

# Greely Grist

## The village weaver

By Carol Parker

Walking through Greely you come upon one of the oldest houses in the village. When it was first built, "The Parker House" was the home of Mr. Hupe who ran a sawmill on the property. It changed hands in the early 1900's, and was run as a general store and garage by the Straby family. Now, in various stages of renovation, it houses the Parker family, and is the centre of a small weaving business.

Weaving is one of the oldest crafts, and can be done on many different devices, including fingers! Weaving is essentially the intertwining of two fibers, the warp, which in tapestry weaving is usually the vertical threads, and the weft of woof, which is woven over and under the warp threads. Darning is the very simplest form of weaving, if you can darn, you can also weave!

The treadle loom is a device which was invented to weave large amounts of cloth in a shorter time, and I am the proud owner of an eight harness treadle loom from Finland; this loom is not only a joy to use, but being made of kiln dried birch, is also a beautiful piece of furniture, and very pleasing to the eye in our barn board walled living room. On this loom I weave blankets, place mats, ponchos, lengths of fabric, etc., and spend many happy hours at this very relaxing craft.

My other large loom is an upright frame on which I weave tapestries — these are pictures in wool, and I weave them along the lines of the huge old tapestries which were woven as draught excluders for the castles of long ago.

One could spend a lifetime weaving and still not cover all the possibilities of pattern and texture, in fact, there are some weavers who have spent years studying all the different variations of a single pattern.

I very much enjoy teaching the weaving classes I give in my home; it is fascinating to see all the different ideas the students have, no two projects or wall-hangings are ever alike. The classes are basically tapestry weaving, but I also include weaving on the inkle loom, card weaving (one of the very oldest forms of weaving), round frame or mandala weaving, and bag weaving. We also spin raw fleece on the spinning wheel, and the drop spindle, and one lesson is spent dyeing wool with natural dyes using onion skins, berries, tree bark, plant stems, leaves, etc., etc.

My ever patient husband Roy has taken on the job of carpenter-in-chief at "The Parker House". He makes all the accessories a weaver needs, and is at present, building a warping mill; this device is used for winding the warp in a continuous thread before it is put onto the loom. He also makes tapestry looms for the students in my classes, and is always willing to help solve problems whether they be constructing a handy gadget or advising on blends of colour or texture.

We also have four marvellous children who are very patient with their mother who frequently has them helping to warp the big loom, or holding wool for winding, or carding fleeces for spinning, or doing extra jobs around the house to give me time to weave.

Weaving is an endless joy to me, whether I am working on a self-imposed project, or making something to sell in my store. Visitors to "The Parker House" are very welcome, come and watch the weaving, or join the classes and learn to weave; it is very rewarding.

## Spring for cancer

April brings not only spring flowers, it heralds the annual campaign for funds conducted by the Canadian Cancer Society. Indeed, a spring flower, the daffodil, is the society's emblem.

On January 15, a Russell group of people from the Russell district assembled at the United Church and the following committee was elected to conduct the society's program of education, service to patients and the annual campaign: Eric King, president (445-

5478); Eileen Hamelin, secretary-treasurer (445-5335); Diny achtterekte, campaign (445-3024); Hazel Rombough, campaign (445-2845); Patricia Warner, service to patients (445-2983); Shirley King, education (445-5478); Coby Bols, education (445-2175).

The Russell Village branch is anxious to be of service to cancer patients in the district. Anyone requiring assistance or information is asked to contact any one of the above.

# Library News

From Ina Kincaid

**HOURS**  
Mon., Fri., Sat.: 2:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.  
Wed.: 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.  
Tues., Thurs.: 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

We have 10 tickets for Sr. Citizens to see the play *Equis* by Peter Shaffer on April 4. This play is considered one of the most important plays produced in the last twenty-five years; featuring David Hemblin and Benedict Campbell. Call 445-5673.

### NEW BOOKS

**Paper Backs**  
Chalkdust in My Blood — Dorothy Morgan  
Backstairs at the White House — Gwen Bagni and Paul Dubov  
Coma — Robin Cook  
Lord of the Rings — J.R.R. Tolkien  
1) The Fellowship of the Rings  
2) The Two Towers  
3) The Return of the King  
Horse and Rider — Alois Padhajsky  
The Problem Horse and Problem Rider — M. C. Self  
Hunter Seat Equitation — George A. Morris  
Chess to Enjoy — Andy Soltis

A Very Political Lady — Judy La Marsh  
Eye of the Needle — Den Follett  
Bloodline — Sydney Sheldon  
On the Frontier with Mr. Audubon — B. Brenner  
Childhood Illness — J. G. Shillier M.D.  
What can you do about Baldness — Ed Van Dusen  
Scottish Clans and Tartans — Ian Frimble  
A Haunting we will go — Lee Hopkins  
When will I Read? — Miriam Chen  
Teach us Amelia — Pegg Parish



### SPEAKING OUT

Russell Township farmer Peter Romme, a man who knows the subject, spoke his piece during a recent public meeting on food prices. After setting up the meeting in Russell Village and running the first half on television, CBOT cancelled the second segment leaving a lot of viewers literally up in the air. There was no explanation.

## Meditorial

By Rev. James Paul

Last August Le Grand Melvin, a 25 year old entertainer, was in the middle of his act in a night club in La Tuque, Quebec. While on stage he began playing with his 7 foot long boa constrictor. "If I'm not on my feet again in 20 minutes", he told the audience of some 150 persons, you can put me in my coffin right away. It will be the end for me. Tragically, it was just that, for minutes later the snake wrapped itself around his neck and crushed him to death.

Many a man, like Le Grand Melvin plays with SIN and laughs at the idea it will get the better of him. Apostle Paul clearly warns us in Galatians 6:7-8a, "Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction." Sin is not to be played with, for it eventually makes victims out of those who indulge in it. If you dabble with sexual promiscuity you eventually will become it's slave. With the alarming rise of gonorrhoea and syphilis throughout our Canadian Society, it proves that many have become slaves to sex. If you dabble with any kind of sin — one that is socially acceptable or not — you will reap it's bitter crushing power of sin. Simply, ask the Lord Jesus, who died on the cross for you, to cleanse your life and that very moment you will know true freedom. What kind of life-harvest are you reaping?

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