

## Leavers family home is an old new house

BY JOHN STEWART  
Frank and Pat Leavers of Port Credit lived in a 21 room mansion built in 1911 after they were married. Maybe that's where the idea came from.  
Or perhaps Frank's job in real estate, where he tours a lot of older homes, keyed the notion.  
Whatever the reason, the Leavers decided a few years ago to build an "old new house." They wanted property where they could be sure of a traditional, old-fashioned look for the home they would design.  
The Leavers consider their home at 52 Oakwood Ave. South in Port Credit to be about 95 per cent completed, and they are certainly satisfied with its vintage look.  
The lot they own was not their first choice but Frank is the reeve of Port Credit and he didn't want to move outside town boundaries. It is close to the lake, although not right on it as the family had hoped.  
By touring the Lakeview area and taking color pictures of its old homes, Frank decided what the exterior should be like. The Leavers found most older homes had red roofs, so despite the builder's objections, their's has one too. When they couldn't get hold of real eight

pane windows, they bought false ones.  
An old fashioned bay window seemed appropriate so they designed the house to allow cantilevered construction of this feature at the front.  
They designed the bay to perfectly fit the chesterfield and two matching end tables.  
But the Leavers really indulged themselves in their fondness for fireplaces. Besides one in their living room, they had one built in the den. They also have plans to eventually build fireplaces on the second storey and in the basement.  
The just completed den is the pride of the Leaver home at the moment. "We just put the fire on and look at it and look at it."  
The entire wall is bricked for the fireplace. Frank obtained the second hand bricks through fellow Councillor Ed Donner, whose father got them from the original Port Credit brickyards. The building was done by Stan Milne whose father, a Scotch stonemason, built fireplaces in Port Credit years ago.  
A beam which weighs 300 pounds and extends across the width of the room came from Edgar Wilson's barn in Albion. The beam, which is probably spruce, is bolted right through the wall of the



The Leavers family of Port Credit relax in the den of their "old new home," on Oakwood Avenue. From left, daughters Jill and Terri, Frank and son John, at the fireplace and Pat.

house.  
The same used bricks served as the building material for Frank's traditional patio. "There are over 2000 bricks in that thing," Frank says. "It took a neighbor and I from July 1 to Labor Day working in our spare time to complete it."  
The patio is 12 by 20 and about 3 1/2 feet deep. Off to one side stands an old English cherry tree which Frank has carefully well and pruned.  
The total lot is 192 feet deep with a mini-forest in its midst. "We just let that grow wild," says Frank, "with a little clearing in the middle. In the summer you can't

even see that toolshed and the back of the yard is invisible."  
"That stand of trees attracts lots of squirrels and birds and I think it's good for the kids. When I was a kid, we had lots of open areas, but they don't get the chance that much any more."  
A small slice of shoreline is visible from the French doors bordering on the patio. The Leavers got these doors free when someone put them out in the garbage and a friend noticed them. The family is also on the lookout for interior doors to suit their living room.  
In the kitchen stands

Frank's home made breakfast table. "It's based on the old harvest table concept. There isn't a nail in it. It's all glue and dowels."  
Pat adds: "we're just refinishing an old washstand that belonged to Frank's grandmother on his mother's side. She used to run a hotel in Port Credit. We're going to use it as a wash stand."  
The Leavers' four children each got their own rooms when they moved into the house in November, 1969 and the older children decided how they wanted their own area decorated.  
The old new house is not finished yet but further

projects are already lined up. Frank has two iron gates which each weigh 250 pounds and are resting on his lot. He eventually plans to erect these between two gateposts constructed of the brickyard bricks.  
"There's a lot of us in this place now," Pat says. "The most satisfying thing though was watching it grow during the six months it was under construction. We used to come down here every single day and see what had been done."  
"It was designed for this family and it's excellent for us," Frank says. "We're going to be here forever."

## Tony Adamson fights to save Union Station

BY JOHN KERNAGHAN  
Anthony Adamson's clipped British tones punches out a tirade at Toronto's massive re-development scheme — Metro Centre.  
"Metro Centre haven't given a damn for the commuters in Mississauga," the former Toronto Township Reeve explains. Toronto council recently approved the \$1 billion scheme after 21 days of debate.  
Adamson is an architect, a former professor of town planning at University of Toronto and current chairman of the Ontario Council of the Arts. He has fought the commercial complex, a joint venture by Canadian National Railways and CP Rail, since it was first released.  
He has two bees in his bonnet: one is the plight of the commuters; the other, as an architect, is the fate of Union Station and in particular its main hall — "the finest room in Canada."  
"We are trying to find out what is going to happen to the commuters," he says. No detailed plans have been made available by Metro Centre.  
"The dear CN-CP" will relocate the union station "miles from the subway". Adamson confesses it might not be miles but upwards of a 1,000 foot walk through a shopping concourse filled with people "buying plaster ducks and tea trays".  
He contends the 650 foot trek is bad enough now with

20,000 people using the central Toronto station. What will happen, he asks, when a predicted 100,000 people use the facilities.  
The Metro Centre plan, in essence, will reduce the number of railway tracks from 40 to 25, build over the tracks and construct six high rise commercial towers and a convention centre.  
But because of a special provincial act or "development agreement... everything is so complicated us dumb peasants can't understand it," says Adamson.  
He claims the "special act" requires no public meeting, no planning board approval and no Ontario Municipal Board meeting.  
"We have to trust the technocrats, but CN-CP have no interest in me and the city has no interest in me."  
Even more is that much of the operation will be built with public finances, yet the public has little voice in the decision.  
"There is no question it will get through."  
He is the spokesman of the 1,000 strong Union Station Committee, an organization intent on preserving at least the 88 foot high great hall.  
He feels the quarter acre facility could house winter events to the magnitude of those held in summer at Nathan Phillips Square and Ontario Place.  
Ensclosed in the library-den of his Dutch Colonial

home on a 10-acre site facing Lake Ontario, Adamson discusses the architectural quality of Union Station.  
The building, designed by John Lyle, has a "fine classical grace" and "wonderful classical proportions."  
"The lighting is excellent," Adamson believes the natural lighting "makes the Sistine Chapel look like 25 cents".  
Union Station, according to Adamson, could last as long as the Pantheon.  
Apart from practical applications like dances, heavy equipment displays and special occasions (perhaps the Argos might win the Grey Cup, muses Adamson) the building has definite sentimental value.  
"It is a mistake if we consider that sentiment is not a value," Adamson says. Will he win his battle versus City Hall?  
Adamson is confident he will, despite a planning snag that calls for University Avenue to plow through the existing site.  
A city building committee has recommended a serious look at maintaining Union Station and Toronto planning staff have submitted a plan to take University Ave. over the station and under the Gardiner Expressway.  
Besides, Adamson believes that if the matter went to plebiscite, Torontonians would vote 70 per cent in favor of preserving the classical old building.



Area motorists may have considered Thursday's blizzard an exercise in frustration but the kids were delighted by the first real snowfall of the winter. Above, Billy Bleakley is well protected against the elements.

## High school theatre round-up

A roundup of high school plays in Mississauga shows a wide variety of fare for drama enthusiasts in the area.  
Most secondary schools have decided on plays and are working toward the night their labors will culminate in the final on-stage product.  
The following guide is provided for Times' readers interested in Mississauga's high school theatrical scene:  
**APPLEWOOD**  
A cabaret style production where the audience is invited to pelt the villain with peanuts (provided especially for the occasion) and cheer the "blushing heroine" is the style at Applewood Heights Secondary School.  
Daryl Taylor says his students are already rehearsing for the 19th century musical melodrama, *The Drunkard*, or *Down With Demon Drink*.

**ERINDALE**  
Erindale Secondary School has just formed a choir and may be moving on to do a musical in the future, although there are no definite plans at the moment.  
**CLARKSON**  
Clarkson Secondary School's production of Thornton Wilder's *The Matchmaker* will be staged around the second week of February. The three-act play, on which the musical, *Hello Dolly* was based, has had its performing rights restored after a long Broadway run.  
Dan Ratcliffe, in charge of theatre arts at Clarkson, says the play has been cast and rehearsals will start after the holidays. Three one-act plays will also be staged by Clarkson later in the year. Tentative dates are April 6, 7. The best of these plays will be performed in the Simpson's Collegiate Drama Festival.  
**GLENFOREST**  
A series of plays will be staged on one night, April 6 at Glenforest Secondary School. Each grade will present a half hour performance. The one judged best will likely be entered in the Simpson's Festival.  
Grade 9 is doing *Inside a*

*Kid's Head*, Grade 10, *Shaw's The Dear Departed*; Grade 11, *George Bernard Shaw's Passion, Poison and Petrefaction*; and Grade 12, *Edward Albee's The Sandbox*. Mrs. Susan Eaman says the school will work on a musical in the spring, to be staged next fall.  
**PORT CREDIT**  
Port Credit recently presented the children's Christmas play, *The Tailor of Gloucester*. The play was adapted by a Grade 10 student from a Beatrix Potter story.  
Mrs. Bridget Harrison, Port Credit's drama instructor says the school will stage Arthur Miller's *The Crucible* sometime during the first week in March.  
**WESTWOOD**  
Westwood Secondary School in Malton performed John Arden's play, *The Business of Good Government* last week.  
In the new year the school plans to stage John Osborne's *Look Back in Anger*. Donald Johnston is directing the production which is already in rehearsal.  
**LORNE PARK**  
Lorne Park will begin casting in the new year for a one-act play to be entered in the Simpson's competition. The work has not been

chosen.  
The school will also stage *Auntie Mame*, in its play version, sometime during the second week in May. The leads for *Mame*, adapted by Lawrence and Lee from Patrick Dennis' novel, have already been selected, although there have been no rehearsals. Don MacDonald is directing.  
**GORDON GRAYDON**  
Gordon Graydon Secondary School is planning lunch hour presentations of improvisations and selected one-act plays during February. The junior drama society hopes to enter one of these plays in the Oakville drama festival.  
Mrs. Elizabeth Whatmough says the school will also present a full play in April, probably Miller's *The Crucible*.

T. L. KENNEDY  
An evening of one-act plays is the fare on March 2 at T. L. Kennedy. Only two of the works have been chosen. One will be a student written story of the Second World War and the other will be the modern western spoof, *The Life and Death of Sneaky Fitch*.  
Kennedy also has plans for a musical in May but drama instructor Lawrence Voisin has not as yet made the selection.

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## Double birthday party at Sherway Simpsons

Centennial celebrations at the Sherway Mall Simpsons store will get underway tonight (Wed.) with a double birthday party.  
The store is celebrating both 100 years of Simpsons operation in Canada and a year of local service at Sherway.  
Manager Bud Masterton says the store is holding a cocktail party for its friends tonight, and officially opening centennial celebrations tomorrow.  
The store will offer special opening day sales which have been a closely guarded secret even within the Simpsons organization. "I'm the only one at our store right now who knows what the prices of the sale items are going to be," Masterton said.  
Simpsons' head office has provided store managers with a game plan to run the centennial show. "These little books are our bibles," Masterton said, opening several plastic covered binders full of charts and diagrams. "These tell us what each store is supposed to do at each step along the way."  
The Sherway Simpsons store manager said employees were "so excited about the celebration because they are taken into consideration in our plans." Employees will participate in incentive programs for money and prizes throughout the year. Service to the public will be the criteria for

awards.  
After a very slow start in business last summer, the Sherway store is progressing well, its manager claims. "We make mistakes, but we're a new store. We've had many letters congratulating us on our nice staff," he says.  
Centennial celebrations will begin before 9 a.m. tomorrow with the Etobicoke Crusaders Drum and Bugle Corps parading through the mall. A barber shop quartet and a clown will also be on hand to entertain.  
The senior citizens of the year, Mrs. F. Noble and Mr. Allan Wesley, will cut the ribbon to officially open Simpsons' centennial year.  
A huge birthday cake of an estimated 1200 servings will be distributed free of charge to customers all day long.

## Erindale art exhibitions

Erindale College is offering two art exhibitions in its main foyer this week.  
The People of Eight Seasons consists of the arts and crafts of the Laplanders. The work from Sweden's Norrbotten Museum is currently touring North America.  
Also in the foyer of the college's preliminary building is the showing of landscapes by the Canadian Society of Painters in Watercolor.

**NOTICE**  
*Annual Meeting of Progressive Conservative Party of Canada - (Peel South)*  
Annual meeting of The Progressive Conservative Party of Canada, Peel South, will be held in The Theatre of The Huron Park Recreation Center at 8 p.m. on Thursday January 20th, 1972. Guest Speaker will be Mr. Don Matthews, National President of The Progressive Conservative Party.  
Signed:  
Robin M. Richardson Secretary.

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