



# NEIGHBOURS

## MetCap Living Residents' Newsletter | Fall 2003

### Early One Morning

MetCap Living's Building Managers are used to listening to and acting on the needs of residents. Often the requests are of the typical, everyday type, but every now and then Building Managers end up adding a new item to their job descriptions.

Nirmaladevi and Sivaneswaran Sivanabian live at Pacific Way in Mississauga as their place to call home. Nirmaladevi and her husband Sivaneswaran were not expecting the birth of their child for some time. Their baby was not sticking to anyone's plan and was creating quite a rumble and labor contractions for Nirmaladevi. Recognizing it was time to make their way to the hospital, Nirmaladevi and



*The Sivanabian family.*

Sivaneswaran made their way to the lobby of their building. Sivaneswaran went to pick up their car and bring it to the front entrance to pick up his wife. In the few moments Nimaladevi was alone in the lobby she collapsed on the floor screaming in pain.

It was about 5.30 in the morning when Sam and Connie Zambito, Building Managers at Pacific Way, heard that scream in the hall outside of their apartment. Sam quickly got out of bed and went out into the hallway. "There was a lady lying on the floor eight feet away from the office door" Sam explains excitedly. Quickly realizing that this lady was pregnant Sam called 911 and explained the situation. Within moments there was six police cruisers and an ambulance in front of the Pacific Way building. When Sivaneswaran arrived at the front entrance with his car the paramedics were already attending to the birth of the

couple's child. At 5.50 am on May 18, 2003, Pavithirha Sivanabian, a healthy seven pounds two ounces girl was born in the lobby at Pacific Way. After the birth the Sivanabians went to the hospital. On a recent check in with the Sivanabian family, Nirmaladevi informs us "All is well with the family and the baby". We at MetCap Living congratulate the Sivanabians on the birth of their healthy child!

### Who Turned Out the Lights?

August 14, 2003 was not a typical day for people living in southern Ontario. Just after 4.00pm the electrical power went out leaving everyone without lights, fans, air conditioners, refrigerators and the many others things that are part of everyday life. MetCap Living's Maple Grove Community, with 1,480 suites, has its own convenience store. Through the blackout David Hong, the owner of Fountainhead Convenience, did his best to carry on business as usual and serve his customers. "There was a line up outside the store until 10.00pm" notes Hong. "Customers were coming in for bread, water and batteries" states Hong and adds "We let in two or three customers at a time and lit the store with a candle and a flashlight." While some nearby stores quickly raised their prices, Hong held to his everyday posted prices. "It was a humanitarian



*David Hong of Fountainhead Convenience.*

act for the community – he held the line" states Ray Mark, MetCap Living's Property Manager at Maple Grove. While Hong lost about \$2,000 worth of ice cream and other dairy products during the blackout, he certainly gained the admiration and trust

of many Maple Grove residents. We at MetCap Living tip our hat to David Hong for his service to the residents of Maple Grove during the blackout.

# Back to School Tips

September is a busy time of year for parents and children alike with the new school year commencing. The Stay Alert...Stay Safe Program, a non-profit organization that helps street proof kids from age 7 to 10 has produced helpful tips for parents and their kids for a happy school year. The tips are:

## Walking to and from School

- Know your children's routes to school, to friends' homes and to play areas. Walk with them until you are acquainted with their routine.
- Encourage them to walk with a buddy. Or hire an older student to accompany your kids to school and back.
- Check out the neighbourhood with your children and warn them of potential hazards. Point out Block Parent homes and other safe places.
- Tell them to always refuse to go anywhere with people they don't know.
- Teach them to always refuse to go anywhere with people they don't know.
- Teach them to step well back if someone they don't know stops to ask directions, so they can get away fast. Instruct them to always say 'no' if a grownup invites them into their care or home alone, unless you have given them permission.

## At School

- At some point in the year, your children may be confronted by the "schoolyard bully". Teach them that finding peaceful solutions to conflicts is much more agreeable than resorting to violent behaviour themselves.
- Take the time to talk about your child's school day. Learn about their new friends and teachers and listen for any signs of anxiety that could signal potential problems.
- Teach them to walk tall and feel good about who they are. Help them enjoy their time in school and encourage them to look forward to each school day with enthusiasm.

## After School

- Discuss the 'house rules' for your children to follow when they're home alone. For instance, you can tell them to pretend that they've got grown up company whenever someone calls on the phone or knocks on the door. They can say that you're too busy to talk. Or they can ignore the caller altogether. Never have them say that you're out.

- Ensure your child knows how to reach you when you're out. Clearly post important numbers, e.g. work, cellular phone, back up number of a neighbour or safe adult, all emergency numbers.
- Establish a single information and message centre at home where you and your children can leave notes detailing where everyone is and when they'll be back.

**This information is reprinted with permission of the Stay Alert...Stay Safe Program. For more details contact 416-480-8225, or 1-800-301-SASS or visit [www.sass.ca](http://www.sass.ca).**

## Who is George Henry?

In the Don Mills and Sheppard area of north Toronto is the MetCap Living Community Parkway Forest. With 1,853 suites in apartments and townhomes it is truly a neighbourhood. One of the main streets in the community is called George Henry Boulevard. Do you know who the Boulevard is named after? Listed below are possible answers. One of them is the right answer. Check off who you believe George Henry was and clip the coupon off and submit it to your Building Manager. One winner will be randomly selected among the coupons submitted with the correct answer. The winner will receive a prize with a value of \$200.

**Who is George Henry Boulevard named after? (please check one box and submit to your Building Manager)**

- George Henry was the founder of the first Presbyterian Church in Canada in 1765.
- George Henry was the Premier of Ontario from 1930 to 1934. George was a farmer who graduated from the Agricultural College in Guelph around 1900 and was an advocate for farmer's rights which ultimately lead to his career in politics.
- George Henry was the original creator of the O'Henry chocolate bar, which he invented in 1919.
- George Henry Martin Johnson was a Mohawk Indian Chief who served as a government interpreter for the Six Nations of the Grand River in the 1800s.

**Please fill in the following to be considered for the prize:**

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_



*Downright Neighbourly!*

[www.metcap.com](http://www.metcap.com)

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