

# Street Feat coming into its 12th year and what it means to me

## Also, my condolences to Ferne Riley's family



by Kendall Worth  
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the malls, because this also meant good promotion for the papers as well, which is something I think Street Feat really needs. Another reason why I am glad to get into

Street Feat is coming into its 12th year and we are doing whatever we can do to keep it going and make it better. One improvement I am happy to report is within the past year I was able to get into a couple of local shopping centres (Park Lane and Scotia Square) to sell the paper. I think this was a good idea to get into the

the mall is because over the Winter months, I can book as many mall booths as possible on my best selling days, and not have to worry the weather holding me from selling the paper. Over the past 4 to 6 years I had been doing Street feat, I know a lot of other vendors have lots of interest in selling the paper, some of the other vendors we have had, moved onto other things over the last couple of years. The reason I stick with it is because I really do not want to see anything happen to the paper on a day when the weather does not cooperate for me to sell outside. I always knew right from day one that Street Feat is a good cause and it always will be. I see Street Feat as a way of letting people know that there is poverty in our own backyards, as well as in places such as Africa. Another reason why Street Feat is a worthwhile cause is because it also talks about and to

some extent promotes mental health issues.

I know it has been a while since you regular readers had seen an article about an update of my business, but there is really nothing new to report at present. I'm about to get 5 new images published with my post cards. I am still a member of the EDN network, which this organization are the ones who helped me get into the malls to sell Street Feat.

As for giving my condolences to Ferne Riley's family, what can I say about her? Well for my first two years of selling Street Feat, she was one of the other vendors. However I had never felt close to her. I will however admit, she was a good person, and always did what she could to help others in need.

## Make A Joyful Noise Unto The Lord

*Continued from page 4*

contagious and just plain good, clean and wholesome. Now folks, you see, I'm from New York City. We do

inclusion (mostly) and cultural diversity and we are a melting pot of peoples from all over the planet, but we're a little

light on good, clean and wholesome. But Ferne taught me a thing or two about the merits of this idea. What a wonderful human being. Later, during her funeral I also found out that she timed her holidays to mesh with a children's program so she could volunteer her time and work with the kids, when she didn't have to punch the clock. What a saint!

I feel hesitant about bringing this next issue up, but I think I would be derelict in my duty to ignore such a thing. This is a newspaper about poverty and homelessness, and related matters. And how the poor and vulnerable are treated in society. I think sometimes this

substandard treatment is reflected in the way the poor are regarded by the health care system. Triage seems to be rampant when the at risk population and vulnerable are regarded at the intake desk. Ferne went to the doctor with chest pains. I don't know what happened next, but I guess she was sent home, where she died of a heart attack.

It reminds me of Linda Morash. "Go home, take two aspirins with a glass of water and call me in the morning." Linda was dead soon thereafter. Or Adam Comeau. With an injured cheek, this young, strapping, bull strong fellow suddenly was dead of a heart attack at the hands of the provincial medical authorities. And

what about the mysteries surrounding the death of Michael Armstrong, which some people whisper may have been murder or at least wrongful death at the hands of specific civil servant officials, and others. Also what about the mysteries regarding Spryfield's Naomi Kidston's demise, among many others as well.

Too many have fallen by the wayside. But I do not want to end on such a note, though it is important to make the above criticism. Ferne could have had it all. She could have been world class, all the way. One thing about growing up in New York City, was that among other things, I was exposed to much music, dance, theatre. And opera. Of this I am certain. Ferne could have had it all. The French champagne and

caviar dreams good life had she wanted these luxuries. We could have been watching her on *Bravo* or a *CBC* special television event broadcast from the opera stages of the largest city centres of Europe and North America, and elsewhere, but that wasn't Ferne's way. Her ambitions were spiritual, not ones motivated by a desire for glamour, as a subject of a centrepiece in the arts magazines, or fame or fortune. Her agenda was all about making a joyful noise unto the Lord. And for us lesser minions, as well, if we were wise enough to listen.

God Bless, Ferne Riley! May you rest in peace. Thank you for your time on this small, blue planet, and your wonderfully, inspired example or how to live a life of joy, love and faith.

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