

Letters, we get letters...



Foreign Service families, this newsletter is for you. If it is to be of maximum interest and use to you, it needs your input. We welcome any and all suggestions and comments about this issue. Please write to: Community Liaison Section (Liaison), Posting Services Centre, Lester B. Pearson Building, External Affairs, Ottawa K1A 0G2.

After being posted for four years in Minneapolis and into our third year in Chicago, we have just received notice of our return to Ottawa as part of the government redeployment exercise.

My wife and I didn't think this move would affect our children, two daughters ages 12 and 10, until one day we found the attached poem on our twelve-year-old's desk. The strength of Roanne's attachment to Chicago was surprising to us. Her emotion at leaving the U.S. shows that although parents can accept rotationality and moving as a part of the job, sometimes it is very hard on children and adolescents.

I wanted to share her poem with you, and if you decide, your readers.

Thank you, Ted S. Weinstein

Please, let us stay

When you move,
You feel all alone,
Knowing that your friends
Are forgetting about you in your old
city zone
You're torn, thrown, and ripped away
from your friends
Just go ahead and cry, we'll leave
you alone
Do we have to leave?
Do we have to go?
I just want to stay here,
Let us play in the snow.
Sure will miss the Sears Tower,
And of course those Chicago Bears.
It doesn't matter anyway.
Nobody's listening, nobody cares.
I love it here,
I'll hate it there
They won't let us stay.
'Cause nobody cares.

Canadian Teens Abroad

Kelly Morgan, 13, was recently elected President of the American International School, Dhaka. The school includes 350 students from kindergarten to grade nine.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

As must be with rotational life, our time here in Ottawa has come to an end.

The past 2 and a half years have been valuable ones for me. From a mere idea in '84 to these 40 pages of today, *Liaison* has gradually evolved. May the incoming editor take it to even greater heights so that it can best serve the unique needs of rotational families like ourselves.

Jo-Lynne Sutherland



Intrepid External Affairs staff members once again braved the cold winds on Dow's Lake to contribute an ice sculpture to Winterlude's Ice Dream. Even as the snow fell and the winds howled, the ice sculpture team was Dreaming of Picasso. The sculpture was a variation on Picasso's *The Dream* and reminded many Ice Dream visitors of warmer weather during last summer's Picasso exhibition in Montreal. Team members included Bob and Sylvie McRae, Neil Clarke, Ron Waugh, Diane Crouse, Jane Olivier, David Lafranchise and Barbara MacVicar.

LIAISON is published by the Department of External Affairs

Posting Services Centre,
Community Liaison Section
(613) 992-2221

Editor: Jo-Lynne Sutherland

ISSN 0825 1800

Having recently visited a few of our posts in the third world, I was struck by the fact that it is often difficult, if not impossible, to buy the tiny batteries required to power quartz watches (as well as cameras, travel alarms, etc.). Since more and more people wear quartz watches these days, it is quite frustrating (to say the least) to have one's habitual time piece stop dead and find that one has to wait weeks or even months to secure a battery to make it start ticking again.

In addition to advising personnel going off to the third world to stock up on such batteries, it might be useful to include a short note of advice on the subject in the next edition of *Liaison*. Lorne Clark

CONGRATULATIONS, ONE AND ALL

Recent arrivals at the Posting Services Centre

To Loréta Giannetti, Deputy Director, and husband Dr. François Leclair, Science Technology and Communications Division, a girl, Tatiana Irène Marie, on April 26.

To Mae Wilson, Finance Clerk, and husband Steve, a boy, Adam, on Mother's Day, May 11.

To Christina Coletto-Dowler, Training Officer, and husband Rory, twin girls, Brooke and Shannon, on December 30.

To Maryse Leroux, Posting Arrangements Clerk, in Tokyo with husband Stuart Henderson, Second Secretary and Vice Consul, a boy, Jonathan, on January 10.

PHOTO CREDITS

The Ottawa Citizen — all the photos in Mosaic. All other photos, unless otherwise specified, were provided by the Department.

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