

Our Readers Write

**Crossing is dangerous for seniors**

Dear editor:

Again I find myself writing in response to the crosswalk at Sargent Road and Mountainview Road South.

The rebuttal from David R. Jarvis seems to imply that his understanding of my August 23 letter is that the crossing at the above location should be put up now at any cost no matter how temporary. This of course is not the case. It is in fact that at this moment in time we are faced with a very dangerous crossing for anyone let alone our under respected seniors.

David R. Jarvis's statement that "the 200 metre walk is shorter than walking from Wal-Mart to Loblaws, so you can't complain" is just what I am talking about. People do not seem to understand that "200

metres" for the general population is quite a bit shorter than for a senior who may require assistance to get around (i.e. walkers, scooters) and who has every right to complain.

Are we to expect our seniors to stay home bound or do we make sure that anything and everything we can do gets done to help the seniors pursue their daily activities. Promises have been made and must be honored. The sooner the better.

It is never too late to show the respect and compassion to our elders, as I was brought up to believe in.

Are our seniors to be expected to live in a community that has this narrow mindedness. This seems to be the contradictory tone of the letter from David R. Jarvis.

Maureen Bird

**No one is exempt from poverty**

Dear editor:

In a time of job insecurity, financial burdens and emotional turmoil, how is it that so many people think they're exempt from poverty?

Anyone can be fired or laid off and sometimes welfare is the only means of survival. Welfare is not something you inherit or are raised to use. There are people who really need the assistance they get and they're the ones suffering through these "common sense" cutbacks of the Harris government.

Where will the savings be when a welfare mom or dad can't feed their children and Children's Aid steps in,

making those numbers rise.

Halton North MPP Ted Chudleigh said "assistance payments are among the highest in North America" and that "the program was far too generous." If this is the case why isn't everyone collecting and living "high off the hog?"

In this hateful, hostile, corporate driven society we live in, does it really matter which political party is in the driver's seat?

When are the people of Ontario going to wake up and realize that not all welfare recipients cheat and abuse the system and that the system's lack of control is to blame for those who do.

Jody Hillier



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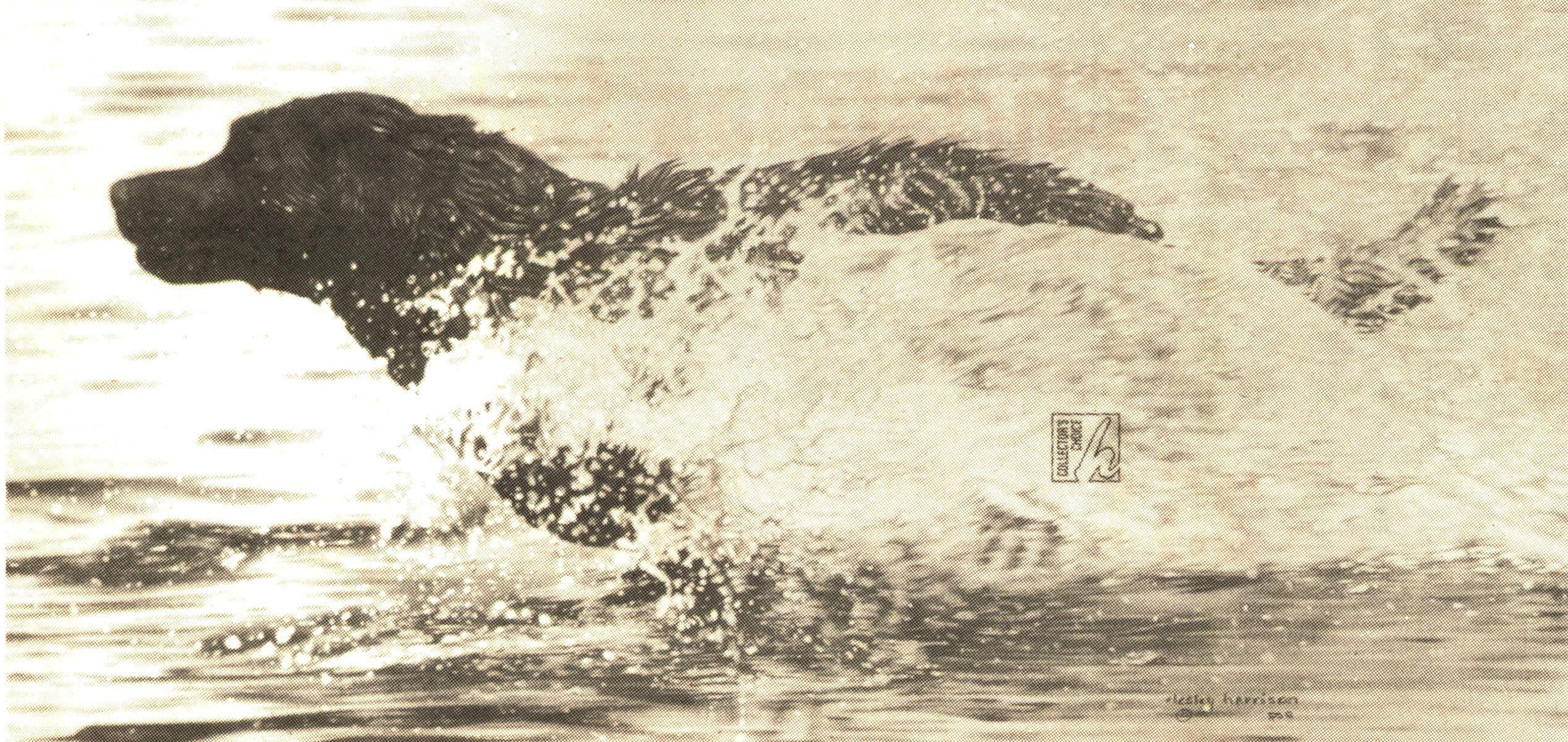
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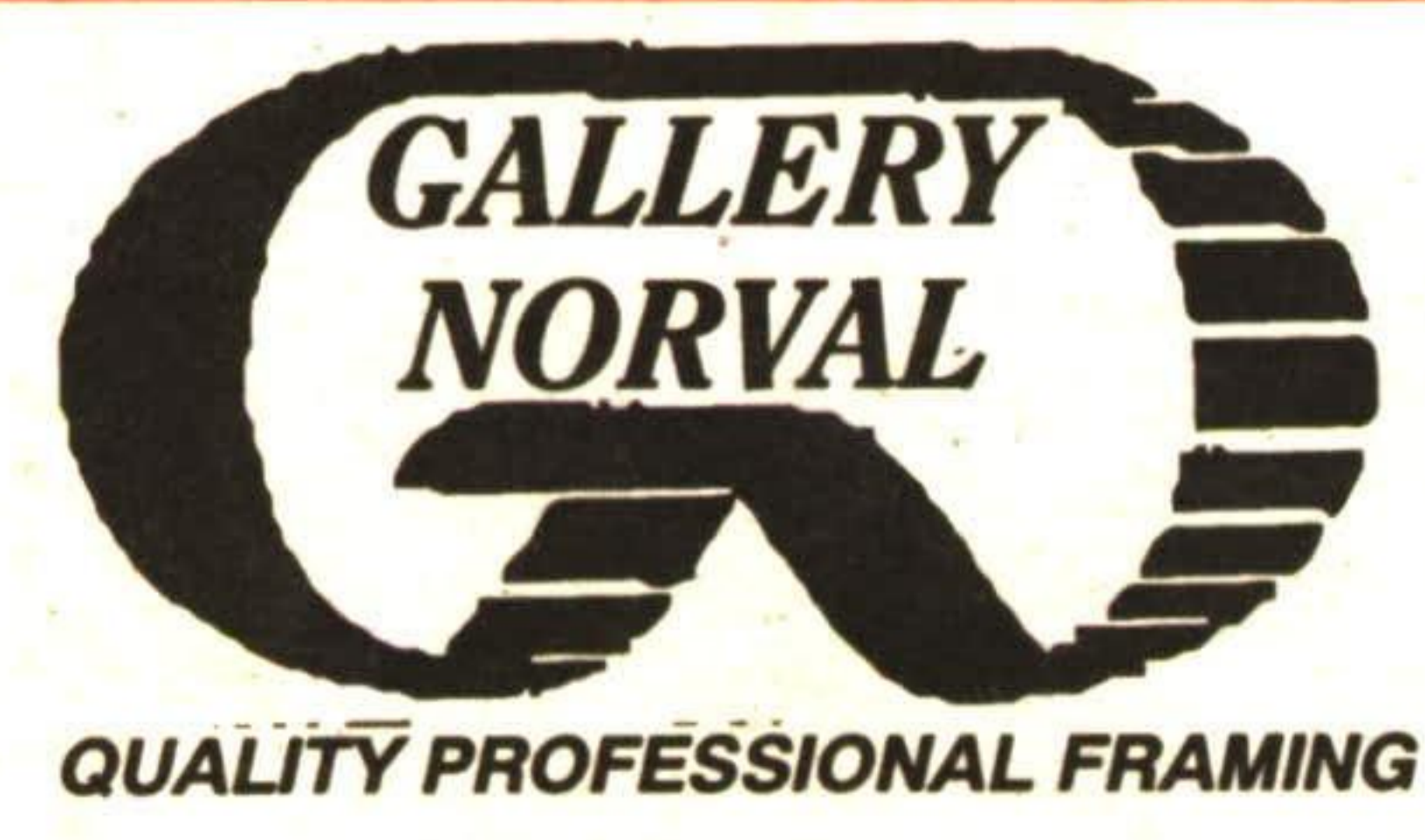
"I decided to paint this image after watching a friend work his chocolate lab, 'Bruiser'", the artist comments. "The master never said a word. He would just make a series of signals on his whistle and 'Bruiser' would respond. The dog showed both power and delight in what he was doing. It was a beautiful sight."

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