

# REGENT PARK COMMUNITY NEWS

VOLUME 7 NUMBER 7

JUNE 20 1978

ALL TENANTS & REGENT PARK MEMBERS ARE  
KINDLY INVITED TO ATTEND THE

## R.P.C.I.A. GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

## PARK SCHOOL GYMNASIUM JUNE 22 7~9 PM

### COMMUNITY CENTRE SURVEY RESULTS

## our community centre

58 % of households in Regent Park were interviewed and we discovered that:

50% of Regent Park residents would likely bowl at the Centre

69% of Regent Park residents would likely play Bingo at the Centre

43% of Regent Park residents would likely go to Dances at the Centre

32% of Regent Park residents would likely pay \$25.00 per family to become members of the Centre

87% of Regent Park residents would likely support a commercial tenant at the Centre

Responding to this trend, the Community Centre will eventually have Bingo twice per week, bowling, every night and dances once a month.

#### BOWLING:

Of 1,104 answers:  
152 people play once a week  
47 play once a month  
169 now and then  
736 never

If the Facility was available in Regent Park of 1182 answers  
322 would bowl once a week  
68 once a month  
201 now and then  
591 never

#### BINGO:

Of 1112 answers  
254 play bingo once a week  
88 play once a month  
302 now and then  
468 never

if the facility was available in Regent Park - of 1076 answers

399 would play once a week  
98 would play once a month  
245 now and then  
334 never

#### DANCES:

108 attend Social Dance  
once per week  
70 once per month  
242 now and then  
645 never

If the facility was available in Regent Park - of 968 answer  
414 would attend weekly  
266 would not attend at all  
288 don't know

#### MEMBERSHIP:

of 1071 answers  
941 people are not members of a Community Centre  
122 are members of a Community Centre  
8 people did not answer  
of 1080 answers  
347 would obtain a \$25.00 annual membership (family membership)  
236 would not obtain a \$25.00 annual family membership  
496 don't know

#### COMMERCIAL OPERATION IN THE CENTRE:

of 1091 answers  
951 think its a good idea  
53 think it is not a good idea  
87 don't care

#### PREFERENCES:

of 1036 answers would like a  
550 like McUonalds  
153 like Bank  
118 like Drugstore  
72 like Clothing Store  
33 like Harvey's  
22 like Snack Bar  
18 like Record Store  
15 like Home Kitchen  
7 like Auto Supply Outlet  
48 other \*

\* (of the 48 "others" 39 would like a supermaket)



# HEALTH

## BIRTH CONTROL

6

### V.D. INFORMATION TRAILER

This is the first time our trailer will visit the Regent Park area and we are looking forward to our three month stay (July, August, September) in your community.

Some of the services which the trailer provides include free and confidential counselling on birth-control, V.D., sexuality and pregnancy. We also have written information in different languages on these subjects available free at the trailer. At times individuals and groups express interest in such areas as Women's Health, Pre-Natal Care, Contraception and Venereal Disease. We will offer courses (free of charge) on any of these topics if enough requests are made.

The trailer is open:

Mondays- 10am. - 5pm.

Tuesday- 10am. -7:30pm.

Wednesday-10am - 5pm.

Thursday--10am - 7pm.

Fridays---10am - 5pm.

It will be parked in the back of 42 Blevins Place and there will always be someone there to answer questions or to just have a friendly relaxed chat with. We operate FREE clinics with both women and men doctors at the following times:

Tuesday - 3:30-7:30pm.

Wednesday-12:00-5:00pm.

Thursdays 4:00-7:00pm.

Fridays -12:30-3:30pm.

The number to call for appointments or inquiries is 789-4541. Look for articles written by our staff on health-related topics in the following issues of the Regent Park Community News. Please feel free to drop by the trailer with any suggestions on how we can better serve your community.

# ARSON

Toronto could be faced with the "same arson epidemic that has destroyed millions of dollars in property" in major U.S. cities, Toronto Fire Chief Bernard Bonser warns.

He says in a report that 11 per cent of all fires in the city last year were caused by arson. They resulted in one death, 30 injuries and a property loss of \$3.7 million.

Arson fires increased 5.5 per cent last year compared with 1976 from 295 fires in 1976 to 323.

"Although arson is not a serious problem in the city at this time---the rapid change in social or economic conditions could have an affect on the rising trend in fire crimes," Mr. Bonser says.

He recommends that the Ontario Fire Marshal, the Metro Toronto Police Chief and he establish a joint committee to cope with deliberately set fires and related crimes.

# CAMP

## Black Heritage

### Cultural Camp

"Black Heritage" a term so loosely thrown around by so many, and encompassing little more than a mere colour description. So much within the term is taken for granted. Our West Indian children are very often ignorant of their rich cultural heritage having had to suppress it in a foreign country. Cultural reinforcement is required and our children require it most.

We wish to introduce your children to our summer cultural camp. Our program is officially recognized under the title of Black Heritage, and is government sponsored.

The program consists of:

Arts and crafts, Batik, woodwork, painting, claywork, crochet, etc.

Music, -Drums, songs, etc.

Cooking: All types of West Indian dishes.

Trips: Marineland, Nursery Rhyme Park in London, etc.

Sports: Soccer, Cricket, Baseball, Martial arts, volleyball, etc.

The program is designed for children between the ages of six to twelve. Our hours are from 9:30 am. to 4pm. Monday to Friday. It will be held at Lord Dufferin School on Berkley and Dundas. It will begin July 3rd and end August 25th.

If you are interested in the enrichment of your child's Black Heritage, contact us at the R.P.C.I.A. Office.

The address is 42 Blevins Pl. and the phone number is 364-2909.

On May 4 and 5, a rash of fires broke out across the city, leaving dozens homeless, and six people dead in a Sherbourne Street rooming house. Fire officials believe all the fires were deliberately set.

In his report, the results of a six month study by the senior staff of the fire department, Mr. Bonser examines the problems in fighting and preventing fires and makes many recommendations to reorganize and expand the department.

One of the most interesting showed 21.2 per cent of the fire alarms last year were false with the majority coming from Regent Park and the Queen and McGee areas.

Regent Park North, an Ontario Housing Corporation project, has a rate of 109.6 false alarms per 1,000 people, more than 18 times the city average.

# CO-OP

## Partnerships for offer

For the past two months, a small leathercraft co-operative has been in operation in the Regent Park area. Half a dozen local youth have been at work learning how to produce saleable leather products such as belts, purses, and sandals. The most interesting featuring of the co-operative is its business like quality. The people in the shop work to produce something of quality which can then be sold at a profit. For four hours twice a week the workshop meets with the instructor, Billy Estwick a former resident of Regent Park.

Shop tools are on loan to the group from the instructor. Money to get the workshop set up comes from start-up funds provided by a number of community minded agencies: Downtown Churchworkers' Association, Central Neighbourhood House, and the Rotary Club. the Kiwanis Club is providing space.

At this time the co-operative is wanting to expand. We are looking for five new partners who are willing to learn the leather craft trade and become part of the workshop. Anyone between the ages of 13-20 are eligible to become partners. Maybe with time the shop can have a storefront of its own and get into full-time operation. If you are interested in learning more about this co-operative, then come to a meeting at ...K Club

101 Spruce St.

on Tuesday June 27, 1978 at 7:00 p.m.

The study found that more than 70 per cent of the fire calls made from the 764 box alarms in the city were false. The survey of the use of box alarms in the past nine years showed 16 per cent of the calls were accidental.

Mr. Bonser says the proposed Ontario Fire Code should require smoke detectors in all dwellings. He also supports eliminating federal and provincial sales taxes on smoke detectors and reducing insurance premiums with the installation of smoke detectors.

(reprint from The Toronto Star-June 3, 1978)

# JOBS

UNIT REPRESENTATIVES NEEDED.

APPLY IN PERSON TO:

R.P.C.I.A.

44 BLEVINS PLACE

364-2909



# LABOUR

Labour will support NDP

The CLC will support the NDP in the upcoming federal election. Delegates adopted resolutions saying the labour movement must increase its power "including electoral support for the NDP to give labour some parliamentary and political influence." While the majority backed the policy, Canadian Union of Postal Workers President, Jean-Claude Parrot said the labour movement should not blindly affirm its ties to the NDP at every convention.

**Fewer Members:** Revenue dropping  
Membership in the central labour body dropped 6.6 percent and revenue was down \$36,000 for 1977, according to the report of secretary-treasurer Donald Montgomery. The drop was blamed on the federal government because of its inability to combat unemployment.

**"Self-Determination" supported:**

The vast majority of the 2,600 delegates at the CLC convention in April supported a "statement on national solidarity" which omits any reference to "national unity". Implicit in the motion is the principle that the labour movement will stick together whether Quebec decides to leave Canada or not.

**Unemployment Insurance:  
The Poor Pay**

Unemployment insurance benefits in 1977 cost \$4.1 billion. The funding for these benefits is provided by a regressive premium structure. Nine hundred and eighty-eight million dollars comes from premiums paid by employees based on a rate of 1.5 per cent of the insurable income up to a maximum wage of two hundred and forty dollars per week. For higher incomes, the weekly prem-

iums is held at a maximum of \$3.69, a declining proportion for higher salaries. Likewise the \$1.4 billion paid in benefits which came from employers is based on a rate of 2.1 per cent of the payroll up to a maximum of \$5.04 per week allowing larger corporations to pay a smaller proportion of their payroll for benefits. These figures mean that the poorer employees pay proportionately more in insurance premiums than those on higher salaries. Since unemployment insurance payments are tax deductible they often provide valuable tax shelters for higher wage earners. According to the Economic Council of Canada a person making \$8000. annually pays the highest premium of \$120 per year while someone earning \$50,000 pays the lowest premium, \$90.

**Unemployment Insurance:  
The Rich Receive**

According to the Economic Council of Canada the rich receive the largest proportion of unemployment insurance benefits. Their figures show that the top one out of five wage earning families (Averaging an annual income of \$30,000) draw 22.3 per cent of benefits paid. In contrast, the lowest one out of five (averaging \$2,700 annually) draw only 8.1 per cent of the benefits paid. Hence the family earning \$8,000 per year receives the lowest benefit of \$103 per week while the family making \$50,000 per year receives the highest benefits of \$160. per week.

Welfare Rolls Shrink

Over 4,900 welfare recipients have been taken off benefits in Metropolitan Toronto during the last twenty-two months as a result of the joint efforts of the social service commission and Canada Manpower. Recipients assessed as "employable" by case workers were sent to manpower offices and were cut off the welfare rolls if they did not show proof of a job search. Six hundred and seventy-seven did find long term employment.

High Worker Injury Rate

In 1976, \$800 million in benefits was paid by the Workmen's Compensation board to workers who were injured or ill as a direct result of their work. This represented an approximate loss of three to four million dollars indirectly to industry and 14 million work days.

In 1976, one million Canadians were injured or contracted illness as a direct result of their job, approximately 11 persons for every 100 employees currently in the work force. These figures exclude both fatalities (about 1,200 per year) and the 15 to 20 percent of the Canadian labour force not covered by Workmen's Compensation legislation. In Ontario, the most heavily industrialized province, 400,000 workers were reported injured on the job last year, an average of 200 accidents per hour, or three per minute.

**Union Of Injured Workers  
Protest**

The northwestern Ontario local of the Union of Injured Worker voted unanimously to protest in May the inadequate compensation given to injured workers. The union points out that in times of high unemployment employers will not hire workers who are disabled or partially handicapped. The union also calls for the abolition of the appointment of doctors for assessment of injured workers by the workmen's Compensation Board. They want the workers to be free to choose their own doctors.

## To the tenants

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF YOU WHO RESPONDED GENEROUSLY TO THE MOTHER WHO TRAGICALLY LOST HER SON ON MAY 29, 1978.

R.P.C.I.A.

The Staff of Tenant Management in North Regent Park would like to thank Ontario Housing Corporation (OHC) and Staff for doing such a good job of cleaning up the parking lots and grounds in such a short time.

signed by Tenant Management and Staff.

NOTE OF THANKS TO TENANTS OF  
REGENT PARK

Mrs. Millicent Allen would like to take this opportunity to say Thank You to all the residents of Regent Park and all other parties who have helped to soothe her in her hour of tragedy in the death of her son Blessed Clark.

TO ALL OF TOMMY'S FRIENDS IN  
REGENT PARK:

The family of the late  
Thomas Duncan  
wish to express their deep appreciation of your kindness and sympathy in their recent sorrows.



WINNER OF  
R.P.C.I.A. 50/50 Draw  
is  
VERNA PYPHER  
407 Gerrard Street E.



# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## HARBOURFRONT NEWS

June 20, Tuesday:  
Francofete 1978:

"Reve ou Realite" will be presented by the theatre group of Etienne Brule High School tonight at 8pm. in the Theatre. The play is part of Francofete 1978, a week long Franco-Ontarian festival. Admission is free.

June 21, Wednesday;  
Francofete 1978

"Reve ou Realite" will be presented by the Theatre group of Etienne Brule High School today at 2pm. in the Theatre. The play is part of Francofete 1978, a week long Franco-Ontarian festival. Admission is free.

Wednesday Night at the movies:  
A series of films on the black liberation movement continues at 7:30pm. in the Cafe. Tonight:

Non-Violence--Mahatma Gandhi & Martin Luther King: The Teacher and the Pupil explores Ghandi's non-violent philosophy and the application of that philosophy by Martin Luther King to his cause in America;

Angela Davis: Portrait of a Revolutionary looks at black activist Angela Davis in her UCLA classroom just prior to her arrest;

The Panthers documents the social impact of the Black Panther Movement on black and white American society;

Tribute to Malcolm X traces the effect that Malcolm X had on the black liberation movement.

All films are free. For more information, call 364-5665.

June 22, Thursday  
Francofete 1978:

"Reve ou Realite" will be presented by the theatre group of Etienne Brule High School today at 2pm. in the Theatre. The play is part of Francofete 1978 a weeklong Franco-Ontarian festival. Admission is free.

## REGENT PARK COMMUNITY NEWS

is published by the  
Regent Park Community  
Improvement Association  
with the help of a group  
of volunteers and staff  
from St. Christopher House,  
44 BLEVINS PLACE, TORONTO.

## YONGE STREET MISSION

270 Gerrard Street East  
929-9614

Summer fun at the Christian Community Centre:

### SUMMER ADVENTURE

July 4 - August 8  
Kindergarten to Grade 6 -  
Mon - Thur. 10am. to 12noon  
Grades 7 to 12  
Mon 10am. to 12 noon  
Tues - Thurs. 1:30 - 4pm.

Day trips - every Friday 10am to 4pm.

July 24 -30 - Week of Day Camps

CAMPING TRIPS -\$15.00 for 6 Days

July 10-15-Boys in Gr.4-6-basic

July 17-22-Boys in Gr.7-10- ""

July 24-30-girls in gr. 4-6-""

(Filled)

Aug. 7-12-Boys in gr. 4-6-experienced

Aug 14-19-Girls-gr 7-10-basic

Aug 21-26-Hoys-gr 7-10-experienced

APPLY NOW at the Christian Community Centre, 929-9614.

## Metropolitan

Downtown Boy's Club  
540 Dundas St. E.

Boys' and Girls' Club of Downtown Toronto, 540 Dundas St. E. (basement), 367-0648 will be running a Summer Day Camp Program for children aged 6-12, Monday to Friday from 10:00 am. to 4pm. some of the programs offered will be crafts, woodwork, hiking, quiet and active games, sports, drama, swimming, special events (such as penny carnival, bike rodeo). special day trips, (such as Ontario Place, new Metro Zoo and overnight camping. Four 2 week sessions will be offered starting July 4 and ending August 25, Cost is \$2.00 per session per family. For further information, please phone Richard at 367-0648.

Metropolitan Toronto Association for the Mentally Retarded

The Central Division of the Metropolitan Toronto Association for the Mentally Retarded will be hosting a public screening of the new film, "Exploding the Myth", Wed., June 21, 1978; 8pm. in the Auditorium of the Medical Sciences Building, University of Toronto Campus (Queen's Park subway stop). This movie as the title suggests, explores some of the popular myths about mentally retarded people. Come and learn. Do you know the facts? Everyone is welcome. Admission is free. For more information, Phone 361-0773, extension 39, Ms. Lillian Starasts.

## DIXON HALL'S

ANNUAL  
STREET DANCE & BAR-B-Q

JULY 7, 1978

7:00 pm. to 12:00  
mid-night

Activities for adults include:  
Flea Market, Big Pal's Raffle\*  
dance indoors with a live band performing, (room will be licensed for liquor & beer), Bar-B-Q.

Under 18 activities include:  
games, Bar-B-Q, dance outdoors featuring "The Mighty Majestics", prizes, etc.

\* Prizes for raffle valued at over \$40.00. Dickets can be purchased in advance at Dixon Hall or at the dance. Proceeds go to the Big Pal's Program.

For more information call:

DIXON HALL  
58 Sumach St.  
863-0499

## DIXON HALL

Just a reminder to get your children registered for Dixon Hall's great summer day camp and the Tent camp at Hoover Park. Forms are available now at Dixon Hall. The Dixon Cobra (boys baseball 13-15) are still on the lookout for new players so come on down Wed. 6:30pm and try out.

The teens are having a spring dance (Teen) Friday June 16th at 8:30. Come out and dance your little feet off.

## CAMP DISCOVERY

Dixon Hall is now accepting registration for Camp Discovery.

Activities at this Overnight Tent Camp includes:

SWIMMING, CANOEING,  
HIKES, CRAFTS AND  
MANY OTHER ACTIVITIES.

The group sessions are for ages 6-9; 10-12; and 13-18.

The Camp runs from July 10, to September 1, 1978.

Call 863-0499 for more information and ask for Fred or Gayle.