carlaw. Starting in late February there will be evening clinics from 7-9 at the following locations: Queen St. E. Church (Mondays & Tuesdays), St. Annes Church, 120 First Av (Tuesday), St. Clements Church, 183 James St. (Wednesday) and St. Stephens Church (Thursday). Again appointments are necessary and can be made by calling 463-4246.

from the post

Neighbourhood Information Post
265 Gerrard St. E. 924-2544

Eastminster Community Services, 310 Danforth, has a free clinic for senior citizens and those on low incomes. The hours are 9-5 Monday - Friday. There is no charge and no appointments are necessary. They will also arrange home visits for shut-ins.

A tax service for senior citizens is being offered by Woodgreen Community Centre, 383 Queen St. E. The hours are Wednesday from 10-3 and Friday 1:30-3:00. They prefer that you make appointments by calling 461-1168. There is no charge but donations are accepted.

Two additional clinics that are not actually in the Ward 7 area may be of interest to residents with special needs.

People who are deaf or hard of hearing can get tax assistance by dropping in to the Canadian Hearing Society, 60 Bedford Rd., on February 23, March 2, March 16 or March 23 between 7-9 p.m. Appointments are not needed, but more information can be obtained by calling 964-9595.

Beginning in March, the Volunteer Department at the CNIB, 1929 Bayview Ave., will be running a clinic for the blind. Appointments will be necessary and can be made by calling 486-2572.

Those of you who are filling out your own forms and have questions regarding a particular section can call the Department of Taxation's Tax Inquiry Service at 869-1500. They will answer any inquiry over the phone.

East End libraries ask equality and seek changes

by MARY ANN WILSON

The East End libraries of the Toronto Public Library System have been woefully neglected by the Library Board.

So says a study done in May, 1975 by Anne Woodsworth, Lorna Marsden and Richard Selibman. Known as the Woodsworth Report, it is a public document, but not widely known.

As of 1976, however, steps have been taken to improve matters with capital expenditures over a million dollars projected.

For many years the six Eastern District libraries — Beaches, Gerard, Danforth, Eastern, Jones and Riverdale — have received inadequate funds to provide the services expected of them. In comparison, the Northern area received a much larger proportion of funds for a smaller percentage of the population. Between 1954 and 1975 the City spent \$54 per citizen on libraries in the North End and only \$5 per citizen in the rest of the city.

The Toronto Public Library Board, common to most public bodies, responded to the most persistent demands. The differences in quality and varieties of services between the north and east end widened, and the six East End libraries fell far below minimum



Six-year-old Angela, hugging 10-year-old Maria, is among the users of the Danforth Library on Pape. They're taking part in a crafts program.

Photo by Cubby Coatsworth

standards in a number of ways.

Audio-visual materials, for example, have been lamentably short

supply, therefore many borrowers have gone to East York or Scarborough for them. East End buildings were described as 'library slums' compared with the North End and the Boroughs.

The question arises: what is a library? To some it is a building; to others, it is a collection of books; and to still others it is a service.

The Board, chaired for the past three years by Jim Lorimer, has been re-examining the functions of libraries, and trying to change their 'museum image' to become a more vital part of the community where more people want to come in.

A further step in encouraging more involvement was to establish citizen advisory committees in

1975. Instrumental in this were Glynnis McMullen, former Board chairman, Lorimer and others. There is an East End citizen advisory committee, and each Branch has its own.

Ideas coming from their meetings are being heard as the Board increases sensitivity to what people really want.

Top priority has been given to equalization as a major goal. Despite severe cutbacks in 1975 capital budgets, enlargements and remodelling projects were approved for five of the six branches.

Eastern District Supervisor Jean Orpwood says, "I agree with the Woodsworth Report, and believe the East End has had unfair treatment. I think we should do everything possible to make our libraries more appealing to the public; the buffet banquet idea with something for every taste, and let's throw out the stale bread."

Circulation is rapidly expanding in spite of difficulties.

Riverdale's circulation has doubled since 1973, partly because it has one of the best Chinese collections. "People come from all over," says Jane Ameline, Branch librarian, "some from as far away as Hamilton."

In each of the branches the staff has some power for the first time over spending, and does a limited amount of direct buying from book stores. New programmes and popular books and magazines are trying to keep up with demands.

"The Radical East End," we have been called. Could it be that we have not been radical enough? Speak up if you can't find what you want. Maybe nobody asked. See your local librarian or come to the next advisor committee meeting.

Mary Ann Wilson is a member of the East End Advisory Committee.



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Elderly fear purse snatching

continued from pg 1

every woman who wishes to protect herself.

— Don't carry your purse. If you must have one, don't wrap the strap around your neck as you may be injured during an attempt to grab your purse.

— Carry your money in a wallet on your person. It's also a good idea to carry your credit cards and key ring somewhere on your person.

— The police strongly advise you not to carry weapons. They can be used against you. If you are attacked, let the thief have the purse. The money can be replaced, you can't be.

— If you are attacked, scream as loud and as long as you can. Then contact the police at the first opportunity.

If you wish more information, you can phone Crime Prevention Officer Bob Copeland at 967-2158, or Crime Prevention Officer Ralph Stevens of 51 Divi-

sion at 967-2105.

And if you're not going out because of the stories you've heard, remember that a little common sense and an ounce of prevention will take away the opportunity for a theft.

Back at the Second Mile Club when I asked one of the bingo players if she believed some of the stories, she laughed and said, "Well you know, at this age we're all a wee bit glibble."

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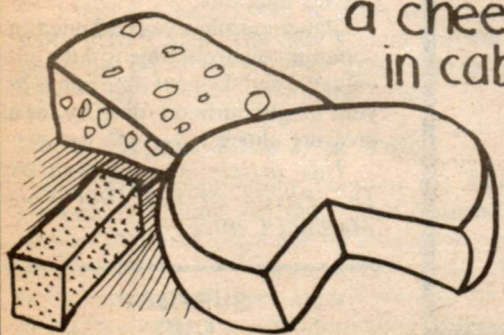
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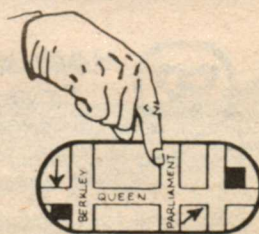
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* * *

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LAW

Court no help in domestic violence

by PETER HARRIS

Bob X. was a heavy drinker and often became violent when drunk. Carol X. had been listening to Bob bitterly complaining for months about the lack of jobs and the cost of feeding her and the two children. The pressure in the cramped one-bedroom apartment rises with Carol reacting angrily at Bob for taking out his problems on her and the kids. Bob reaches across the bottle strewn table and strikes Carol. The next morning Carol lays a charge of Common Assault against Bob at the Family Court at 311 Jarvis Street.

While the characters are imaginary, this play repeats itself with assembly-line regularity in the Province's Family Courts. More depressing is the failure to provide any substantial satisfaction to the actors. Because the criminal law is involved, the Court is not able to deal with any special needs or problems arising from the fact the complainant is married to the accused.

If a battered wife has decided the marriage is over and merely wants justice or perhaps a criminal conviction on which to base a Petition for Divorce, she might be content with the results of the Criminal Court process. A woman who didn't want to leave the home, or who could not leave for financial or emotional reasons will find herself frustrated at every turn.

What happens to a woman who is financially dependent on her husband? Or who is too embarrassed or too fearful of further retaliation to move out of the home? Often she might decide that she wants to continue the relationship but wants a Court to intervene for the purpose of asserting her right to live without physical mistreatment. Yet if the Court finds there was physical abuse, there may be a conviction registered which could lead to employment problems or a further polarization of the relationship.

What credibility does a complainant have, in the proof of some injury to herself, when she remains under the same roof with the accused? The Court will

probably conclude that it couldn't have been that serious. If she leaves has she effectively denied herself support payments because she is deserting him? (Not if she can prove he drove her out by physical or mental abuse). However if she is not successful in the criminal prosecution she may be restricted to obtaining support from him for just the children where she is the deserter.

For a woman with children and no money to support herself there are only a few places in Toronto such as Interval House, Women in Transition and Nellie's where temporary lodgings are available and often there are waiting lists.

The accused husband is equally dissatisfied with Family Court. Bob, the protagonist in the opening scene, would probably grumble about the Court being only interested in whether he touched her and not really concerned with his side of the story. "Like the fact that I was drunk coupled with all my money problems. How can they deal with one act in isolation? What about the time she hit me last year?"

There is no wonder then, why most women, after considering all of the possible alternatives, and often after a good deal of pressure on the part of the husband, reconcile themselves to the role of domestic punching bag and drop the charges. The Criminal Court system as an instrument for the handling of wife beating cases is about as germane to contemporary needs as stage coach on a jet runway.

The system adopted in Washington, D.C. in 1971 could provide a more imaginative alternative. With the criminal procedure continuing to be available, a new Civil Family Court proceeding should be developed in Ontario, that would not lead to a judgment that punishes the individual for a crime, but would at most, subject him to a civil "Protection Order" which would be like an injunction that would prevent further assaults and where necessary, require participation in psychiatric treatment and counselling programmes.

HEALTH

Glaucoma: its causes, detection, and cure

Glaucoma is a condition in which the internal pressure of the eye is too high to be tolerated by the sensitive structures inside. Understanding glaucoma is not difficult once one has an idea of the normal structure of the eye.

The eye has similarities to a camera, particularly a television camera. Its function is to focus light on the "film" or retina which transforms the images into electrical impulses transmitted down the cable-like optic nerve to the master control center, the brain. Since the walls of the eye are not hard like plastic or metal in a regular camera, it is necessary to have a certain pressure inside to prevent the walls from collapsing like a car tire when the air is let out. This pressure is maintained by a circulating fluid called aqueous humour. This fluid is formed near the edge of the lens, passes through the pupil and runs

out a drainage hole in the angle between the cornea and the iris.

If the plumbing in the drainage pipe becomes partly or completely clogged up, the fluid will continue to be formed, build up, and increase the pressure in the eye. Voila! The mechanism of all glaucomas. Different kinds of glaucoma only vary in the reason for the clogged plumbing.

Interference with the outflow of fluid can be caused by birth defects, or can be secondary to a number of eye diseases. In certain susceptible people, the angle where the drainage occurs can close up quite suddenly producing a severely painful red eye and loss of vision requiring immediate emergency treatment. The most common type, however, is a gradually progressive interference with outflow, usually in older patients.

Glaucoma is a very sneaky disease. It usually has no symptoms such as pain or discomfort because of the build-up of pressure is so gradual. In addition, because it usually affects the peripheral vision first, people do not notice any vision loss until it is advanced enough to affect the fine central vision.

When caught early, this disease can be treated very successfully and any further visual loss is prevented. This is done by treatment with various types of eye drops which have the effect of opening up the drainage passages or decreasing the amount of fluid formed, thus decreasing the pressure in the eye. Surgery to create new drainage paths is usually necessary in only a few cases resistant to medical treatment.

How can you tell if you have glaucoma? As stated above, in the early stages, no symptoms may be present and one can only be sure by having one's eyes tested by an ophthalmologist. Everyone should see their eye doctor at least every two years, older people more frequently. There is definite evidence that glaucoma tends to run in families, therefore anyone with a family history of glaucoma should be checked at least once a year. Highly shortsighted people, diabetics, and people with other eye diseases also should be checked at regular intervals.

Glaucoma surveys conducted in communities from time to time are valuable and the next time one is in your neighbourhood, drop by for a pressure check.

This article was written by Dr. Pavlin of the Don Vale Medical Centre.

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Cabinet shuffle sends Scrivener to Revenue

Among those moved to new portfolios by Premier William Davis in last week's provincial cabinet shuffle was St. David MPP Margaret Scrivener. Scrivener, who had been Minister of Government Services, now moves to the Revenue portfolio.

While most of the reaction to the new Cabinet dealt with the more important positions, Scrivener's

role in the Cabinet drew comment from a number of quarters. The Globe and Mail described Scrivener as having been "competent" in Government Services, but noted that even "other Cabinet ministers say privately they don't like" her. Toronto Sun columnist John Downing commented that "putting Margaret Scrivener in charge of revenue would be fine

only if she promised not to give speeches. If she does, she's liable to personally reduce the dollars flowing into the treasury."

And NDP leader Stephen Lewis said, "Get out the nets: they'll be leaping from the windows in Revenue."

Scrivener is not generally considered to be one of the most popular members of the legislature.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Tuesday, February 15

Every Tuesday evening from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Neighbourhood Legal Services, 257 Seaton Street, runs a **free legal clinic** staffed by University of Toronto law students. No appointment is needed. For information call 928-0110.

At the Parliament Street Library House, 265 Gerrard Street East, a **free poetry workshop** tonight at 7:30.

Wednesday, February 16

The Friendship Centre, 317 Dundas Street East, is offering a **free craft class** Wednesday mornings at 10:30. Everyone is invited to participate in the bottle-cutting, bead-working, and jewelry making.

Thursday, February 17

Every Thursday morning from 10 until noon there is a **free podiatric clinic** at Woodgreen Community Centre, 835 Queen Street East. Bring your OHIP card. For an appointment call 461-1168.

Thursday evening from 7:30 to 10:00 it's **Pub Night** at Woodgreen Centre. There's entertainment and a 30 cent admission charge.

Parents Anonymous, an organization formed to help parents who abuse their children, holds weekly meetings Thursday mornings from 9:45 to 11:30 at St. Peter's Anglican Church 190 Carlton Street. For information call 485-2643.

Friday, February 18

A free film will be screened tonight at 7:30 in the Parliament Street Library House. Come and watch the daring Douglas Fairbanks in "**The Black Pirate**".

A series of six free weekly **health lectures** starting with "Coping with Stress" will be given by speakers from Spectrum at Woodgreen Community Centre, 835 Queen Street East. Talks begin at 1:30 p.m. and everyone is welcome.

Saturday, February 19

Saturdays at 2 p.m. in the Library House, 265 Gerrard East join a **discussion about poetry** with host and area poet Norm Craven. Bring your poems along for constructive criticism. For information call 921-8674.

Tuesday, February 22

The **Riverdale NDP** holds its General Meeting in Ulster Hall, 1047-1/2 Gerrard Street East tonight. Admission of \$2.00 includes a pancake supper at 6:30. Nominations for the executive begin at 7:30 and a mystery guest speaker steps to the podium at 8:30.

Spend **Shrove Tuesday** night at St. Peter's Anglican Church, 190 Carlton Street. The pancake supper starts at 6 p.m. for the hungry, and a Punch and Judy puppet show soon after for the kids. At 8 p.m., a screening of the film "Jesus Christ, Superstar". For reservations call 924-1891 or 962-4518.

The **First Great Poetry Debate** commences at 7:30 tonight at the Library House, 265 Gerrard Street East. Two groups of poets will debate their philosophies and aims. Admission is free.

Thursday, February 24

The Don District **Inter-Agency Group** will meet at 10 a.m. in All Saints Church. For information call 924-2543.

Friday, February 25

Film Buffs, your time has come! It's 7:30 tonight at the Library House, 265 Gerrard Street East for the screening of three **movies** absolutely free of charge. Bring popcorn.

Saturday, February 26

Everyone who loves a good time is invited to the Regent Park School **Fun Fair**, 20 Regent Street today from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. You name it, they've got it: bingo, rummage sale, bake sale, crafts, and a raffle with stupendous prizes.

All Saints Church, Sherbourne and Dundas, is holding its **Open House** today at 1:30 p.m. Come out and meet representatives from all the agencies working out of All Saints, watch native Indian dances, and "elect" the first lord mayor of Cabbagetown.

General

The Home Living Assistance Project, 135 First Avenue, provides **home visiting** for the elderly and the handicapped, as well as minor household repairs and help at home. There is a nominal charge of \$1.00 per hour which can be waived if necessary. Interested? Phone 463-9720 for more information.

down and the groups renting space in the building are looking for new quarters.

Businessmen Meet

The Ward Seven Business and Professional Association held its first general meeting of 1977 on January 31 at the German Canadian Club Harmonie on Sherbourne Street. Guest speakers were Alderman Janet Howard, Harry Billington, a development officer from the City of Toronto, and Carl Orbach, the legal counsel for the Old Cabbagetown Business Improvement Area. Some 65 people attended, many of them professional people who have entered the association in numbers lately, contributing to a membership that has almost doubled in the last three months.

BOOST for the blind

BOOST, an independent self-help group of blind people, has on its staff an employment co-ordinator who has been working with individuals and employers to help blind people with job training and job placement.

If you know of any job openings, or if you are a blind person seeking work, please contact BOOST at 80 Winchester Street.

Brief Briefs

Charlotte Maher, a Toronto school trustee, has been appointed interim head of Central Neighbourhood House, filling the shoes of recently departed Jeanne Rowles. . . . A group of local community workers has started publishing a Community Worker Newsletter, obtainable by writing P.O. Box 7251, Station A, Toronto. . . .



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NEWS BRIEFS

3 Die in Fire on Withrow

Three people — a woman and two children — died in a rooming-house fire on Withrow Avenue last week. The dead are Janet Bell, 21, her 15-month-old daughter Amanda, and three-year-old Mary Lou Tompkins.

Community House Opens

The Community House has been opened at the Dundas-Sherbourne Project. Opening day, on February 1st, was marked by a meeting of the Dundas-Sherbourne tenants. The house is located at 251 Sherbourne St.

Driver's Licence Changes

The Ontario government has introduced a new system of driver's licence classification. Its effect will be to allow drivers to only drive vehicles they are specifically licensed for. For example, someone holding an operator's license (to be called "Class G") will not be allowed to drive trucks weighing more than 9 tons. The new system will mean that some 200,000 of the province's 4 million drivers will have to take action to be reclassified.

Short Reprieve for Don Vale

Following negotiations between the Don Vale Community Centre and the United Church, it now appears that the Centre will be allowed to remain in the building at 80 Winchester until April 30. The documents haven't been signed yet, but the church has agreed to the extension providing that all tenants guarantee they will vacate the premises by this date. Meanwhile, the Centre's activities have been wound

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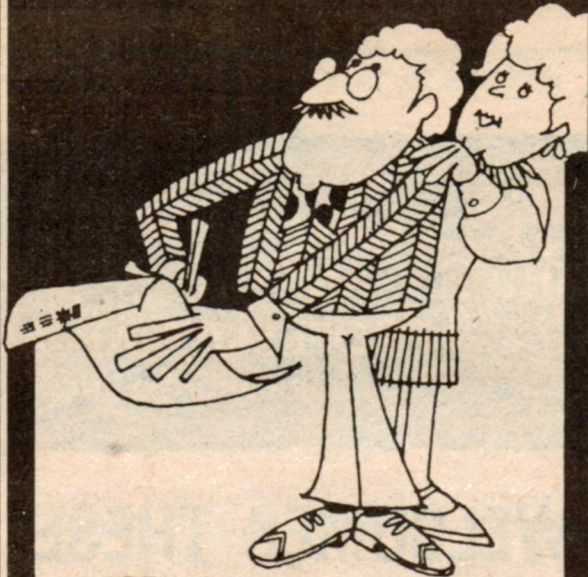
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Guaranteed Income Supplement application forms were mailed recently to all pensioners now receiving the Supplement. To make sure that your Supplement to the Pension continues beyond March 31st you **must** reapply. So make sure you fill in your form and return it in the addressed envelope enclosed with the form, as soon as you possibly can.



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DRAMA

Primary English Class passes with honours

By SHERILYN MARSHALL

Repeat after me — repeat after me, seemed to be the major theme of the Open Circle Theatre's Canadian premiere presentation of the Primary English Class at the New Theatre, Bathurst and Bloor. Insults, non-tolerance and petty hatreds filtered throughout the play. The lack of communication, although humorous, really showed how difficult it is for a non-English speaking person to communicate in an English-speaking country — especially when there is lack of understanding of the problem.

There was an English voice-over in the play so that the non-foreign tongued people could understand what was going on. The humour was evident in the play because if you didn't speak one of the seven languages used in the play, you really didn't know, did you? You relied on the translator.

The students insult and argue with each other — not really understanding why they are doing it. Finally the teacher enters the room and adds more confusion to the class as she presumes that everyone is going to understand her. She babbles, rants and raves, trying to get the students to learn "English — English — English". She screams for silence and then fights with her students when they don't do anything but look at her. "We must learn English — I'm doing this for you — your own good. You are here to learn English — our common goal is for your common good. We must learn English."

"Sit, stand, sit", is Act two's contribution to the play as teacher, Debbie Wastba (played by Diane Dewey), pushes her students around trying to get them to obey her — much like a master forces a dog to do what he/she is told. Madam Lee (Bruce Lee's grandmother), played by Lila Yee become the object of Debbie's sexual fantasies and humour as she (the teacher) tells the class that if the old woman wants

illicit sexual relations with a dirty old man in the ladies washroom — that is her business. She recites this in English of course and no one knows what she is talking about. "We are safe in the classroom as long as we keep the door locked, the monster is on the outside."

The humour becomes more sexually oriented as Debbie cries and sobs her way into a lurid tale of molestation (hers) telling it in English, again. No one understands her tears and that she is cracked. Debbie becomes hysterical and yells continually at the students. Then it's "touch the floor, touch the wall, touch the light," as she yells at them to learn English. "It looks like language is going to be our Waterloo," she shouts. "Death by learning English is worse than death by suffocation," is the Portuguese student's retort. The audience responds with laughter as further confusion wends its way into the play. One by one the students leave, talking in their native tongues rather than English.

Silence is golden, at least that is what Debbie thought by the time her class had gone. Repeat after me — this is the Primary English Class. As Debbie's final student leaves, he sings "Good-bye Miss American Pie — English Blah!" Debbie is left sitting and wondering what happened. "English is not difficult to learn — what is wrong with those people is her cry in the lonely room. She has no understanding of the problem as she completely ignores the other person's feelings.

The Primary English Class is very well done as it doesn't try to minimize or maximize the problem of communication between people. It satirizes it hoping to get people to practice more tolerance and understanding towards their fellow man and each other, whether they speak the same language or not.



The Primary English Class is nothing if not lively. An exasperated teacher (Diane Dewey) tries to get her message across.

Bain Ave. Co-op split over rent hike issue

continued from pg 1

co-op, your landlord is yourself." She says she is now leaning to the concept of City ownership, with tenants developing their power through a strong tenants' association.

Tabuns, on the other hand, feels that co-ops with ownership give residents more economic advantages and more power to mobilize and he wants Bain to become one. He notes that some co-ops in the city had no rent increases at all this year, while City-owned non-profit projects face hikes of 5% to 18%.

Bankruptcy touch

The City of Toronto Non-Profit Housing Corporation "has the bankruptcy touch", he says. Tabuns cites the corporation's bungling of repairs at Bain last year,

which helped to drive costs up. He says that the corporation is so inept that it forgot to pay Bain's tax bill (to the City!) on time last year, with the result that Bain had to pay a penalty. The corporation deposits rent cheques from Bain in an account that pays no interest at all.

And thanks to being owned by the Non-Profit Housing Corporation, Bain is taxed at a commercial rate by the City. If it were a resident-owned co-op, it would be assessed as residential and have to pay \$20,000 a year less in taxes.

To Tabuns and others who form the majority on the Residents Council, co-operative ownership offers definite advantages that make some short-term sacrifices worthwhile. They resent the fact that a minority of residents is defying the will of the majority of residents and in so doing is jeopardiz-

ing the entire project.

Supporters of the rent freeze, on the other hand, some of whom are affiliated with the Wages for Housework group, see themselves as victims of cutbacks in family allowances, unemployment insurance, and welfare, of wage controls that don't control prices, and constantly rising costs that are forever adding to their load of work and worry. To them, a rent increase is a rent increase no matter what its justification, no matter how it was set and approved, and they have decided to fight it.

The result is the spectacle of residents fighting among themselves while the City looks on. What will happen at Bain is unclear. But it is clear that Bain's history shows that the co-op approach is not an easy solution to the housing problems that so many in the city face.



Cabbagetown boxers score wins in Golden Gloves tournament

Boxers from the Cabbagetown Boxing Club put on a very strong showing in the Golden Gloves Tournament held in Toronto recently, with eight of its 10 finalists walking away from the ring with wins.

The tournament was the first Golden Gloves held in Ontario for 25 years, and it was brought back through the efforts of Peter Wylie of the Cabbagetown Club. So it was only fitting that the Cabbagetown boys make their mark and earn the right to set their sights on the big Golden Gloves final in Hawaii.

One of the highlights of the whole tournament was

Cabbagetown's Mike Doyle pounding out a TKO victory over national champion Floyd Janoveau of Sudbury in the open heavyweight division.

Other Cabbagetown winners were John Raferty over Walter Neville of Sudbury in the light-welterweight open division, and

Jeff Lewis, who won the bantam-weight open when his opponent didn't show up.

In the Novice Division, Cabbagetown's Don Cobby won a decision over Joe Picton; Kerry Antoniadis beat Rick Shannon; Skudris Batraks beat Ron Sweazy; Derek Kikot got the nod over Ted Musson of Mississauga; and Brian Niro stopped Ken Galant of St. Catharines.

Not winning this time were Don Marshall, who lost in the feather-weight division (open), and Wayne Brown, who lost in the open light-heavyweight to Pat Fennel of Kitchener.

But the big news for Cabbagetown has to be their excellent showing in the novice category. These are the guys who are just getting started, and with more experience under their belts, they should make Cabbagetown even more of a force to be reckoned with than it is now.



Shown above are (top to bottom) Don Marshall, who lost in the final of the featherweight division; Mike Doyle, who TKO'd Canadian champion Floyd Janoveau in the open heavyweight division; and John Raferty, who won in the light-welterweight division.

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By Alfred Rushton

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As part of its new multicultural and school community relations policies, the Toronto Board of Education has established a School Community Relations Department requiring School Community Relations Workers.

Three (3) Workers are required for Area 4 (roughly bounded by University Avenue, Greenwood Avenue, Danforth Avenue (and Lake Ontario).

The Workers will assist schools to develop and implement effective community contacts and reference groups; help develop receiving and orientation programs; co-ordinate the provision of a broad interpreter service when required.

Qualifications:

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4. An understanding of large urban schools.
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KIDS STUFF

How would you like to be a hamburger?

The kids in Room 209 and Room 212 at Duke of York Public School have been busy writing stories, poems, and jokes for 7 News. Here is a sample of their work.

(If you or your class would like to write us something, please send it to 7 News, Kids Page, 265 Gerrard St. East. And be sure to put your name and home address on it!)

If I was a hamburger I would get mustard and relish and lots of stuff on me. Then I would be all gobbled up. I would hope that it is my mom that would eat me.

Robbie Norton, age 8

Once upon a time there was a little boy named Jack. He lived with his mother. His mother threw some beans out of the window one day. The next day there was a tall, tall beanstalk growing in their front yard. When Jack tried to look out his window, he couldn't see a thing because the beanstalk was so big it was covering everything. He went out and climbed the beanstalk.

Cheryl Driscoll, age 8

When I was at Riverdale I saw a friend. He's from Jamaica. He had skis on. We were having a race. We were on the toboggan; we won. It was really a lot of fun. Riverdale is a good place for tobogganing.

Bobbie Spencer, age 10

If I was a hot dog some person would take me out of warm package and do lots of awful things with me. First they would put me in a frying pan and put on the stove. Then they would take me and shake me around. They would put me in a bun and they would put gooey ketchup and mustard on me and this would be the worst thing. Then they would eat me and that would be the end of me, the hot dog.

Warren Farrell, age 9

Love can blossom between two hearts or even between a boy and his dog as you'll see by reading the Valentine story and the poem that follows. Love can end happily or very, very tragically, according to our two writers.

Valentine Hearts Fell in Love

Once there was a heart. It was a girl heart. She fell in love with this boy heart. They fell in love on February 14th. That's how we got Valentine's Day. They didn't care if they fell in the water or got swallowed by a whale.

Monica Buitron, Age 10

The Little Boy and His Dog

Once there was a little boy and his name was Jim

He had a little doggie and his name was Tim
Everyday Jim came home from school
Tim would be waiting like a fool.

Whenever Jim went for a swim
Tim would come in with him

Once Jim wanted to cook
But all Tim could do was look

Tim and Jim had lots of fun
Running with the sun
Till one day Tim died
And then everybody cried
They cried all day
In a different way
Till they had tears
Running down their ears.

They went to pray on Saturday
Then Jim died on a girl guide
She screamed so loud it made her proud
And her mother said, "I wish you were dead."

And she died.

Nancy Quaintance

Arthur Nichol, age 9, Ronnie Villeneuve, age 12, and Tina Dempsey, age 10, sent us these jokes:

QUESTION: What do you call a wet pup?

ANSWER: A soggy doggy.

QUESTION: What is brought to the table and cut, but never eaten?

ANSWER: A pack of cards.

Marvin asked his teacher, "Would you be mad at me for something that I did not do?" His teacher said, "No, Marvin. I would never be mad at you for something you did not do." "That's good," said Marvin, "because I did not do my homework."

Kids' Calendar

Danforth Library

Saturday February 19 at 2:00 p.m. hear the **Picture Book Stories**. Afterwards, stay for the crafts. If you do, you'll learn how to make your own musical instrument.

Gerrard Library

Saturday February 12 at 11 in the morning, make valentines at the **Fantastic Fun Hour**. At 2:00 p.m. join the craft group and make yourself a mask.

Monday February 14 is **Valentines Day**. Come to a real Valentines party complete with cookies and punch from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday February 15 and 22 from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., come and make **papier mache Monsters**.

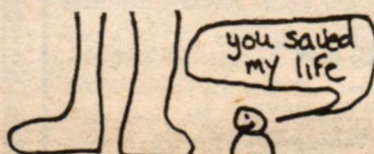
Fun Fair, Regent Park School

Everyone is welcome to come out and join the action at the Regent Park Fun Fair on Saturday February 26 starting at 1 in the afternoon. Admission is free. There'll be bingo, games, a rummage sale, bake sale, crafts, and a draw for good prizes.

King Kong
saves the
boy by Joel and Mike



I'm going to jump off the CN Tower



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Anyone may nominate a person for the Ontario Medal, and nomination forms are available by writing:

Executive Secretary
Advisory Council
Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship
Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1A1

Making a nomination is itself an act of appreciation for good citizenship. All nominations should be received by April 15, 1977.



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