Rideau Lakes Union LIBRARY

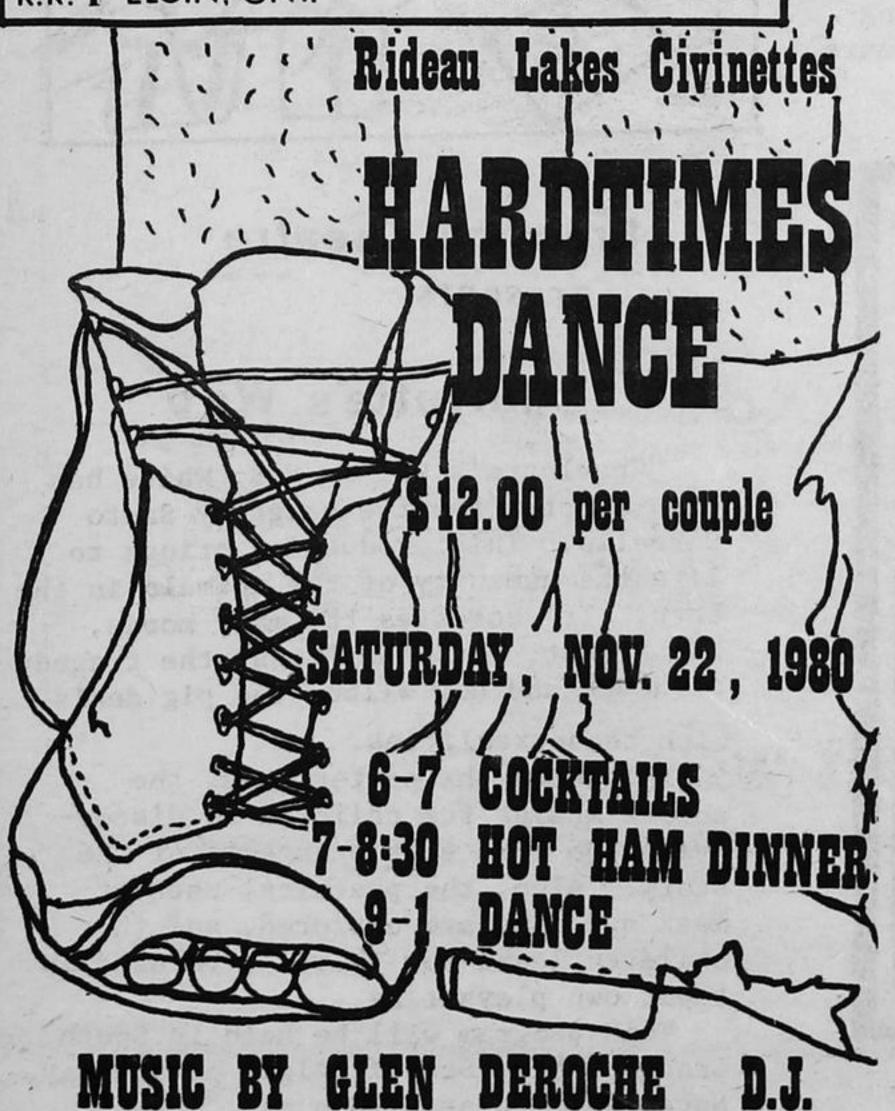
Our Library Development programmes for October were well received. Each branch offered small surprises for its younger set if they visited each week (a balloon, a book mark, a button and colouring pamphlet were the "giveaways".) Some branches served coffee and donuts during their evening hours and many new memberships resulted in this month of library awareness. Our big show, "Snakes Alive", was a great success and was seen by students from Portland, Westport and Elgin at South Crosby School and by Delta, Seeley's Bay and Lyndhurst children at Sweets Corners School. Jim Lovisek, a herpetologist with Royal Ontario Museum of Toronto brought 14 live snakes with him. His programme was

informative using slides to show many of the snakes of Ontario. 10 of the live snakes were from Ontario, 2 from Florida and one from South America. As a good showman would, Jim kept the biggest until last, a 10 foot Burmese Python. All the children had the chance to see the snakes at close range and touch them under Jim's careful guidance. The children's enthusiasm, curiosity and questions indicated the success of this venture and Jim hopes he dispelled many of the fears and myths surrounding these reptiles which are a necessary part of the ecology.

November brings us 2 excellent programmes. While these programmes are often presented in the area schools, they are open to the public and the library works in full cooperation with the school staff so that these cultural offerings can be seen in our area.

As a service to our patrons we are again offering a limited selection of books suitable for Xmas gifts. This selection will be in the Elgin branch by the first week in November. Come in and make your selection. Remember, for children, a book is an educational toy!









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