

## ▣ ELEGANT EMBASSIES OPEN DOORS TO ASSIST CHARITIES ▣

need to understand the reasons for the move and need to feel they are part of the decision-making process associated with the necessary plans.

The video also deals with a number of other issues, ranging from the problems associated with kids making less than desirable friends, to the need for older adolescents to gain work experience and find meaningful ways to occupy their time. The younger participants in the video discussion group, who grew up in a foreign service situation, discuss what it was like as a teenager to live a fishbowl existence with little privacy, as well as some of their experiences upon returning to their home country.

Although Adolescents Abroad was prepared for the American foreign service community and naturally deals with some more specific American concerns, the treatment of its subject matter is broad enough to be of interest to Canadian families. Dr. Elmore Rigamore introduces basic principles of child psychology into the program, and encourages parents to use tolerance, firmness, and practicality when dealing with their teenage children. Dr. Rigamore emphasizes that a parent's role, no matter where he or she may live, is to assist their child in making the most of the developmental stages of the adolescent years.

This video is not intended to be an exhaustive survey of the issues and concerns involved in raising adolescents abroad. Rather, it is hoped that it will provide some assistance to foreign service families, and will serve as a springboard for discussion amongst concerned parents, and even amongst teenagers themselves.

Adolescents Abroad is just one of a number of videos on family issues that can be obtained from the Posting Services Centre in Ottawa. The Centre maintains a variety of resource materials which are available to members of the foreign service community ▣

A solar-heated home with 99 windows, and an embassy with a collection of Chinese jade and ivory were among the six residences in this year's house and garden tour put on by the Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire.

An added attraction of the 28th annual fundraising tour was a trip through the historic grounds of the Berkenfels Estate, more than nine acres surrounding the oldest home in Rockcliffe Park.

The Malaysian Embassy, in Rockcliffe, is a Tudor style stucco and stone house, built in the 1930s. The house, occupied by High Commissioner Puan Sri Thomas Jayasuriya, and his wife Helen, has a collection of antique South East Asian maps, and a framed Batik of rice harvesters in Sabah, the High Commissioner's home province in North East Borneo.

The expansive reception room, with cathedral ceilings, is separated into two sitting areas by a magnificent double fireplace with a sandstone chimney. The room spans the entire back of the house, and the floor-to-ceiling windows overlook the garden.

The Argentinian Embassy, also in Rockcliffe Park, is a 78-year-old home purchased by the Argentine government in 1966. The square dining room includes a marble fireplace with an Argentinian painting above, and an arched white wooden cabinet displays native silver. A typical Argentinian cow-hide rug adorns the cosy, wood-panelled den. In the living room, Maria, wife of Ambassador Francisco José Pulit, has arranged her collections of silver ornaments and pill boxes throughout the room.

Just down the street sits a sandstone mansion owned by the U.S. government for its "minister of the embassy", or

deputy ambassador. Right now, that post is held by Dwight Mason who lives in the 50-year-old-home with his wife Susan.

The sun porch, filled with plants and overlooking the garden, was added to the home two years ago, as an extra area for entertaining. It seats about 22.

In contrast to the older embassies, the new home of Jillian and Michael Edelson, a criminal lawyer, is by far the most modern attraction of the tour. Standing on a half-acre hillside in Rothwell Heights, the home's 99 windows flood every room of the solar-heated house with natural light. Designed by architect Chuck Wheeler, the house is divided into units around a central courtyard.

The home of economist O.J. Firestone and his wife Barbara, in Rockcliffe Park, is designed around the couple's art collection. The paintings include works by A.Y. Jackson, as well as those of later, more abstract artists like Jean-Paul Riopelle and Ghitta Caiserman-Roth. A towering metal sculpture by Louis Archambault called *The Tree* sits in front of a living room window. Barbara Firestone says their home reflects their philosophy that "art was made to live with", in a comfortable, yet elegant manner.

As usual, proceeds from the tour went toward various bursaries, scholastic prizes, and charities ▣

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