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DIGEST

Search for Bain expands

The search for Elizabeth Bain's body will shift to the Whitevale area this weekend. Police and Bain's family say they have exhausted the parks surrounding the Scarborough campus where she went missing.

Homicide detectives probing the June 19 disappearance and probable murder of Bain, 23, have ruled out a random killing, saying the University of Toronto student most likely knew her killer.

Man, 35, charged after child burned

A day-care worker called police when she discovered a 7-year-old Scarborough girl had cigarette burns under her arms. Detective Pat Tallon said the burns had been inflicted "as some form of discipline."

Police yesterday arrested the 35-year-old boyfriend of the child's mother and charged him with assault causing bodily harm.

Man in hospital after QEW crash

A Milton man is in fair condition in hospital after he was thrown out of his car when it struck the rear of another vehicle on the QEW in Mississauga. Brian Edward Hébert, 38, was eastbound about 2.30 a.m. yesterday when he struck the car driven by Sergio Reyes, 28, of Burlington. Reyes has been charged with driving while under suspension and without insurance.

Express bus service



BUMPER CROP: With the downtown skyline as a backdrop, 65-year-old Rebecca Gibson displays two baskets of produce yesterday from a terrace garden tended by residents of the Sherbourne St. housing complex.

Life blooming for inner-city gardeners

By Leslie Papp
TORONTO STAR

Green-thumbed residents of an inner-city housing complex are celebrating a bumper vegetable crop.

Billed as Toronto's first roof-top community garden, their soil-filled concrete boxes on a second-floor terrace hold a lush bounty of beans, peppers, broccoli, radishes and tomatoes.

The crop has been lovingly tended by residents of the 16-storey complex, housing about 700 seniors and disabled people, at the

corner of Sherbourne and Shuter Sts.

The plants are a source of fresh food and provide valuable therapy for the gardeners, Christine Mourre, recreation worker for the Metro Toronto Housing Authority, said yesterday.

"People like it," Mourre said. "A lot of them wouldn't normally be gardening or even coming outside all that much."

Resident Jeannette Dendera, 49, said the work reminds her of her youth growing up on a farm in Alberta.

"It's a pastime," she said. "There's a lot to do but it's worth it. Now we have beautiful tomatoes, nice rhubarb — everything."

For Rebecca Gibson, 65, the garden is a daily source of wonder.

"Every day I look for another tomato or another bean," she said. "It's really exciting."

Unlike Dendera, Gibson isn't a former farmer. "I've never grown anything in my life before," she said. "I like the sunshine and exercise."

But working on the crops isn't all a bed of roses, Gibson said. "The bit I don't like is the weeding."

The garden is a joint effort of the housing authority and FoodShare Metro Toronto, a group dedicated to helping feed the needy.

'Bandit cabbies' common, rivals say

By Royson James
TORONTO STAR

Drivers of unlicensed taxis are doing a brisk trade at several locations around Metro, the head of a cabbie organization says.

"Taxi bandits" have been known to ride off with passengers' groceries, overcharge and get into fights as they hustle fares, said John Rotenberg, president of the Independent Cab Owners' Co-operative Inc.

"They are a dandy bunch," Rotenberg said yesterday. "They operate right out in the open. It's very common."

The fare-nabbers drive their own, unmarked cars.

Leo Henningham, a North York unlicensed driver, was beaten to death with a baseball bat Monday night during a dispute over a \$5 fare outside a Knob Hill Farms store on Weston Rd. south of Highway 401.

Henningham, 35, of Chalkfarm Drive "was a very responsible person, always thinking about his family and their well-being," his wife, Bevin, 40, said yesterday. They have two daughters: Stacey, 7, and Tamara, 19 months.

She said her husband, who came to Canada from Jamaica in 1979, was frustrated about not being able to keep a job, although he worked very hard. She is in the midst of updating her high school diploma.

Three months ago, Henningham was laid off from his factory job and later started picking up fares, she said.

She said he had just left home and had yet to pick up a fare Monday when he was attacked.

Jude Lester Prince, 32, of Eglinton Ave. W. has been charged with aggravated assault.

Regular customers

Stores like Knob Hill Farms are