

# The Regent Park

# Community News

Published by the Council of the Regent Park Community Improvement Association, 280 Parliament Street, Toronto,

March 1972

I have lived in Regent Park for 13 years and am running for Second Vice President.

1. To give youth representation.
2. To help youth determine their own needs and wants.
3. To bring youth and adults to a better understanding.
4. Education, Drugs, Programs.

I am proud to live in Regent Park.

Dave Martin  
(Age 19 Grade 13  
Jarvis Collegiate)

I would like to make Regent Park a better place. It is important to involve the Youth in community affairs. We don't need outsiders to run our affairs. I would like to see the tenants giving more leadership. If elected President I would work for these objectives.

Dick Boyd

I've been a tenant for 18 years and have served as an area representative for 41 Oak St. and helped to get better security measures there through my correspondence with O.H.C. If elected I will do my best for everyone in Regent Park.

John Scanlon

I will work to involve more tenants in the affairs of the community and to eliminate personality clashes which have hindered our association. I will continue my work for a better education for our children who are entitled to the same opportunities as those of other areas.

Janet Ross

I pledge to work for many needed improvements in our community. Rents are too high and should be based on net instead of gross pay. The condition of the buildings is poor and many security problems need attention. A united and active tenants association can bring about better conditions in Regent Park.

Neil Tanner

As candidate for treasurer I wish to state some of my qualifications. I acquired a superlative education, have been editor of publications, President for the New Courses of Study in Mathematics and Social Sciences, organized school activities and have worked 30 years with youth counselling.

Eugene Demers  
Phd. (English)  
Dr. of Ed.  
B.A. of Mus.

I am a concerned youth of Regent Park who would like to bring a fresh approach to the R.P.C.I.A. as Recording Secretary. This community is over two thirds youth, youth who in the past have not had a voice. If elected I will be their voice and improve communications between young and old.

Della Simpson  
(age 18)

Fred Sheridan for Recording Secretary

- \* I will work for more equitable rent structure.
- \* More activities and programmes for all ages.
- \* Full support to projects like opportunities for Youth.
- \* Talent in Regent Park should be utilized.
- \* Publicize the facilities which are available.

Fred Sheridan

I would be glad to serve as Recording Secretary for the Association. I have served for one year in this capacity and would gladly serve for 1972-73. Hoping we would gain greater participation from tenants. I wish for more programs for middle aged groups.

Betty Strand

BALLOT BOX

Fellow Tenants:

Well, its election time again, time for the people to vote in the executive of their choice.

My name is Budd McCormick, and I would like very much again to represent the people of Regent Park as their President.

If you let my past record speak for me, you know I am thinking of you the tenant and the children of Regent Park.

Counting on your vote,

Budd Mc Cormick

Among my aims if elected Second Vice President are; full tenant involvement in all activities and issues concerning them, as well as an improved rent structure.

On March 20, I hope that all tenants concerned with these issues will support Neil Tanner and his slate by casting their ballot for a better Regent Park.

Victor Patterson

## CANDIDATES NIGHT

TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 1972, 8,00 p.m.

REGENT PARK UNITED CHURCH- 40 OAK STREET

\* CAMPAIGN TO STOP THE WIDENING OF DUNDAS STREET.

\* FINANCIAL REPORT ( IF READY)

REGENT PARK COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

280 PARLIAMENT STREET.

TELEPHONE 364-2909





# ACTION TO STOP "SNIFFING"

Requested by Regent Park Parents by Eugene Demers

On Monday Feb. 21, a special council meeting was held in the Regent Park United Church to discuss the problem of drugs and solvent sniffing in Regent Park. A capacity audience filled the basement hall.

The Reverend A. Verrall of the Regent Park United introduced the four panelists, Budd McCormick past President of the R.P.C.I.A., Don Roache President of the Canadian Union of Public Employees, Laurie Shugarman of the Addiction Research Foundation and Dave Martin from the Teen Centre.

Mr. McCormick affirmed that although there was some drug addicts in the area, the problem involved mostly sniffers of glue or other solvents. "We do not have a massive problem in Regent Park."

Mr. Roache agreed that Regent Park was not the only area with this problem but nevertheless it is very serious and he charged the organization has not done anything about it despite several conversations with Budd McCormick.

The report by caretakers and foremen complained of the risk to bodily harm when a caretaker was hospitalized by three "high" kids.

Dave Martin said "I know all the kids and the problem is not as serious as claimed by Mr. Roache".

Laurie Shugarman suggested that "There is no more a solvent problem here than anywhere else in the city." She reported that the Ponds Company have responded by removing the harmful ingredients from Cutex. She also pointed out that Canadian Tire sells over 100 products which can be used by sniffers and it would not be possible to remove all these from the market.

Many people felt Mr. Roache should not have put Regent Park in the headlines when the problem is universal.

It was suggested that a strong committee and a great deal of publicizing of the ill effects might be a start. The parents should supervise their children not damn them.

Barry Tulip appealed for more support to 203 Sackville Green as he felt that providing stimulating activities was one of the best ways of coping with the problem.

Others stated that a clinic is necessary for treatment and that support from public representatives is needed to implement an effective program.

Janet Ross a staunch enthusiast appealed for more drop-ins and asked "Where are the parents! Why don't they help."

Dan Peace suggested that the Boy Scouts Organization could help and would like to work with the Teen Centre.

It would seem that involvement, interest in youth, the need for a clinic and more drop-in centres with more activities to attract idle youth are necessary. It is incongruous that parents who know the problem are not at the meetings to express their views and offer suggestions. The world is involved in this problem, but we are morally bound to contribute something to its solutions.

## TENANTS CAN WIN \$50.00 FOR IDEAS TO IMPROVE REGENT PARK.

MR. JOHN DARCY, AREA MANAGER FOR O.H.C. HAS INFORMED THE R.P.C.I.A. THAT A TENANT SUGGESTION AWARD PROGRAMME IS BEING IMPLEMENTED FOR IDEAS TO IMPROVE OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE.

SUGGESTIONS WILL BE ADMINISTERED THROUGH THE DISTRICT MANAGER. IF FOUND TO BE SUITABLE, SUGGESTIONS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED ON A TRIAL BASIS. TENANTS WILL RECEIVE AWARDS UP TO \$50.00 FOR SUCCESSFUL IDEAS.

SUGGESTIONS CAN BE FORWARDED DIRECTLY TO O.H.C. 415 GERRARD ST. OF THROUGH THE R.P.C.I.A. 280 PARLIAMENT ST.

MOTHERS AND CHILDREN LEARNING TOGETHER - Oak St. School-Tues. & Friday 9:30-11:30 ages (2-5). NEWCOMERS WELCOME

## REGISTER YOUR CAR WITHOUT DELAY, AND MAKE MORE PARKING SPACE FOR REGENT PARK RESIDENTS

TO CONTROL PARKING ITS ESSENTIAL THAT ALL TENANTS REGISTER VEHICLES AT 415 GERRARD ST. OR 33 BELSHAW PLACE. TENANTS WILL RECEIVE A DECAL INDICATING THE CARS BEEN REGISTERED. TO DATE 10% OF VEHICLES ARE REGISTERED WE MUST HAVE MORE RESPONSE OR WE WILL NOT CONTROL ILLEGALLY PARKED CARS.

# A parents view

Budd McCormick has recently charged that solvent sniffing in the Regent Park area has not reached any high proportions and dismissed evidence of Don Roache, President of the Canadian Union of Public Employees. I also speak as one who has seen evidence of youngsters sniffing solvents having worked with the Addiction Foundation in this community in the summer of 1970.

Teenagers turn to "sniffing" for many different reasons. Sometime it is because friends of their own age do it. Others try to experiment. Disillusion, boredom and a general state of disgust with society as a whole are other factors. Some turn to solvents because they are much cheaper than other drugs.

I found that teenagers were not able to quit even though they had full knowledge of the harmful effects. After protracted use of solvents stomach cramps set in when they tried to quit and breathing became difficult and laboured.

One group which I personally observed found that they reached a 'high' then became quite violent. When the Cutex was removed a cooling off period set in. It is a medical fact that the residues in solvents constrict the nerves and insufficient oxygen reaches the brain. Solvent sniffing can cause break down of brain cells, liver and spleen damage. Inflammation blocks the nasal passage and windpipe causing dryness and can result in frequent suffocation.

The ideas and feelings of the younger generation must be understood.

They simply cannot identify with a lot of the values of their parents. They live and feel differ-

ently than we adults. They seem to have a sense of urgency about the issues confronting their present and future lives. They feel that computerized advancements prelude individualism of spirit and initiative. In short many see society as it is and frankly do not like it one damn bit.

Within the group of solvent sniffers I talked with I found a common theme. They turn to it to escape the problems which confront us all. Some who went for treatment found that with tranquilizers they were able to withdraw. Some felt that if adults could get "stoned" to relax than why not them.

The teenagers themselves know they have a problem but when they want to talk about it they are told by some that religion alone is the answer, or that they are crazy. Others receive a beating or are threatened with police. But all they are asking for is help. If you do extend your hand it should be fully understood that they are putting their trust and faith in you. Break this bond by any of the above means and you have lost the battle which you are trying to help them to win.

Anyone who states that there is not drug or solvent abuse in our area is not in my estimation too well informed or is trying to make an issue of it. This is not a problem that is autonomous within any specific district it is national in scope. As a result of the pressure the manufacturers of model Cement have been working on an additive which will make the potential sniffer vomit from the odour.

I write not as an expert but as a parent who is deeply concerned about the youth in our community.



# "T.R.Y."

## THROUGH REGENT YOUTH

### My Views about Regent Park Teen Centre

by  
Norine Brady

I'm quite sure that my views about our Teen Centre is about the same as any other teenagers. I think that this is about the best thing that has ever happened to Regent Park for the teens. We have been on quite a few trips, including the Science Centre and the Planetarium. The staff that were supervising really had a load on their hands with all the teens that went. But they did a good job.

I think, along with a number of other members, that the people who helped organize the club deserve a great amount of thanks. But the most thanks should go to our staff and of course their boss Barry Tulip. During the day they go to placements, for instance Jim Dobson and Bob Beardmore go to Connection at the Drug Addiction Centre. Then at six o'clock they come to the Teen Centre. They stay here until about 11:30 after the club is closed just cleaning up. A lot of the teenagers agree that they do deserve a lot of credit.

You would really expect them to be in a grumpy mood after a hard days work but they aren't. Really I don't know how they cope with all the problems that arise but I guess thats all part of their job.

The Teen Centre also has something going on for adults. The Friday night bingo has been very successful and I hope that all the adults are enjoying it. We all hope they keep coming.

### DEDICATED TO THE ROOT n BURGER GUYS

As one of the staff workers at the 203 Teen Centre I would like to thank all the guys who have helped me whenever I have asked for a favour. These guys include Billy Raines, Allen Ferguson, Danny Brassare, Kim Walker, Phil Blackmore, Steve Roblin and Roger Raines.

The favours I have asked were not always pleasant ones. The unpleasant ones included handing our flyers for the Teen Centre and the R.P.C.I.A. office on the cold winter days and nights. Other jobs were helping setting up the Regent Park Community News and delivering it.

I would also like to express a special thanks to Billy McCormick Jr. for lending us the use of his car and time to pick up the articles for the Rummage Sale which was held a few weeks ago. Once again, thank you very much and if I have missed anyone's name I thank you as much as the rest.

Greatly Appreciated  
Anne

### GAMES ROOM 203 SACKVILLE GREEN



A GREAT GAME! Park School lost to Gibbons 3-2 March 2, at Maple Leaf Gardens. The boys played to an exciting finish, they were all stars.

### Whats Happening at 203 Sackville Green

**MONDAY**- Funky music, sports programmes, regular trips outside

**TUESDAY**- Rapp Session, regular great Programmes

**WEDNESDAY**- Doctor (SEE BELOW)

**THURSDAY**- Silkscreen and Crafts Workshop

**FRIDAY** - Movies every Friday

**SATURDAY**- Table Tennis Clinic  
- Regular great programmes and trips  
- Swimming (YMCA. Lifeguard Training)  
- Music Workshops

**SUNDAY**- Concert and Dance (SEE BELOW)

#### Regular Services

- Legal Aid-Birth Control & Drug Abuse Inf.  
- Medical -Music Lessons  
- Parole Officer - Crunch & Youth Employment Services

#### Concerts

Sunday 5th March "GEORGIA STRAIT"  
" 12th March "MORNINGTON DRIVE"  
"RUSH"

### IRELAND

Stones and bottles, grenades too!  
I can just imagine what the army's going through

Kids running, running around large bands  
The army patrolling with guns in hand  
Old ladies wandering with pistols in hand  
Army privates, lifeless in the sand  
What's the world coming to?

YOUTH

## Poets Corner

Sometimes the concrete  
in Regent  
Is very cold  
Late at night and into  
The chill dawn  
I have walked.

Sometimes the loneliness  
in Regent  
Is very real.

In the middle of the  
night  
When all the world  
crashes  
With all its' might  
All the sharpness like  
pain  
Is on us all.

I realize that the  
thing  
That you there, and we  
here  
Are seeking  
Perhaps can never be  
found  
Again.

Anonymous

\*\*\*\*\*

### METRO YMCA

24 hour service

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DRUGS\* MEDICAL\*

LEGAL\* COUNSELLING\*

\*\*\*\*\*

## Services Unit

70 PASHLER AVENUE

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- \* EMERGENCY, FOOD, CLOTHING & CRISIS COUNSELLING
- \* CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES AVAILABLE
- \* METRO & PROVINCIAL WELFARE
- \* DRUG & INFORMATION REFERRAL

Hours- 9-5 Monday-Friday

7-10 p. m. Monday

7-10 p. m. Wednesday

7-10 p. m. Thursday



## MEETINGS of TENANTS Will Be Called

### In each Building & from Houses

From the desk of the Pro-Tem President Neil Tanner



It seems that the idea of Unit Reps holding the key to the locker rooms is working. At 347 Parliament there have been no further problems whereas recent break-ins were reported previously. O.H.C. have agreed to extend this system to other buildings if so requested.

EVERYONE will be happy to hear that Elevators in Regent Park are being replaced and Phase I is already under way.

It was suggested that meetings be held in each apartment building and groups of row houses in Regent Park to discuss the concerns of the tenants. Unit representatives will arrange these meetings. Tenants, janitors and O.H.C. representatives will be invited. I feel that this is a very important step in the right direction to improve conditions for the tenants.

There are many other problems brought up at these meetings between the R.P.C.I.A. representatives and O.H.C. which have not been resolved, such as:

- Fires resulting from garbage left in halls.
- Mobile service does not respond to calls promptly.
- Children playing hockey on the road especially in front of 41 Oak Street.
- Cars parked in Regent Park which do not belong to tenants. O.H.C. is attempting to solve this by asking anyone to register their vehicles. I ask you all co-operate on this matter.

Your ideas on how to make living in Regent Park better will be most welcome.

## The Community calendar

<b>MARCH 1972</b>		<u>20</u> Parliament Street Library 2:00- Chinese Brush Writing	<u>28</u> 9:30 a. m. Mass St. Bart's
<u>March 12</u> Church of St. Bartholomews 509 Dundas St.(Anglican) 8:00 a.m. Eucharist 10:00 a.m.- Mass & Sermon 9:30 a.m.-Church & Choir for children (EVERY Sunday.) 7:00 p. m.- Recital	<u>21</u> Library 2:00 p. m. Easter Egg Painting	<u>29</u> 5:30 p. m. Mass St. Bart's	
<u>16</u> Euchre-Every Thursday, Senior Citizens-41 Oak. 60¢ admission- goodies	<u>23</u> Library 2:00 Curator of Riverdale Zoo Adult- 7:00 p.m. Science Fiction Films	<u>30</u> 6:00-Mass St. Bart's Euchre-41 Oak	
<u>17</u> Bingo-Every Friday-8:00 p. m. 415 Gerrard St. Swimming-Lord Dufferin School Downtown Boy's club	<u>24</u> Library 2:00 p. m. Films Bingo-415 Gerrard Swimming Boys Club 6:00- 9:00 p. m. Library-Film Evening 8:00 p. m.	<u>31</u> 10:00 a. m.-12:00 Liturgy of Good Friday ST. Bart's	
<u>18</u> Swimming Lord Dufferin School Every Sat. 9-12 Canoeing in Pool Downtown Boys Club 2:00 p. m. Library- Greek Dancers	<u>25</u> a. m. Swimming-Lord Dufferin-Boys Club Library 2:00 p. m. Puppet Show	<b>APRIL 1972</b>	
<u>19</u> Passion Sunday quiet afternoon and evening at St. Bart's.	<u>26</u> Palm Sunday Procession & Solemn Mass 10:00 a. m.-St. Bart's	<u>April 1</u> 10:30 p. m. Ceremonies of Holy Saturday Holy Baptism- St. Bart's	
	<u>27</u> 5:30 p. m. Mass St. Bart's	<u>APRIL 2</u> Easter-Day- 8:00 a.m. Mass	
		<u>7</u> St. Bart's :Potluck supper, Entertainment Dancing,-6:30 p. m.	

## The People Speak

We will all miss Murray Bonney very much. He was very active in this community even though he has been seriously handicapped since he was a child. One of his last efforts was a T.V. script for the Park Community School. One way we could remember Murray Bonney is to name the new Ice Rink in South Regent Park after him.  
Victor Hoffman

Could there be a fund to pay Unit Representatives for their work? These people spend a lot of time on the problems of vandalism and security. I do not think too much of the security guards as they did nothing when I complained about noise outside my window at 2:30 in the morning. Mr. Tanner who is our Unit Representative did do something about these problems and has made Regent Park a better place to live.

Mrs. Irene Coulson

### COMMUNITY THEATRE PROJECT

Actors, drama teachers, writers directors, prepared to set up courses in acting, theatre production, dramatic writing, improvisations, play reading creative movement. ALL SERVICES are FREE. Anybody interested call 699-9563

OPEN HOUSE - Learn to embroider the liquid way with Tri-Cheman. Wed.

I was very moved by the appeal of "Anonymous" in the February issue of the Regent Park News. This talented teenager undoubtedly feels there can be peace in this world.

The message that comes to me as a parent is how desperately these kids want to make a place for themselves in to-day's world. They are begging us to show interest and to give encouragement and support to their various activities.

I wonder how many of us remember how difficult our teen-age lives were. We faced different problems but still very difficult ones. We are better people to day if somewhere, someone said "Let's talk - I'm interested in you. I give a damn about you. "These magic words" I give a damn" is what makes people grow.

Mary Bilan

To all my friends and neighbours in Regent Park:

I would like at this time to thank everyone who sent condolences and good wishes, also those who gave themselves to make our day a very comfortable one.

Babe Clouthier

A LETTER WAS SENT TO PREMIER DAVIS, MARCH 6, BY THE PARK SCHOOL COUNCIL PROTESTING THE CUT BACKS IN THE MONEY FOR EDUCATION. ALL ORGANIZATIONS PARTICIPATING IN THE R.P.C.I.A. COUNCIL SIGNED THE LETTER.

### LINDA'S COIFFURE

117 River Street Phone 368-6385

Monday-Tuesday	9-5	PERM - \$6.50, \$8.50,
Wednesday closed		\$10.00
Thursday-Friday	9-7	Shampoo & Set -
Saturday	9-3	\$2.00 & up
		TINT - \$6.50