

Water program may be axed

A committee has recommended the water-safety and swimming program for Grade 4 students — a pet project of defeated Ward 2 school board trustee Rudy Bos — be cancelled. The program had been re-started 12 months ago.

Bos had fought for the water-safety program since its first cancellation in 1969. He got his way at the beginning of 1974 when 6,544 children of varying swimming skills were given ten 40-minute water-safety lessons.

But the Peel Board of Education's finance and budget committee has decided the program is too expensive for continuation

into 1975, despite a recommendation to do so by senior administrators and the board's physical education consultant.

The recommendation will go to the newly-elected board of education in January for consideration.

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Through the years with the print



Seagull with Sea Spirit, a print from 1963 engraving by Kenojuak. It's on display at Port Credit library.

By SANDY STOUTH

Ronald Ness is sharing his collection of prints with Mississauga residents in an exhibition entitled Five Hundred Years of Graphic Art.

The exhibit display, with works dating from 1471 to 1973, is at Port Credit library until Jan. 7.

The exhibit also includes prints from the collection of Mr. and Mrs. Stuart McMinn of Oakville.

Ness, an Isabella Dr. resident, has been collecting prints for the last five years.

"Art enriches your life. The only way to recognize quality is to be exposed to it."

"I'm sort of stunned when people ask 'what's in it for you?'"

"People assume there has to be a monetary gain. I'm only doing it to try and show people its many qualities."

His interest in prints began at an auction sale in East Toronto when a friend urged him to purchase a print by the Master Albrecht Durer.

"I had never seen anything like it. I didn't know anything about Durer."

"The more I looked at it, the more I became fascinated with it."

"I bought it for \$200 and it turned out to be an original," says Ness.

After his first purchase, he read about the life and work of Durer, who was one of the greatest graphic artists.

During his reading, Ness ran across an article about the McMinn's, who also had a deep interest in prints.

"I found they had an excellent knowledge of prints, and we became quite good friends," says Ness.

McMinn and his wife are in their late 20s. "Age is no barrier when you have something in common," says Ness.

They decided to join forces and hold their first show at Oakville Centennial Library in June of this year.

"The curator said it was the best show they've ever had," Ness says.

The show has several aims: to depict several facets of collecting prints; to point out differences in print

techniques; to give a historical survey and outline changes in print styles; and to show variation in aesthetic quality.

There are three major techniques used to make prints: relief printing (woodcut, stonecut); intaglio (engraving and etching); and planographic (lithography).

The print is an extremely old art form, first used in China in the 800s.

In the Western world, the advent of the printed illustration was in the 1400s with the production of paper and invention of moveable type.

Prints produced prior to 1500 are usually very simple in design, use a woodcut technique and are primarily of a religious nature.

It was during the early 1500s that Durer came to fame, with his woodcut and line-engraving prints. Among his collection, Ness possesses seven of Durer's works, which feature intricate details. He also has a small etching of a beggar with left hand extended by Rembrandt van Rijn.

"Good prints don't depreciate in value," says Ness. "It doesn't take a lot of money to collect prints."

"But if you become interested in buying rare prints, you should only buy from respected dealers."

"It's so interesting, the more you read, the more you become involved."



Wedding Dancers, a print from a 1538 engraving.

Profit slice sought

Night-school classes sponsored by Peel Board of Education are making a profit and a board committee wants to use at least half that money to pay for wear and tear on regular school equipment.

According to a staff report, the adult evening courses netted \$63,633 in 1974 and \$69,840 last year.

Enrolment this year passed the 12,000 mark with revenues from provincial grants and student fees totalling \$291,572.

The board's finance and budget committee has voted to recommend to the full board next year that half the profit be used to replace and upgrade equipment in schools where use is the heaviest.

Teen wins Jamaica trip

Julie Dorsey, 13, of Valmarie Ave. won a trip to Jamaica for two in the recent Westdale Mall Auction Bucks prize auction.

Julie plans to take friend Susan Campbell along on the week-long vacation.

Westdale shoppers received an auction buck for each one dollar of purchase and used the play money in the auction. The trip was courtesy of Air Jamaica and the Jamaica Hilton.

Five other major prizes went in the auction.

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