

# Neighbourhood agencies face crisis

by DAVID KIDD

"Whereas in the seventies the physical survival of our neighbourhoods was at stake, the issue of the eighties is the social survival of our communities." Gordon Cressy, United Way president, made this comment at a community forum on April 27 to discuss a new report by the Joint Task Force on Neighbourhood Services, entitled Neighbourhoods Under Stress.

The report targets some of the dramatic changes that have taken place within Metro's communities in recent years. It emphasizes that in the current tough economic times neighbourhood-initiated programs are essential, yet these programs are stymied by inadequate funding.

The major transformation has been the increasing isolation of large numbers of Metro's population. The study identifies the massive growth of single adult households. These are household units with or without children. In the city of Toronto, these households have increased 23 per cent between 1976-81 and now constitute approximately one out of every two.

A significant part of this growth has been in single parent families and in senior citizens living alone. One out of every five families in Metro is now led by a single parent and the number has increased 21 per cent in the last five years alone. The vast majority of these, headed by women, face limited financial resources, for women still earn on the average 40 per cent less than men. Seniors living alone increased 40 per cent between 1961-76 and 20 per cent of Metro's population is now over 55 years of age. This group is the most susceptible to the hardships of inflation due to their reduced income potential.

The economic conditions further strain traditional community ties and enforce the isolation of many. During the last year the numbers of unemployed in the city increased 70 per cent and those on social assistance doubled between 1981-82.

The report suggests that locally-initiated support programs are the most important vehicles to respond to these needs

as they replace the disappearance of extended families, nearby friends and stable neighbourhoods. One other aspect of these programs is job creation. The report estimates that these programs could provide an additional 120,000 jobs by the year 2000.

One example of these programs is SAINTS (Student Assistance in North Toronto for Seniors). It has helped 700 elderly to date with their household needs. One recipient emphasized that the program meant "... we can stay in our house: we can't do it otherwise."

But this program and others face a funding crisis. In the report administrators of similar programs were surveyed and 70 per cent stated that a lack of funding was the greatest threat to their survival. SAINTS, for example, is trying to cope with a \$7,000 deficit and their one staff member operates the office out of a converted cupboard in a high school.

The report states that these programs must be accepted as essential services as a step for them to secure stable funding.

Marvyn Novick, of Ryerson, said at the forum that "these support programs are as essential as police, libraries and schools but they have to be funded as essential." Ward Seven Alderman David Reville added that "it's always easier at the municipal level to get money for sewers than for people."

The joint task force that produced the report wants the province to address the issues raised in the report and provide 60 per cent of the funding for community-based social services. This is not intended to reduce the funds provided for any other programs or for social assistance. The report documents that the government of Ontario is last among all of the provinces in providing funds to meet social needs. The task force is planning a province-wide conference in 1984 to link up with other agencies and individuals across the province to mobilize people behind the recommendations of this report.

The report is available from the Social Planning Council of Metropolitan Toronto, 185 Bloor St. E., for \$9.

## SEVEN NEWS

May 6, 1983

TORONTO'S OLDEST COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

FREE

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## DACHI looks forward to 10th anniversary

by ANDREW STANLEY

Running east of Parliament Street along the south side of Carlton Street all the way over to Dermott Place sits a long row of sandblasted and painted houses. Every week or two the owners of the houses get calling cards through the door from real estate agents looking for listings.

But no one ever decides to sell his house, take his profit, and move on.

The people can be seen sitting on doorsteps chatting across lawns, or sharing barbecues in the back yard — a relaxed sight to passersby. They all seem to know each other, not a usual event on a busy city street. They are the collective owners of Don Areas Co-operative Homes Inc. They have lifetime tenure in their homes, for no landlord is going to sell the place out from under them and renovate or raise the rent sky high. They decide their own rents.

No "for sale" signs will ever go up here. Besides the Carlton Street houses, the DACHI owns the houses on the north side of Spruce over the Dermott Place, six more on Dermott and two on Sackville, a total of 33. The 140 people who live here today do so only because people years ago put up a major effort that it would be so.

Ten years ago Don Vale, that part of Ward Seven bounded by Gerrard, Parliament, Wellesley, and the Don River was suddenly well on its way to becoming an

exclusive preserve of the well-off after years of being anything but. That this was happening was fact, evident and agreed to by all. But this fact divided the neighbourhood. Some wished this trend to continue and become complete as soon as possible. Others were concerned about where all the roomers, working people, low and moderate income residents being displaced by expensive renovations would go. They wanted to keep the neighbourhood a mix of the classes it had always been.

When the Crowley houses that now make up DACHI came on the market in 1973, the fight between the two groups was on. Throughout the winter of 1973-74 in Don Vale the scrap continued. Should a co-op be allowed to buy Crowley houses or not? The issue was decided in a very democratic manner. Every voter on Don Vale received a notice for a meeting where the future of the co-op would be decided. Those that came to the meeting, and there were hundreds, voted yes, buy the Crowley Homes and turn them into a co-op. Let the kind of people who live there continue to live there and let them run it.

Ten years later it is fair to ask, was this very practical result of participatory democracy successful? How is this experiment in peoples' control doing? Certainly the co-op provides housing for people who otherwise would not be living in Don Vale. The rents range from \$226 for a bachelor and \$377 for two



A young girl ponders culinary delights at the recent St. George Day Festival by the new St. Lawrence Hall, sponsored by MPP Susan Fish. Photo by Doron Rescheff.

bedrooms up to \$739 for a full sized five bedroom detached house. One quarter of the units are subsidized by Ontario Housing which greatly increases the ability of the co-op to house low income people.

Today DACHI has a well thought out plan for decision-making. As is only proper, ultimate authority rests firmly in

members' hands. The co-op becomes more attractive each passing year. It was once feared that having welfare recipients living in DACHI would cause property values to plummet. Whether or not this should have been a worry (for the residents after all did have a right to shelter here too) it does not seem to have happened. The quality of renovation

in 1975-76 on what were basically tumbled-down houses was often sub-standard. This year, after two years preparation, the co-op will discuss and hopefully adopt a long term plan and budget for repairs and improvements.

The basic proof of the co-op's success isn't that it runs efficiently, or even that the rents are low. The proof, is that the people consider it a good place to live. A few years ago we were spending more than we were taking in (this situation is now reversed). There were no good methods of decision making; people were at each others throats. At a general membership meeting with well over half the co-op present, access to the books (now open to all members on request) — everything, it seemed — was on the agenda. In the middle of a raging verbal brouhaha, the president suddenly put to the membership the issue of joining the Co-operative Housing Federation of Toronto at a cost of well over \$1,000, money the co-op could ill afford.

One of the original residents got up to speak. "Well" she said, "we've got it pretty good, haven't we? The federation helps more people who need co-ops to live the same kind of way, right? We were helped once and now we have to help others. So we should give them the money." She finished with a smile and sat down. The vote was overwhelmingly in favour.

When DACHI has its 10th anniversary celebrations later this year, wander over and see a success story. It's partly your success too.

Andrew Stanley is co-chairperson of DACHI's finance committee.

Clowns, puppets and plays!

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### Who will receive it?

- If you are 65 or over and own or rent your home, you are eligible for the Property Tax Grant.
- The 1983 instalment cheque is mailed to Ontario seniors who received the 1982 Property Tax Grant.
- This is intended to help you pay your property tax or rent for the first part of 1983. In the fall you will automatically receive an application for the balance of your grant.

### Who will not receive it?

Basically, if you didn't receive a 1982 Property Tax Grant, you will not receive the spring instalment. In particular, seniors should note that:

- If you reside in a nursing home, home for the aged or any property tax-exempt institution, you are not eligible for the Property Tax Grant.
- If you turned 65 after December 31st, 1982 (and therefore did not qualify for a grant last year) you also will not receive the spring instalment. However, you will receive an application for the entire 1983 grant in the fall.

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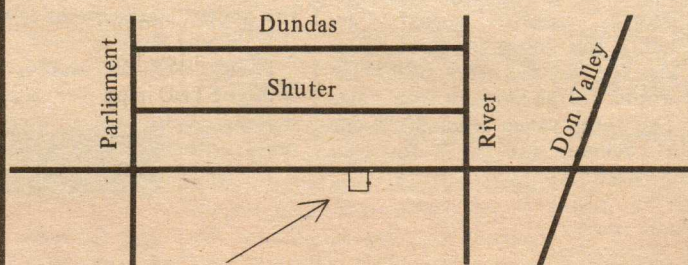
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# SPEAKING OUT

## VIEWPOINT

### Facing up to a dirty job

by K.L. BRANDY

This is a dirty job, but somebody's got to do it. When I first was asked to contribute an opinion column to Seven News I wanted to do something suitably edifying, something that would make my mother proud of me.

Too bad for me. While my mind was swarming with higher thoughts, I stumbled over a fresh example of my topic here: a large mass of dog dung, recently flattened by some other poor pedestrian's foot.

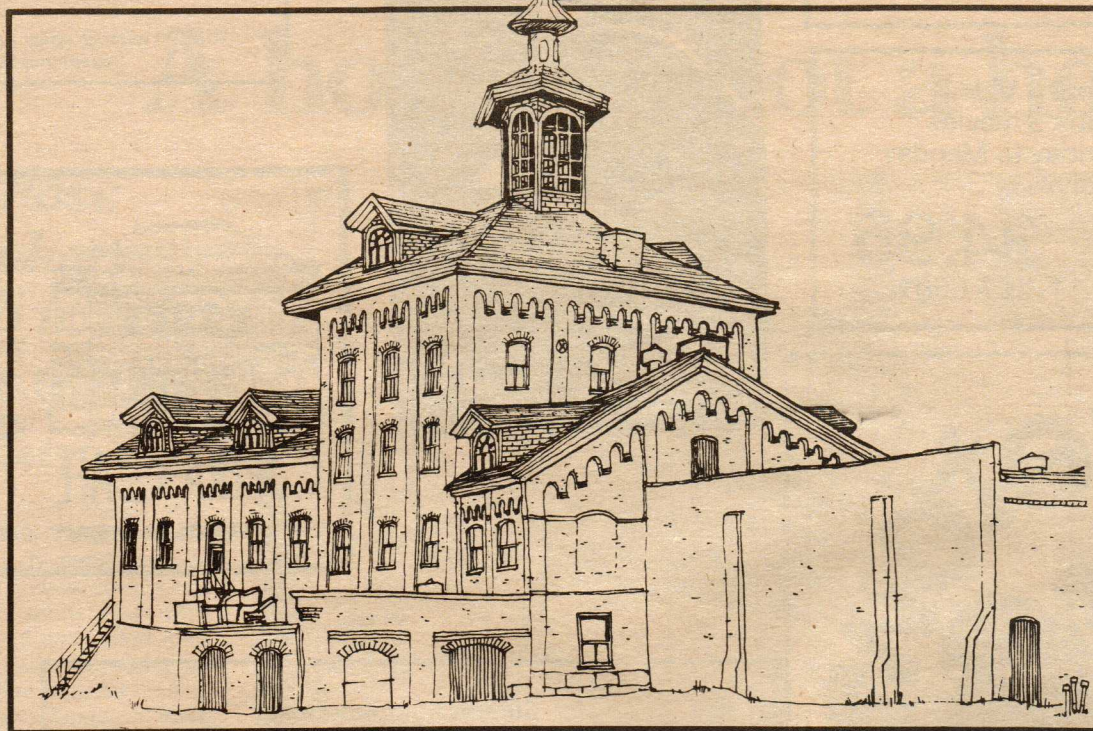
Pity the poor pedestrians! As carefree children, infected with the joy of spring, skipping down the street, they must be nimble to avoid the excremental obstacles. Pity the park lovers, a-smear with ordure. Let's not take a walk at sunset, darling, the visibility's bad.

Situation odious. But sadly for you and me, just as a man's home is his castle, his best friend is his dog. It may be easier to ban guns in Texas, or break up kingdoms and happy marriages than to disturb the axiomatic, traditional bond between folk and fur.

Perhaps your neighbours are not like the nonchalant brutes I've seen, whistling without concern at the control end of the leash, while their darling doggy deposits free fertilizer on your driveway, lawn or sidewalk. Or even in the road.

Animals are innocent. Dogs are cheerfully unaware of such abuse concepts as health, property and aesthetics. Perhaps this is why they can be wholeheartedly our good friends. We

*An obstacle to progress? Photo by Doron Rescheff.*



An ice palace of the czars — that's what the main building of Gooderham distillers on Trinity Street near the bottom of Parliament looks like to artist Jim Houston.

can't ask that dogs develop any more discernment than nature has equipped them for.

On the other end of the leash, though, the dog owner is a member of the human community we share, with all the responsibilities which develop from that. In otherwise quite civilized Toronto, I'm dismayed that so many oafs have as little care for the dog in their charge as they do for the rest of us.

We, the people, are in control of them, the dogs. When individuals in civilized groups abdicate their responsibilities to the rest of us, we regulate them, fine them, even imprison them. Let's do it.

Don't think about the number of dogs per square kilometre in Toronto. Don't think about the liters of manure each dog produces every day. Similarly, parents ought not to think of feces borne parasites which may infect children, sometimes with fatal results. Thinking won't help.

Let us consider the aesthetic problem. Then let us force, not urge, dog owners to remove the problem themselves. Owners should curb their dogs, and carry a trowel and a plastic bag. The rest of us shouldn't merely register our weak dismay, but sufficient strong protest to ensure that careless owners are suitably fined, say \$50. And let's be sure those penalties stick because the dog dirt certainly does.

Perhaps then, when we see a dog playing in the park we won't wince or grimace. Isn't that a fine dog, we'll say. Man's best friend.

## Thoughts on a peace walk

by HOWARD HUGGETT

Participation in a peace walk is not only a very worthwhile and rewarding exercise, it can be most pleasant and relaxing, particularly when the weather cooperates. Since it is a walk and not a march, nobody worries about keeping in step. That part of the brain that is responsible for picking up the feet and laying them down again does its job, leaving the mind free to follow various inclinations.

During the successful walk of April 23 I noticed how many people were chatting away to someone next to them, laughing, telling stories, waving to friends they spotted on the sidewalk. By moving backwards and forwards in the procession I could catch snatches of serious discussion that some were engaging in with friends or acquaintances. It was all very pleasant, relaxed and folksy.

But it is also a whole lot more than that. As we walked along Bloor from University to Bay, causing long line-ups of honking cars, it struck me that we were re-asserting the right of people to occupy and use the streets that are so monopolized by vehicles every day that we step off the sidewalks at our own risk. But most important was the particular use we were making of

the streets that Saturday. We were there to make a public statement, to attest by our presence our fear of nuclear warfare and a passionate desire to maintain this planet as our home. It was quite obvious from the behaviour of the crowds on the sidewalks that there was a lot of sympathy for the walk, and I could not help wondering how many onlookers felt an inclination to join the procession.

After all, the various referendums have proved that a majority of Canadians are concerned about the threat of nuclear war, so those 10 or 12 thousand people who invaded the territory of the motor car were acting for many thousands more who did not walk because they were too self-conscious or afraid of ridicule, too fearful of being labelled as misguided, a Soviet sympathizer, etc. Those who did participate have made their statement and encouraged the more timid to join in the next time.

I am making this point so strongly because some people do not seem to realize that if you are doing or saying something that is important it is seldom necessary to make a lot of noise about it. There are some groups that take part in such demonstrations as the peace walk who make a habit of chanting a series of slogans over and over again until it becomes very annoying. If they follow the practice of having each slogan shouted out first by the leader or prompter, with the others repeating it word

for word afterwards, the effect is even worse.

Besides, when the peace walk had as its prime purpose the organization of opposition to the cruise missile, how many slogans do you need?

## FROM THE EDITOR

### Wanted: mail!

In its first two issues back on the streets, Seven News has published just a few of the "welcome back, keep up the good work" kind of letters that we've received, many accompanied by donations. Much as we've appreciated reading them (and the donations) it's about time we stopped printing them for a while.

This page is called Speaking Out, simple enough and yet important. It is the most democratic page in the newspaper, for here readers rather than our volunteer journalists can have their say, whether it be on some issue in the ward or the city, or a response to what we print, be it positive or negative. If you think we're wrong, here is your place to tell us so. If you wish to support a movement, a law, a politician, an event, here is a place where you can try to persuade your neighbours. The letters column is a kind of speaker's corner in print, where any responsible person can climb onto the soap box and declaim.

And now we come to why we will resist the temptation to print those nice but vague complimentary letters. We want to use this space for more informative, more impassioned, and frankly, more opinionated letters. Not that we'll refuse favourable letters, far from it. But it would be much more useful if readers told us just exactly what about the paper they do like so that we know to continue publishing those kinds of pieces.

Do you think our news coverage is fair or unfair? Do we print too much or not enough about housing, city hall, theatre, sports? Is there an important issue right under our noses that we're overlooking? Are we too serious? Is that so-called expert writing in the Viewpoint column just a bag of wind?

We hope you will sit down, read and enjoy this issue of Seven News. Then get out your pen, your pencil, your typewriter, your word processor — whatever it is you use — and tell us, really tell us, what you think.

Now that's democracy.

## SEVEN NEWS

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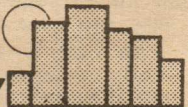
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# CLOSE UP

## A hostel is not a home

*but for those with nowhere else to go it's the next best thing*

by HOWARD HUGGETT

During the Dirty Thirties hostels were operated all over this country for men only. And the men were encouraged to keep moving. If they tired of travel there were always the work camps where they were provided with bed and board, plus 20 cents a day. Now there are hostels for both sexes, although the ones for women came along much later. Some of them house hundreds of humans, while others take care of a couple of dozen only. Some have been operating for many years, while in others the renovations are still noticeably new.

Certainly, the hostels of today are much improved from the bad old days of the great depression. The larger, longer-established ones have such amenities as dietitians, while even the newer and smaller places provide access to second-hand clothing through connections with church or other organizations. All the hostels that I visited were able to serve breakfast and supper, as well as provide a bag of sandwiches for lunch. They all had space available for such relaxations as watching television, playing cards, reading and conversation. What is more important, the people in charge of these institutions seemed to be enjoying their jobs, to be genuinely concerned with helping the unfortunate.

It is also encouraging to note that the number of these refuges is growing. Twenty-two hostels with close to 1,800 beds are now operating, including one each in Scarborough and Etobicoke. The previous year there were 15 buildings with about 1,200 beds. So the present hostels are better than the old ones, and there are more of them. What then is the problem?

The problem is that the people in hostels are there because they have no homes, and a hostel is not a home. The Rev. Paul Webb, is the executive director of the Fred Victor Mission, which operates both a home for senior men and a hostel for single men. Speaking at a panel discussion on the housing crisis, held in the St. Lawrence Centre, he declared "a home is not just a physical shelter, it is the place that gives you a sense of identity, a feeling of belonging." In these depression days it is difficult enough to find a job, even when you possess or at least rent space that is your own and enjoy the confidence that this situation gives. How much harder it must be when you have no home of your own.



A home is not just a physical shelter. Photo by Gordon Ames.

When I interviewed Rev. Webb in the mission he said "A hostel is all right to stay in for a few days, or a week or two, but not any longer." This opinion comes from a man who runs one of the best hostels in this city. It must be, for it is filled every night, winter or summer. When you walk around the big, rambling structure you immediately notice the relaxed, friendly atmosphere of the place. So you add that to the two hot meals per day, the clean beds with the weekly change of linen, the access to good second-hand clothing, the lounging areas, and ask yourself: what else is needed?

Part of the answer is found in what the Fred Victor Mission also does. Besides the 120 inmates who are regularly housed there are 10 probationers who are being prepared to transfer to separate houses where they will be able to manage pretty much on their own. The mission also maintains several houses where a few men are already functioning by themselves, with one daily check from a staff member. Not content with such activities, the mission is trying to form a housing co-op with other organizations, such as All

Saints' Church. That appreciation of the need for low-cost housing is very widespread, and I encountered it wherever I spoke to people engaged in the operation of hostels.

The longer the present hostel population remains in these establishments the harder it will be to restore them to a more normal social life. Of course, it will require a lot of organization, thought and the expenditure of money to come to grips with the problem, but it also costs a lot of money to maintain these people in their present state. At Seaton House, Metro's large structure for single men which houses well over 600, the cost is \$18 per person per day. In other, smaller establishments the expenses are higher than that, particularly those that serve single women and families.

To this day our society has very little conception of the necessity to rehabilitate the single male. Although some people think that men prefer the hostel life the truth is quite different. A recent study showed that of the male inmates interviewed almost 85 per cent had worked in the last two years. The overwhelm-

ing majority wanted to live in rooms or an apartment, not in a hostel.

As far as hostels for single women, family groups and single mothers are concerned, a considerable amount of work along these lines is already being done. Women's hostels were set up in comparatively recent times, the first one in Toronto being the Street Haven on Pembroke St. in 1965.

The way in which women's hostels were put in operation as a result of public pressure has resulted in better support services being provided and greater efforts to rehabilitate and reinstate the occupants. From what I have seen in visiting hostels for men and interviewing their directors it seems that some of that approach has filtered into those buildings too. What is needed now is more public attention to the problem and a desire to make a real effort at rehabilitation of the men in hostels. No one can tell what percentage of them would respond to efforts to assist them until we try.

Unless pressure is put on governments to attack this problem they will probably not do much about it. The attitude of the provincial government is typical. Last autumn the provincial Ministry of Community and Social Services committed 1.5 million dollars to a winter relief program, about one-half of which was to be spent in the Metro area. Several new hostels were opened, catering to different groups of people: one for families, another for single mothers. I have been in some of these establishments and they are doing good work, but the trouble is that they are all operating on a temporary program. In the spring they are supposed to fold up. When you consider the need that exists for such projects and think of the financial costs involved in setting them up in the first place it seems very foolish to shut them down again.

Why does the provincial government take such a short-term approach to this problem? An official in the Ministry of Community and Social Services told me that in the spring the demand for hostel space drops drastically. Not one of the people administering these institutions that I spoke to agreed with that statement. Seaton House used to shut down its hostel for single men during the summer, but in 1982 it was kept open and the director told me that it was quite busy.

All the signs point to a continuation of high unemployment, so the need for hostel accommodation is still pressing, and particularly for the services that are being provided by the newer and smaller places, such as the ones set up during the early winter under the province's winter program. They are the ones that offer family counselling, assistance in looking for jobs, etc. Let us hope that the social service agencies and the general public put enough pressure on the politicians to maintain and extend these programs to fill the need that exists during this crisis.

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## COMMUNITY BUSINESS

### Pride in Cabbagetown

by CARL ORBACH

*East side, west side, all around the town, guys and gals together, how happy they shall be, doing the light fantastic on the sidewalks of Cabbagetown. (With apologies to Gershwin.)*

Ten years have passed since four of us, Bart Davis, Sol Wayne, Jim Renieris and myself met together in a local pub and looked at the Cabbagetown scene. Many stores on Parliament Street and in the other Cabbagetown areas were either closed or closing, the business streets looked depressed, the surrounding residential areas were run down and

developers were interested only tearing down and erecting large impersonal apartment buildings. There was confrontation between various competing residential, business and other groups. The most common expressions you heard about the area in the press and other media were "Cabbagetown Bum" and the "Parliament Street Wino."

For several years before our little meeting, the word "Cabbagetown" always received the same reaction from outsiders and insiders - derision, crime, cynicism, depression - a write-off. The area was also faced with competition from impending new big shopping malls at Gerrard Square and on Sherbourne Street. The business community and the residential community, to say the least, were depressed and the people who lived, walked and shopped in the area had little, if any, pride in it.

At that first meeting, and at the dozens of meetings that were to follow, we decided, with the help of others, to attempt to change the image, appearance and outlook. We founded a business organization known as the "Old Cabbagetown Business Im-

provement Area" wherein all of the merchants, businesses and professionals in the area bounded by Parliament, Gerrard, Sherbourne and Wellesley Streets joined in and agreed to pay a proportional amount (larger businesses paid more than the smaller ones) of the operating budget of the organization through a special business tax levy. We designed a logo (the familiar houses and stores of Cabbagetown) and renamed the area "Old Cabbagetown." We started to advertise, sought out

Overall though, the best result has been that Cabbagetown has become a real community. The residents, merchants, shoppers, senior citizens groups, youth groups and all the people in between combine with one another to carry out activities like the Cabbagetown Festival and the Forsythia Festival. When one publicity, became involved with the community and the community groups, encouraged merchants to upgrade their businesses and appearances, encouraged new merchants to come in, started the renovations to Parliament Street - new lighting, new street signs - encouraged the residents

to upgrade, attracted top real estate brokers who turned the residential area into one of the most fascinating places in Canada and generally set out to make the area vital, exciting, enjoyable and attractive.

We have come a long way and have a long way to go. Many stores and businesses did major renovations (I was convinced to renovate my law office) and we attracted new and exciting businesses to the area. We had the co-operation of dozens of merchants, professionals and of course, our residents.

Cabbagetown has some of the best restaurants and pubs in Toronto. Everything from gourmet take-out to submarines. It has some of the best stores for hardware, clothing, furnishings, services, gas stations, hair dressers, flowers and on and on. It has the best of the professionals - builders, doctors, lawyers, architects - as well as some of the finest artists in all media forms.

We also have the best cops, winos, firemen, hookers and rounders in all of Toronto. That's one thing about Cabbagetown, we don't hide our dirty

laundry. We show the best - and we don't hide the worst.

One of the best things that has occurred is the residents and people outside the area have grown to know the merchants, professionals and businessmen in the area. You can go into the stores and offices and deal with people you know.

group needs help, they can be sure that everyone will pitch in. Some two years ago, when the Cabbagetown Youth Club was faced with eviction and extinction, the merchants organized a committee and helped raise over \$100,000 to keep them in their home in Cabbagetown.

Yes, we have helped to make the change. No one turns away when they hear the name Cabbagetown. We have instilled a pride in the area and have helped make Cabbagetown the best place to live, work and shop.

*East side, west side, and all around the town, the best place to be is in Cabbagetown.*

*Carl Orbach is the Chairman of the Old Cabbagetown Business Improvement Association.*

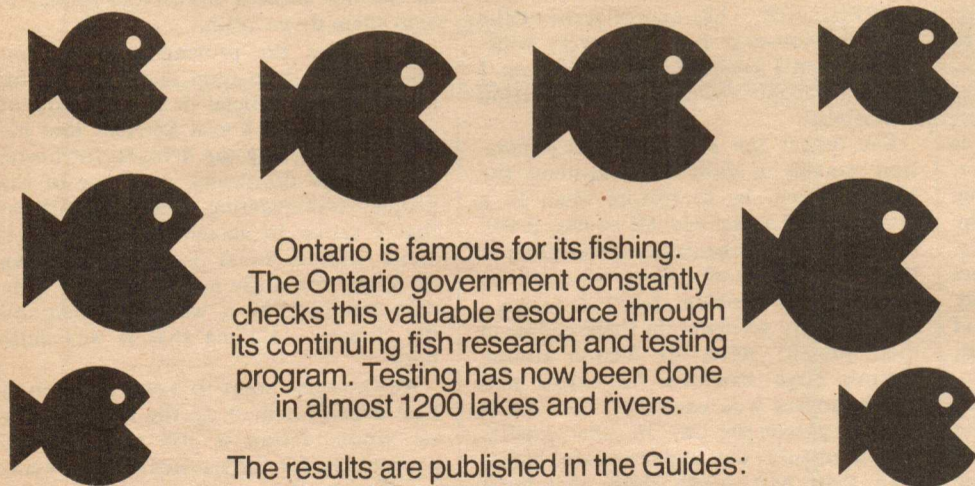


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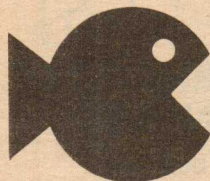


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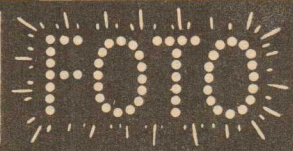
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# CITY ARTS

## Jugglers, clowns, puppets and plays!

### The Toronto International Children's festival at Harbourfront will delight kids and please parents.

by ANNE-MARGARET HINES

With spring finally arriving in Toronto, chances are the children in your family are ready to get out of the house and let off a little post-winter steam; and from May 17-21 the second annual International Children's Festival at Harbourfront will be giving kids and their parents a chance to do just that. And with all that is going on, from plays, music and clowns to storytelling and much more (some requiring tickets but plenty that is free) the difficulty will be in choosing what to do.

#### The circuit

The International Children's Festival at Harbourfront is one of five children's arts festivals which take place every spring across Canada. The first one started in Vancouver six years ago, partially in response to schools that were looking for interesting places to take students after a long winter in the classroom. Since then Edmonton, Winnipeg, Toronto and Montreal have joined forces with Vancouver to create a circuit of festivals which starts on the West Coast in early May and works its way across to Montreal for the beginning of June. The Vancouver festival programmers book for all the festivals top children's performers from around the world and then each festival fills in the program with its own local performers and acts from across Canada.

Lynn McGuigan, programmer for this year's Toronto festival, gives input to Vancouver about which international acts to bring in and then goes hunting for domestic talent. "I try to balance the festival at least 50/50 Canadian and international acts" she says. "We have many companies in Canada who are as fine as the best in the international scene and it's quality that we're striving for in our programming." McGuigan also takes into consideration children's interests and concerns when choosing performers. The shows must be fun and entertaining, but should also deal with the hardships and joys of being a kid. One play, *New Canadian Kid* by British Columbia's Green Thumb Theatre Company, shows what it's like to be an immigrant child in a Canadian city. The company spent over a year working with immigrant children in Vancouver before putting together this humorous and insightful production which



Canada's Merrytime Clowns and Puppets: no more witches and fairy princesses.

has already received national acclaim. Another show, *The Griffin and the Minor Canon* by the Starry Night Puppet Theatre of New York, looks at the question of good versus evil and how to deal with the gray areas in between. As Lynn McGuigan points out, "Kids today aren't satisfied to deal just with good and bad characters. Today there are no witches and no fairy princesses, there are mixtures of both which is more real and more interesting." *Cinderella in Salerno* by the Canadian Children's Opera Chorus tackles children's concerns about role models by presenting an old fairy tale with some thoroughly modern twists.

#### All ages

The festival also tries to offer shows which will appeal to all ages of children. Don't Be Afraid of Big Animals, by a West German company, creates hilarious stories out of household utensils such as vacuum hoses and potato mashers and is designed for children from three years and up. Bob Berky, a popular clown from New York, specializes in helping older children and young adolescents learn to laugh at their own problems by finding the clown within themselves. The ever-popular Raffi and Sharon Lois and Bram are back providing songs and laughs and the new Peanuts play, *Snoopy!* is the special evening attraction that will appeal to the whole family.



Britain's Moving Picture Mime Company.

In all there will be 16 main productions presented in the Harbourfront buildings and in tents around the grounds. Tickets are \$4.00 for children and \$5.00 for adults, per performance. *Snoopy!* tickets are \$8.00 and \$9.00 for children and seniors and \$10.00 and \$11.00 for adults. You can book tickets by calling the Harbourfront box office at 869-8412 or through BASS.

Besides the paid performances there is a lot of free entertainment planned for around the Harbourfront grounds. Jugglers, magicians, storytellers and mimes will perform throughout the week and a host of unusual and exciting clowns will be on hand as well. Mariposa in the Schools will provide music, Cranky Consort will tell stories with the aid of a classical guitar and rod puppets, Goowin's Balloons will build comic characters from balloons and ventri-



Canada's National Tap Dance Co.

loquist John Pattison will delight daily with a host of hilarious friends.

There is also a clown school where kids can create their own clown characters, a dress-up tent for children who want to put on their own play and make-up artists who will create free clown faces for children who want to get into the act themselves. Spontaneous 'new and co-operative' games and blow-off steam activities will be organized by Harbourfront's own Recreation and Education Department and are particularly recommended for children who are about to attend one of the main performances.

Inside the buildings, both the Harbourfront Art Gallery and Craft Gallery are featuring exhibitions by well known artists and their children. There will be informal workshops for children who want to try their own hand at creating a work of art, and some of the artists will be on hand to discuss their work. Also in this area, the fifth annual Student's Art Fair will display work by Ontario students from kindergarten up to grade 13.

#### Clown contest

A highlight of the festival is the Second Annual Great Clown Contest. Children and their parents are encouraged to come dressed in their most outrageous home-made clown costumes. A panel of professional clowns will survey the grounds each day and pick out the most imaginative and comic designs. Those interested in entering the contest should check in at the information desk when they arrive.

These and many other activities planned will ensure that no one ever becomes bored or inactive. In fact, Lynn McGuigan offers this advice to parents: "Let the kids wear their play clothes because there's going to be lots for them to get involved in. Be prepared for some line-ups at the food booths and washrooms, and give them lots of time. Don't come down with an hour to spend, make it a whole morning or afternoon so that besides seeing a show the kids can let themselves get into everything else that's going on."

The International Children's Festival is the perfect place for children and parents to get out and enjoy the spring weather and to take in some exciting entertainment at the same time. A copy of the complete line-up can be picked up at Harbourfront, BASS or any Metro library. Be sure to book tickets in advance, because some shows are already selling out, and then get out and enjoy the fun together!

An additional note: Harbourfront welcomes volunteers of all ages who can spend a day helping with everything from looking after lost children to working in the souvenir booth. Anyone interested should contact Walter Lavender at 869-8426 or 869-8429.

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## Friday

May 6

**Give blood today** or throughout May at the Manulife Blood Donor Clinic, 55 Bloor St. W. Hours are Mon.-Thurs. 9 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and Fridays until 4 p.m. The clinic is also open one Saturday per month.

**Wheels '83 - Automotive Enthusiast Bazaar:** Browse for auto accessories beginning 5 p.m. Free. 222 Warehouse at Harbourfront.

Parents, raising a family is hard work. Why not take a break at the **Family Drop-In**, Lord Dufferin Public School, 303 Berkeley St. 921-1866. Come alone or bring the kids. All activities, from play groups to exercises and films are free. Hours: Mon.-Tues. 1-3:30 p.m., Wed. and Fri. 9 a.m. to noon, Thurs. 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Closed on school holidays.

## Saturday

May 7

**Wheels '83 - Automotive enthusiasts** can buy or swap new and used auto accessories from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Free. York Quay Centre.

**Stress '83 - The Canadian Mental Health Association** presents "Work and Well Being", a day of lectures, films, demonstrations and workshops from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free. York Quay Centre, Harbourfront.

**The Royal Conservatory Intermediate Strings** will be in concert at 12 noon in the concert hall, 263 Bloor St. W. All welcome - admission free.

## Monday

May 9

**Equal Opportunity Week**, today to May 13. The impact of part-time employment and job sharing on individuals and organizations will be explored in a series of speeches, workshops and displays at City Hall. All Equal Opportunity Week events are open to the public, free of charge. No prior registration is necessary. For further information call 947-7855.

**Rendezvous for Seniors:** Seniors practice the latest disco and ballroom dances Tuesdays and get together for folkdancing Thursdays from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. York Quay Centre, Harbourfront.

**Reading Series:** Canadian novelists W.P. Kinsella and Rudy Wiebe launch their latest books at 8:30 p.m. Free. York Quay Centre, Harbourfront.

## Thursday

May 12

The University of Toronto, School of Continuing Studies, is offering a **Fund-Raising Clinic** today and tomorrow from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Clinic will be of special interest to managers, volunteers, and board members of non-profit organizations. Topics to be covered include: planning for fund-raising; the role of public relations; and the various methods of fund-raising. For further information, contact Mr. Allen Cutcher, Coordinator, School of Social Work Continuing Education at 978-6714.

Well known Toronto art critics have personally chosen works to be exhibited in the Art Gallery of Ontario's Art Rental Service spring exhibition. **Critic's Choice** will be on view in the art rental gallery of the Art Gallery of Ontario until June 12, 1983.

## Friday

May 13

**Health is a cultural affair;** a one day workshop 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Ryerson Public School, 96 Denison Ave. Major goals of the workshop are: to help health professionals and community workers improve their knowledge and sensitivity of ethnocultural health issues; to successfully demonstrate an appropriate continuing education model for professional upgrading in the area of ethnocultural issues; to increase participants' awareness of the human and material resources available for health services to ethnic communities. For more information call Holly Woods 534-9262.

## Saturday

May 14

**The First Annual Whipper Watson Bottle Drive** will be the largest bottle drive ever held in Canada. The public is invited to participate by saving their empties and having them available when the volunteers call at their doors today. Proceeds to The Bob Rumball Centre for the deaf.

**Canoe Artistry:** Skilled canoeists from across Ontario demonstrate their craft and perform dances and skits on the water from noon to 5 p.m. Free. York Quay Centre, Harbourfront.

Group leaders, volunteers and people who enjoy making things can share their craft skills and learn new ones at the **Craft Skills Exchange Fair**, 10 am to 3 p.m. YCWA, 80 Woodlawn Ave. E. \$5 fee includes lunch and supplies. Child care provided. Sponsored by COSTI Women's Program and the YWCA Multicultural Development Program. Call 961-8100 for further information.

## Sunday

May 15

**Voice of Women** is sponsoring a slide show by Ruth Overy at 7:30 p.m., 60 Lowther Ave.

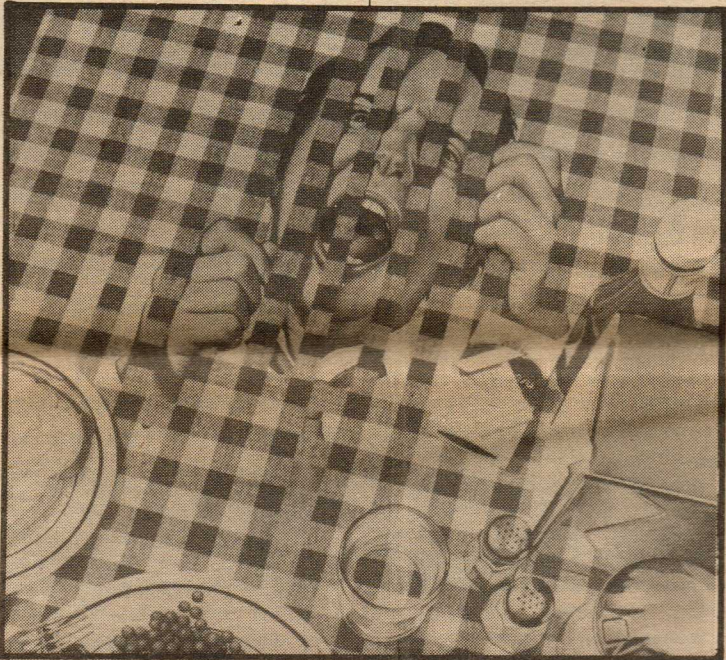
**First Annual Presbyterian Festival of Hymns and Anthems - King of Kings and Lord of Lords** 4:30 p.m. St. Andrew's Presbyterian church. King & Simcoe

Streets. For information call 593-5600.

**Reading Series:** Canadian novelist Leon Rooke shares the spotlight with Portuguese novelist Antonio Lobo Antunes at 8:30 p.m. Free. York Quay Centre, Harbourfront.

Your Ward Aldermen, Joanne Campbell and David Reville and School Trustees, Fran Endicott and Pam McConnell, want to hear your ideas about how to celebrate Toronto's Sesquicentennial in Ward 7. Come and participate. Help organize and nominate your Ward Celebration Committee. We want to hear from you at 7:30 p.m. Queen Alexandra School, 181 Broadview Ave. (south of Dundas Street).

**John Hammond** in an intimate acoustic concert. 7 & 9 p.m. at The Alumnae Theatre, 70 Berkeley St. Tickets \$7 seating is limited. Information call Mariposa 363-4009.



"Owning a Restaurant" by Julius Ciss, from *The Urban Image*, now showing at the Market Gallery, 95 Front St. E.

## CLASSIFIED

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**1975 Cadillac for sale.** Good mechanical condition. Needs body work. \$1000 as is. Firm. 869-0913 ask for Skip.

### Volunteers

Volunteers are urgently needed to answer the phone at the YWCA's Information and Referral Line for women. The service provides information about women's counselling, housing, legal, medical, and other related matters. The line is open from 10-1 p.m., Mon. to Thurs. If you can spare a few hours or more on a weekly basis, please call the YWCA Volunteer Coordinator at 961-8100.

### Help Wanted

**EARN \$320.00/week.** Work as Hospital Secretary. Join Job Workshop. 288-4704.

**Temps - Wanted** for typing and secretarial placement. Summer work - at your convenience! Call Berkeley Typing & Secretarial Centre. 368-2918 (0520). 20

### Wanted

**Pen Pal Wanted:** Filipino student girl age 16, seeks Canadian boy for pen pal. For information call Larry Patterson. 461-3002.

**We Need Your Help!** Central Neighbourhood House community centre, a non-profit organization is having a fundraising garage sale this June. In order to make the sale a success we are asking for donations of useable items, new or old. So, if you're cleaning those closets, and are tempted to throw away those long stored goods, throw them our way instead. For more information or assistance with pick up please contact Eva at 925-4363, 349 Ontario St.

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### Misc.

**Interested in the arts?** If you have abilities that you can volunteer or share with a group of students in neighbourhood

schools, want to try out a new idea or rehearse a performance, we'd like to hear from you. Please call: Arts Resource Teachers, Toronto Board of Education, Area East. 461-7585.

**Congratulations to Mrs. D. Creal,** winner of the Neighbourhood Information Post raffle held on April 13, 1983. Many thanks to our supporters who purchased and sold tickets. Thanks to the Four Seasons Hotel, Toronto, for donating their portion of the prize.

### Classes

**Central Neighbourhood House Daycare.** Spaces open for 2-5 year olds. Quality Program, snacks, hot lunches included. Subsidies for fees available. For further information call Jenny, 925-4363. 6

**Are you uptight, nervous?** Unable to concentrate? Trying to quit smoking? Learn these simple relaxation and tension relief techniques and gain greater control over your body and mind. For information, call Barb 925-1673. 6

**Bain Avenue Preschool Day Care** spaces available for 2-5 year olds. Non-profit parent co-operative, quality program, snacks and hot lunch included. For further information call 463-1457.

**Piano Lessons** from Beginner to Advanced. Qualified teacher (ARCT). Preparation for Conservatory exams. Sherbourne & Gerrard, reasonable rates. Call Paul, 921-7754.

**Are you trying to be a superwoman - an outstanding worker, a devoted mother and a terrific wife?** But wondering how to juggle it all? A new Working Women's Support Network has been organized for these working women, and for those about to enter the work force. Groups are funded by the Federal Government and are free of charge. For more information please call Susie Marlowe at 489-4632.

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