

Thornhill and District News

"The Liberal" is always pleased to publish items of interest contributed by its readers in the Thornhill area. Please call Miss Margaret Govan, 14 Deanbank Drive, 889-5372



(Photo by Gordon Crandell)

Thornhill Brownie Wins Fortitude Badge

Brownie Kim Beeston, aged 10, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Beeston, 270 Royal Orchard Boulevard, of 1st Thornhill Brownie Pack is seen giving the Brownie salute following receipt of The Badge of Fortitude presented to her by Area Commissioner Marion Currie. Others assisting in the presentation of the award and seen (from left to right) are Ruth Reesor, 1st Thornhill's Brown Owl, Area Commissioner Currie, Deputy Commissioner Pat Fransi, Division Commissioner Mary Chambers and District Commissioner Evelyn Goodwin.

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Vision Thornlea

Thornlea Secondary School
By Rae-Marie

Adults Enjoy Attending Day Classes

What's it like attending the same classes as your children? "Great," according to the ladies now attending day classes at Thornlea.

"The classes were really good," said Mrs. Gail Krystia, director of Greenlea School. Florence Deacon was really impressed with the amount of work covered in the course.

"The general level of knowledge and comprehension is surprising," she said, "for grade 13." They both agreed that schools had changed a lot, and the biggest difference?

"The student — teacher relationship," stated Mrs. Krystia. "When I went to school the teacher just lectured. We were given a fact and that was that. We couldn't agree or disagree, our opinion didn't matter."

"But now the students are taught to look beyond the surface facts," Mrs. Krystia continued, "and there's a freedom now that makes for better rapport between student and teacher."

How did the structure of the school differ? Florence Deacon felt that she really couldn't compare because she had gone to a girls' school. But Mrs. Krystia had this to offer.

"The school I went to was so structured that when the principal walked through the school yard at recess, everybody stopped talking." Kind of different now, isn't it?

Both felt that the teachers were very encouraging, and the students friendly. "They don't seem to mind adults sharing their classes. I'd say that I have quite a few friends among them," said Florence.

"I don't feel like an outsider — I think the students accept me," agreed Mrs. Krystia. So, anyone who would like to take a course offered at Thornlea, feel free to register now for third term.

Or, if you don't want to take a course, but would like to get involved with our school, now's your chance.

Homegroup 277 has decided to get together and raise money for purchase of bleachers for the school gym.

Chairman of the bleachers committee is Clyde Smith.

Already they've got some activities planned which are open to the public. The first big one is a special basketball game coming up two weeks from now. The Toronto Argonauts vs. the Thornlea Seniors. Tickets will be sold at the door and everyone is welcome.

"We need all the help we can get, and we'd appreciate any original ideas from the community," Clyde would like anyone interested to please phone the school and he'll get in touch with you. So think about it and let us know — OK?

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AIRPORT SERVICE

Thornhill Woman Volunteer Worker Street Haven

By MARY DAWSON

A Thornhill woman, Mrs. Eva Peters, 21 Thornlea Road, goes to prison voluntarily once a month. She is a volunteer who works at Street Haven in Toronto, an old home at 87 Pembroke Street in the "tenderloin" district.

Street Haven is just what it's name implies. It is a haven for girls in trouble with society or the law. The once beautiful old home now may not be much to look at outside or inside. But to a lot of girls it's all they've got and to them its great.

Girls with an average age of 25 — who have no one else to turn to in our big, rich, sophisticated society for a decent meal, medical attention, clothing or just a little kindness without preaching — find what they need there. It is provided by a paid staff of six and 60 volunteer workers.

Even though they're drug addicts, alcoholics, prostitutes, homosexuals or more, they are still human beings and in many cases have never been treated like people before in their lives, says Mrs. Peters.

Street Haven is open from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Mondays through Fridays and Sundays from 4 to 10 p.m. It is not open on Saturday because of lack of volunteers. A sandwich lunch and a hot dinner are served.

It costs \$1,250 a week to operate Street Haven, but it costs \$17.30 a day or \$121.00 a week to keep one girl in the Don Jail. The money for Street Haven comes from donations by associations and citizens. Donations are tax-exempt.

Street Haven can also handle donations of young women's used clothing. There is a particular need for underwear for all sizes and clothing for larger sizes. Maternity clothes are also welcome.

The volunteers who visit Kingston Penitentiary would appreciate donations of bingo prizes — such as cream deodorant, makeup, ash trays, coffee mugs, hard candies and pound cans of tobacco with papers. Mrs. Peters says she would be glad to pick up any such donations in the Thornhill or Richmond Hill areas.

Street Haven also has

speakers available at no charge for any group which would like to learn more about its operation and how it helps these unfortunate.

Street Haven cares for distressed girls, arranging for emergency clothing, food, housing, welfare, legal aid, probation supervision and parole.



THORNHILL'S EVA PETERS Goes To Jail Monthly

Once a month, with Mrs. Eddythe Prentice of 31 Canary Street, Willowdale, Mrs. Peters goes to Kingston Penitentiary to visit the girls incarcerated there. These girls are in prison for such things as narcotics convictions, murder, armed robbery, breaking and entering.

The volunteer visitors chat with girls coming out on parole or who need help with family problems. They stay overnight and in the evening to do crafts with the girls or arrange a game of bingo.

The next day they visit the girls in Kingston Hospital and take out two prisoners to do some shopping or for some entertainment. This privilege is earned by good behavior and is a treasured occasion.

In Toronto, Mrs. Peters takes girls out to hunt for living accommodation or a job and makes certain they are equipped with sensible, decent clothing. She also meets girls travelling through Metro on leave of absence on parole. Last Christmas 40 girls were released for a 10-day holiday with their families and all but one returned, Mrs. Peters told "The

Liberal." Mrs. Peters is the mother of five children aged seven to 20. She heard of Street Haven through "The United Church Observer," a magazine published mainly for members of the United Church of Canada. She began her work there as a volunteer one evening a week, five years ago.

Both lady volunteers have found dealing with these women offenders most rewarding. "They are so appreciative of our visits and look on us as their friends. They drop in to chat with us between the volleyball games in the gymnasium next door or they spend the evening with us doing crafts or playing bingo.

"There may be disagreements, fights, violence and bitter words amongst the prisoners themselves. But the volunteers are treated with respect and as very good friends. The girls have a terrific sense of humor in spite of all their problems and we enjoy being with them," says Mrs. Peters. She says that six volunteers from Kingston also visit the girls regularly once a week.

South Thornhill And Bayview Glen News

CORRESPONDENT: DAVE BARBOUR — PHONE 889-5205 - 366-1720

School News — Close to 100 persons attended the E. J. Sand Parent-Teacher Association's presentation of Dr. Rudolph Dreikin's film on the counselling of children February 1.

An elated Glenn Rae, public relations convenor, proudly reported that the turnout at this function reached a total figure three times higher than a normal attendance.

It was further gratifying for him to see so many fathers in attendance as usually the attendance at these functions is almost entirely mothers only.

Following the highly informative movie, Mrs. Jean Harrison of the Toronto Association of Individual Psychology divided the attending parents into four groups with a leader for each.

The groups discussed the film and Dr. Dreikin's book, "Children—The Challengers".

The meeting concluded with the serving of coffee and refreshments.

The next general meeting will be held April 4 with the subject to be discussed yet to be determined.

At Henderson Avenue Public School, teacher Mrs. Susan Shepa took her grade 2 class to York Farmers' Market, Thornhill, to watch meat being processed at the Nels Gage Meat Market. The date was January 26.

Woodland and Henderson Avenue Schools are holding public speaking contests to select representatives for the upcoming inter-school and county competitions.

It has been announced that Henderson Avenue School will hold a physical education activity night March 9.

Henderson Avenue Public School's Home and School Association will present Al Fasan, Superintendent of Utilization, Ontario Educational Commission, Authority, February 14 at 8 p.m. at the school. Mr. Fasan will speak on TV in classrooms and his talk will be followed by a question and answer period.

There will be a kindergarten registration for children who will be attending the Bayview Glen and Bayview Fairways Public Schools and whose fifth birthday will be during 1972. The registration will take place at Bayview Glen Public School February 1 between the hours of 9:30 and 3:30 p.m. All parents are urged to take advantage of this opportunity to register their child.

Girls' Hockey — Fans of the Thornhill Girls' Hockey Club will be sorry to learn that the girls failed to secure first place in the North York Ladies' Hockey League in their last chance last weekend as they went down to defeat by Agincourt 2-0.

The two teams started the game tied in the standings for first place. As a result of this game Agincourt finished in first and Thornhill in second place.

The local ladies will now await their playoff schedule as they have played all their regular games.

Scouts — The 2nd Thornhill Scouts decided to attend "Operation Snowflake" in the Albion Hills last weekend. They report a good, though chilly time and won second and third place in skiing with Bob McCrimmon and Mike Gibbard doing the honors.

An estimated 175 boys attended this outing, with 17 of these being Scouts and Venturers from 2nd Thornhill.

Since most, if not all, en-

trants in the Klondyke sled competition at Richmond Hill Winter Carnival were Scouts and were affected by the conflicting dates, the competition will be held at a later date. The 2nd Thornhill troop was the 1971 champion of this event.

This weekend the 2nd Thornhill Venturers will journey to Grange (near Orangeville) for an undetermined purpose.

Neighborhood Notes — Tonight (Thursday) is the night of the February meeting of the Doncaster Community Ladies' Club. It will be held at the home of Mrs. Eileen Russell, 60 Proctor Avenue. It has been designated as film night and all local ladies are cordially invited to come along at 8 p.m.

Friends and neighbors of Bruce Gould of Morgan Avenue are happy to learn that he is home from York Central Hospital in Richmond Hill where he had been a patient for a week to undergo corrective surgery in the neck area.

An Italian theme was chosen for the celebration of the 41st wedding anniversary of Ed and Florence Gaborie of Oshawa, February 5. The party was hosted by their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Veltri, 338 John Street, east of Bayview. Included in the guests were family members and friends, totalling 24.

Mr. Veltri reconstructed three old cutters and attached toboggans behind so that 10 persons could be accommodated for rides at a time. They travelled through open fields and reported the experience as much more fun than snowmobiling.

Since most, if not all, en-

Brand New Home

Sleeping Guest Flees \$4,500 Thornhill Fire

No cause has been determined for a \$4,500 4 pm fire in a five-month-old nine-room brick home at 119 Romfield Circuit in Thornhill, says Markham Town Fire Chief Myrl Smith.

Mark Richardson, 20 of Georgetown, a house guest of owner-occupants Margaret and Donald Eckman, was dozing in an upstairs chair when he smelled smoke. He went downstairs to investigate and fled from the flames through patio doors. The family was away.

He rushed to the Keith Hall residence, 117 Romfield Circuit, where Mrs. Doris Hall called the fire department, the call being received at 3:59 pm.

Markham Firefighters from the new John Street station were on the scene in three minutes and acted speedily to confine the

flames to the staircase and the downstairs. Mrs. Eckman told "The Liberal" as she highly commended the firefighters.

Formerly a resident of 87 Morgan Avenue, Thornhill for eight years the Eckmans have daughters Elizabeth aged eight and Victoria aged 5. They were staying in a motel after the fire and thought they might be unable to return to their damaged new home for several weeks. The house and contents were fully insured.

Mrs. Eckman says there is extensive smoke damage all through the single-storey home. The fire was in the downstairs recreation room where the family was just installing new furnishings. Upstairs the heat was so intense it melted the thermostat off a wall and baked a nylon rug. Paint in the main floor rooms was broken and blistered, she said.

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For further information contact Markham Parks and Recreation Department 297-1900, Ext. 22

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