

# NEWS

WARD 7 COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER  
265 GERRARD STREET EAST

VOLUME 4, NUMBER 8

920-8630

OCTOBER 6, 1973

If the money is available, the next issue of SEVEN NEWS will be published over the week end of Oct. 20. Deadline for copy, and we still need articles, features and letters, is NOON on Monday, Oct. 15. Mail or deliver your material to 80 Winchester street or 265 Gerrard St. E. Don't forget the SEVEN NEWS annual meeting on Oct. 30 at 8 p.m. at 80 Winchester St.



**A TREE GROWS ON PARLIAMENT STREET?** Reaction to the boxed trees now scattered up and down Parliament street is mixed. The Ward Seven Businessmen's Association feel that they add much to the streetscape and look forward to the time when

they will be permanently inset into the sidewalk. Only complaint so far is that the boxes holding the trees are also collecting the odd bit of garbage. More garbage containers on the street may be the answer to this problem.

Photo by Deborah Wolfe

## NEWS ROUND-UP

### Moss Park to hold mini-bazaar

"Controls - Necessity or nightmare?" will be the topic of discussion at a current affairs meeting being held at the Parliament Library House, 265 Gerrard East on Wed. Oct. 17. Admission is free and the public is invited to express their views on controls for rent, prices, wages, profit, etc.

The Humberside Resident's Association is presenting an evening of entertainment in aid of the Quebec-Gothic Legal Fund. Called Oktober-Kaberet, it will take place in the rotunda of the Old City Hall on Saturday, Oct. 13 from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

A BINGO will be held Sunday, October 14 at 8 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church Hall, 381 Sherbourne Street. Admission is \$1 and proceeds will go to the Federation of French Canadian Ladies.

An episode for a CBC-TV series was shot in and around the Home of MRS. B. Broughton, 446 Wellesley East during the summer and will be shown on Sunday, Oct. 14 at 9 p.m. on channel 5.

A Law Student from the Student Legal Aid Society will be running a free legal aid clinic every Wednesday evening from 7 to 10

p.m. at the Neighbourhood Information Post office at 265 Gerrard St. East. At their Oct 17 meeting, the Board of the Federation of Don Area Residents Associations will hold elections for chairman, vice-chairman, treasurer and secretary.

**CLARIFICATION:** The Bill Lewis referred to by Don Weitz in a letter in the last issue of SEVEN NEWS works for the Neighbourhood Information Post and lives in Bain Ave. Apartments. He is not the Bill Lewis who is a counsellor at Queen Alexandra school.

Red Tape at City Hall is holding up the application by Don Vale for a 38 foot height limit on all new construction in that area. A general meeting is expected to be called later this fall by the planning board to deal with the matter.

South of Carlton Community Action is holding a fall festival on the evening of Oct. 9 at Central Neighbourhood House. There will be booths and refreshments and SOCCA will seek ideas and suggestions on future action by it and what programs should be undertaken by CNH.

Bill Stapleton, a Don Vale artist, wants to form an art group of pro or

advanced artists who would be interested in attending a life and portrait art class. If enough are interested, classes could be held at the Don Vale Community Centre and models would be hired to pose for each class. Finished paintings could then possibly be exhibited and sold in the area. Phone Bill at 429-4330 days, or 920-2259 in the evening.

Anyone in the Don Vale area who feels that a store-front sub-post office should be established to serve the Don Vale area is asked to phone Janet Howard at 967-7644.

**PEOPLE:** Ed Bender of Harris Dept. Store on Parliament street has been hospitalized for the past three weeks. Rev. James Harvey of St. Peter's Anglican Church in Islington.

Neighbourhood Information Post is holding a General Meeting on Oct. 10 and a General Election Meeting on Oct. 24 - both starting at 7:30 p.m. at 264 Gerrard St. E.

D. and A. pet store on Parliament Street has added a new wrinkle to the Fund-Raising Drive. They will give away a free goldfish to anyone making a donation in the store to the Fund-Drive.

### OVER 300 PEOPLE INVOLVED

## Response overwhelming but goal may fall short

by NORMAN G. BROWNE

Preliminary reports indicate that the door-to-door canvass on behalf of SEVEN NEWS will fail to reach its objective of \$14,000.

Two of the four mail canvasses have also failed to reach their objective although returns on both are still coming in and some follow-up might be made in each case.

Yet to be heard from is a mail-out canvass of school staff in Ward Seven and a mail-out canvass of major corporations and foundations.

A break-down of the monies received as of noon Thursday is as follows:

• **Door-to-door canvass of Ward.** The ward was canvassed on the basis of its subdivision into election polls. Total polls in Ward Seven: 145. Total polls canvassed: 125. Total polls reporting: 34.

TARGET	RAISED
\$14,000	\$1,763.63

• **Ward Seven industry canvass.** This consisted of a mail-out to the over 400 industries in Ward Seven. Included in the mail-out was a form letter explaining 7 News and its need for money, a form for marking donations, a return envelope and a copy of 7 News. Some of the money returned was earmarked for advertising in future issues.

TARGET	RAISED
\$1,000	\$125.00

### Annual Meeting

All residents of Ward Seven are asked to attend the annual meeting of SEVEN NEWS, INC. to be held on Tuesday, Oct. 30 at 8 p.m. at the Don Vale Community Centre, 80 Winchester St.

The meeting will feature an up-to-date financial report on SEVEN NEWS and a complete accounting of the fund-raising drive as well as reports from the various committees set up by the Board of Directors under its constitution.

Any vacancies in the Board of Directors will also be filled by elections at that time.

## Don Vale plays Ring-around-a-Rochdale

by NORMAN G. BROWNE

The latest fad amongst politically active residents in the Don Vale area is a game called "Ring-around-a-Rochdale".

Originally, a group from Rochdale came to a general meeting of the Don Vale Community Centre requesting space to set up a paramedical health clinic. They also requested help in setting up a community Board of Directors to run the operation.

Then the fun began. Because health is a "motherhood" type issue and no one wanted to appear to be against the idea of more or better health care for the community, the meeting voted in favor of both requests by the Rochdale group.

The meeting voted to allow Rochdale to rent space immediately in the building. It also voted

to call a general meeting at which time a community board of directors would be elected - with one of its functions to draw up criteria for the health project.

However, since a majority of the community seem not to want anything to do with the group from Rochdale, they then began playing games to negate their previous motions.

The first motion was circumvented when the executive of the Don Vale Community Centre Board met with the Rochdale group and "suggested" that they wait until after the general meeting to establish their health clinic in the Community Centre.

And the Rochdale group naively hoped that the general meeting would set up a process that would give them a Board of Directors and at the same time allow them to set up their clinic in

the community.

Instead, the general meeting interpreted the word "board" to mean committee and created a four-member group to establish criteria for a health clinic in the Don Vale area.

That four-member group, consisting of Debbie Cooper, Irene Lee, Hugh Taggart, and Maureen Norman, will bring their report to yet another general meeting to be held on Oct. 9 at 8 p.m. at the Don Vale Community Centre.

The Rochdale group refuse to comment on the suggestion that they are getting the run-around.

They are still innocently awaiting the results of this next general meeting.

Meanwhile they aren't operating a health clinic in the Don Vale area and they haven't got a community Board of Directors to run it. . .

• **Outside Ward 7 mail campaign.** This was a two-pronged thrust aimed at people and institutions asking for a donation and or a subscription to the paper. The mailing consisted of a form letter, a blank cheque made out to SEVEN NEWS, a return envelope and a copy of 7 News. The mailing went to 600 addresses.

TARGET	RAISED
\$500.00	\$167.00

• **Teachers in Ward Seven.** A mail-out to the 700 staff in the 23 schools in the Ward Seven area. It consisted of a form letter, a blank cheque made out to Seven News, a return envelope and a copy of the paper.

TARGET	RAISED
\$500.00	???

• **Grant request.** This consists of a 10-page mimeoed brief, an individually typed covering letter and recent copies of the paper. Some corporations will be asked for specific capital grants for such items as desks, typewriters, camera, etc. It is estimated that the mailing will be around 250.

TARGET	RAISED
\$3,000	????

**Total money raised as of noon Thursday: \$1,995.95**

Other sources of donations during the campaign included 100 cannisters which were placed in Ward Seven stores and rattled around by volunteers in local pubs and taverns. Also there were children who shined shoes in front of area hotels and turned their money into the drive. As well, other kids collected and cashed in pop bottles and contributed that money.

Although it appears that the Fund Drive may not reach its target of \$19,000, it may be too early to tell. Where word has drifted up to foundations and various levels of government, the reaction has been one of awe and amazement at the magnitude of the campaign conducted and degree of response it generated.

**That awe and amazement might well be matched by dollars to bring the campaign over the top.**

The magnitude of the campaign is best illustrated by the statistics available on it. Over 200 people were directly involved and easily another 100 indirectly. Over 33 different items were printed comprising over 53,000 separate sheets.

But never mind the statistics. Never mind that a job of this magnitude has never been done before by a community group. Never mind that our objective may not have been reached.

**Every year, agencies and the various levels of government pump millions of dollars into Ward Seven. For us to raise the money we did from within Ward Seven - that is awe inspiring.**

A mini-bazaar and afternoon tea will be held in the recreation room at 285 Shuter Street at 2 p.m. on Oct. 19. The proceeds will go toward purchasing a P.A. system.



## "Winchester teachers right wing"

Dear Editor;

I attended a meeting of parents and teachers at Winchester School to discuss the replacement of the principal of the school. The teachers there, who outnumbered the parents 3 to one, spent a long time letting us know how wonderful the principal was and how they wished him well. The teachers also told the meeting how wonderful a team they were and how competent they were to do their job.

In spite of their avowed competency and togetherness, the teachers saw an immediate need to hire a new principal. Some parents agreed. Some, however, saw the changeover as a chance for parents to have a say in the hiring of a person who is going to, by virtue of his position, have a considerable effect on the lives and education of our children.

A proposal was put forward that a committee be formed of parents, teachers, school trustees and a school board administrator. This committee would then meet with the final candidates and make a recommendation to the school board.

The well adjusted "teacher team" said they had every confidence in the "system" as it had always provided them with a good "father figure" principal.

Because the teachers were opposed to being on this committee, an amendment was suggested that would delete their participation on the committee. This suggested amendment would give the secure and mature "teacher team" exactly what they wanted. So why did they all oppose the amendment?

What upsets me is the extreme right position of these teachers. I realize that those who have been assigned by society to "teach" my children cannot be far-out leftists. However, I was under the impression that they would be composed of a sprinkling of the left and right with the majority being just right and left of centre.

The insulated world of the teachers with their captive audience was shown at its worst at the Winchester meeting. Do the teachers not know of Aldermen John Sewell and Karl Jaffary and the fact that they were elected on a "community control" platform?

Have they not heard that Don Vale was saved from the blight of urban renewal by the parents of some of those they teach? Where were they during the valiant struggle of the South St. Jamestown Tenants Union?

Do they not know that the system which they use for a security blanket for their weaknesses is being challenged? Or that those in the forefront in that challenge are

in the area in which their school is located?

One parent who supported the timid teacher team said parents and teachers were not competent to decide who should teach our children. But we, as taxpayers, are supposedly capable of choosing our prime minister and our mayor. Surely these positions are as important as a school principal?

Although I have been asked many times to get involved in "free schools" and send my children to some of them, I have always stuck by the public school system. But after seeing the extreme conservative actions of the teachers of Winchester school, I now have serious concerns as to whether these are the types of people who should be in contact with my children during so much of their formative years.

I don't want my children to be far-out freaky kids, but on the other hand, who wants a miniature Richard Nixon?

I am now in the process of considering the withdrawal of my children from this potentially unhealthy place.

Bill Lee  
Don Vale

## New crisis centre opens in east end

Dear Editor;

I would like to let your readers know of a new service to be offered at St. John's Norway Parish Hall by two community mental health nurses (myself and Mrs. Melba Rubio) who work out of the Queen Street Mental Health Centre.

Stuart Summerhayes, vicar of St. John's has offered us some space to run a program to which people with problems, living in the area from the Don to Victoria Park, can come for help. These people could be former psychiatric patients, or people who have never had contact with a hospital.

We plan to open Sept. 27th with a film followed by a discussion period. If people come with specific problems we will be there to help, or will make appointments to deal with them, separately or in groups, every Thursday afternoon.

We have as resource people several nurses, a psychiatrist, a social worker, and group therapists. The program will, of course, be free of charge.

We are located at Woodbine and Kingston Road, in St. John's Parish Hall, North entrance. For further information, call St. John's at 691-4560.

Judith Keene, (RN)  
999 Queen St. W.

## Reader out...mails in donation

Dear Sirs;

I live alone, am aged 82 years and I have not long resided in this district although I have lived over 25 years in Toronto. I come from Glasgow, Scotland, United Kingdom and have lived about seven months at this address.

Well, I was out on Sunday afternoon and when I came home I found a copy of SEVEN NEWS behind my door. I note in the paper that you are trying to raise \$14,000 to keep the paper in action for the next year.

As I am often out, I may be out

when the Canvasser calls. So I enclose \$5 as a donation from my pension. I hope this is the correct address for donations to be sent as there is nothing stated in the paper as to where donations should be sent.

Hamilton Keir  
295 Shuter St.

Editor's Note: Thank you for the donation. A donation form and the address to which it is to be sent is printed elsewhere in this issue for the convenience of those who were out when the canvasser called.)

## Trustees to pick principal at Winchester

by JOHN PIPER

At a public meeting held at Winchester Street Public School on Sept. 25, a motion recommending a change in the selection process for the school principal by including the local trustees was passed by a vote of 29 to 4. There were about 25 teachers and 20 parents at the meeting.

While the parent's wish for a voice in the selection process is not surprising, staff support for this novel concept is perhaps a milestone.

Mike Choma, the present Principal, has been promoted to the post of Co-ordinator of Special Education at 155 College Street. The

vacancy at Winchester school will most likely be filled by mid-November.

The community meeting was called by both the Board and the local trustees to discuss the transfer. A motion from some parents to form a committee of two teachers, two trustees, two parents and the Area Superintendent to interview the final two or three candidates chosen by the Administration was defeated by a vote of 36 to 11. The two primary concerns mentioned were that staff members did not want a part in the process and secondly, how could two parents represent the community.

A second motion, giving the same role to the two trustees only, rather than a joint committee, was passed. If this procedure is approved by the Board, then the trustees will interview the final two or three candidates chosen and approved by the Administration. Their recommendation will then go to the Director of Education for his final recommendation to the Board.

Despite the low community turnout, it was clear that the principle of major matters being discussed and resolved by teachers and parents in community meetings was accepted and supported by most of those present.



Operation Family Rights, located at 826 Broadview in Ward Seven, sent four delegates to Ottawa recently to join in a mass demonstration in front of the Parliament Buildings over the high cost of living.

Pictured above, from left to right, are Linda Middleton, Sulvia Anton and Margaret Lawrence. The fourth member of the group, taking the picture, was David Barbour.

Photo by David Barbour

## "Skid-Row a way of life" not an area

Dear Sir,

I was quite pleased to see that the local newspaper had published a major article on Skid-Row, a segment of our community which has been rejected and ignored by society for too long a period of time. However, there were certain errors in your report which I feel should be brought to the attention of your readers.

To begin with, the Report on Skid-Row which you refer to is being produced by the Sub-Committee on Skid-Row (of the South of Carlton Working Committee) and not, as your article states, by the area planners. Nevertheless, we are working so closely with the planners that we expect our final report to form the basis of the section on Skid-Row of the Part II Study. I emphasize the word "final" because the Sub-Committee has not yet fully agreed upon the contents of the final report. This should happen by the beginning of October. Many of our initial ideas have changed since the original draft.

There were some other, less major errors in your article and perhaps I could list these:

- The planners do not sit on the Working Committee, but take its advice and work with its members.
- The Sub-Committee on Skid-Row has been working intensely since February, 1973.
- Your article states that the location of most of Skid-Row lies between Shuter, Parliament, Queen and Church. The Sub-Committee does not refer to Skid-Row as a location but as a way of life. It seems both unfair and inaccurate to

designate a specific areas as Skid-Row.

- You also state that most men on Skid-Row are elderly, with alcoholic problems. From our information, most of the men are between 25 and 65 years of age (79%); only 9% are over 65. Also, over 80% of the men are not alcoholics, although some do have alcoholic problems.

Finally, Mr. Boyce is presently Director of the Programs and Support Division of the Metro Social Services Department. While it is our understanding that Mr. Boyce is sympathetic to a rehabilitation approach, the subcommittee has not discussed this matter with him directly. It is certainly our intention to enter into detailed discussions with relevant officials from Metro Social Services Department if our final position indicates that further

action should be directed toward improving Seaton House.

Once again, I would like to express appreciation for the interest which Ward Seven News has shown in this issue. However, in the future it would be advisable for your paper to contact the members of any committees upon which you are reporting. In this case, I am sure that you could have gained a better understanding of the issue and avoided some of the inaccuracies.

In this regard, I should point out that I am writing as Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Skid-Row and that any position on Skid-Row and its future will come from the Sub-Committee itself, rather than any individual.

Ron Jenkins  
Chairman  
Skid-Row Sub-committee



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# Twenty dollars monthly available to Secondary School students

by SHIRLEY WALMSLEY

During September several students and parents called the Education "Hot Line" asking for information about Attendance Scholarships and other forms of financial assistance available from the Board of Education.

Because we feel that many secondary school students and their families are having financial difficulties and do not know of the help that is available, we offer the following information.

## Attendance Scholarships

Attendance Scholarships are awarded at any time during the school year to secondary school students who are doing satisfactory work and who request financial assistance in order to remain in school. These requests are made on application forms which require the student to indicate his present achievement and his scholastic hopes. The parent or guardian is required to sign the application and to attest to the family income. These scholarship requests are investigated by the school counsellor and are recommended by the Principal to the Superintendent of Secondary schools, who recommends them to the Board.

The School Counsellor interviews the parent or guardian to determine

the family's financial status - income, rent, taxes and other family living expenses, number of children in the family, and any other pertinent information. The Attendance Department has the authority to require such detailed information when a request is made for financial assistance.

Applications for scholarships are attested by the signature of the parent or guardian. The School Guidance Counsellor usually knows the applicants from personal interviews and is aware of the financial stresses the student and/or his family is experiencing.

To apply for an Attendance Scholarship the student's parent or guardian must call the School Social Worker at the school the student is presently attending and ask for an appointment to apply for assistance. You must telephone for an appointment first because the Social Worker is often away from the school. You will be given assistance in filling out the necessary form.

Only one Attendance Scholarship is given per family to those who meet the requirements.

## Additional Assistance

In the event the family has more than one student attending secondary school, other assistance is available.

You can apply for school supplies, carfare, lunches or gym equipment for each of the remaining students attending secondary school in the family. Aid will be given for one of the above items and possible two if the family is experiencing extreme need.

To apply for this type of additional assistance, a parent must go to the Department of Student Services, 155 College Street, and fill in an application form. No appointment is necessary and the office is open between 8.45 a.m. and 4.45 p.m. any day Monday to Friday.

A student who has applied for an Attendance Scholarship may receive assistance for the above items while waiting for the scholarship to be approved. Once the scholarship is granted the temporary assistance is stopped for that student.

Board Scholarships of this type were established in 1949, and in 1959 the amount was increased to the present \$20.00 per month. Because of the budget problems the Board does not advertise the availability of this assistance. Many families need these benefits, however, and we feel that people should know about them.

Are you aware that this help is available to you? Please let us know, let us help you if you need more information - or if you have any trouble getting assistance. Please let us know if we have helped you by bringing this information to your attention. Call the Education "Hot Line" at 921-4404.

# Bain Ave. tenants strike again

By PAT ELLIS

A tenants' union from a Ward-7 apartment building on Bain Avenue are testing a recent Toronto bylaw which allows a tenant to rent to the city if a landlord has proven delinquent in fulfilling work orders outstanding on his property.

With the backing of Alderman John Sewell, the Bain Avenue Apartments Tenants Union brought their appeal for the application of the new law before the city's Urban Renewal, Housing, Fire and Legislation Committee last Thursday.

Bain Avenue Apartments were built in 1918 with city funding. The buildings were to be for the working poor and were vaunted at the time as an example of what society could do.

The tenants charged that it has since "become the private domain of Mark Thames" who is the current owner through a company called Toronto Housing Corporation Ltd.

In the past three years, virtually no repairs have been made on the fifty-five year old buildings but at the same time Toronto Housing was taking out mortgages on the place to finance other developments.

Last January housing inspectors issued work orders against the project and set a six month period in which the place would have to be brought up to standards. Since then, the tenants say, the work has not been done as required. In distinct violation to laws protecting tenants, rents were raised to cover costs of repairing the premises.

At the same time the city Director of Housing Standards, Jack Bradford appeared to be working more agreeably with the absentee landlord's corporation than with the people who had to occupy the houses.

At the committee meeting yesterday afternoon, one of the tenant deputies argues that Bradford was in collusion with Toronto Housing Corporation.

Much was said by committee members and others, but the matter of accusations against a city employee (Bradford) was bounced up to the city's Executive Committee.

The tenants went on to show

photographs indicating the sort of renovations that had been carried out.

Much of the work that has been done is purely cosmetic. Porches and sidewalks have been fixed and internal difficulties neglected. One of the neater pieces of work is a rotten fence that housed a large society of termites. Termites and rot were duly painted over.

Some major renovations were done to untenanted apartments. These however, were being repaired for occupancy by more moneyed people who, as one committee member, put it, "could afford to live anywhere in the city."

What became apparent at the URFHL Committee was the negligence of a landlord and, more importantly, proof of the reluctance of Bradford to uphold tenants rights.

The committee did not decide to enforce the new bylaw at this time, but, in a motion by Ward 6 Alderman Dan Heap, deferred the matter for two weeks.

At the end of two weeks, the tenants and other interested parties will submit work orders, and evidence of the amount of work actually done. The test of the city's new bylaw will be put off until then.

# SOCCA seeks traffic bumps

South of Carlton Community Action (SOCCA), a resident's group in the south Carlton area, plans to apply to the Commissioner of Public Works for "traffic bumps" on Seaton, Berkeley and Ontario streets.

Under new Provincial Legislation, the city was given the power to install such bumps to slow down cars on residential streets. The bumps can be set to only effect a car going at a particular speed. A high bump would only allow traffic to flow at 5 to 10 miles an hour. A longer, low bump would allow 20 to 25 mile-per-hour traffic.

SOCCA plans to ask for long, low bumps to keep the traffic below 25 mile-per-hour. The bumps would be placed on Seaton, Ontario and Berkeley streets between Carlton and Shuter.

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**Your Seven News distributor**



Photo by Bob Nasmith

Darlene McDougall moved to Seaton St. from the Borough of York two years ago. She has been delivering Ward Seven Nems for most of those two years and currently distributes two hundred papers on Seaton. Although she works full-time as a clerk at Simpsons, her interests in the community have led her to volunteer at Overnight Drop-in as well as her present work with the South of Carlton Working Committee.

Having worked with great success for development restrictions in her area, she now feels that the time has come for innovative responses to the skid row cycle. Based on a successful prototype in Vancouver's Gastown, she would like to see self-administered hostels, primarily as a means of breaking the social welfare agency hand-out, self-perpetuating, ad infinitum. Concerning Seven News, Darlene realizes the fact of concentration on housing but would like to see more emphasis on individuals in the Ward, their views, and what they do.

Seven News depends on volunteer distributors. If you enjoy the forum that it offers we would appreciate an hour of your time every two weeks as a neighborhood distributor. Seven News can be as good as your contribution' phone us at 920-8632.

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**Queen's Park Report**

**Disabled need better services**

by MARGARET CAMPBELL, Q.C.  
 M.P.P. for St. George

As the recently elected Member of the Legislature for the Riding of St. George, I have been visiting in my Riding this summer and have been deeply distressed by the lonely existence of many of my constituents. I am very much aware of the fact that while I have only been able to visit a few during the course of this summer and probably shall not visit too many before the end of the year, although I intend to try, that, in fact, the situation exists right across the Riding.

I have issued a plea for additional help so that we can serve all of the people in these distressing situations. I have already had some response to this plea. Many of the people are forced to remain in apartments by reason of the fact that in some projects there are no ramps for wheelchairs and some are unable to negotiate the curbs unassisted. I am very happy to state that Ontario Housing, to whom I appealed in this matter, have now agreed to ramp their own internal sidewalks in Moss Park and I have made a plea to Alderman Anne Johnston, of the City, requesting the City to give the same consideration to ramping the public sidewalks.

This is a small step but it can enlarge the horizon of these people. It is a matter of conscience when you know that, for instance, those who were able to get to the Ontario Science Centre were amazed at the development which they saw in the course of this trip and the question was asked, "Are we still in Toronto"?

Those of us who are fortunate enough to have health and mobility find it difficult to understand the limitations imposed by disabilities.

I am pleased that at the City level there is no doubt an awakening awareness of this situation and a task force has already been set up to discuss these needs.

I was very pleased to learn that the Canadian National Exhibition spent thousands of dollars to rehabilitate washroom facilities so that they could accommodate wheelchair cases. This is a start. In my view, however, no one was intended to live without grace and dignity and without happiness and it is little enough that we, as a community, can do to ensure new horizons for all of our people but particularly for those so limited by physical infirmities.

Secondly, I have found that Ontario Housing, which is supposed to be housing geared to income, is anything but. If you are over the age of 65 years and you are in receipt of \$170.00 per month, you may pay in Moss Park \$33.25 or in St. James Town \$40.00, which is the rental fixed on a geared-to-income basis by Ontario Housing. If, however, you are on Family Benefits as a person, for example, of 62 years of age, you may receive \$121.00 and your rent is \$43.00 a month. This is by reason of the fact that the Ministry responsible for Provincial Allowances sets the shelter rate.

I had one case recently where because of changes in circumstances, a woman left alone had been on this benefit and her income had not yet been ascertained. However, she was called into Ontario Housing to sign a lease for a rent of \$43.00 per month when neither she nor the people at Ontario Housing, had any idea of what her income would be.

It is time that Ontario Housing was, in fact, based on a rent geared-

to-income scale, and I have since learned from another person on Mother's Allowance, that she has been advised by people in Ontario Housing that those on Mother's Allowance pay the highest percentage rent by reason of the fact that they are expected to work. In this case a mother with two children is in receipt of \$230.00 a month, her rent is \$90.00 a month and with the balance she has to provide for herself and two children. This particular lady has a heart condition and has just come out of hospital as a result of a stroke.

When it comes to the disabled they may receive varying amounts. The highest that I have seen in my Riding, personally, is an income of \$141.25. The rent varies. One woman in receipt of \$130.39 was paying a rent of \$52.57. When this was drawn to the attention of Ontario Housing the rent was reduced to \$43.00.

If the people of this city knew the specifics of these cases of discrimination and of abject poverty, the conscience of the city would have to be stirred. There is no reason for such discrimination and I make the plea that all those in these categories who are unable to work should have the same human attention and that no allowances in the City of Toronto should fall below \$170.00 a month where people have no other source of income and are totally unable to work. And, again, that Ontario Housing must gear its rent to income and not to some computerized figure of another Ministry.

The computer is a useful tool in our modern life but it cannot computerize people and their needs unless those using it have a deep quality of human concern.

**Overnight drop-in may re-open**

The Don District Overnight Drop-in, which has been closed since early August, is investigating the possibility of reopening in All Saints Church at Sherbourne and Dundas.

Twice within the past month, the Overnight Drop-in steering committee has met with members of the Board of Directors of the church for the purpose of relocating there.

The Overnight Drop-in was formerly located at central Neighbourhood House on Ontario Street where it was paying the nominal rent of \$1 a month. Initially, the Drop-in met with an enthusiastic response from the community, the Toronto media and CNH which took considerable credit for having it located there.

However, during the eight months of its existence, the Drop-in experienced trouble in staffing and organization and as well, community interest and involvement in the project died off.

Finally, Central Neighbourhood House suggested they close off the project in order to evaluate and re-organize it. Although there is some hard feeling over their eviction by CNH, the Drop-in is re-evaluating and re-organizing and they hope to reopen bigger and better than ever.

**Is Centre needed in Don Vale**

The Don Vale Association of Homeowners and Residents will conduct a survey this fall in their area to see if residents want a community centre and if so what structure and services it should offer.

At recent general meeting of the Don Vale Association, Leith Piper, chairman of the Board of the Don Vale Community Centre gave a speech ending with a plea for more involvement by the association in the running of the centre.

She specifically asked for four members of the Don Vale Association to sit on the Board of the Community Centre. Her request, however, met with stoney silence and total disinterest by the 60-odd people present.

It was at this point that Peter Akehurst made a motion that the Resident's Association conduct a survey to see if the community really wants or needs the Community Centre.

**Macdonald's assistant resigns**

Gerald Tooke has resigned his post as Riding Assistant to Liberal MP Donald S. Macdonald. Mr. Tooke has held that post for the last five years and during that time became very well known in the area.

Mr. Tooke's future plans are uncertain but he hopes to take a short holiday and then work independently in the field of art. His major interest is the creation and restoring of stained glass windows.

Mr. Tooke plans to retain his interest in politics and hopes to keep in touch with the area. He ran unsuccessfully as a Liberal Candidate in St. David's Riding in the last provincial election.

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# Houses dull on Bright Street

by NOREEN DUNPHY

On Monday, September 24, 11 people attended the B.&D. Committee meeting at City Hall to present a statement from 5 Bright St. families in the South of Queen area whose homes had been damaged or badly affected by renovations done to adjacent houses by a developer. Mr. and Mrs. C. Corkum, whose home had been damaged the most by Mr. George Herczeg's company, went to City Hall accompanied by 9 other area residents and supporters including Mrs. Pat Rice from the Cabbagetown Coffee Centre on King St., Michael Stuart from FODARA and Mrs. Claire Chapeski of Bright St.

The City was asked to act for the Bright St. families as a group and ensure that the necessary repairs be made as quickly and thoroughly as possible, because the residents did not trust Mr. Herczeg to restore their homes.

"I've been after Mr. Herczeg and his partner, Vernon Singer during the summer to repair the cracks in the walls and to fix up his building sites so that no kids get hurt. There are no hoardings and deep holes that are right next to the sidewalk were left open. One of my children fell down the hole into the basement of the house—luckily she wasn't too badly hurt. She could have broken a leg or her back!" said Mr. C. Corkum of 20 Bright St.

It all began last April when the residents of 5 houses on Bright St. were handed eviction notices. The South Cabbagetown Community Improvement Association supported the tenants and attempted to arrange an extension of the 30 days notice given to them. It was with a great feeling of dismay that SCCIA learned the buyer of the houses was their old enemy, Mr. George Herczeg of Inagural Investments Ltd. Yet it was very fitting that it should be SCCIA who would lead the attack on him, for it had been his actions on King St. and Wilkins Ave. in January of '72 which led to the formation of SCCIA. There, he bought the whole side of Wilkins Ave. and a row of stores with apartments above them on King St. with plans to renovate them. It was too bad that 22 families had to be evicted in the middle of

winter . . . but that was business! SCCIA was formed by the angry residents of the South of Queen area in an attempt to try to prevent further disintegration of the community by developers and middle-class renovators.

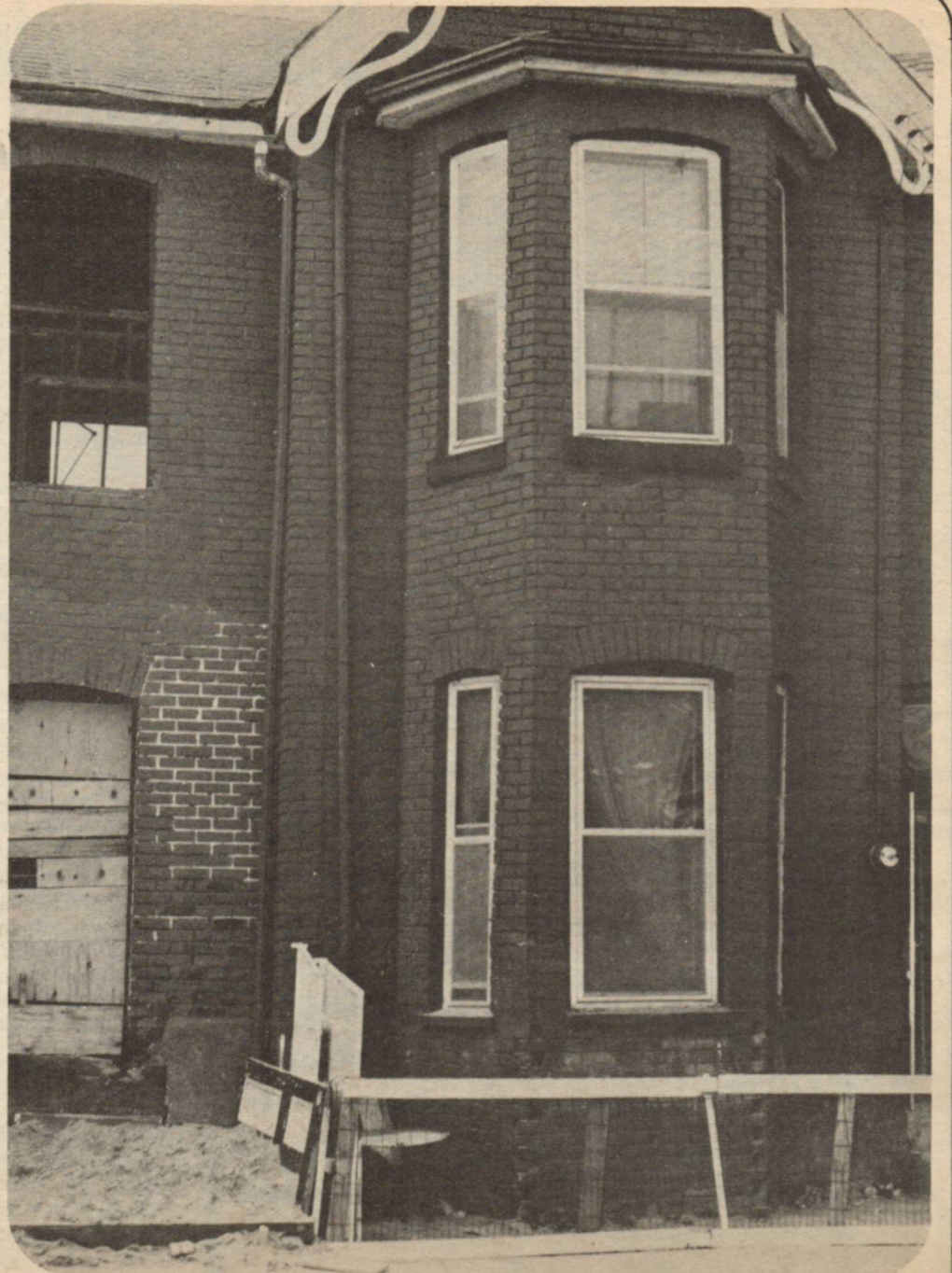
And, now here was their old enemy back again. Only this time he had only 5 scattered houses of the 18 row houses on the west side of Bright St. Only two of the families were able to relocate in the area; one moved around the corner to Queen St. and the other (Mr. & Mrs. Wilcox) moved two houses down the street. The Wilcox family of 22 Bright St. were not free from Herczeg's power yet. Since the early summer, they've had to live with the constant noise, dirt and invading cockroaches from Herczeg's renovations next door.

"The last straw was the day that one of the workman fell through the floor of the common attic into our house" said Mrs. Wilcox. Next door, at the Corkum's, huge jagged cracks and holes appeared in the walls, and one wall could be seen pulling apart from the chimney and ceiling as the common foundation of the houses shifted.

"It's impossible to keep the house heated now, especially at night. I've got all my winter blankets out and we're still cold" explained Mrs. Corkum.

Anybody could see, looking at the houses, that any major structural work done to any one of the houses (let alone 5!) would affect its neighbors. The residents wanted to know why there hadn't been any adequate preparation to ensure that the effects of Herczeg's work would not be as severe as they had been. Some houses, such as 44 Bright St. have not yet been badly affected, but the heating bill has greatly increased, according to Mrs. Cynthia Scott, because no insulation was installed on the common wall to compensate for the complete gutting of the house next door.

A Bright St. meeting was called, and the residents spoke to building and housing standards inspectors who were sympathetic but cautious as to what action could be taken by the city against Herczeg. Apparently the City was unable to bring suit against him for the damage he had already caused. However it was discovered that Herczeg had not even bothered to obtain a building permit!



Photos by Drew Russell

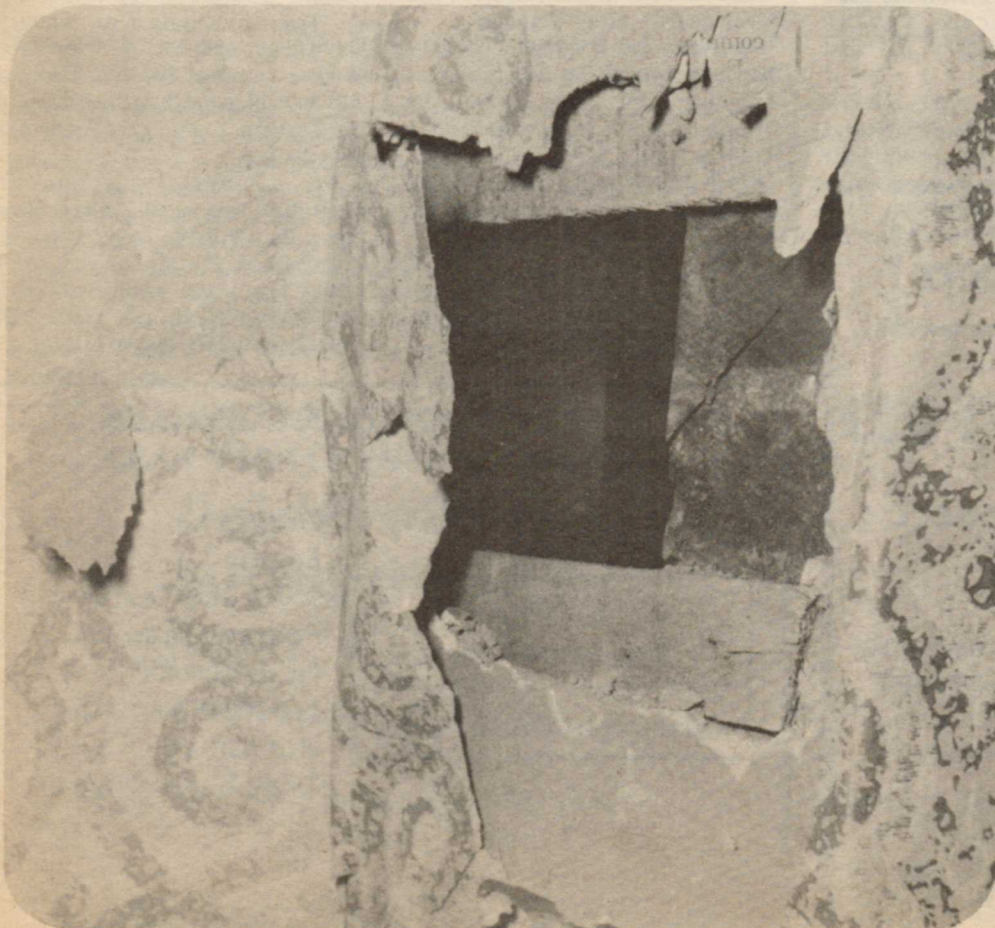
Accordingly, John Sewell and Karl Jaffery made sure that a stop work order was issued on Thurs. Sept. 20. John Sewell decided to raise the matter at the B.&D. Committee the next Monday. There a motion was passed to discover just what steps the City could take to protect the residents from harassment of this kind by George Herczeg and report the matter in two days time to the Executive Committee. To the great satisfaction of the residents, it was decided to withhold Herczeg's building permit until all damage was repaired to the Building Commissioners satisfaction, and that all by-laws with respect to Herczeg's work be enforced strictly.

The only problem is that the residents fear that the repairs made will be a superficial kind. Already Herczeg's men have installed sheets of gyproc over the crumbling walls, but the houses will continue to shift until the foundations are secured.

And then, of course the larger problem of this Bright St. blockbusting still remains. George Herczeg has been heard to boast that he would try to own all of Bright St. The residents feel that his actions and disregard for the community are an attempt to force owners to sell to him, or face major legal or structural expenses to restore their homes.

"This kind of development in our neighborhood has got to be stopped" says Mrs. Gladys Gimpel, a Bright St. home owner. "Already many of our friends and neighbors have been forced to leave our community. Sackville School will have to close in the near future because of the numbers of children who've had to leave when their families were evicted."

How long can the local home owners resist the pressure being put on them to sell in the face of the kind of harassment offered to them by developers like George Herczeg?



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# Dixon Hall ... "a living, effective force"

by WALTER CHAPMAN  
Much has been written concerning 'Community'. The value of a progressive community. The involvement of a Community in the affairs of its people. For community is people. And if you wish to see a Community at work pay a visit to Dixon Hall. There you will see the policy of Dixon Hall - not as a written theory but a living, effective force. That policy is 'To meet the needs of the Community as those needs are made known by the Community'. That means involvement on the part of every one and of every age level.

The value of a Community Centre such as Dixon Hall is that it affords every member of the Community regardless of age, sex, creed or income an equal opportunity to do their own thing and be heard in the

process. It affords each person an opportunity to be a person in his or her own right. It brings dignity into the lives of all.

With the rising cost of food all over the country here is a community that is doing something about it. At Dixon Hall you will find community people forming their own food co-op. They will find ways to buy food cheaper which is probably the most important aspect for those who live within the lower brackets of income. Dixon Hall provides low cost Dental treatment, Legal Aid, Counselling services and many other Social Services. It has a full range of children activities and provides assistance in time of trouble.

Fifty percent (50%) of the Board of Directors is made up of the Community people. Many of the volunteers come from the neighbouring community while others represent various professions to provide the necessary expertise to get the job done in the most efficient manner. It works closely with the Welfare Departments, Children's Aid, Information Centre and the Social Planning Council or Metropolitan Toronto. It is an agency which relies on heavy support from the United Way.

Members of the Staff are dedicated people who are willing to give much more of their time and energy than is usually found in any other employment. After a normal working day you will often find them at meetings such as PERQ; The Trefann Court, Enoch Turner School House, The Children's House at Sackville and at any other place of need in the Community.

## New director at Dixon Hall

by ALAN BRUCE-ROBERTSON  
Walter Chapman arrived on the Toronto scene September 1st to take up his duties as Executive Director of Dixon Hall. He brings with him 25 years of experience in a variety of social services, the Church, Counselling, The Armed Forces, Advisory Councils and Associations. Last May he was elected President of the new Senior Citizens Centres Association of Ontario. While in Ottawa he was a member of the Advisory Council of St. Joseph, Secretary of the Senior Citizen Council and a member of the Council on Aging Committee and also served as Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Ottawa Distress Centre. He has been intimately involved with the entire Community of Ottawa-Carleton working with the United Way, Social Planning Council and Departments of the Municipal, Provincial and



WALTER CHAPMAN

Federal Governments. Walter's wide range of experience working with all age groups, his accounting experience and administrative talents makes him admirably suited to fill this important position in this Community.

## Library lends more than books

by NANCY CRAIG  
The role of the Public Library has emerged over the past few years far beyond the provision of reading services. The public has come to expect that the library now house collections of non-print media and learning materials as well. The Parliament Street Branch for a number of years now, has been moving towards this goal of becoming a total community resource centre.

In addition to its regular book and information services, the branch has already established a small fine art print collection, and these framed prints may be borrowed for a six-week period on any adult library card. The Library House, since 1969, has been providing meeting space for community groups, as well as many different

types of programmes designed to meet the varied interests of the Library's community. Three creative writing workshops are already well established here, providing outlets in two library-sponsored publications for aspiring writers. Open poetry readings give these local poets the opportunity of presenting their works orally to interested community members. A photographic darkroom has added another dimension of library service and programming. The Neighbourhood Information Post operates out of the Library House, offering a community informational service more complete than most such services operated by the public library system.

We have begun actively developing a collection of local history, to supplement our current records, which include a complete backfile of Seven News, and the Regent Park Community News, other community newspapers, as well as clippings from Toronto dailies pertaining to the area, and books of local interest.

The next step is to have a circulating film collection and film equipment rental service established at the branch, as well as a circulating record collection. In addition, the expansion of the current collection of fine art prints is another aim of the Parliament Street Branch. The library is aware of the need for these services within the Ward Seven area, and it is the hope of this branch to develop its collections in such a way as to become a resource centre not only for the immediate area which it serves, but also for the wider area of the east end of Toronto. This goal will be achieved by the branch as the Toronto Public Library budget permits.

As a publicly supported institution serving the Ward Seven area, the Library welcomes your response to our plans, and would like to hear from anyone who feels that other services are needed and could be provided by the Library.

## New play to open this month

The TORONTO FREE THEATRE (24 Berkely St.) today announced that **CLEAR LIGHT**, a new play by Toronto playwright Michael Hollingsworth, will be given its world premiere as the Theatre's first fall production.

Previews begin on October 11, 1973. The play according to its author ... is about the universe when the bottom falls out. Structured like a jigsaw puzzle, it explores the relationships of five people passing through a sexual netherworld into the void." Michael Hollingsworth is the author of **STRAWBERRY FIELDS** produced by the **FACTORY THEATRE LAB** last winter.

Returning to the **FREE THEATRE** Company to play **Host** is Booth Harding Savage. Joining the

company for the first time, Susan Petrie will play the **Girlfriend**, William Webster the **Boyfriend**, Diane D'Aquila the **Hostess**, and Patrick Brymer the **Former Husband**.

**MARTIN KINCH**, Artistic Director of **TORONTO FREE THEATRE**, and director of TFT's productions of **HENDRY's How Are Things With The Walking Wounded?**, **PALMER's The End** and **IBSEN's Hedda Gabler**, and author of the play **Me?**, will direct.

Miro Kinch will Design. Paul Reynolds will Stage Manage.

Performances begin at 7:30 P.M., Tuesdays through Saturdays, with a Midnight performance, as well, on Saturday. There will be no Sunday Matinees of **CLEAR LIGHT**.

**RESERVATIONS** are required and can be made by phoning 368-2856.

The **TORONTO FREE THEATRE** is located at 24 Berkeley Street, one block south of Front, one block west of Parliament.

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## FALL AND WINTER PROGRAM AT WOODGREEN

Following is a list of the Fall and Winter programs being held at Woodgreen Community Centre, 835 Queen St. East. For more information about a program, call them at 461-1168.

### ADULT PROGRAMS

- LADIES SEWING** - Every Wednesday night from 7:30 to 10 p.m. Supervised instruction in the making of clothes.
- MOTHER'S GROUP** - Every Monday afternoon from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Cooking, crafts, etc. Children supervised separately.
- BADMINTON** - Every Wednesday night from 5:00 to 7 p.m.
- BOWLING** - Every Tuesday from 2 to 3:30 p.m. An evening bowling session is also planned. Time to be announced.
- VOLLEYBALL** - Planned, time to be announced. Phone for info.
- ADULT DROP-IN** - Monday nights from 7:30 to 10 p.m. Offers cards, ping-pong, billiards, coffee, etc.
- COMMUNITY DANCE** - Every Friday night from 7:30 to 11:00 p.m. Party games, door prizes, sing-alongs and guest entertainers.
- BINGO** - Time and date to be announced. Phone for information.
- EUCHRE** - Every Friday night from 7 to 10 p.m. Both beginners and advanced players are welcome.
- SLIM AND TRIM** - Time and date to be announced. Phone for info. A supervised fun ladies reducing program.
- DISCUSSION GROUP** - Every Tuesday from 7 to 10 p.m. Topical subjects are discussed with occasional guests under fire.

### CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

- GIRL'S FASHIONS** - Girls 8 to 17 years. Basic sewing skills will be taught along with hints on updating old clothes.
- GOURMET GROUP** - Girls 8 to 17 years. Cooking demonstrations. Hints and instruction for meals, snacks, cookies, cakes, etc.
- FIDGETS** - Children 6 to 7. A two day-a-week program. Includes field trips, cooking, arts and crafts, sports, etc.
- SESAME STREETERS** - For children 3 to 7. A twice-a-week program offering a learning experience similar to the TV program.
- CRAFTS AND ART** - For children any age. Puppetry, macrame, candlemaking, gift making, etc.
- GIRLS CLUB GROUP** - Small interest groups on specific topics - good grooming, beauty, flower arrangements, etc.
- BACHELOR COOKING** - For boys fed up with home cooking and want supervised instruction in regular gourmet cooking
- SPORTS UNLIMITED** - Outings for boys to major sport events at minimal or no cost.
- ARTS AND CRAFTS** - A boys and girls program for youth that includes model building and leather work, etc.
- CHESS CLUB** - Open to boys and girls, beginners or advanced.
- GUITAR INSTRUCTION** - Lessons offered to boys and girls.
- GAMES ROOM** - Monday & Wednesday nights. Children 9 to 12.
- ATHLETICS** - For boys and girls 8 to 17. House leagues and district leagues will be set up where there is sufficient interest.

### YOUTH PROGRAMS

- GAMES ROOM** - Tuesday and Thursday nights. Children 13-17.
- TV WORKSHOP** - For teens interested in audio-vidio equipment.
- COFFEE HOUSE** - Every Thursday night in the teen lounge.
- PHOTOGRAPHY, ELECTRONICS, MECHANICS, LEATHERWORK, ETC.** - For teens. Phone or check with Woodgreen for times and dates.
- TEEN DANCES, FILM NIGHTS** - Times and dates to be announced.
- ### SENIOR CITIZENS
- TRAVEL CLUB** - Every Tuesday afternoon at 1:30. Movies and slide presentations are shown of different countries.
- THEATRE TRIP** - One Wednesday a month. Trips to various shows or theatres. Phone for details.
- MEN'S CLUB** - Every Thursday at 1:30 p.m. Billiards, cards, games, short excursions and out-trips.
- BOWLING** - Every Tuesday at 10:30.
- CRAFTS** - Every Thursday at 11 a.m. Professional instruction in handiwork, candle making, pottery, mosaics, sewing etc.
- MEALS-ON-WHEELS** - Every Mon., Wed., and Friday, hot meals are delivered at nominal cost to senior citizens in nearby homes.
- DROP-IN** - Every Friday, 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Coffee, cards, cribbage, movies, games, sing-a-longs, etc.

CLIP AND SAVE

SEVEN NEWS is a bi-weekly community-owned newspaper published by Seven News, Inc. Its mailing address is 265 Gerrard St. E. and its offices are located at 80 Winchester street, phone 920-8632. SEVEN NEWS does not support any political party or individual, and invites members of the community of all persuasions to write. The aim is to publish as much of what comes in as possible, but space limitations necessitate some selection of material. The opinions expressed in SEVEN NEWS are the opinions of the individual writers and do not represent the views of the editorial staff or publishing organization. However, if any errors of fact are brought to our attention, we will print a suitable apology.

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## Community Law office for Don District close to reality

by DAVID REVILLE

It was mid-July when we started meeting, a group of 20 local people in a room on loan from the Christian Resource Centre. An interesting assortment - a couple of ex-cons, some law students, a retired teacher, a handful of community workers, a disabled pensioner, a lawyer, and an apprentice plumber. We share a common objective - the establishment of neighbourhood legal services.

There is virtually no access to legal services for many in this area. To some the law is a mystery, a sort of sacred cow; to others the law is not at all mysterious in the same way that hunger and pain are not mysterious.

That's our starting point, getting legal services to the people that need them in a way that's understandable. How to do it? We propose to train local people to assist a lawyer in supplying the legal services at no cost. A young graduate lawyer has come forward and already has become deeply involved in the early planning.

A project called the Don District Training Program has been legally incorporated and a course of study is in preparation. This project, in turn, will provide the skills and manpower to operate Neighbourhood Legal Services, the service arm of the project.

Community Law Offices are not a new idea. In the summer of 1971, a group of Osgoode Hall law students set up a parkdale Community Law Services and already has become deeply involved in the early planning.

We have the benefit not only of their experience in Parkdale but also of their study and recommendations for a similar project for the Don District. It is not an exaggeration to say that planning for this project has been under way for two years.

What is new is this: the Don District Training Program, Inc., and Neighbourhood Legal Services will be completely community controlled. The elected Board of Directors is to be entirely composed of people from this community - no tokenism, no patronizing, no grudging crumbs.

The effect of this is simple: the people who know the problems, the people that see the needs, will be the people in charge.

However, the doors of Neighbourhood Legal Services won't be swinging open yet. There are Directors to elect, trainees to find, funds to search out. But the foundations have been laid and the need is so pressing that we must build on them.

On Wednesday, Oct. 17 at 8 p.m. there will be a meeting at the Don Vale Community Centre. At that time the project will be more fully explained and a community Board of Directors will be elected. Try to attend. Bring your ideas. There's room for all kinds of involvement.

For more information prior to the meeting, please call: Barry Morris, 922-7391; Allan McChesney, 368-4593; or David Reville, 929-9431 (after 6).



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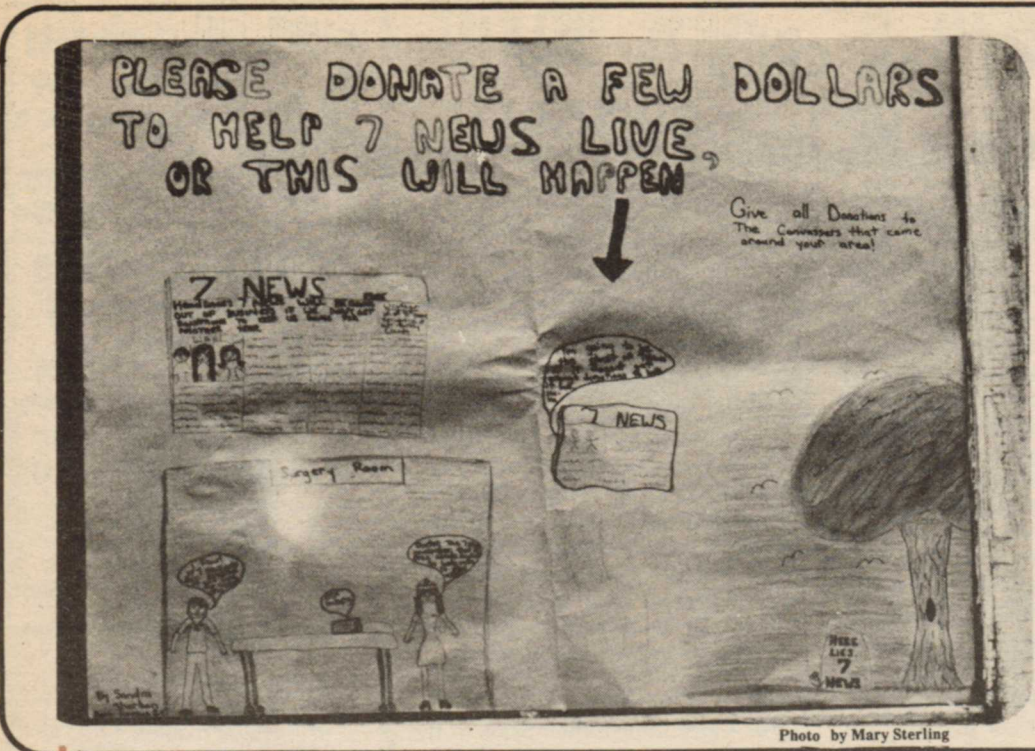


Photo by Mary Sterling

### School kids respond with poster art

Pictured here are a couple of samples of the poster art done by Ward Seven school children to support the SEVEN NEWS Fund-Raising drive. Seven News photographers reported that there weren't that many posters on display throughout the ward but the ones that were visible were very well done. The samples displayed here are from students at Duke of York and Sprucecourt schools. The SEVEN NEWS Fund Raising Committee wish to thank all students who did posters and were sorry we didn't get to see or photograph them all.

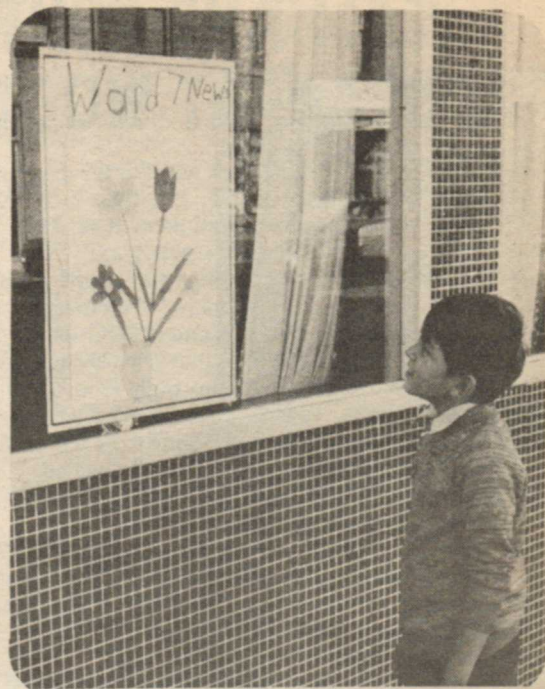


Photo by Richard Waters

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AN EXAMINATION OF THE UNITED WAY AND ALTERNATIVES

**PARTICIPANTS:**  
Ann Johnston, John Sewell;  
Rep. of Citizens Concerned about Social Policy; Rep. from Toronto's Ethnic Comm.; Invitations have been sent to Rep. of United Community Fund and Fed. and Prov. Govts.

**MODERATOR:**  
Margaret Campbell, O.C. MPP

**WED. OCT. 10 8 p.m.**  
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