

# 7 NEWS

TORONTO'S OLDEST COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER  
315 Dundas St. East (All Saints Church)  
Toronto M5A 2A2 Phone: 363-9650

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JULY 11, 1980

## FREE TAKE ONE

7 News is on its summer schedule, so the next issue will be published in three weeks' time rather than in two. Deadline for the next (August 1) issue of 7 News is Monday, July 28 at noon. Bring or mail your news, pictures, or ads to 7 News, 315 Dundas St. E., Toronto, M5A 2A2 or phone 363-9650.



Remember these people? How could anyone forget? They're the cast of Ward 7's smash hit musical, *Damned If You Do* — belting out the show's grand finale. And now they're on record, so you can have them singing away in your own living room any time you want. The record has the complete soundtrack of the musical (including the "Politicians' Number") as well as a photo album. You can purchase a copy for \$7.50 (including tax) by mail from Rick Law, 46 Salisbury St., Toronto, or phone Rick at 923-8795. If you liked the show, you'll love the album. And if you somehow missed the show, then here's your chance to hear what you missed.

## Ward 7 aldermanic race on

By RHONDA SUSSMAN

David Reville, long-time Ward 7 activist, is planning to run for alderman in the municipal elections this November 10.

Reville says that running for alderman is a "logical extension of the work I've been doing in Ward 7 for the past eight years."

This work includes being involved in the setting up of Neighbourhood Legal Services and being its first chairman in 1973, and participating in the Winchester Community Council, a school/community group set up by parents and teachers in 1975.

As well, Reville was a campaign worker in John Sewell's 1972

aldermanic campaign, and campaigned for alderman Gordon Cressy in 1978.

He is presently receiving help from alderman Janet Howard in what he calls "alderman school."

Reville will be running on the same platform as incumbent Gordon Cressy.

Their campaign will concentrate on housing, social services, and job creation.

- Housing — there should be more co-op housing, and rather than considering selling OHC, the Province should build more affordable housing

Reville, referring to the proposed sale of OHC to the private sector, is "not in favour of any change in

OHC without the broadest kind of representation."

By increasing the amount of affordable and co-operative housing in Ward 7, Reville hopes that the "whitepainting" trend will be ameliorated.

Defending social services — "it is more expensive not to have them".

Reville thinks that the federal and provincial governments should be encouraged to develop a social services policy because there is presently no continuity in government programming — some areas are not covered at all and in other cases, there is needless repetition.

- Job creation and local development — according to

*Continued on page 2*

## Rally backs Islanders

By DOUG CARLYLE

The battle over the Toronto Island Community still remains uncertain.

Metro Council issued writs of eviction in Nov. 1978 which were thought to come into effect on July 2, 1980. However, the writs have not been accepted by the Sheriff's Office. It is acting on advice from the attorney-general's office that the notices had expired. The attorney-general's office said the writs were valid only for one year. Metro has now taken the case to the Supreme Court of Ontario for a ruling on the writ's validity.

Metro Council wants the residential community developed as additional parkland and is threatening eviction writs. The islanders say they will fight to save Island homes by packing those houses being visited by sheriffs with as many people as possible.

The Islanders want the Province to intervene and turn over the residential areas of the Toronto Islands to the city from the Metro Government. *The Toronto Star* quoted Ron Mass of the islander's association as saying: "Wrangling over the writs doesn't solve the problem. There has to be a political solution instead of a protracted court battle."

Amid the uncertainty of the writ's validity and the preparation for non-violent resistance by residents should the sheriff arrive, the Island Community held a July 1st Canada Day Rally attended by many islanders and a police estimate of 2,000 mainlanders. The mood of the rally was reminiscent of a folk festival. Prominent speakers from all levels of government made presentations to the rally demonstrating wide support.

Mayor John Sewell received a standing ovation before he had a chance to speak.

He said he had three points to

make:

The Toronto Island Community is here to stay.

The struggle for the Island Community is one involving all of Metro. The point being that its destruction would set a precedent for destroying other communities. The basis for preserving Toronto neighbourhoods would be weakened.

Everyone must unite together and work together. Through persistence and hard work he said he knew the island community would finally win.

David Crombie, MP for Rosedale, stated that in 1964, when he entered municipal politics, he supported the survival of the community and in 1980 he still supports it. He said nothing could dissuade him from supporting the com-

*Continued on page 8*

## Church-Wellesley development

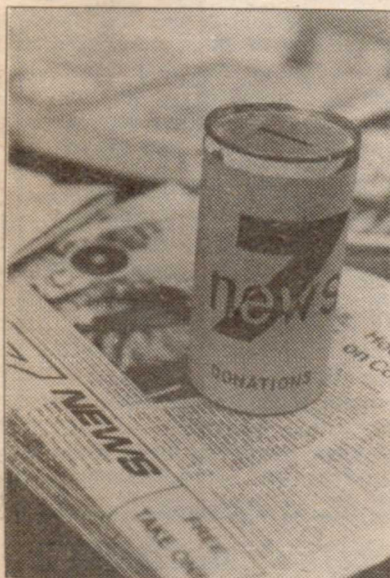
A proposal to develop the south-west corner of Church and Wellesley is now complete.

The plan, to be carried out by developers Theraplan Corp., and Wellesley-Church Developments, are for a nine-story apartment building and a two-story retail and office building.

In accordance with the suggestions made by the North Jarvis Community Association, the site will include public walkways and benches. However, the community health centre suggested by the NJCA will not be built.

The two existing buildings on the corner of Church and Wellesley will have to be demolished, according to this plan. Both these buildings, a bank and a house, are of historical and architectural interest.

## More broke than usual



7 News is broke.

Actually, being a non-profit organization, we've always been broke, but this year we're more broke than usual.

Due to a declining economy, government grants, once our mainstay, have virtually dried up, while publication costs continue to rise. We are now almost entirely dependent on the money — advertising and donations — that we can raise

in the community itself. Which is not so bad; we rely only upon those for and by whom 7 News is written — you.

The reason for this sob story is to ask you to become a supporting member of 7 News for \$10. We'd like to convince you of the need for 7 News to continue to exist (other than to keep us off the unemployment lines).

7 News is an independent voice for Ward 7. What this means is that community concerns that wouldn't make it into the *Star*, *Sun*, *Globe* or other celestial bodies, will be printed here.

Through articles written by ourselves and by anyone else who wishes to write, 7 News covers services being offered or threatened, issues being confronted or avoided, books, theatre and Ward 7 history.

As our services and rights come increasingly under fire, we're all going to need more than ever our own publication, our own voice.

The cost of a supporting membership is not fixed at \$10. If you can afford less, fine. If you can afford more...

Whatever the amount, we hope you will give — our survival depends on it.

## \$10 makes you a member

7 News is ten years old now, because you have supported us. We need your support again now to launch our second decade of community journalism. You can help by becoming a supporting member for \$10 (or whatever you can afford). Just fill in the coupon.

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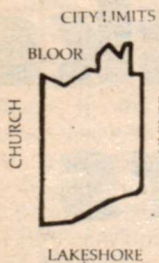


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# Since the Middle Ages

By Howard Huggett

Just about the most delightful sounds you can hear in the city are made by bells. They provide a pleasant change from the blaring of horns and sirens and the ceaseless roar of traffic. There is one kind of bell that you may hear any day of the week except Sunday, and that is the one that announces the coming of the knife-grinder. There is one that comes along our street every few weeks, shaking a bell that came I am sure, from an old-fashioned public school. How much territory he covers I have no idea, but it must take in many square miles.

Picture a short, spare figure of a man with a face well tanned from daily exposure to the elements and wrinkled by the cares of how many years? Certainly more than forty, could be sixty. Or maybe those wrinkles come from all the smiling this tireless walker does. For he smiles as soon as you hail him and is ready for a joke. All you have to do is to ask him the price of the service and he will tell you — ten thousand dollars! Once the pleasantries have been exchanged you get the real price. Anyone who tramps the streets of this city every day in order to make a living would have to possess a good sense of humour to keep from going bananas.

How would you classify this occupation? It is not really a business, although I'll bet he pays a business tax. The knife-grinder's whole capi-

tal, if you could call it that, travels around with him. The machine he pushes looks home-made — a pair of wheels that came off a child's wagon or a bundle-buggy, a treadle that might have belonged to an ancient sewing machine. The belt that drives the working wheel was made from an old piece of leather, and the wheel itself came from who knows where. The grinding stone, I learned, was actually bought at Canadian Tire. Oh yes, there is also a pair of pliers to take shears apart. That is the whole works; you couldn't set yourself in business for less unless you bought a few tins of shoe polish and borrowed a brush and a box so that you could shine shoes on the street.

I suppose you could call this cheerful traveller an old-fashioned artisan. He is still working in the same way as thousands of others of the same kind; hand weavers, cobblers, tailors and so on, did before the rise of the factory system. Probably there have been knife-grinders tramping around Europe for many hundreds of years. Today there are dozens of sharpening and grinding establishments listed in the yellow pages of this city, yet there is still an occasional person to be seen working on his own, a small remnant of individual enterpr in a sea of highly integrated activity.

How long will this occupation last in our city? Certainly the energy crisis won't bother it. The knife-

grinder uses muscle-power only to reach his customers, and the same to turn his wheel. He even does his own advertising. There are no silly commercials on radio or television to annoy you, just the attractive sound of a bell ringing out on the streets. The job is done before your eyes; there are no delivery problems. All payments are by cash, no cheques or credit cards please.

The main problem will be to find younger people to take the place of those who retire. The knife-grinder in my area came from Italy, and I imagine most of them were born outside this country. Native Canadians probably wouldn't be willing to follow such a humble occupation. That's a pity, because it provides a real service and adds a little spice to city life. I hope to hear that bell for many years to come.

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## Reville

Reville, the Province should intervene in encouraging industry to relocate in Toronto, as well as encouraging industries to remain.



David Reville

In addition, local initiative needs encouragement. Reville gave the example of a now-defunct tool-lending cooperative that was set up in South Riverdale as something to be promoted.

Reville hopes to continue in the "tradition of the community-supported alderman." His campaign with Cressy will be conducted by means of neighbourhood-by-neighbourhood meetings. In this way, they can both acquaint themselves with area concerns as well as putting forth their campaign issues.

**LATE FLASH:** As we were going to press, we heard from George Patton, unsuccessful aldermanic candidate in Ward 7 in the 1978 election, that he would be running again this time around.

## Boxing

By KEN HAMILTON

Asif Dar, age 14, of the Cabbagetown Youth Centre, won the national junior amateur boxing championship in the bantamweight class at O'Leary, P.E.I. on June 29, 1980. Dar defeated three opponents, one by TKO, during the three-day tournament.

Asif, a resident of Regent Park and a student at Jarvis Collegiate, lived up to his nickname of "Wizard" by winning the best boxer award.

Ontario dominated the tournament, winning six gold, three silver and three bronze medals.

Cabbagetown has now won a national championship in all three 1980 age classes: Pat Fennell, senior light-heavyweight; Shawn O'Sullivan, intermediate welterweight; and Asif Dar, junior bantamweight.

## Poor Wellesley Hospital



The Wellesley Hospital is facing a deficit of \$900,000 in 1980 due to continued financial constraints being imposed by the Ministry of Health, according to Mr. J.W. Hamilton, Chairman of The Wellesley Hospital's Board of Directors.

The deficit is expected despite the fact that the hospital plans to close 120 beds during the summer period.

Mr. Hamilton's comments were made today during his report to the hospital's annual general meeting.

In his remarks, Mr. Hamilton asked how long the Government can expect the hospital to continue with deficit financing. In 1979, the year being reported on, the hospital ended up with a deficit of \$447,000 even though 180 beds were closed for 80 days during the summer months.

Mr. Hamilton also commented on the problems the hospital faces in trying to operate its Computerized Tomography (CAT) Scanner which was donated to the

hospital at a cost of \$750,000.00 by a charitable foundation. The Ministry of Health has refused to approve operating funds for the equipment.

"Despite the evidence of its great need not only to Wellesley patients but to the patients of many other hospitals," said Mr. Hamilton, "the Government has maintained its position of not recognizing our Scanner as an 'approved' one, and has not permitted us and other hospitals to charge the cost of its operation against our approved Global budget."

Although faced with these financial difficulties, Mr. Hamilton pointed out that The Wellesley had still been able to maintain a high standard of care and operation. This is borne out by the fact that the Canadian Council on Hospital Accreditation has awarded the hospital the highest standard of accreditation possible — a three year approval (the Council can, and often does, award hospitals only one or two years accreditation).

## Cycle in safety

1. Be predictable — signal your intentions.
2. Watch parked cars for opening doors or hidden pedestrians — expect the unexpected.
3. Use quiet side streets when possible.
4. Be careful at intersections — when things get complicated, get off and walk.
5. Ride across street car tracks at

- right angles.
6. Use a backpack or rear baskets for carrying things.
7. Be seen at night — use lights.
8. Lock you bike when you leave it. Put the chain through both wheels and the frame and fasten to a stationary object.
9. Leave yourself plenty of time to stop in rain. Remember, your brakes don't work as well when wet



# Community activists talk to each other

By RHONDA SUSSMAN

The Ward Six Community Organization (W6CO) held a series of workshops on community organizing last month.

Over forty people attended workshops on topics such as residents' and tenants' associations, minority rights, day care, job creation, provincial cutbacks, incomes for sole-support parents and the disabled, and running municipal election campaigns.

The workshops were practical in nature—basically on "how to organize", and on getting people involved in issues.

According to Hank Einarson, a member of W6CO and an organizer of the workshop series, the intent of the series was to "get more people aware in regards to organizing"; to get people who are not presently involved in organizing but are interested in becoming involved in touch with those who are already experienced community organizers.

Unfortunately, this did not happen. Several of the organizers interviewed expressed the same criticism—that very few people who were not already involved in organizing showed up.

The workshops were a success, nevertheless, as organizers shared their knowledge and experience with each other.

Susan Sparrow of ReforMetro led the workshop in running a municipal election campaign, based on a ReforMetro booklet, "How to Run a Municipal Election Campaign and Win". This was a very practical session which, Susan Sparrow said, taught organizers about "running a municipal campaign from A to Z".

Two of the most valuable workshops were those on tenants' and residents' associations and on affordable housing.

In the workshop on residents' and tenants' associations, Kenn Hale of Tenants' Hotline said residents and tenants can improve their situation if they organize to fight for repairs and improved maintenance and for more affordable housing.

There are difficulties in organizing—tenants may not know each other; tenants move; or the original problem requiring the tenants to organize may be solved. Since the nature of community organizing is defensive, in reaction to something, the group may fall apart after a victory or during a lull in activity.

Kari Delhi, Dixon Hall director and former Toronto Island resident, explained how the Island community stayed together even when nothing was happening to them directly. Islanders came together at other times to defend their

community, or simply to have fun together. The ties between neighbours that were formed as a result account for their strength against politicians who would destroy their community.

Knowing what resources are available to the organizer is crucial also, according to Hank Einarson. He gave the example of a person confronted with a problem in his/her apartment building, to which the landlord will not respond. It would be extremely important for the organizer to know where to go for legal advice, as well as knowing who to contact in the Metropolitan Toronto Federation of Tenants' Associations, or even to know of the existence of the Federation.

Anyone who went to this workshop on tenants' and residents' associations would be very well-prepared to help organize an association.

The workshop on affordable housing discussed, among other things, organizing in Ontario Housing.

Many OHC activists feel that tenants are not dealt with fairly and the Province's management of OHC is inefficient.

The workshop went over the Province's plans to sell OHC to private developers, plans affecting

29,000 tenants. The Province's plans, in addition to selling the housing, include setting up a separate program of rent assistance to be paid directly to landlords. As Hank Einarson put it, "arrangements would have to be made with landlords to assure that these people are housed...there would be snags".

OHC activists feel that the Province owes everyone a place to live, and rather than considering selling OHC, should build even more housing.

Activists were successful in getting a large number of people to attend a City Hall meeting in which the sale of OHC was discussed.

Ward Six Community Organization is planning another series of workshops in February or March of next year, for which they will make a greater effort to involve people who are new to organizing.

The recent community musical, "Dammed if You Do", satirized Ward 7 activists who complain that since the right people were elected, "there are no more issues", hit the mark. As the workshop series proves, there are still as many issues as any activist could possibly wish for, and electing reformers is only one small part of community organizing.

## Council coming?

Steps are being taken towards establishing a district health council in Metropolitan Toronto, according to a speech made by Dennis Timbrell, Minister of Health, at the annual meeting of the Metro Toronto Hospital Council.

When the Ministry of Health was reorganized in 1972, the health care system at the local level was also restructured, according to Timbrell.

Local communities were given more responsibility for their own health planning.

Because of this decentralization, the Ministry asked various groups such as health care professionals and consumers to coordinate their planning in order for the Ministry to allocate money.

In order to aid this coordination, district health councils were set up across the province, beginning in 1974, but not in Metro Toronto.

This lack of a council, according to Timbrell, means that Toronto has less control over the allocation of health care spending.

In 1976, the Hospital Council of Metropolitan Toronto gave formal approval to the concept of a district health council.

Some of the questions asked were: should it be an independent organization or should it be linked to existing structures, and should there be one council for all of Toronto or six, one for each borough.

Discussions were held with senior ministry officials, health units, representatives of the University Teaching Hospitals Association, and the Faculty of Medicine at U of T.

Since virtually all health services are organized Metrowide, expect for Public Health, it made more sense to have one council.

A steering committee was then formed last year to discuss how a district health council should be set up.

Submissions and briefs were solicited by the steering committee via newspaper ads, and existing district health councils were asked for advice.

Finally, a report was submitted to the Ministry of Health earlier this year, and was made public in April.

Timbrell says the report is now under Ministry consideration.

## Youth Centre needs funds

By LAURA HEW

The Cabbagetown Youth Centre has begun a campaign for funds desperately needed to purchase and repair its ailing building. The goal is \$200,000.

The building on Lancaster Avenue has been leased to the Cabbagetown Youth Centre at a low rent, but the run-down condition of the building made the owners decide to sell it. The Cabbagetown Youth Centre offer for \$160,000 for the building has been accepted, but approximately \$80,000 must be raised by a private sector before Wintario will provide assistance up to 50% of the total costs.

The Centre opened in 1972 and now houses 600-740 teen-agers for athletic and recreational facilities. These include soccer, volleyball, boxing, basketball, baseball, floor hockey, etc. Four of the current boxers have Olympic potential and

the soccer team has already won several international events.

If these youngsters are deprived of the facilities offered by the Centre, there is nowhere else for them to go. For some, it is probably the only stable, dependable resource in their lives.

The fund raising committee includes David Crombie, Margaret Scrivener, business and professional people in the area, plus active members of the Rotary Club of Toronto.

If you wish to make a contribution and pledge to the Cabbagetown Youth Centre Fund, send your name, address, phone number, and donation to the following:

CABBAGETOWN YOUTH CENTRE FUND  
c/o Orbach, Katzman & Roth  
417 Parliament Street  
Toronto, Ontario  
M5A 3A1

For more information, the Cabbagetown Youth Centre can be reached at 961-2912.

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The Cabbagetown Youth Centre held a Cocktail Party to open a fund raising campaign for the purchase of the Centre's building at 2 Lancaster Avenue.

The evening began with musical entertainment by Norm Hacking and Diane Maracle. Norm Hacking is from Cabbagetown and has released the album "Cut Roses".

Members of the club put on an enthusiastic boxing exhibition with three two-minute rounds.

- John Shaw, 80 lbs., sparred with Patrick Brown, 90 lbs.
- Renell Bailey, 125 lbs., sparred with Asif Dar, 120 lbs.
- The feature exhibition was Pat Fennell, 178 lbs., sparring with Ray (K.O.) Henderson.

## Writers wanted



Almost all the stories you read in 7 News are written by volunteers. We always, but especially now, need volunteer writers to write news stories regularly for the paper. No experience is necessary, so, if you are interested, give us a call at 363-9650.

## Wildlife on the brink Kids, parents welcome

By RON REID

At one time or another, we've probably all used the expression "as dead as a dodo" without ever thinking of the statement's true meaning. The clumsy, flightless dodo is one of the birds driven to extinction by the history of man. It joins the ranks of other plants and animals, such as the great auk and the passenger pigeon, which will never again grace our Earth's landscape.

Extinction of entire species has always been a part of this planet's natural history. Even the great families of dinosaurs, which ruled supreme for millions of years, came to a natural end. But man's activities have accelerated that process tremendously, and our industrialized society is pushing more and more species to the brink of no return.

World-wide, 25,000 species of plants and animals are thought to be in immediate danger of extinction. Unless dramatic steps to save our genetic resources are taken, an estimated 600,000 species could disappear by the end of the century. Right now we still have healthy populations of most types of wildlife in North America, but the symptoms of concern for tomorrow are already clear. The 1980 Blue List, which serves notice of birds that are not yet endangered but are steadily declining across the continent, lists 73 species which warrant our concern.

Does all this really make any difference to you and I? Perhaps not directly, unless you happen to be a

birdwatcher who thrills to the sight of an Eskimo curlew. But in a broader vein, every species contributes to the functioning of a natural ecosystem, and every species, including man, depends on that ecosystem for survival. When we reduce the diversity of life-forms contributing to the stability of the system as a whole, we diminish our own future options.

An increasing loss of species is an early warning that all is not well with our treatment of this planet. We now have been well and truly warned. The question is whether we will be courageous enough to take the steps necessary to stem this rising tide of extinctions.

Ron Reid is with the Federation of Ontario Naturalists.

## Adult bowling

The Adult Recreation Bowling League held their annual Bowling Banquet this year at Baron Byng Legion Hall on Coxwell Ave. The Team which won the O. H. C. Trophy was the Oddballs. The other 6 teams did not win any of the series but they also got a small trophy given to them. All in all the Banquet this year was a very good success.

Bowling starts again on Tuesday, September 2 at 7 pm. New bowlers are welcome. Call Mrs. Violet Yedon at the Recreation centre at 364-4915. The Bowling is in the church at Dundas and Sackville Saint Cyrils.

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# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## Saturday July 12

The Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario (CGRO) is holding a fundraising sale at the 519 Church St. Community Centre. The sale is unique in that it will be run like a combination lottery-auction: a draw is held for each item to be sold and the holder of the ticket number drawn wins it. Tickets may be purchased for 1¢ each and you may buy as many as you like for each draw. Time: 1:30 pm sharp.

## Sunday July 13

The Saint Luke's Forum presents Mrs. Frank Showler. St. Luke's Church, at Sherbourne and Carlton, 2:30 pm. All welcome.

Harbourfront's World Cinema series presents Jules Dassin's *A Dream of Passion* (1978), 7:30 pm, York Quay Centre. \$2.

## Monday July 14

Enrol in the Centre of Movement's July program. Courses include "early-morning energizer," after-work relaxation, introduction to dance, and more. Open to all. Located at Chester subway stop. Call 466-9549 for further information.

## Tuesday July 15

Monday Night Science Fiction Series: Candian collector and anthologizer, John Robert Colombo, kicks off a new series devoted to science fiction and fantasy. Harbourfront, York Quay Centre at 8:30 pm. Free.

Today is the last day to enter your pet in the International Cat Show, to be held at the CNE, August 16 and 17.

## Friday July 18

Images of the Night: Harbourfront's film series presents Kenneth Anger's *Scorpio Rising* and Lillian Cavanni's *The Night Porter*. York Quay Centre at 11:30 pm. \$2. Reservations: 869-8412.

## Saturday July 19

The St. Jamestown Summer Festival will be held today in the plaza by Shoppers Drug Mart. Tables may be rented from the YMCA at \$3 each for the day, and they will be allocated on a first come, first served basis. As in the past, those who rent tables will be responsible for disposing of their own garbage and providing any chairs that will be required.

There will be displays by a number of community service groups, also some music and dance presentations.

If you are interested, contact the "Y" at 923-4402 and watch the notice boards for further information.

## Sunday, July 20

Family Picnic to Kelso Park (near Milton). Leave Dixon Hall, 58 Sumach St. at 10:00 am. Swimming, children's games, bingo and picnic. Price: for children 25¢ and adults \$1.00 which includes bus transportation, hot-dogs and soft drinks. Please call Kari in advance to register at 863-0499.

## Monday July 21

The Toronto Board of Education is conducting a co-educational summer sports skills improvement program, providing free instruction for any student who will be attending a secondary school on September 1980. They will be running a basketball clinic today at Jarvis Collegiate, starting today. Registration forms may be obtained from any secondary school.

## Thursday July 24

The Downtown Interaction Group meets at 10 am at Harbourfront to tour the recreational and educational facilities located there. Everyone is welcome. For more information, call 924-2543.

Scat singer Honey Novick and dancer Lily Eng perform tonight at Harbourfront, York Quay Centre. There will also be a film screening by Peter Dudar. 8 p.m. \$3 adults; \$2 students and seniors. Call 869-8412 for reservations.

## Saturday July 26

The Parliament Street Library, 265 Gerrard St. E. is having its annual theatre outing to the Shaw Festival to see "The Cherry Orchard." Cost is \$19.50 (\$16.50 for seniors), covering ticket and return bus fare. Call 924-7122 for details.

The Riverdale Library, 370 Broadview Ave., shows children how to make photographs—photographs without cameras. 2 pm, free.

A slightly trendy rock 'n' roll dance, just for the heck of it, is going to be held tonight at The 519 Church Street Community Centre, at 8:30 pm. Cash bar till 1 am, non-alcoholic beverages available also. Admission is \$1.50 at the door — anyone wearing a fedora or orange hair gets in free. Phone 923-2778 for more information.

## Ongoing

Do you have any special talents or hobbies? Would you like to earn a little extra money? Share your talents with the community by offering instructional courses in any area of interest. If you have this inclination, please contact Debi Aylwin at WoodGreen Community Centre, 461-1168.

The outdoor pool at the YMCA 650 Parliament St., will be open during the summer from 10 am to 9 pm., seven days a week. The indoor pool will be open from 12:30 pm to 10 pm, weekends and holidays. Open to tenants and guests only.

The Pape-Danforth Library, 701 Pape Ave., has daily programmes for children. For more information call 465-1221.

Parkview Secondary School, 1 Danforth Ave., is running a "Return to Educational Activities Programme", designed for former students who wish to return to school to take part in either a shop-related or academic subjects-centred programme or both. This programme is free and credits can be earned towards an S.S.G.D. Call Mr. E. Hill at 461-7506.

Hawthorne II Bilingual School wishes to announce its move to Bloor and Christie Streets. This Alternative School in the Toronto Board of Education offers some French instruction from JK-Grade 6, a.m. and p.m. daycare/after school programme, family groupings, and individualized programming. REGISTRATION for Sept. 1980 is now being taken for all grades.

PLEASE CALL: 368-7137 from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm, or 251-1543 after 6:00 - and all summer

ATTENTION PARENTS! There are still some openings at Dixon Hall's Tiny Tots Programme. Tiny Tot's begins July 14th and will finish August 22nd. Activities are trips to the parks, visits to the library, and many other great things which include arts and crafts and lots more things. So if you are interested please call Dixon Hall at 863-0499 and ask for Steve or Jo-Ann. Ages of the children are from (3-5 years), or come to see us at 58 Sumach Street between Queen and King Streets. The fee for Tiny Tots is \$1.00 per Week.

A five-week series of beginner tennis lessons for residents of St. Jamestown begins today at the YMCA. Register at the Y office, 260 Wellesley St. E., 964-8775.

The Chile Solidarity Support Group is sponsoring a series (films, speakers, discussion and music) on the use of food as a political and economic weapon. The series is being held at the Trojan Horse, 179 Danforth Ave., from 8 pm to 11 pm. Tonight's topic is Latin American Case Studies. \$2 admission.

Community Calendar is a free community service. If you have an upcoming event which you would like listed in the August 1 issue (all events between August 1 and August 22 should go in this issue), fill out the coupon below and mail or bring it to 7 News, 315 Dundas St. E., Toronto M5A 2A2.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

DATE OF EVENT .....  
 DETAILS OF EVENT (include time, place, & what the event is, in 2-3 sentences).....

## Exercises

### SECRET EXERCISES FOR STOMACH & BUTTOCKS by Jan Shepard, Fitness Consultant

Sometimes we have to sit or stand for long periods. My suggestion is sneak a little exercise in that actually works — make a positive out of a negative.

**STOMACH EXERCISE** — Pull in your stomach whenever you can. Hold it for a minute, breathe deeply and draw air into stomach without expanding, keep muscles taut.

**BUTTOCKS EXERCISE** — Tight-

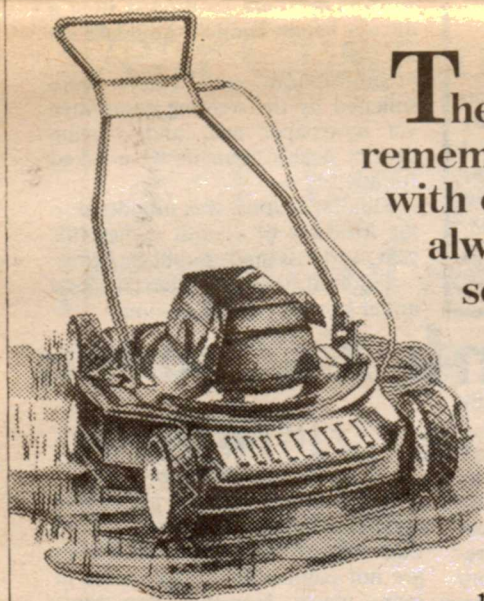
en muscles (Gluteals) when you arise from a chair — pinch buttocks when you sit down. Everytime the phone rings tighten the buttocks.

**BACKACHE** — Sit with feet on elevated object with knees bent up higher than the hips. Pull stomach in, tighten buttocks.

Jan Shepard gives a Sunrises Fitness Class every morning at 7:00 in the Winchester Senior Public School Gymnasium.

Questions asked about fitness will all be answered, c/o 7 News, 315 Dundas St. E.

## Don't touch another thing until you read this ad.



The most important thing to remember when you're working with electricity is simply this: always keep a little common sense between you and your electricity.

Common sense means waiting until your lawn is dry before cutting it with an electric mower.

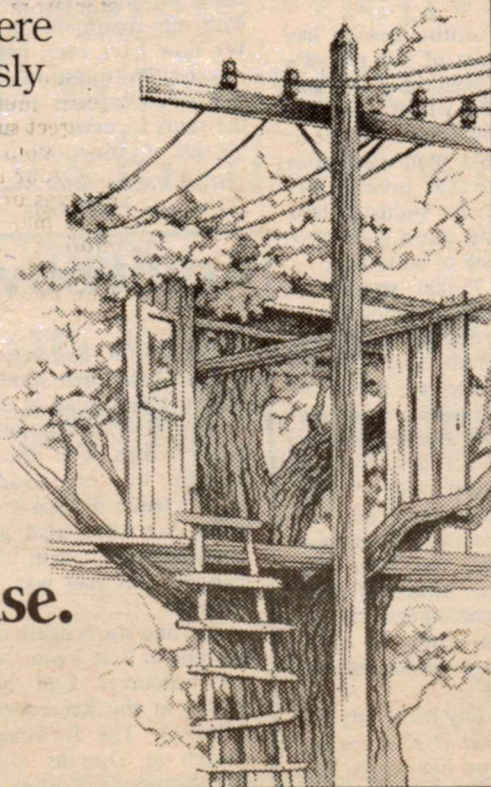
And never building a tree house close to power lines, where children could be seriously injured.

There are many other ways to practise electrical safety. And they all have one very important thing in common.

Common sense.

Think about it, please.

ontario hydro





# OntarioRenews: more questions raised than answered

By HAMISH WILSON

In a city, any action is a political action. Ontario Renews, a conference held from June 9 to the 13th, focussed on the renovation and renewal of older buildings and cities in the Province of Ontario. It was organized and co-sponsored by the Ministry of Housing and the Housing and Urban Development Association of Canada (HUDAC). 1400 people paid money to attend.

There were four days of speakers and presentations with tours of some areas of renovated Toronto in the evening. The presentations were run concurrently, so it was impossible to attend every session. There were five main themes that the conference was to address. They were community and neighbourhood improvement; downtown and main street revitalization; residential renewal; rehabilitation design; and property maintenance. Friday morning was spent in the field with a City of Toronto

Building Inspector.

This might at first appear to be comprehensive and quite informative. But there were sins of omission and questionable assumptions were made. Indeed, Ontario Renews provoked more questions than it answered.

Why was this conference organized and what are the motives of the organizers? An election is in the offing, and so the Conservatives brought forward some big guns to speak at the luncheons and dinners. Bill Davis, Frank Drea, Robert Welch were luncheon speakers. HUDAC in conjunction with the Conservatives, appear to be realizing that the status quo in the building and development industry is in need of some change. This is especially evident with the increased need to conserve energy, as buildings and city design account for a large amount of our energy use. HUDAC, advocates of a laissez-faire construction and development industry, wish to keep

in business and the Conservatives wish to keep in power.

These desires might explain the lack of any printed transcripts of the proceedings. There will be tapes of the sessions made available, but apparently, making transcripts and printing them are just too much work. But the printed word is still an exceptionally viable form of communication (better than cassettes) and one has the impression that the ideas and concerns expressed at the conference will be absorbed by the two organizing bodies for their own benefit. Other conferences organized by people with less money than HUDAC and the Ontario government produce transcripts and proceedings. They even produce a list of delegates to identify all of the vested interests and back room boys. Not here though. If the organizers were serious and well-meaning about the renewal of Ontario, they would make the information available.

There was no discussion of sun rights and the need for an energy audit of the building and renovation industry. Nor was there any mention of the toxicity of many building products and their potential danger to the environment. (Breathed any asbestos lately?). 'Whitepainting' and the displacement of those unable to afford renovation was mentioned but certainly not by the organizers. The role of the government in promoting the destruction of heritage was not a subject of discussion. The relationship between housing prices, the rate of inflation, inflation psychology and the development industry was not explored. And the question of who pays the cost of all our energy slums that constitute a large part of our built environment was not raised.

It was assumed that the market in Toronto for renovated older houses would continue forever. Ain't necessarily so. And I hope that the

forecast of \$300,000 houses in Cabagetown does not become a reality. And the assumption that cities are only in existence to make money from them should be questioned. Some of the worst messes in cities have been the result of speculative building. And can house and land prices ever go down?

Does a depression mean that house prices stay where they are until people can afford to pay for over-priced accommodation?

There were nonetheless a lot of good things that came out of Ontario Renews. Changes in the building code to suit older buildings and their renovation were mentioned. The speakers and panellists were all informative and there was some good discussion of the stupidity of sandblasting older bricks. Yet there were shortcomings despite the encouraging signs of awareness. How will the heritage boom be managed?

## The polluting diesel

Soaring prices and gas shortages are causing car manufacturers to consider diesel engines as a way to improve fuel economy. Now there's a growing concern about the hazards of diesel exhaust.

All combustion processes, including gas combustions in conventional engines, produce some soot particles. But the diesel engine produces especially large quantities. The tiny particles of soot — called particulates — contain several compounds known to cause cancer. The particles can penetrate deep into the lungs and increase susceptibility to bronchitis, pneumonia, asthma, and emphysema.

## Floating on water

In summer, many people's thoughts turn to water sports. But not everyone is an adept swimmer, and non-swimmers especially might be interested in a new booklet on water floating put out by the TP Water Floating Association.

The booklet, "Fabulous Fun of Water Floating" covers various aspects of learning how to float for non-swimmers, young children, the old, and the handicapped, as well as for those just interested in some fun in the water.

Separate sections cover bathtub floating for the very young, why some people sink, floating for injured workers and people with joint trouble, and body surfing.

The 31-page booklet is available from the TP Water Floating Association, 280 Dundas St. E., Suite 1022, Toronto M5A 3W1.

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Unlike gasoline, diesel fuel is sprayed directly into the combustion chamber in liquid state. Droplets of diesel fuel form in the chamber and they begin to burn from the outside in. Fuel at the center of each droplet is not completely burned. This results in soot formation.

According to experts, even a properly tuned and operated diesel en-

gine produces about 30 to 100 times as much soot per mile as a comparable gasoline engine. More than 90 per cent of these particles are small enough to travel into the small airways of the lungs. All the compounds in diesel soot have not been identified yet, but some tests have shown the soot can cause mutations in bacteria, which is a measure of cancer-causing properties.

## Riverdale C.I. notes

By Ross Mackintosh

The Riverdale Collegiate Choirs had another successful year at the recent Kiwanis Music Festival in February. The choirs, involving 130 students from grades 9 to 13, competed in seven categories. As a result of their efforts, they achieved three Second Place awards and four First Place awards. The choirs also received cash awards of \$250 which will be used to purchase new music and sponsor several young singers who will perform for the vocal music students at the school.

Congratulations are in order for the following students who auditioned successfully for the CBC show, *Class of '80*: actor George Lykos, singer Clive Buck, and dan-

cers Linda Wakabayashi, Kim Wakabayashi, and Mio Inokushi; also Donald Quan as piano accompanist. We will keep you posted as to the date of their appearance on television as soon as we know. For those students who were unsuccessful this time, remember to keep practicing and trying. There will always be other opportunities, other auditions.

The following Riverdale grads have distinguished themselves at Scarborough College, U of T: Maureen Feeney as most valuable player on girls' hockey team, Richard Chong-Kit as highest scorer on the archery team, and David Sooley was placed on the University of Toronto Honours List for his academic performance.

## Teen Association dunked

The Teen Association would like to thank the Paint Centre on Parliament Street for the use of their hot tub and Jamie Smith for the use of his dunking machine at the Dixon Hall Street Fair on June 28. The event had its 'chilling' moments, but was an overall success and good fun for those involved.

We would also like to thank Sam and the gang at the R.P.C.I.A. for lending us their portable wall for the summer. Like Sam always says, "If you can't move people, move the walls."

The Teen Association would also like to thank Fadi, Bob, Nicole and Anne from 519 Church Street Community Centre for visiting us last week. We hope that their camping trip was a good time and that every one in the park enjoyed

Louis' music!

The Teen Association is searching for snoopers, reporters, writers and camera buffs. The newsletter to end all other newsletters is finally here, and we need to fill it with the truths of the Park. Let's get the news out now! Join the Teen Association and become a participant in the first newsletter put out by YOU!

The Teen Association is located in the Regent Park Services Unit, 63 Belshaw Place. Call Mike or Richard at 863-1768 if you're interested.

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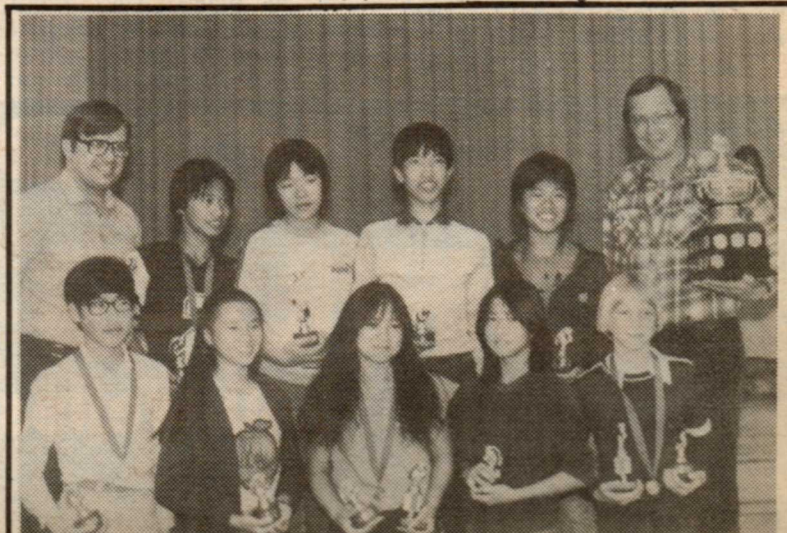
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Queen Alexandra School chess champions — front row (l. to r.) Heung Choi, Janice Wong, Donna Chan, Miranda Wong, Steven Bilobram. Back row (l. to r.), Mr. G. Black, William Wong, Wilson Kwan, Tommy Chan, Jordan Tam, Mr. T. Pasman.

## Pets and Summer

by Marcia Darling



**P**ets often find hot weather uncomfortable. They are dependent on their owners to give them the extra care and attention they need.

If you leave your pet in the yard, make sure he has easy access to shade from the sun and shelter from the rain. Animals need a constant supply of fresh water at all times, but especially in summer. For the outdoor pet, the dish must be placed away from direct sunlight.

Keep your pet indoors when you or your neighbours are spraying lawns or gardens with pesticides; many chemicals are harmful.

Dogs are sometimes clipped for hot weather. Have this done by a professional if you yourself do not know how. Never, under any circumstances, clip a dog right down to the skin. He could suffer severely from sunburn.

Never leave your pet alone in the car — even with the windows slightly open. The heat can easily kill him. If your dog should suffer from heat prostration for any reason, immediately douse him in cold water. His body temperature must be lowered as soon as possible. When he comes around, take him to the vet.

#### Fleas and ticks

Fleas and ticks are most common during warmer weather, so protect your pet with a flea/tick collar or tag.

If you opt for the collar, check the animal's neck after a day or two for signs of a rash. If you find one, throw out the collar — your pet has apparently developed an allergy to it.

If you choose a protective tag, let it air for 24 hours outside its package before putting it on your pet's collar.

Fleas and ticks can be controlled by using a powder or spray. These are very effective — but be sure to follow the manufacturer's instructions. Never use flea spray containing lindane on a cat, although it is quite safe for a dog.

If your pet has a bad case of fleas, or if he has developed a serious rash, take him to your veterinarian for treatment.

#### Vaccinations

Check to be certain that your pet's vaccinations are completely up to date. Rabies, for example, is more prevalent in summer. Whoever is responsible for the animal should keep his vaccination certificates on hand.

#### Vacations

Plan ahead. Perhaps your pet is a nervous traveller: short jaunts in the car prior to the trip will relax him, and he'll be happier when it is time for the longer journey.

Provide your pet with a travelling case, or train him to remain in the back seat at all times. Have full identification on both dogs and cats.



# Phoenix Rising for psychiatric inmates

By RHONDA SUSSMAN

*Phoenix Rising* is a new publication put out by **On Our Own**, a self-help group formed by ex-mental patients in 1977.

From reading the magazine, I gather that its main function is to be an organizing tool and bulletin for **On Our Own**. The magazine's emphasis is practical — offering a positive alternative to "psychiatric warehouses" for people in crisis.

Much of the magazine contains information on **On Our Own**, which is very helpful for those of us looking for such an alternative.

Since its formation in 1977, **On Our Own** reports that, among other things, it has established a store and flea market which help to raise money as well as provide jobs for former psychiatric patients, written a civil rights brief, and has been involved in setting up a legal service, ARCH (Advocacy Resource Centre for the Handicapped), which is for the handicapped and those with emotional problems. Another article in *Phoenix Rising* provides more information about ARCH.

There are also book reviews.

Most of the reviews are used to present a critique of psychiatric methods and mythology. One of the reviews quotes the author of the book being reviewed as saying, "Power, not 'illness' or 'treatment' is what the system is all about".

*Phoenix Rising* is very critical of the medical model used in psychiatry — sick, well, cured, etc.

The magazine shows the powerlessness of institutionalized patients, particularly those who have been involuntarily committed.

A very useful article was about the law dealing with involuntary commitment.

I was amazed to find out that a family doctor, a justice of the peace, or, more rarely, a police officer, all have the authority to commit a person for a five-day assessment.

Most of these "applications for involuntary admission" are filled out by family doctors at the insistence of a member of the family.

Most of these applications are enforced by police. They aren't obligated to enforce it, however; they just have the power to enforce it. The article informs you that you

can try to convince the officer that your hospitalization is not necessary.

The magazine ends with a funny and frightening look at "computer therapy" (a new trend?). In this article, the reporter has an interview with a computer programmed to act as a psychiatrist.



Here's an example of the "therapy" given:

Reporter: I have a lot of fears.

Computer: You say you have a lot of fears.

R: Yes.

C: What does that suggest to you?

R: That I am fearful.

C: Is it because you are fearful that you came to me?

R: Yes.

C: You're being somewhat short with me.

R: I'm only five feet tall.

C: How long have you been only five feet tall?

Etcetera.

Unlike the only other anti-psychiatry magazine I have read, *State and Mind*, *Phoenix Rising* is written by the patients themselves, not by radical therapists.

Its emphasis is primarily on former mental patients giving each other support and self-respect, and secondarily on developing anti-psychiatry theory.

*Phoenix Rising* is, therefore, probably of more interest to ex-mental patients than to more general radical readership. Which is fine — the victims of psychiatry need a voice.



This is Asif Dar, of the Cabbagetown Youth Centre. Some of the awards he has won in boxing are: 1980 Canadian Champ, 1980 Ontario Champ, 1979 Golden Gloves Champ and 1980 Best National Junior Boxer.

## Babysitting problems?

By: Regent Park Services Unit

Does the following sound familiar? It's 8:05 p.m. ... the phone rings ... "I'm sorry, Mrs Jones, but I can't babysit tonight because my boyfriend and I made up and we're going to a movie."

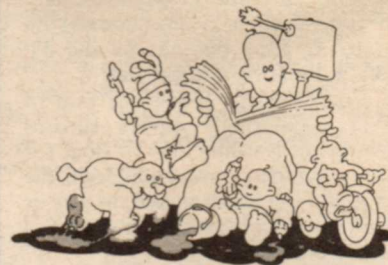
Or—You haven't had a quiet moment to yourself for weeks. But you don't know anyone in the neighbourhood and you have no nearby relatives to babysit. You've reached your limit and just need a couple of hours of free time away from your kids.

Many parents have found a friendly, comfortable solution—a free exchange of babysitting with others in the same situation—a babysitting co-op.

### How to Start Your Own

First of all, set your boundaries. It's helpful to have the members living within walking distance or even in the same building.

Next, post signs in the neighbourhood—corner stores, lobby, churches, etc. The sign should tell people a little about the co-op, but keep it simple. This sign must have a number where you can be reached for more information.



The Metro library system has two very useful books, *Toronto is for Kids*, and *The Mother's Almanac*. The suggestions in *The Mother's Almanac* are based on the rules of a co-op which has been running for fifteen years. These rules are listed below:

1. Have regular meetings so that everyone knows each other. Try a potluck supper or picnic.
2. Sit at your home by day and at the child's by night.
3. Accept a fair share of babysitting jobs.
4. Give a 24-hour notice to the sitter if you cancel your plans to go out.
5. Arrange a co-op replacement or pay for a sitter if you cancel your promise to sit without a 24-hour notice.

### Not a Daycare Alternative

The babysitting co-op is not meant to take the place of day-care centres but is a good alternative for occasional baby-sitting.

*The best mothers aren't mothers all the time.*

If you feel this way but have sitter problems, the solution could be to start a co-op of your own or join one that already exists. For an up-to-date list of co-ops in Metro Toronto or suggestions on how to start your own, call Pat Davies at the Regent Park Services Unit (863-1768).

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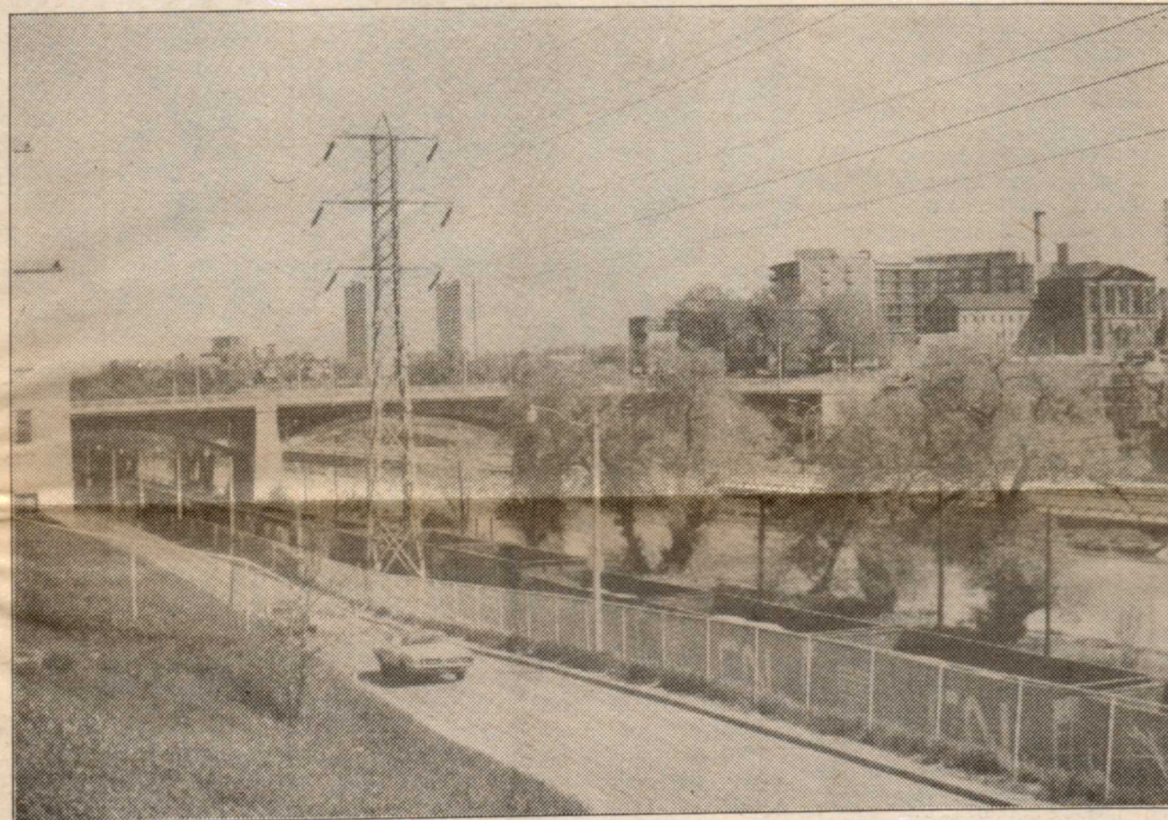
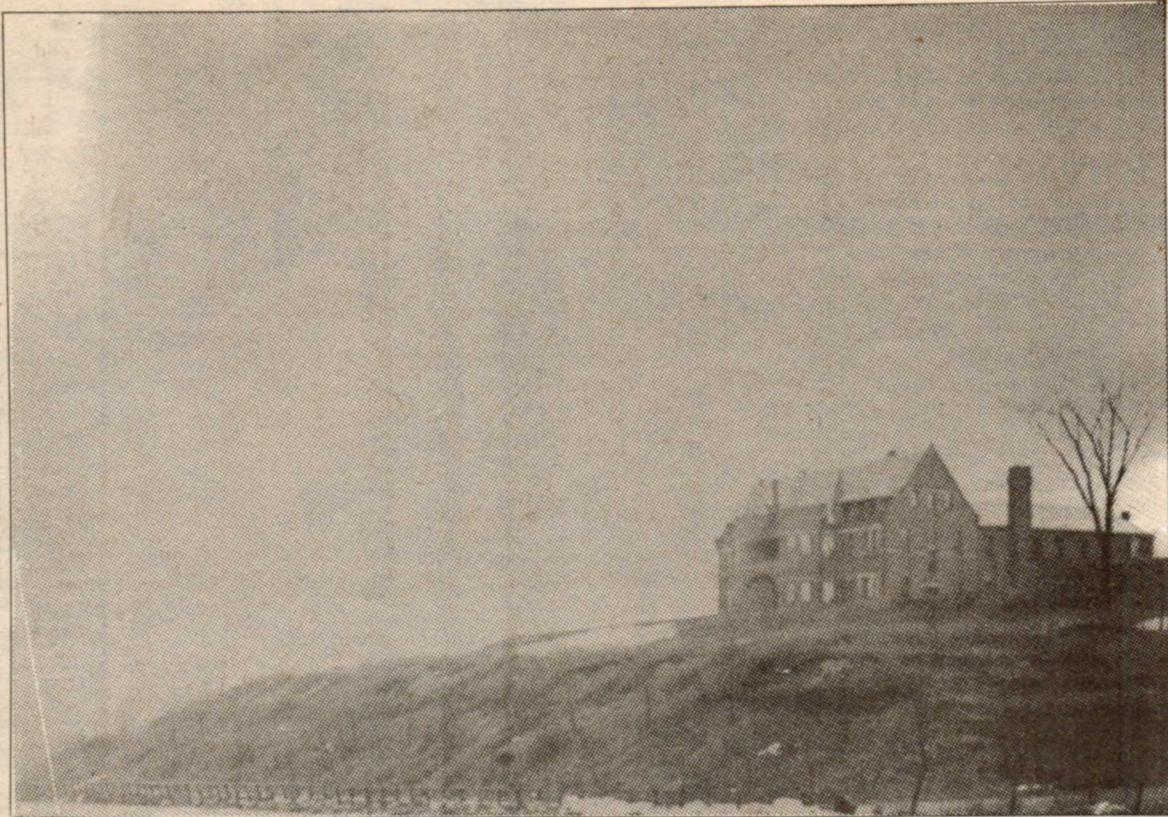
Due to rising costs we have been forced to discontinue complete delivery service, however we will continue to deliver emergency prescriptions for those who are unable to come into our store.

I apologize for any inconvenience and look forward to serving you for many years to come.

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Murray Dale.



# The Don then and now



The Don River looking north to Gerrard Street in 1902 and 1974. These and other photos of Toronto past and present can be seen in Toronto — *The Way We Were*, by Mike Filey, available through the Toronto Public Library.

# Violent husbands, battered wives

In a study released in January of this year, the Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women estimated that one in every ten Canadian women who are married or in a relationship with a live-in lover is battered. American studies of the incidence of this crime, based on household surveys, indicate that this estimate is probably conservative.

No matter where the location, every time a women's shelter is opened in Canada, it is rapidly filled with women and children seeking refuge from violent husbands and fathers. In November 1978, Women's Habitat opened in Etobicoke. Within a week it was filled to capacity. Some 75% of women seeking shelter at Interval House in Toronto are fleeing from violent homes. A survey of social, medical and legal services in Thunder Bay found that in that city of about 119,000, the number of assaulted women seeking help in 1978 was 902.

Marital violence sometimes ends in divorce, sometimes in murder — of the victim or the aggressor. For thousands of women, it is a way of life that goes on and on. Women are punched, slapped, kicked, thrown across rooms and down stairs. They are attacked with knives, with guns, with hot irons or even attacked while they are sleeping... all this done by their "loving" husbands or live-in companions.

Wife beating is rarely a one-time occurrence. In a study of Transition House residents, 31 per cent indicated they were beaten weekly or daily. Twenty-six per cent were beaten at least once a month. Make no mistake about it, wife beating is frequently severe. Of the women at Transition House interviewed, one-third had required medical care. Women beaten by their husbands (legal or common-law) frequently sustain serious injuries: broken arms, cracked ribs and concussions are not uncommon. Being punched or kicked in the stomach when pregnant is often reported.

In most cases, wife assault is not due to a husband being mentally sick. The incidence is too widespread to be the work of a few mentally sick men. Canadian lawyers have women clients in all income levels and all educational levels — in all cultural and ethnic groups — who have been assaulted. Wife assaults are not provoked by the women, nor are they in some perverse way enjoyed by them. Broken arms, cracked ribs and concussions are not rewards women voluntarily

aspire to receive.

The question often asked — especially by men — is why don't assaulted wives leave home?

Initially, it seems, assaulted women stay because they hope the problems will be worked out, that the husband will change, that the marriage can be "saved". Women try harder to be "good wives", giving husbands even more love and understanding. When this approach fails, women turn to others for assistance, frequently in vain.

Sad to say, most agencies and legal organizations are simply not prepared to provide meaningful assistance to women who have been beaten by their partners.

Moreover, once a pattern of violence has been established, leaving may be a very difficult and risky business. The majority of women living in violent home circumstances are too scared to leave. Violent husbands threaten to kill their wives if they try to leave home. What a choice! Stay and expect to be beaten, or leave and fear being killed!

Many women are fearful of leaving for other reasons. How will they manage alone? Can they support the children?

Despite the high incidence of assaults against wives, the severity of these assaults, the horrendous consequences for the wife, the children and ultimately society as a whole, wife assaults are treated differently from any other form of violent behaviour in our society.

The basic instructions given to the police require that in a "domestic situation" the appropriate action is to get in, calm the parties down and get out.

This approach ignores the realities of domestic violence, but then the term itself is actually misleading. It is not usually domestic violence that occurs — that is two spouses fighting. In 90 per cent of the cases, it is the husband beating up the wife.

In considering this question, it is also necessary to have an appreciation of the psychological impact of assault of the battered wife. She is confused, frightened, emotionally drained, with little confidence in herself or in the community around her to help her out of the situation. Police intervention that stresses restoring the peace followed by a quick exit provides such a woman with only temporary relief. She needs to be advised of shelters which can provide comfort and assistance. She needs to be told of her legal rights; she needs to be assisted in asserting those rights.

## IT'S CLASSIFIED

7 NEWS CLASSIFIED ADS cost \$2.50 for 25 words or less, and 10¢ for each additional word. Semi-display ads are \$5 per column inch. All classified ads **MUST** be paid in advance. (The **ONLY** exceptions are ads advertising jobs available and lost and found ads — these are free.) Your ad, along with your payment, should be sent to Classifieds, 7 News, 315 Dundas St. E., Toronto M5A 2A2.

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Central Neighbourhood House needs volunteers. Our greatest needs right now are for caring adults willing to spend one or two hours a week learning and sharing with a child in our "Know and Grow" program. The other pressing need is for volunteers in the Home Help program. This service enables many elderly and handicapped to avoid institutionalization and remain in their homes. Please join us at Central Neighbourhood House, call Sandi at 925-4363. 11-4.

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# The village on the Island

By DOUG CARLYLE

The residents of Algonquin and Ward's Islands of Metro Toronto's Island Park are again facing eviction. Unless Metro Council reverses its decision for a completely non-residential Island Park, Prov. of Ontario Sherriffs will move onto the neighbourhoods to force the issue.

Underlying this impending and drastic action are a number of issues stemming from the \$1.00 purchase of the Island Park from the City of Toronto by the Metro government in the mid-1950's. These issues deal with the needs for a "good" park, whether it is right to have the present unique housing set in a park, and whether the two serve to benefit one another in the context of an island.

Considering the needs for an island parkland to be satisfactory to its users, a major question is whether the area of the land the neighbourhoods now occupy (29 acres) would significantly add to the already high quality of the park. (There are more than 600 acres making up the Toronto Islands of which only 4.7% is residential). If, in fact, more land is needed for parkland, then perhaps non-park uses, other than the Island neighbourhood would be equally, if not more appropriate. The fenced-off water filtration plant could be developed for park use in a similar way to other filtration plants around the City.

Other non-park uses include the yacht clubs, and the Toronto Island Airport. If housing is considered incompatible with the park, then the same may be argued, if not more strongly, for the yacht clubs and airport — both being much more exclusive, inhospitable, and private than the neighbourhoods.

Use of the Island Park has not significantly increased, if at all, since the late 1960's and some portions of the already developed park remain virtually untouched, such as the picnic area along Cinda and Lakeshore Avenue and the beach. Most park users head directly to Centre Island where most of the attractions are located.

There is also the question of future park needs. Although major changes are occurring in the building of downtown housing, the population is not significantly increasing; fewer families with children now live downtown. At the same time there have been major additions in the amount of waterfront park in Toronto since the mid-1950's: Harbour Square Park at the ferry docks; Harbourfront, and Ontario Place. There have also been improvements and additions to parks along the waterfront beyond this central area. With all these additions, the need for 100 percent parkland on the Toronto Islands now seems less critical to the overall waterfront recreation system.

A special characteristic of the Island Park is its wide variety of places and activities co-existing each with its special qualities, from wild areas to manicured parkland, from crowded lively spots to quiet deserted areas, and from "pure" park areas to those with additional uses, including the neighbourhoods. These neighbourhoods add a touch of everyday life to a part of the Island complex. For some park visitors the island neighbourhoods provide a place to go and watch life widely different from their own in the City.

The neighbourhoods contribute more tangibly to the park in a number of ways: they help defray the

cost of the ferry operation; provide non-Islanders with a place to rest in the winter; and by actually living on the island, provide a measure of safety which would not otherwise exist.

There is the question of the importance of the Island housing as compared with parkland. The type of housing on the islands is unique to the centre of the city, being low-rise, family housing and for that reason particularly important for the city to preserve. Little housing of this nature is available in the city core, especially that which is affordable by moderate income families (who make up a significant proportion of families on the island). If the Island families are evicted and have to search for a house on the mainland, the pressure on city housing will be further aggravated.

As for the future, if Islanders had security of tenure, the number of island families with children would probably increase. The island environment provides a particularly humane environment for families: the houses are large enough to comfortably accommodate families with children; dwellings are low-rise, with direct access to the outdoors, fresh air, superb recreation opportunities, safe car-less streets and watchful neighbours.

The Island residents care about their community tremendously, so much so that they continue to stay there in spite of uncertainty. The Island community is a unique one, one of which planners dream: it consists of people of all incomes and ages, geographical boundaries bringing them together and encouraging involvement with their neighbourhood — and it happens right in the centre of Toronto.



"Daddy" Frank Staneland has been a Ward's Island resident for 81 of his 91 years. Photo by Cherry Hassard

## Rally backs Islanders

Continued from page 1.

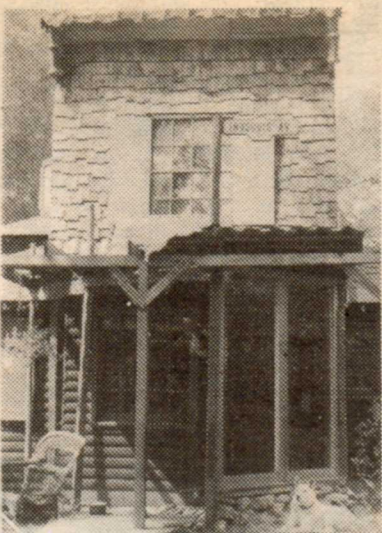
munity, a community over 100 years old.

He explained that before the Ontario legislature recessed it established a commission of inquiry under lawyer Barry Swadron.

He said the Province should be urged to go ahead with the study examining all private uses on the Island. He also said he would do his best to persuade the Conservative Government to pursue the study.

Margaret Campbell, Liberal MPP for St. George, said the battle over the Island Community is in the hands of the Province. She said there are many people who don't understand what the Islands are about. Metro contends the 29 acres residential land is needed for more park space but park development is still to occur where the foundations of houses torn down years ago now sit full of growing weeds.

Michael Cassidy, Leader of the NDP, made the point that the Islanders' conflict with Metro serves as an example of the battle for the continuing survival of all communities and the need for us to encourage a wide diversity of communities whereby everyone has a wide choice of where they can make their homes.



Iroquois Avenue home, Ward's Island Photo by Cherry Hassard

Larry Grossman, Conservative MPP representing the Island Community stated he wanted to see the Island homes maintained and that the Islanders have been victims of politicizing for too many years. He reiterated Crombie's statement that the legal framework is now in place for an impartial commission of inquiry and so is surprised that Metro wants to evict islanders.

Grossman added that he would not go along with any unlawful action and was booed by the crowd.

Joyce Trimmer, a member of Metro Council, came out flatly and said she has a pro-island bias. She used to live on the Islands in a home that has now been demolished by Metro. The lot is now a vista of tall weeds. In her mind she said the island neighbourhoods represented the perfect community, which Metro Council now wants to destroy.

Dan Heap, Alderman for Ward 6, said he thought Godfrey is hoping to wear down the Islanders by continually threatening their homes and community. The writs of eviction he said is a bad law and that he has no problem when bad laws must be disobeyed. The evidence for disobeying is through a history of non-violent resistance and non-violence is capable of drawing support from a wide cross section of the population.

Other speakers included:

Karen Kain, an East York citizen who said it was a community to cherish and protect. Jane Jacobs, author of books on urban affairs, said the destruction of the islands would be a blatant act of vandalism and savagery. Just police and watchmen can't do the job the neighbourhoods now perform: peopling the islands at all times of the year and keeping it safe. If the islanders go there will be the added cost of extra police. The island community shouldn't be destroyed she said because it's "loveable and unique". It's known to be so loved because residents and others have committed themselves to saving the community. Lastly, she said you know you'll win if you listen to the Home Guard.

Ron Mazza, President of the Toronto Islands Residents' Association. Mazza asked for and received the unanimous support of the rally for a resolution that the Province turn over the residential areas of the Toronto Islands to the City of Toronto from the Metro Government.

## By the people, for the people?

"By the people, for the people." It's one of those fundamental principles of democracy the high school textbooks like to dwell on.

But the reality of our democracy often falls somewhat short of the ideal. The Toronto Islands eviction controversy is a case in point. These are the facts:

The 650 Island residents don't want to leave.

The local ward aldermen and school trustees don't want them to leave.

Toronto's mayor doesn't want them to leave.

Their MPP doesn't want them to leave.

Their MP doesn't want them to leave.

Toronto City Council doesn't want them to leave.

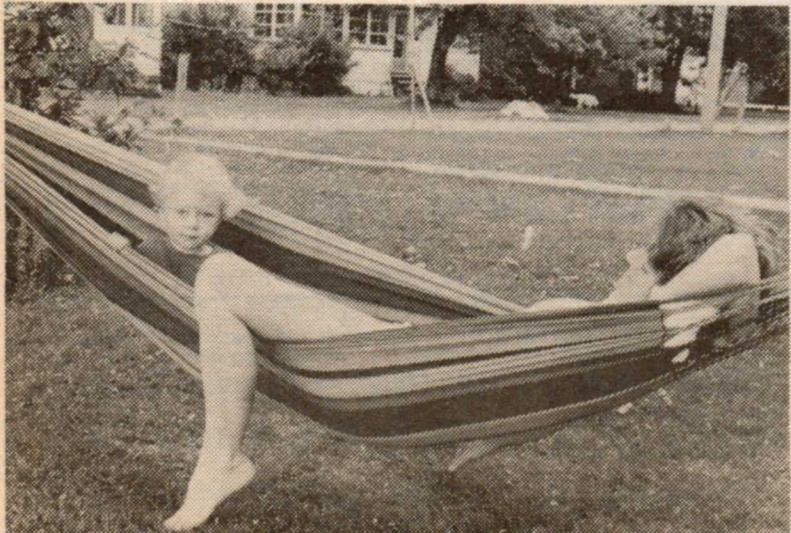
Residents' and union groups across Metro don't want them to leave: more than 70 such groups from all six boroughs, including the city-wide Confederation of Residents and Ratepayers Associations, have passed resolutions urging that the island residents be allowed to stay. 25,000 in-

dividuals through-out Metro Toronto have signed pledges of personal support.

The people of Toronto expressing themselves through public opinion polls don't want them to leave: There have been eight separate public opinion polls, including three major ones done by professional polling agencies. Every one of them found overwhelming support across Metro for saving the island community. In the least positive of the three polls, 26 per cent were opposed to saving the island homes, while 57 per cent were in favour. The second poll was 62% to 23% in favour of the islanders; the third, 71% to 20% in favour.

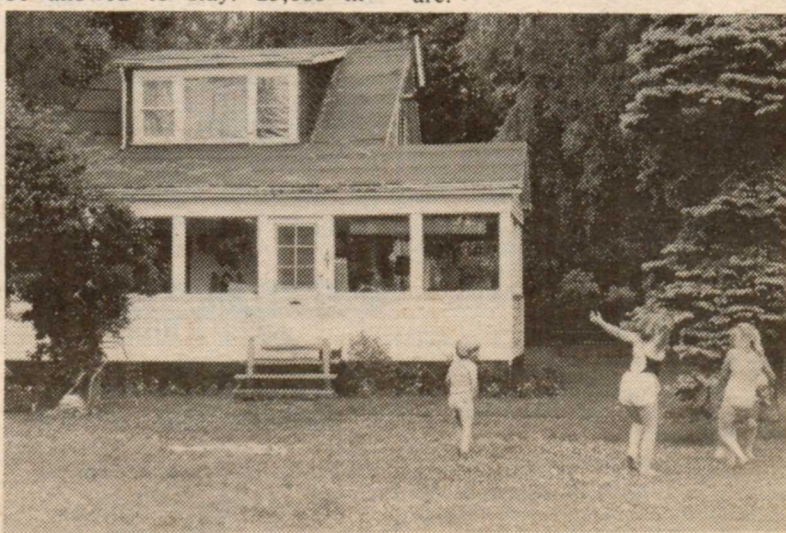
Yet, despite all this, a tiny group of Metro councillors, none of them even elected directly to Metro Council, headed by an appointed chairman, Paul Godfrey, seems to have the power and the will to push ahead with the evictions.

There is something wrong here that transcends the question of the island homes, important as they are.



David and Betty Anne Gray, Algonquin Island.

Photo by Cherry Hassard



Algonquin Island home: children playing in the yard.

Photo by Cherry Hassard