

REGENT PARK COMMUNITY NEWS

VOL.5 NUMBER 6

APRIL 21, 1976

OHC REJECTS CONTRACT

On Thursday the 8th of April the RPCIA Board of Directors held a special meeting to discuss the Contract Negotiations between the OHC and the RPCIA. The consensus of the membership of the RPCIA was that their proposal was not being thought of as a serious one by OHC and that the OHC were negotiating in bad faith, that the OHC had completely left out quite a few of the proposals made by the RPCIA and had reworded others to suit themselves, without a thought to the purpose of the Tenant Management Contract, which initially was to put the management of Regent Park into the hands of the Tenants. As Janet Ross said, "Rather than the Tenant Association getting involved in management, OHC is getting involved in the Tenant Association." Some of the points where there were glaring differences were: 1. The make-up of the MAB (Management Advisory Board), the OHC proposed that the board be made up of 4 Tenants and 4 OHC representatives, one of the OHC reps. being the Chairman. - This is unacceptable to the RPCIA unless a tenant is placed in the position of co-chairman, with all the duties and responsibilities thereof. 2. The OHC proposed that the MAB Board have no tenant on the board who is in default of his or her lease. This is to be clarified as to what constitutes default. 3. The administration of the Contract shall be taken over by the Tenant management Committee and not be the sole responsibility of the MAB. These are a few of the points which form the basis of the Contract and will determine its day to day operability. The RPCIA's intention is to have a successful Tenant Management Program with the duties and responsibilities of each party clearly defined.

Last but not the least, The budget is totally unacceptable. Equipment rental is missing, management fee is missing, the information distribution is too low, and the benefits should be calculated at 9%.

One of the inconsistencies of the budget made out by OHC was the projected rate of pay of the laundry attendants, who would be paid \$1.85 per hour, which is of course not only absurd but illegal.

On Tuesday April 13, the RPCIA met again with the representatives of OHC, McCausland, Mr. Black and Mr. Malloney, who went over the contract with the RPCIA.

They expressed surprise at many of the revisions recommended by the RPCIA and seemed to be caught off guard for any creative input into solving these mutual problems. They felt that the budget changes would be flatly refused. But did agree as to the logic of the RPCIA's proposals.

The RPCIA expects that the OHC will reconsider their position and eventually come to an understanding which will be agreeable and fair to both.

They recorded the RPCIA's points and promised to get back to them with a revised contract as soon as possible.

The RPCIA is anxious to settle this matter and as of today, there has yet been a response from OHC.

The Regent Park Community News is published bi-monthly. It is sponsored by the RPCIA with the aid of a LIP grant. We welcome any articles or information that our readers would like to see in print.

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COMMUNITY * CALENDAR

There will be a Blossom Tour on May 19, 1976. For members of the Busy Bee Club only. Buses leave 41 Oak St. at 9:45 a. m. \$1.00 charge. apply to Mrs. Hazel McAuley 36 364-2937 or Mrs. Barrett 364-3925. The trip will be to the Beamsvill Cherry Ave. Farm.

Wanted! Someone with an hour or two free in the day time to teach reading at the Don Jail. Call Gwen at 466-7323 or 466-2164, loc.286.

Adults and seniors in the Don District are welcome to a weekly Bingo held every Tuesday afternoon from 1:30 to 4:30 at 41 Oak St. in Regent Park. Admission is 35 cents for two cards and free refreshments are available.

Any adults living in the King-Queen area interested in darts or shuffleboard are asked to call Fred at Dixon Hall, 863-0499.

Woodgreen Community Centre is holding a 10 week lecture and demonstration course in Chinese Cooking. The course will be held Saturday mornings starting May 8 and a fee of \$35 is being charged for the 10 two hour sessions. For info. phone Jane Lee, 461-7668.

A teen Dance will be held at Dixon Hall, 58 Sumach St. on April 30, starting at 8 p.m.

The Senior Citizens program at Sacre-Coeur Church, Sherbourne at Carlton, has received a 12,098 New Horizons grant. The money will be used to establish an arts and crafts, music and physical education centre for French speaking seniors in the area.

Euchre every Monday at 41 Oak, in the downstairs lounge at 2 p.m.- sponsored by the Busy Bee Club.

CORONERS JURY

During the past month all of Toronto was reading in the Press about the drugs, booze and recent death in Regent Park. The occasion for all this publicity was the Coroners inquest into the death of Alfie Cudy.

For three days the jury listened to details about what happened to Alfie just before his death. The Toronto Sun headlined Alfie's advance from car theft to booze and finally to the drugs that led to his death. The jury heard about how little was done in the area of recreation and counselling for young people. They heard testimony which made it obvious that the kids certainly bought and used drugs but knew nothing of the potentially lethal effects.

After it was all over the they wrote ten recommendations. These recommendations will probably sit in files along with the hundreds of other ones made by the Coroners jury and forgotten. But there are two of the recommendations which concern Regent Park directly.

Recommendation number 5 says: Youth consultants should be retained to work with the schools located primarily in high risk densely populated metropolitan areas. The duties of the youth consultant should include crises intervention, counselling and education, by means of lectures and audio-visual presentations to students, parents and teachers concerning the possible short and long term effects of drug abuse.

One year ago, before anyone died and before any jury had to make a recommendation. The RPCIA applied to the Ministry of Health for street workers for Regent Park. The Association knew then that the young people on the street needed help and that some one working with them, on their territory would be the best way to provide that help. The Ministry of Health turned down the Community. They said that there was plenty of help for young people in Regent Park.

The only agency with enough awareness of the situation is the Children's Aid Society who have placed former Teen Centre Director, Barry Tulip, in Regent Park to work with the young people.

The other recommendation relevant to Regent Park is number 10. "The Ontario Housing Corporation should investigate the availability of funds to allow the continued operation of the community centre in Regent Park."

The Teen Centre was re-opened this past December by the EPCIA on a LIP grant. Everyone admits that it is needed and that the opening of the centre has a positive effect on the community. There is a place for young people to go instead of hanging out in the streets. The coordinator and the staff are available to talk with and help with problems. Security people admit that vandalism is down. OHC approves of the project. No one has suggested that it duplicates existing services for teens.

There is a problem! On June 25, 1976, just after everyone is out of school and wandering around, the Teen Centre will close for lack of money.

The word to-day is Cutbacks!

Money is scarce and everyone wants some. LIP projects are generally last in line to get any. The RPCIA will look, but the chances are slim. Perhaps OHC will take recommendation number 10 seriously and come up with funding for the continuation of the Teen Centre.

Analyses of the events proves that the community is the best judge of what needs to be done. The problem is that too often the community does not have the resources, that is the money, to put their ideas into action. Perhaps this time, those with the funding ability will look again at the recommendations of the Coroner's jury and listen to the community.

SPORTS

The newly formed Cabbagetown Softball Association is seeking teams and individuals to take part in summer baseball. The fee is \$30 a team for players 11 to 13 years old, born 1963 or after. For players 14 to 15 years old born 1961 or after the fee is \$40 a team. Adults to manage, coach and umpire are also needed for this newly formed league. Anyone interested call John Wylie at 961-2912, 690-0568 or Gus Plytas at 465-5763.

The Marauders, a pee-wee football team formed in 1973 is the only team in central Toronto offering 12 and 13 year old boys a chance to play football in a weight controlled league.

Boys 12 or 13 wishing to try out should weigh around 120 pounds and be able to pay a \$30 fee. All equipment is provided and a good coaching staff is on hand. To register, call Armi Flint at 964-9047 evenings.

Registration closes May 28, try-outs are June 5 at Rosedale Park, and the playing season begins early September and ends mid November.

EASTDALE MEATS

461 Parliament St.

923-3133

Ontario Paint & Wallpaper

275-7 Queen St. E.

362-5127

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368-6609

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PLACE

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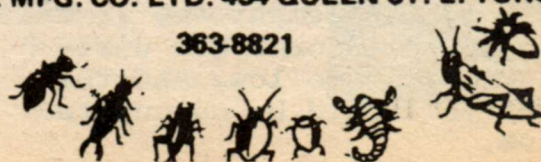
PEST CONTROL

OUR RETAIL STORE AT 434 QUEEN ST. E. (AT SACKVILLE) CAN SUPPLY YOU WITH THE RIGHT PRODUCTS AND INSTRUCTIONS TO DESTROY ROACHES, FLEAS, BED BUGS, ANTS, SILVERFISH, RATS, MICE AND ALL OTHER HOUSEHOLD PESTS.

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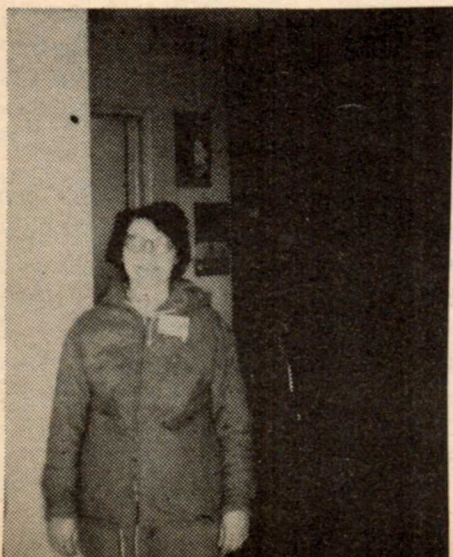
363-8821





PARKS & REC

Part of the crowd shown who thoroughly enjoyed the 'GYM SHOW' put on by Parks and Rec. Monday April 12th. They have more fine programs coming up in the future, to find out just what give them a call at 363-2955.



Marg very (above) and Bea Little (below) are two Senior Unit Reps. that were cited for praise by Mr. Harold Jackman, their dedication and unselfishness to the job were outstanding.



BINGO

The Regent Park Old Boys Association are holding a Bingo every Monday night, starting at 7 p.m. at St. Cyril and Methody Hall at Dundas and Sackville Streets in Regent Park.

Bingo every 2nd. Wednesday at Regent Park School, next one will be 21st of April at 7:30 p.m.

Library

Parliment Street Library will hold the following events Green-thumb hour April 19th and 26th at 4 p.m. Art for Spring April 20th and 27th, Nature Stories April 21st. and 28th, Films April 22nd and 29th at 4 p.m., Winnie the Pooh puppet show at 2 p.m. April 24.

The Parliment Street house will have: Creative Writing Workshop for teens April 22nd and 29th, 7-9 p.m. Films for young people April 23 and 30th 8p.m. Right to Read April 26 1:30 and 7:30 p.m. Young peoples drop-in 3:15 - 6 p.m., Teen Photography workshop 7-9 p.m., Teen Craft programme 7-9 p.m. All take place on April 26, The Poetry readings will take place on Tues. and Thurs. night 7-9 p.m. On April 29 there will be a Teen Dance in the cellar from 7-9 Also there will be a guitar workshop April 29 at 4:30 p.m.

DAYCARE

There are a few subsidized spaces available in the day care centre at Central Neighbourhood House, 349 Ontario Street. Call Barbra Greer 923-4363, for details.

SPRING

The excavating going on right now in North Regent is for the general beautification of the grounds, benches are being put in and trees and shrubs will be planted. We would ask your co-operation in keeping children away from this site as they could be injured. Also some complaints have been received about use of the gravel fill for other than landscaping purposes, i.e. breaking windows, If this could be stopped it would be appreciated.

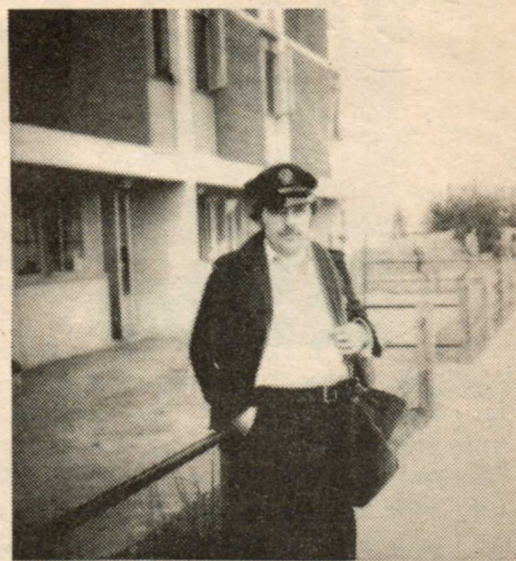
CONTACT

Contact Education Centre at 326 Parliament held a very informative discussion on Wednesday April the 7th with Janet Howard. The next scheduled discussion group will be on Wed. April 21 at 7:30. The Topic will be, Community Health Services. April 28 will be our Bodies, Birth Control, and Family Planning, followed by on May the 5th, Mental Illness and its treatment.

JOBS

The Regent Park Work Survey wound up it's final week April 9. The efforts so far in regards to summer job opportunities for those teenagers still in high school show a rather dismal outlook. In other words, because of the present economic problems there will be a definite short-age of positions available. A Fine example of this is the attitude of the summer camps this year, their basic demands regarding qualifications of applicants have certainly risen.

The amount of money the Children's Aid Society so graciously contributed to support, and in fact, help originate the present program has been most beneficial. No matter how many jobs the program is able to find or how many teenagers from the park are able to secure work this summer through the service provided. The benefits will be lasting because, the five members of the program have developed definite, salable work habits through their efforts. Teens have gained knowledge in filling out application forms, approaching a potential employer and finding out what employers expect in turn of them. Finally, the experience of seeking employment may well drive home the dead end prospects they may face if they leave school early.



If you have seen this friendly face around the Park you probably know him as Pete Morello. He has been working in Regent Park for four years and says he wouldn't work in any other part of the city. Peter describes an incident which happened to him one day when he couldn't get his car started- He stated that there must have been at least 5 or 6 people who came out of their apartments to help him. This is the kind of thing Peter likes about the Park and the people who live here.

GUARDIANS

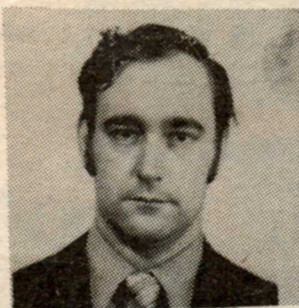
In the last two issues of the paper we have introduced six of the Community Guardians working in Regent Park. In this issue we introduce the last three of the project Officers assigned to the Park.



Des Ryan was a successful salesman before joining Community Guardians, but decided that money wasn't everything, and he'd rather help people than 'sell them', so he gave up a more lucrative career to do what he liked to do. Des is known by the residents of 220 Oak Street, and north east Regent Park as a man who can be counted on to help, whenever help is needed. The kids call him "Ironsides".

A great family man, Des likes nothing better than spending time with his five children. Before coming to Canada, Des served a couple of years in the police force of his native Ireland, and holds a degree in Pharmacy from Queen's University.

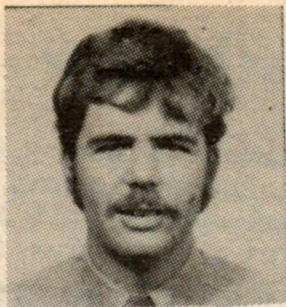
His hobbies: Jogging and Tennis.



Rick Hooker has served in many areas of the company operation since he joined Community Guardians in 1972, including the Panda Patrol. He travelled widely, and has served both with Metro Toronto Police and in the private security industry before coming on staff.

Since he has been assigned to south Regent Park in February, Rick has become known as an efficient and knowledgeable Project Officer, who has a good rapport with the youth. His stature and air of quiet authority make him a much respected figure in the Park.

His hobbies include: photography, camping and car rallying.



Bob McCullough

Bob McCullough is new to both the company and the Park. A native of Ireland, where he graduated in Mechanical Engineering and served 8 years in the Police force, Bob came to Canada in May 1975. After serving briefly with Metro Toronto Police and Ontario Hydro Security, he joined Community Guardians', because he is interested in working closely with people.

Residents of North Regent Park will find him a courteous and concerned person, ready to help in any way he can.

His hobbies; Squash, Soccer, Swimming & Jogging.

This is the last in a series of articles introducing your Community Guardians. Don't hesitate to call on them. They are here to serve you. The number is 924-7754.

WINNER!

The RPCIA draw was won by Richard Cook, 605 White-side Place, who won the Panda clothed in \$25 worth of silver dollars.



Ann Senetchq enjoys the facilities of 220 Oak Street, but wonders why more people don't use them.

ADULT REC.

REGENT Park adult recreation centre will hold their second open house anniversary on Friday May 7th, 1976 from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Light refreshments will be served. There will also be a fine display of arts and crafts, by the ladies of the centre.

The Ladies of the centre need volunteers to help in the making of additional arts and crafts for the festival to be held later this year. For more information phone, 364-4915.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR CONTINUED

Neighbourhood Information Post (NIP) and the Don District Community Secretariat are discussing the possibility of merging their operations. A financial saving could result, besides giving NIP greater visibility in the community and more room to operate.

Gail Beglin has been named office manager of the Community Secretariat on Gerrard St. East. She replaces Marty Crowder who quit last month and has since moved to Vancouver.

Eastminster United Church is holding its annual Spring Tea and Sale on Saturday, April 24, starting at 1:30 p.m. On sale will be delicatessen foods, baked goods, plants, handicrafts, quilts and good used clothing. Admission is free.

A Progressive Euchre will be held at Dixon Hall, 58 Sumach St. on Wednesday April 21, at 7 p.m. Admission is 50 cents for seniors \$1.00 for Adults.

Teen Centre



Steve Roblin (left) and Linda Ross (right) two of the workers at the Teen centre. some of the activities they offer are: T.V. , swimming, gym, horseback riding, go-cart, cooking, games, dances, and general outings once a week.

