

Teacher profile



Mrs. June Levy - and art

Art each grade hope of June Levy

By Corie Maxwell

Not only is there a new teacher at the high school, but a new program to teach!

Mrs. June Levy teaches first and third year art and she hopes it will be expanded next year to include fourth year art. She thinks it would be very exciting for Acton to be able to provide an art course for each grade since "Acton has some beautiful talent." She says, "My aim would be to build a full time program for students from grade 9 right through to grade 13."

Mrs. Levy was born in Southern Ontario and has one brother working in London and another in Kent County. Her husband attends York University and is working on his Ph. D. in history. She has been living in Georgetown for three years.

Art hobby first

Mrs. Levy taught in Peel County and the Blooddale Senior Public School for over ten years and has her "specialist" in art through the Department of Education. She has used art as a hobby as well as organizing art programs at senior public school. She says, "This is a chance for me to go into the high school and work ahead."

Mrs. Levy likes working with children's groups and individual people. "I like to think of myself as a teacher of people and not of a particular subject. I am excited with the art program because it provides the opportunity to work out an individualized program."

System works well

She thinks the semester system is tremendous, especially because of the hour periods daily. This allows a student to start a project and continue with it the next day without having to wait a week to finish it. She says that in some schools they have only two 35 minute periods a week instead of an hour. Mrs. Levy likes ceramics, art and dabbling in oils. She also enjoys curling although she hasn't curled since living in Georgetown. She is fond of walking and being outside and she likes to listen to good music. Mrs. Levy feels that color is predominant in one's life. It changes with your mood and really affects your outlook. Schools especially shouldn't look drab or institutional-like, because if people pay more attention to the artistic way a building is put together, there will be a better response from the people who are learning.

Live life fully

Mrs. Levy thinks you must "Live life to the fullest because life is worth living, and to get the most out of it, you have to put in all your heart will let you." She

feels that the most disappointing part of a job is when people let you down because of their lack of interest.

If Mrs. Levy could change the school in any way, she would have "double the space for the art room, a copper enamelling kiln and we'd have everyone in Acton able to use the facilities in the art room!"

Mrs. Levy feels very strongly about girls and women expressing themselves effectively and clearly in our community so that we have voices from the "woman's point of view." She thinks that "women's lib." is here to stay, but also feels there should be a "men's lib." In other words, the liberation of people! Mrs. Levy thinks that women should be able to choose their own jobs in their own interests without being brainwashed with the idea of scrubbing floors and raising ten children. She feels so strongly about this that she is a member of the "Postmistresses Club" of West Toronto. (This is a women's club that trains women for better communications).

Mrs. Levy enjoys working at Acton High very much and the students are pleased to have such a competent teacher.

Tour UNIVAC

By Susan Patrick

On Wednesday, Nov. 23, the Data Processing class of ADHS went to Toronto to tour UNIVAC. The chaperones for the trip were Mrs. Walters, and Mr. Boris Shean, teacher of the Data Processing Class. The 32 students met the head of the education department. We split into two groups, the first consisting of 18 and the remaining 14 were in another group. The first group went through the building while the others went to a classroom and talked about careers in computers.

We saw many computers and our guide ran a program through one computer and printed out a picture of Pierre Trudeau.

Side trips We left UNIVAC and went to Kensington Market, where everybody looked at the different way things were sold. We went to China Town for lunch. Some of us had Italian food and others had Chinese. After lunch we went to Honest Ed's to look at the way things were sold there.

We found the trip very interesting and educational.

Quebec trip

Due to lack of space on last week's Youth Page the account of the grade 13 trip to Quebec City continues this week.

By Dave Pink

The students occupied themselves by either exploring the city on their own, taking the walking tour or they rode the ferry to the city of Levis across the river.

On Saturday night we all gathered together to eat a dinner that was paid for through the money raised by the car washes and bake sale we held prior to the trip. Some of the money came from Acton businessmen who made donations for our trip.

At six a.m. Sunday morning we checked out of our hotel and left for the railway station. Most of us slept on the train between Quebec and Montreal. In Montreal we had two hours between trains. Most people took time to have breakfast here and to sightsee though most of the sights seen were those inside the railway station.

We arrived in Toronto about 7 p.m. where most of us to supper then looked around Union Station. We left Toronto at 7:00 and arrived in Georgetown 30 minutes later. The group split, went home and prepared for school the next morning.

The Grade 13's who went on this trip owe something to many people: Mr. Black and Mr. Katz who both showed enthusiasm for our trip, those generous Acton merchants who donated funds for our trip and the three members of the Steering Committee who originated and organized the excursion.

We would especially like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Harold Swallow who accompanied us on the trip. Mr. Swallow, the Head of the History Dept. at Acton D.H.S. dealt with each problem promptly and fairly and is worthy of our praise.

The Grade 13 students who went to Quebec not only learned about a distinctive part of Canada but also got to know each other better. It was good to get out of a classroom. As hard as teachers try, the classroom tends to stagnate learning, while a trip of this nature stimulates it.

Interviews

Interview appointments were set up at the public schools, where parents are going from Tuesday right through Friday this week.

Tuesday and Wednesday school was out early - at 2:30 - to accommodate all the parents. Progress reports went home last Friday.

Last week Barry Breen, Sherry Douglas and Gloria Tarrant, accompanied by Mr. B. Skerrett and Mrs. S. Burns, visited Sheridan.

The guidance counselors talked with the registrar and other Sheridan personnel about employment and the picture for community college graduates, admissions procedures and the

ACTON HIGH

By Corie Maxwell

In all honesty, I do not know what to say about "War Game", which is a film the school viewed last Tuesday. This film dealt with the probabilities of what could happen in a nuclear war. It was narrated in the sense that the war had already taken place and that the film was a documentary discussing what had occurred. This movie has been banned in England and the upsetting fact is, that what was shown could actually happen! The writers' attempt to shock the audience into the full realization of just what a nuclear war could mean, I feel, was successful.

Reactions

Here are some reactions to it: "I thought it was gory, but brought reality to our attention." - Barb McNabb.

"It was an artist's concept of the reality of thermo-nuclear war. It was very abrupt and right to the point and it did have some value." - Bob Smith.

"It was a great movie. It showed the people what they should know about nuclear war and how to prepare themselves for it." - Ian Mulloux.

"It was sickening! It scared you, the way it was shown." - Judy Thibodeau.

"I thought it got its point across." - Pete Vilestra.

"I liked it. It really put the point across." - Nina Legate.

"It was pretty gory." - Hobbs Salt.

"I thought it was good, but useless to show to just a few high schools. It should be shown to everyone." - Ann Cavlovic.

"It wasn't realistic in the possibilities, in that what had happened, happened in the previous wars. A nuclear war would be worse." - Hank Wisniew.

"It was very effective." - Frank Outesly.

"I thought it was very moving and I think it should be shown to Nixon, although I know it probably wouldn't do any good." - Lynn Marshall.

"I thought what he had to say was interesting, but would like to have seen more practical applications and suggestions and less theory." - Mr. K. Ellis

new developments which are at Sheridan.

The students went for information on the visual arts program and Barry Breen has signed in for the Illustration Course for next year.

"Are our schools suffering from future shock?"

This is the topic which Dr. Paul Steinhauser discussed at Blake-lock School last Wednesday. About 12 staff members attended the dinner and presentation.

Dr. Steinhauser mentioned such things as the rate of change in schools, and how to cope with emotionally disturbed children.

Comments: "Very relevant. I think it made some teachers wonder if they had exhausted all possibilities in coping with special students." - Mr. C. Cayer.

"Dinner was good. The presentation was only fair, but his comments during the question section were very interesting." - Mr. B. Skerrett.

"I thought it was enlightening and enjoyable. I was pleased to hear education discussed in a practical way." - Mrs. S. Fleming

What is behavior modification?

Mr. Howard Marcovitch, who is in the process of completing his Ph. D., came to the High School last Monday to speak to the staff. Behavior modification, in the broadest sense is a reward based system for improving behavior of students. It ranges from the inability to finish homework to the disturbance of classes.

Staff reaction

This is the reaction from some staff members: "An interesting alternative to the more usual method of solving discipline problems in the classroom. However, at the moment the daily administrative details of applying such a system to more than one or two students per class would seem to me, too difficult." - Mr. W. Rowley.

"This is a very good thing for people on public school level or on an individual basis, but dealing with a high school class, I have severe doubts." - Mr. H. Swallow

"I thought what he had to say was interesting, but would like to have seen more practical applications and suggestions and less theory." - Mr. K. Ellis

Stephanie now Ontario Scholar

By Corie Maxwell

Stephanie Merrin, former student of Acton High School, has just recently been recognized as an Ontario Scholar!

You might well wonder why it took this long, for in her fourth year of high school she had 9 A's and 2 B's. Unfortunately, in order to receive a scholarship, a student must have completed all his grade 13 subjects in the same year. For the ambitious student who does five years work in four, such as Stephanie did, it means they are not eligible for the scholarship. In order to receive all the credits needed for grade 12, as well as grade 13, Stephanie took nine subjects during the year, (which meant she had no lunch period) and two more in summer school.

Case reviewed

This schedule was brought to the attention of the Board of Education and after reviewing her case, the decision was made to give her an Ontario Scholarship. Stephanie has already received the Franklin Cook Award for grade 13 English.

Stephanie started grade 10 in Acton and during her three years at the high school she was co-editor of the High school newspaper, editor of the year



Stephanie Merrin

book and a prefect. She also became co-organizer of the variety show and acted as a performer at assemblies.

Stephanie now goes to the University of Guelph and her course will lead her into becoming a doctor. Her theory is, "you get out of life only what you put into it." With this thinking and the hard worker that she is, I am sure Stephanie will realize her ambitions.

Secretarial girls tour

By Margot Matheson

The Grade 12 secretarial girls of Acton H.S., chaperoned by Mrs. Ruth McCarrall, visited the Royal Bank of Canada, main branch Toronto office, last week. Mr. R. Boulter, public relations asst. manager and his secretary conducted a most interesting tour.

We started our visit on the main floor where loans, book plates, and depositing and withdrawing for saving and chequing accounts.

Next we saw where bonds are cashed in. Here they have bullet proof windows in case of attempted robberies. Clients do not have direct contact with the bank's employees in this department.

Safety, money

Then we saw safety deposit boxes of three different sizes. Anything you wish may be kept in these boxes, from jewellery to mailing certificates.

We proceeded to a room where trucks unload money, and we were ushered to a small room which is locked tightly the minute you have stepped in. We were also shown a \$1,000 bill which rapidly made us all sick!

We were shown the brand new \$10 bill, which everyone agreed was very pretty and colorful.

We were shown to one of the beautiful staff lounges where a question and answer period concluded our visit.

T-D lunch

We ate lunch in the Toronto Dominion Centre and took a quick look at some of the fascinating shops and boutiques.

We then found our way to Mrs. Ruth McCarrall's house where coffee and tea were served while we discussed our tour before returning to school at 3:15 p.m.

Karen Pierce wins top prize

"Lay your money down!" "I'll raise you..." "Bingo!" "C'mon seven!" This is the sound of gambling, which many students enjoyed at Las Vegas Nite last Friday at the High School. Students paid 75c at the door or 50c with student cards and \$1,000 of phony money was theirs to squander.

The program started at 8 p.m. and for two hours the gamblers won or lost money in poker, crown and anchor, monopoly, chug-a-lug, rumoli, roulette, checkers, craps, bingo or blackjack. At 10 p.m. the money was counted and recorded. The winner of the night turned out to be Karen Pierce with over \$20,000. She had a choice of 53 prizes which included such items as a wig, a punch bowl, a toque, screwdriver, radio, cologne, ski poles, a blanket, fishing pole, soft drinks, a golf club, golf balls, a bank, a dart board and many others. Karen chose a shiny new ski-doo helmet.

Since there were so many prizes, everyone won something, even if they had less money than when they started. Everyone had fun and the evening was a real success.

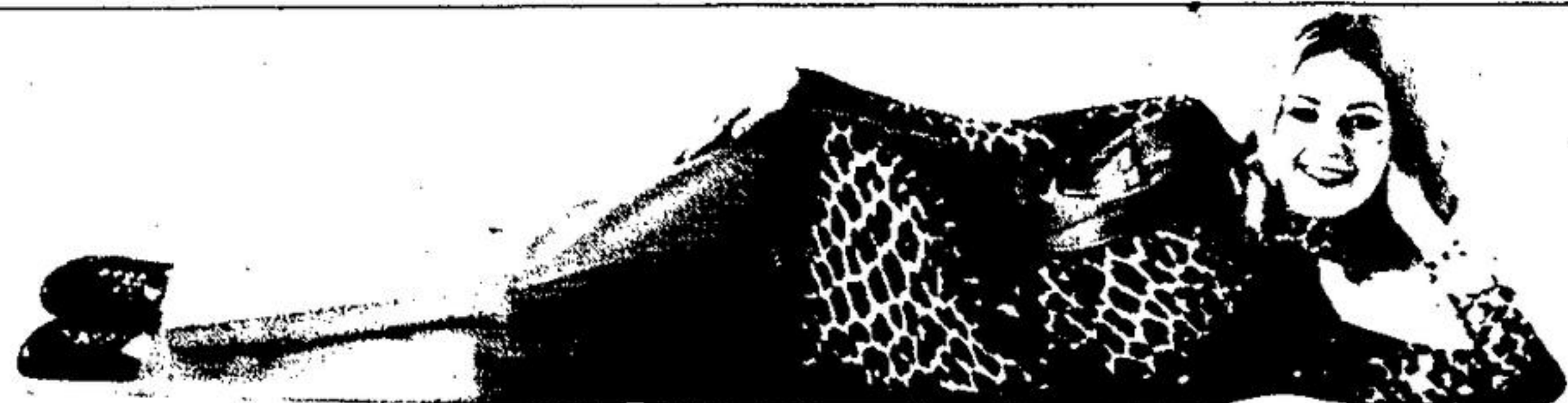
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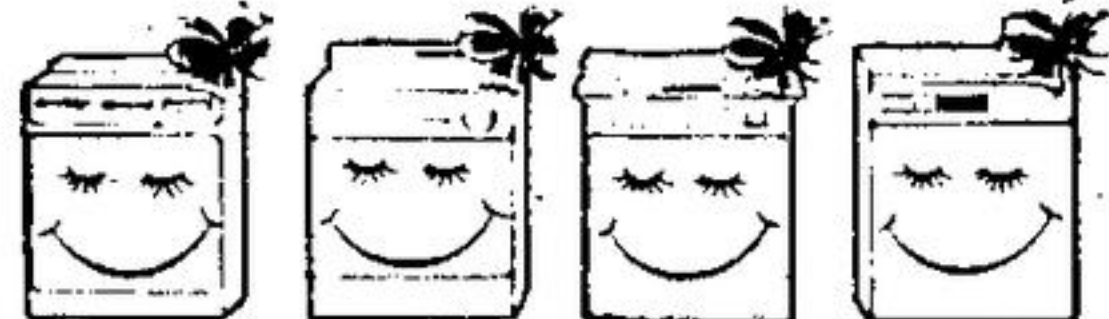
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after-party aftermath, and the hours spent doing dishes that could be spent in a hundred happier ways.

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