

Board defends Stave Falls school in wake of damning BCTV report

By Glen Kask
Mission City Record

Mission school officials insist there is nothing wrong with a 'time out' room at Stave Falls Elementary school called a "dungeon" in a BCTV report Tuesday night.

Superintendent of schools Nancy Wells and board chair Rick McKamey called a press conference Wednesday to stress staff at the school had done nothing wrong, and that the room would be used again if necessary.

A primary student was given work space in a seminar room as part of a "behavior modification" program, Wells said, and the windows were covered with brown paper to limit distractions.

The strategy was agreed on by teachers, the parents, a counselor and the school principal, Wells said.

Part of the plan involved blocking the windows with brown paper. The child had a tendency to "bolt and run" and there was a fear that he might get lost in the forested neighborhood. He was placed in the room, under the direct supervision of a child care worker, for periods ranging from five to 15 minutes. When he calmed down he returned to his classroom.

"They had to take away outside stimulus," said McKamey. "I wish we had the money to install blinds when the school was built. With blinds it wouldn't have looked so intimidating."

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World leaders ask Mission Citizen of the Year for help

By Glen Kask
Mission City Record

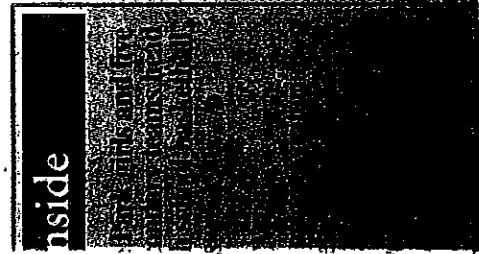
Mission's top citizen was not able to attend the banquet in his honor Saturday.

Erwin Braich was named Citizen of the Year for 1996, but was in Chicago meeting with U.S. Vice-president Al Gore and Russian Premier Viktor Chernomyrdin the night of the annual awards banquet. The Mission industrialist and philanthropist was the

only Canadian in the group of 15 business leaders, who met to plan ways to help Russia make the transition to a free market economy from the centralized planning system it used under Communism.

Braich has developed a partnership with a Wall Street
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Braich asks Record reporter to deliver his acceptance speech .../pg. 13



inside



Shooter

Dawdney outshot this weekend in the mbus freethrow on.

Results, pg. 20

GLEN KASK PHOTO



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AWARDS DINNER

Top citizens honored

Continued from pg. 1
 investment firm to have a 51 per cent interest in a deal that will supply 20,000 American taxi cabs to Moscow. The City of Moscow will have a 49 per cent interest in the deal.

Braich explained the deal in an interview with The Record, conducted by phone while he was flying on his way to Chicago.

"I deeply regret not being able to be at the banquet," said Braich, "but this meeting was scheduled some time ago, before the Citizens of the Year were announced."

The deal is worth almost a quarter billion dollars but is much larger if all the ancillary services are considered.

"We have to figure out how to provide each cab with two tanks of gas a day," said Braich. "The advertising on the cabs will only be about \$150 a month, but that adds up to \$3-\$4 million a month."

Braich was being honored for his generosity to his home town.

Braich and his family have donated \$150,000 to develop the Mission Sports Park, established a special gallery in the B.C. Sports Hall of Fame, donated \$300,000 to the sportsplex at Heritage Park Centre and helped build the Mission Sikh temple.

• Honored as the Business



Honored at the 27th annual Citizen of the Year awards banquet were Scott and Louis Clarke of the Clarke Group (foreground; business of the year); Dennis Brain (left background; sports volunteer); and Dr. Robert Marshall (Lifetime Achievement). Citizen of the Year Erwin Braich was unable to attend. GLEN KASK PHOTO

of the Year is the Clarke Group of Forest Companies. The Clarke Group operates 20 businesses that employ 900 people.

The family has also established the Clarke Foundation which has contributed to several charities, including a \$500,000 donation to the Clarke Foundation Theatre.

Each year the Clarke Foundation sponsors a golf tournament that attracts celebrities who help raise

money for the Sunny Hill children's hospital or other charities supported by the foundation.

The Clarke Foundation has also acquired the only complete collection of mint-condition NHL Hockey Cards in existence. The Clarke Hockey Dream Card Collection contains 20,810 cards from 1951 to 1992. The collection tours North America to raise money for the foundation and local charities.

• Lifetime Achievement award went to Dr. Robert Marshall, a family physician in Mission for 35 years. He also helped establish the Stroke Club in Mission, and was active with Scouts and Mission Marlins swim club.

• Dennis Brain was named sports volunteer of the year. He has coached hockey and softball and has coached an estimated 300 speedskaters in the Mission Racers club, including Olympian Kathy Gordon.



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Tuesday

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call for nominations

Forest Renewal BC will honour individuals and groups from around the province who have made valuable contributions to forestry in British Columbia, with the second annual Forests Excellence Awards to be announced in June of 1997.

Awards will be given in each of the following

World leaders turn to Mission



By Glen Kask
Mission City Record

Mission's top citizen was not able to attend the banquet in his honor Saturday. Erwin Braich was named Citizen of the Year for 1996, but was in Chicago meeting with U.S. Vice-president Al Gore and Russian Premier Viktor Chernomyrdin the night Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce held its annual banquet.

Braich is the only Canadian in the group of 15 business leaders, who are meeting to plan ways to help Russia make the transition to a free market economy from the centralized planning system it used under Communism.

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"I deeply regret not being able to be at the banquet," said Braich, "but this meeting was scheduled some time ago, before the Citizens of the Year were announced."

The deal is worth almost a quarter billion dollars.

Also honored were The Clarke Group (Business of the Year), Dr. Robert Marshall (Lifetime Achievement) and Dennis Brain (sports volunteer).

The full text of this story can be found in this week's *Mission City Record*.

Braich asks Record reporter to help

I was honored Saturday night to have the opportunity to accept an award on behalf of one of the most gracious and generous men in Mission.

Erwin Singh Braich was honored by the Mission Regional Chamber of Commerce as the 1996 Citizen of the Year.

He is well deserving of the honor because of his generosity and dedication to the community.

Unfortunately he was unable to attend the ceremony because he was attending a

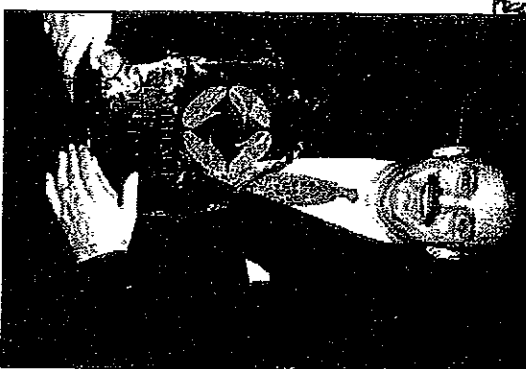
previously-arranged meeting with the Premier of Russia and the vice-president of the United States.

Prior to the banquet Erwin phoned me three times to express his deep disappointment at not being able to attend the banquet in Mission.

Erwin works globally but still considers Mission to be his home town. He commutes to his other homes around the world but still comes home to his mother and his family in Mission.

The full text of this column can be found in this week's *Mission City Record*.

P: Honorees
t & Louis
re (front)
ms Brain
back); Dr.
ert Marshall
t right).
H: Erwin
ich file photo



INDEX

RESPIRE CARE/ New program provides break for caregivers

Finally, relief for parents

By Glen Kask
Mission City Record

Parenting is a tough job, especially if some of the children have ongoing special needs or if parents themselves have special stresses.

Now there is help. Mission Community Services has started a respite care program that allows parents from Ruskin to Lake Arrowock a weekend break from the challenges they face.

The respite care program offers 24-hour respite care services for children with mental, emotional, behavioral or physical challenges.

The program is funded by the provincial government. Families are referred by government social workers.

A foster's referral, the family

Dhalwal.

The respite care is given in the caregivers' home so the child's family can stay in their home and deal with their other responsibilities.

"A lot of the children are in situations where the stress has been there for a long time," said Dhalwal.

Caregivers are encouraged to give the children a new range of experience, and volunteers are needed in the Mission area, especially to work with teens.



Dhalwal

"This is not foster care," said support worker Stacey Baron-Goddard. "Everyone has to feel comfortable"

Honored to accept award for Erwin

Continued from pg. 13
father died suddenly Erwin had to drop out of university to take over the family business.

He has used imagination and moxie to build his own family fortune.

But now his business interests lie beyond Mission.

There are thousands of us who live in Mission but work regionally, commuting every day.

Erwin works globally but still considers Mission to be his home town. He commutes to his other homes around the

world but still comes home to his mother and his family in Mission.

He has supported the community with his money and has used his influence, business skills and attitude of achievement to accomplish what few others could have done.

When the Sikh community wanted a temple in Mission it was Erwin who led the fundraising drive.

He had to continually remind those in the congregation that Canadian tax laws would not allow him to pay

for more than a third of the cost. That inspiration led the Sikh community to find donors to contribute the remaining \$2 million.

His imagination also allowed Mission to develop a fine sports park after voters had turned down a proposal to borrow money for a similar park elsewhere in the community.

His company lent the project heavy earthmoving equipment. He made cash donations to cover fuel and insurance. That allowed the project to be completed with-

out being a burden to taxpayers.

Erwin in not one to simply throw money at a project. He demands a matching level of community commitment but he has used his wealth to be the spark that makes things possible.

Pipers, dancers host Scottish night

The Mission Legion Pipe Band and the Slave Falls Scottish Dancers are presenting a Scottish night in

Pitt Meadows Mar. 1. The evening will include a traditional Scottish meal (including haggis) and

entertainment by the two groups. Tickets, \$25, are available at 462-9935.

Mission show on TV tonight

A brand new Mission Edition takes to the air on Rogers Community Four tonight.

Featured this month are coverage of the Citizen of the Year dinner, speed skating and Bye Bye Birdie, tourism, a report from Mayor

Randy Hawes, features on pet allergies, glass blowing, Walter Zanger and gardening. The program airs at 8 p.m. tonight (Feb. 13) on channel, and repeats Feb. 18 at 8 p.m. and Feb. 20 at 7 p.m.

<p>MISSION CITY 11 AT GRAND MISSION • 620-9935 FEB 14 FEB 20</p>	<p>BEVERLY HILLS NINJA Nightly 7:30 p.m. (Except Mondays) Sat. & Sun. 1:30</p>	<p>FIERCE CREATURES Fri., Sat., Sun. 9:30 p.m.</p>	<p>MONDAY NIGHT FILM SERIES Surviving Picasso Monday, Feb. 17, 7:30 p.m. PG</p>	<p>HARRIS ROAD KONGER & KERRIS PITT MEADOWS 462-9935</p>	<p>ENDING SOON DON'T MISS IT STAR WARS - SPECIAL EDITION Sat. & Sun. 2:20. DTS DIGITAL STEREO SOUND</p>	<p>DANTE'S PEAK Nightly 7:10, 8:45. Sat. & Sun. 2:10. DTS DIGITAL STEREO SOUND</p>	<p>SHINE Nightly 7:20, 9:35. PG</p>	<p>THE TRIOLOGY CONTINUES THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK Starts Feb. 21st. PG</p>	<p>HARRIS ROAD ENTERTAINMENT GROUP 11 AT GRAND MISSION • 620-9935</p>
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Entertainment

The MISSION CITY Record

Annual garden tour one of Mission's bright spots

Mission Garden Club and the Soapbox Community Garden organized their second annual



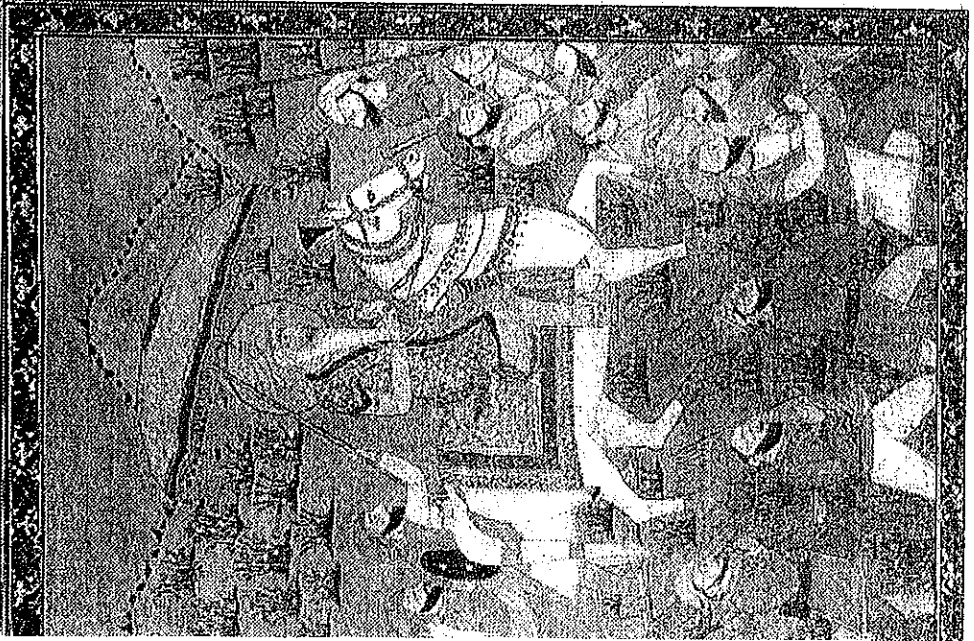
Mission man to bring Sikh treasures to Canada

A British exhibit of the treasures of Sikh art is being brought to Canada by Mission philanthropist Erwin Braich.

Arts of the Sikh Kingdoms, like the one depicted at left, contains art, furniture, jewelry and treasures collected from throughout the world, including a ruby necklace lent to the exhibit by Queen Elizabeth II. A 16-week exhibition is being planned for the Royal Ontario Museum next year. Braich agreed to donate \$800,000 to be the sole sponsor of the exhibit.

He approached museums and galleries in Vancouver and Victoria but could not work a deal. Some of the treasures require careful environmental controls and can be easily damaged.

The show, complete with an accompanying full-color book on each exhibit, is now on display in the Victoria and Albert Museum in England until the middle of next month.



VTP season set to open in October

By Glen Kask
Mission City Record

Mission's new professional theatre group has announced dates for its first season.

Valley Theatre Projects will open the season with *Mors Draculæ* by Alberta playwright Warren Graves. This Canadian adaptation of the classic bone-chilling tale of good-versus-evil by Bram Stoker will be launched with a gala opening on Oct. 21, 1999. It will run through Oct. 30.

VTP's second production opens on Feb. 17, 2000 and runs until Feb. 26. It will be Alfred Uhry's *Driving Miss Daisy*. The Pulitzer Prize-winning drama touchingly portrays a story of a friendship between an elderly Jewish matron and her chauffeur that mirrors society's development in its attempt to come to terms with religious and racial prejudice.

On May 4-13, 2000, the group will have the world premier of *The Great Flood of 1948* by Damon Fultz. The multi-media theatrical presentation celebrates the triumph of the human spirit as it relates to the tale of the devastating flood.

Valley Theatre Projects plans to include a Wednesday matinee for students and a Sunday Seniors matinee on the first Sunday of each presentation.

Ticket prices have not yet been announced.