

Meeting tackles prostitute problem

by CARY FAGAN

In the last few weeks it seems as if every newspaper and television station in Toronto has covered the problem of the "track," that rectangle of streets made up roughly of Bloor, Wellesley, Church and Sherbourne where prostitutes ply their trade, looking for customers. On Wednesday, June 15 the City's neighbourhoods committee will be holding an open meeting to examine ways of dealing with the problem. The meeting will take place at 7:30 p.m. in the council chambers of City Hall.

Much of the news coverage has been surprisingly sympathetic to the dilemma of prostitutes themselves, especially teenagers, many of whom have run away and can find no other means of survival. There has also been concern for the

"crazies" that prostitutes must deal with and the violence that sometimes results.

But this meeting will likely centre on another aspect of the problem, one that concerns the area residents in Ward Six and on the border of Ward Seven. For the street life of the area is being seriously disrupted by the trade. As Ward Seven Alderman David Reville puts it, most residents do not like to walk down the street and have a person "grab their arm and say 'Do you want to buy or do you want to sell?'" The influx of cars cruising the streets at all hours and the possibility of violence compound the nuisance.

The June 15 meeting will hear the views of residents and examine the recommendations published in a recent study from the Bureau of Municipal Research entitled Street Prostitution in Our Cities. Among the report's recommendations is the possibility of licensing prostitutes.

There are widely diverging views on just what to do. The mayor's office and the police department (like police around the country) favour the hard-line approach of making it easier for police to arrest prostitutes. As the law now stands prostitution itself is not a crime, only soliciting and that must be done, according to the courts, in a persistent manner. Making convictions easier means changing the criminal code, something the federal government seems willing to consider.

But there are others who worry about the rights of the prostitutes and the value of putting more of them in jail. Besides, although stricter laws may help solve the nuisance problem they will probably just drive more prostitutes to working in hotels, body rub parlours and such places.

The Bureau of Municipal Research's study acknowledges this problem by calling for more outreach programs which

would give former prostitutes "vocational training, educational upgrading and job counselling services" to help them enter the mainstream workforce.

The report also says that cities must be "realistic in assessing their ability to control prostitution." Among its suggestions are licensing prostitutes, stricter enforcement of such existing laws as causing a disturbance, and police foot patrols.

It is very doubtful whether Toronto would accept licensing. (Mayor Art Eggleton is opposed to the idea.) Municipal by-laws have been tried in other cities but have run into trouble in the courts for trespassing on federal jurisdiction. The June 15 meeting will likely not produce any cure-all for the problems of prostitution on the "track," but it will at least give residents a chance to voice their concerns.

SEVEN NEWS

JUNE 3, 1983

TORONTO'S OLDEST COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

FREE

Seven News to stage banquet

Mark October 1 on your calendar, for that is the date of the Seven News Testimonial Dinner and Dance. We'll celebrate and remember 13 years of ward seven history and raise funds needed to build for the future. The event will take place at the Holy Ukrainian Church Hall, 515 Broadview Ave. (entrance on Bain Avenue).

The evening will honour Norm Browne and all past staff of Seven News, Seven News volunteers, writers and contributors, the merchants and businessmen of the ward, and our community leaders.

Guest speaker will be John Sewell, a Seven News founder. The dinner will be catered by Sassie Waddell with music by the Riverdale Collegiate String Orchestra. There will be dancing to the Malvern Collegiate Dance Band and a cash bar. And for a special treat, a documentary film on Seven News made especially for this evening will be shown.

The dinner and dance is sponsored by the Toronto Christian Resource Centre, a co-founder of Seven News in 1970. Tax receipts will be issued for most of the ticket price.

Tickets cost \$25, \$50 and \$100 and are available from Gayle Mercer, 55 Ellerbeck St., Toronto, M4K 2V2. Cheques should be payable to the Toronto Christian Resource Centre.

After 13 years we have a lot to celebrate. Join us for the fun and the memories at the Seven News Testimonial Dinner and Dance on October 1!



An inspired John Le'Forbes plays an impromptu piece at the recent 519 Church Street Community Centre Festival. Photo by Doron Rescheff.

Edna Dixon was long-time community activist

With great sorrow Seven News learned just before press-time of the death of Edna Dixon.

Edna Dixon was a long-time activist in Ward Seven. In the 1960s she was deeply involved in the Trefann Court renewal project. In the seventies she was active in education issues.

Edna Dixon had also been a member of the City of Toronto Planning Board.

Originally from Prince Edward Island, Edna Dixon lived on Shuter St. She leaves her husband Angus and her three children, John, Gary and Linda.

This Thursday a memorial service was to be held at the Washington and Johnston Funeral House. Alderman John Sewell was to speak of Edna Dixon's commitment to the community.

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Bikefest rolls along

by CINDY WEINER

With summer just around the corner it's time to get in shape and gear up for the outdoor activities that the warm weather brings.

For those of us who didn't take advantage of the mild winter and dry streets to keep our bicycles pedaling, it's time to haul the old wheels out of storage and pray that they still rotate. Fortunately for us, and for all bicycle riders from novice to expert, the St. James Town Bikefest '83 is happening on Sunday, June 5.

Ride or carry your bikes over to 240 Wellesley Street East just west of Parliament Street for free mechanical safety checks. Experts will tell you what's wrong with your bike and there will be an ongoing demonstration on bicycle maintenance. You will learn how to fix a flat tire and how to keep your bike in good operating condition.

Ellen Agger, director of St. James Town recreation programs, is enthusiastic about the first Bikefest. An avid cyclist, Agger organized the event to bring together cyclists and potential cyclists with equipment and safety experts for an educational exchange.

"The Bikefest is geared toward the average person who would use a bike more if they knew more about it. We want to attract adults who use bicycles for recreation as well as for commuting to work," she says. Although the Bikefest will cater to

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! Beatlemania contest see p. 6

Summer with Cabbagetown Band p. 7

CITY ARTS

Kids' summer can be a blast!

Community Band even sponsors prospecting for gold

by ANNE-MARGARET HINES

The tiny Parliament Street apartment is crammed with musical instruments, old publicity posters and large canvases of multi-coloured surrealist art. It looks like a garage sale at Waddington's Auction House. In the midst of it all, musician and social worker David Blackmore searches through the debris to find a spare coffee cup and instructs me to step over the drum set and around the young cellist practising in the corner, to get to the table. In spite of the unusual disorder of the room there is a comfortable assurance about the place and about Blackmore himself. It seems to say "We're not here to impress, we're here to get something accomplished" and over the last four years Blackmore has managed to do both.

David Blackmore is the founder and current director of the popular Cabbagetown Community Band, an association which is dedicated to bringing opportunities in the arts to inner city kids. He started the band with the help of artist Tom Oki and other professional musicians, performers and artists all of



"It gives you the chance to stand back and say I did this, I'm worth something." Photo collage by Tom Oki.

whom volunteered their services to provide free workshops and concerts for children from seven to 19-years-old. With the support of Toronto's Christian Resource Centre, the group put together a summer program of music, dance, karate and art instruction which was an immediate success among Cabbagetown area kids. "They just loved it" remembers Blackmore. "They'd never had a real opportunity to be creative and express themselves." Blackmore himself grew

up in the city and, after spending years in group homes and reformatories, has come to realize how much this opportunity to create can mean to a child. "It gives you the chance to stand back and look at something, be it painting a picture, learning a tune on the piano, whatever, and say I did this, I'm worth something."

The children who have taken part in the program over the last four summers have gone on to do even more than that. One

group of children formed their own singing group called Destiny and now perform at a variety of functions around town. Ten year old pianist Paul Legault showed off his ability with a performance for Lieutenant Governor John B. Aird. Other children have taken part in performances on television and radio such as That's Life and Anybody Home. "It isn't how much they accomplish that's important" explains Blackmore, "it's that they're getting the

opportunity to try these things, to find out how much they can do."

The Cabbagetown Community Band is expecting this summer to be just as exciting as the last three. "We're finally paying our instructors now" says Blackmore, "but the programs are still free for the kids." This year's line-up of classes includes music appreciation, practical instruction on a variety of instruments, dance exercise, jazz, practical art, art history and many others. There is still a karate class which focuses on the philosophy and discipline aspects as well as self defense, and a new project called Golddigging. The Golddigging program offers kids a chance to camp up north and actually be involved in prospecting. "It should be very exciting" says Blackmore. "It's designed to be fun and to help the kids learn some independence as well." Classes will be held three times a week throughout the summer starting June 27. Registration begins June 13 at the Christian Resource Centre (363-4234).

"We're expecting about 90 kids to sign up this summer" says Blackmore, "and we're hoping to extend the program into a year-round project. The kids are all for it. We're just looking around for funding now and a suitable location."

Sitting in the small Parliament Street office it's impossible not to be affected by Blackmore's enthusiasm and commitment, to art and to the area children. Certainly many Cabbagetown kids and parents will have the Cabbagetown Community Band to thank for a more exciting and creative summer.

No sympathy for this Eve

by PATRICIA KEENEY SMITH

Larry Fineberg's Eve, taken from the Constance Beresford-Howe novel The Book of Eve, and now six years old, is a vehicle for a virtuoso performance by an actress. A woman in her sixties, with child, grandchild and an invalid husband to keep her responsible, runs away from home, travelling from bourgeois Montreal to its 'franglais' lower town of dingy one-room apartments. Fineberg's script is a humble one, straight-forward and unencumbered, designed transparently to serve the actress playing its central part.

From that performance must come much of the fear, excitement and startling humour that is written into say, Margaret Laurence's Stone Angle, a richly textured novel dealing with similar material. Eve must be an inch by inch process of self-discovery, with pitfalls and pratfalls and the occasional landmine strewn along the way. As this unlikely pension-cheque delinquent crawls along the tightrope between self and security, her audience should gasp when she totters and roar with satisfaction

for those few moments of perfect balance at full height.

What we get in the Theatre Plus interpretation (at the St. Lawrence Centre until June 11) of Eve directed by Stephen Katz is mostly bravado. The net is always there and Madeleine Thornton Sherwood's intrepid Eve never really needs it. She's robust from the beginning with an imagination that has already encompassed her shabbily romantic future.

As a result, the play has nowhere to go. Eve is without vulnerability and so, while we can snigger and bellylaugh with her through the adventure, she does not elicit the sympathy one would expect to feel for a brave and fragile human being in plight. Lines and images that should be poignant are cosily funny, as though we're sharing an in-joke with a revolutionary who's been guaranteed success. When Eve pines for her warm coat and winter boots, or swills cheap sherry and contemplates yet another can of tomato soup, we don't feel her anxiety and wounded pride. When she roots around in garbage cans for the third and fourth time, both the humiliation and the curiously compelling colour of life below the bottom line are missing. While east end Montreal is not quite Gorky's lower depths, there is surely some point at which Eve must snap in strong

reaction at the circumstances that finally entrap her in a lunatic freedom. On the contrary, she slides right in, as to the low-life born.

The play's flesh and blood vitality, the real indication of who Eve is becoming emerges in her meeting with a crusty, suave, sometimes drunken, Hungarian neighbour in her rooming house. Played by George Touliatos, Johnny embodies the vibrant, lonely courage and independence for which Eve, though she will not admit it, is looking. She clears up his vomit; he looks out for her during illness. At first they are like alleycats hissing at each other in suspicion.

Johnny's charm and integrity eventually converts them both. Dashing, tender, and fully aware of the prickly pear he has in his hands; still wounded himself by forceful eviction from Hungary and family ties in 1956, this man alone begins to draw out Eve's complexity — that combination of bourgeois and eccentric, the female anger and female need that constitute her generation of wife, mother and woman. No one evolves alone.

Two people from such different histories catapulted into similar circumstances might have provided the fully engaging drama that nudges out from under Eve's single-handed self-propulsion only by the end of the play.



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SPEAKING OUT

VIEWPOINT

A guide to pedal power

by BOB KATZ

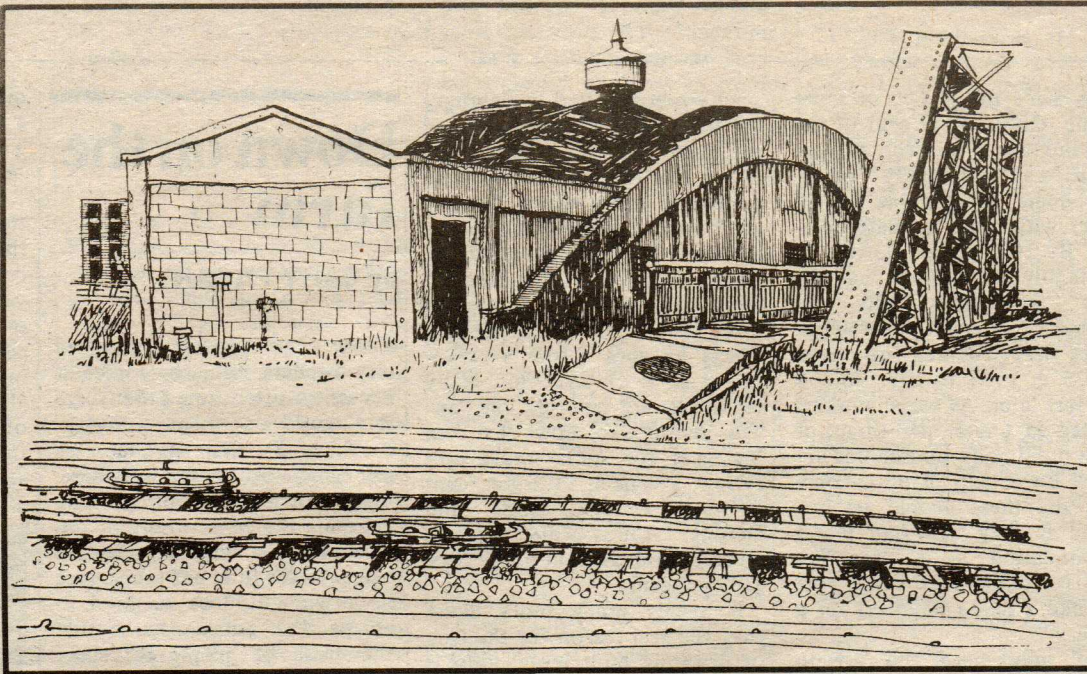
Ward Seven may soon find itself at the apex of another social revolution. The ward that led North America in the development of public housing (Regent Park) and in the stable neighbourhoods movement is at it again. This time Ward Seven residents find themselves at the leading edge of the most important transportation revolution northern North America has experienced since Henry Ford began to mass produce the Model A. This revolution entails the emergence of the bicycle as the primary year-round conveyance of the urban commuter.

Public transportation in Toronto is coming apart at the seams. City residents who travel short distances must subsidise suburbanites who ride a hundred or more kilometres a day for the same two tokens. Ward Seven residents who attempt to board a southbound subway at Bloor, Wellesley, or College during the morning rush hour often find the trains full. As, downtown continues to develop offices replace parking lots. This, coupled with additional cars from the ever expanding suburbia, will soon render the car almost useless for the commuter. For Ward Seven residents neither the car nor the TTC is a satisfactory means of commuting downtown.

Many Ward Seven residents can walk or jog to work. For others the bicycle may be an ideal alternative. This article does not argue the obvious superiority of a bicycle over the car or subway but rather tells the reader how to get started as a bicycle commuter.

Where to buy a bicycle

Some of my best friends work in hardware stores, but I would no sooner go to them for a bicycle than for a leg of lamb. The only sensible place to buy a bicycle is from a bicycle store that employs competent staff. Buying a bicycle in a hardware or department store is almost always a mistake. A good bicycle store will offer selection, advice, warranty service and replacement parts. They will sell you a bike for your size body and will adjust it to fit your personal riding needs. A bike store can offer competitive prices on new bikes and often will have real



The old bridge where Eastern Avenue used to cross the Don River has been converted into a building. Drawing by Jim Houston.

bargains in second hand equipment.

What to look for in a commuting bike

There is no best or worst type of bicycle. Each model has its advantages. Most adults today buy 10-speed bikes with dropped handlebars. These bikes are wonderful for racing, touring and lengthy commutes but darn ridiculous if all you do is ride leisurely from Danforth and Logan to City Hall. Few weekend 10-speeders know what Alpine shift pattern means although it is essential if one is to make good use of the derailers. These riders would be better served by a five-speed with upright handlebars or even a heavy but durable three-speed. Some serious commuters travel summer and winter on fat tire mountain bikes. Others enjoy the portability of folding bikes. Unless you plan to cross the Niagara escarpment (i.e. go north to St. Clair) on a regular basis you do not need a 10-speed.

Servicing a bicycle

A \$200 bicycle should easily survive 10 years of daily commuting. It needs oil, air and attention to details, but little more. If you are at all handy with tools you can perform almost all repairs on your own, relying on a professional mechanic only once a year to clean the bottom bracket and get at areas that require specialized tools. Even if you adamantly refuse to ever touch a tool you will find that the most difficult bicycle repair jobs (replacing spokes on the freewheel side of a rim and then trueing it) cost only a fraction of what you

would pay for a month's Metro-pas.

Riding in traffic

A careful cyclist can avoid almost any conceivable accident. Avoiding accidents is not easy, however — it takes absolute concentration for 60 seconds of every minute. Remember, a small scratch on a car's door may be the only scar it bears from having put a cyclist into a wheelchair for life. The major danger to cyclists comes from idiot car drivers. There are morons who speed up and pass a bike and then make a right turn into its path and dimwits who threaten to knock over any cyclist who gets into the centre lane to make a left turn. There are roadhogs who refuse to slow down and move left when passing a cyclist in a narrow lane and addlebrained van drivers who forget that their righthand mirror is likely to take out any cyclist within 30cm of the right fender. Some imbecile car drivers exit their car without a backward glance and open the door into the path of a rapidly moving cyclist.

Drivers are not the only danger. Never use toeclips in traffic until you are an experienced rider and are prepared to fall when necessary. Be wary of streetcar tracks and sewer grates if you ride a narrow-wheeled 10 or five-speed (they can catch a wheel and hurl an unwary rider into traffic). Finally, use common sense. Do not ride at night without lights. Do not ignore one way streets, stop lights or stop signs. I have no quarrel with an occasional California rolling stop or a shortcut over a sidewalk but do obey major laws both for your own safety

and to prevent jealous car drivers from retaliating.

Preventing theft

Bike thieves are mean and loathsome people. They don't care that the paper boy saved for 15 months to purchase that 10-speed. They see shiny metal and know a fence who will pay \$30 for it. Police do little to recover stolen bikes — they are busy investigating serious crimes such as cars parked too long at metres or people taking baths improperly. It is up to each rider to either lock his bike securely or anticipate its disappearance. There are only two effective methods of securing a bicycle: keep it indoors or lock it with a U-shaped lock such as Kryptonite or Citadel.

Freewheelers are at the vanguard of an important urban transit revolution. While Toronto will never have as large a proportion of commuting cyclists as southern cities such as San Diego it will soon lead northern North America. We have been handed the mantle; ride well, ride proudly — the whole hemisphere is watching.

LETTERS

Huggett misunderstood

The following is a response to a letter in the last issue.

I would like to reassure Jim Ward that I do not — repeat do not — blame the inmates of hostels for their situation, and I cannot understand why he interprets my article on hostels that way. I am well aware that our pre-

sent economic system forces people into such circumstances.

However, having been engaged for a full 50 years in trying to make a contribution in the struggle to get a better system, a struggle that has achieved some successes but never accomplished any basic change in the present system, I have no intention of saying to the people now in hostels: "Sorry folks, we can't help you now. Just put up with your situation while we keep trying to build a better society."

Howard Huggett

The greening of South Riverdale.

The following letter was sent to Mr. I.B. Forrest, commissioner of the Parks and Recreation Department.

The Committee on Trees and Parks, South Riverdale Part II Citizen's Working Group has, in the enclosed report, The Greening of South Riverdale, identified a number of concerns dealing with proposed neighbourhood beautification and maintenance of existing outdoor recreation areas.

We feel that the condition of City parks and community school outdoor recreation areas in South Riverdale do not meet the standard which can be found in other areas of the City. Similarly, the situation with regard to trees on commercial and residential streets is at variance with that found in other parts of the City.

The Committee would appreciate receiving clarification from your department as to your policies regarding the planting of trees on commercial and residential streets, as well as for on-going plant maintenance in City parks and community-school outdoor recreation areas. If your budget includes these activities and areas we would request that the City initiate a systematic program of tree planting on all streets, either in consultation with each individual resident or by way of a blanket approach where trees are simply planted in front of every other house or store-front. We would also request that the maintenance of the outdoor recreation areas be upgraded in South Riverdale. If these activities are not part of the existing budget we would request that your department take the appropriate steps to ensure their inclusion.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Ken Gausman
Chairman, Committee on Trees and Parks
South Riverdale Part II Citizen's Working Group

SEVEN NEWS

Volume 14
Number 2

249 Sherbourne St., Toronto M5A 2R9 Tel: 921-2548

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Next deadline: June 9

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This issue would not have been possible without the help of over 150 volunteers.

Seven News is a non-profit newspaper published every 2nd Friday by Seven News Inc.

Office overload!

Seven News needs some volunteers to help in the office. Clippings need to be filed, subscriptions need to be mailed out. If you have an hour to spare call the editor, Cary Fagan at 921-2548.

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CLOSE UP

The decline of affordable housing

by HOWARD HUGGETT

This is the third in an occasional series of articles on housing by Howard Huggett.

You would never know that there was a housing crisis to look at the homes section of the weekend papers. Plenty of houses await the buyer, very many of them in Aurora, Whitby, Mississauga, Markham or Oakville. Quite a lot of them have three or more bedrooms, and some have five. The square footage is seldom less than 2,000 and some go up to 4,000. The asking price is frequently expressed in six digits, with the most costly number listed in a recent issue weighing in at a cool \$316,000 with all the extras. So there are plenty of houses but they are usually too far away, they are often too big, and they cost too much to buy, to heat and to furnish.

Just how unsuitable these houses are for a large section of the people in the inner city of Toronto becomes very plain when you examine the report of the Interdepartmental Task Force on Affordable Housing, presented to City Council in September, 1982. This paper noted that in 1951 Toronto was a family city, with 94 per cent of its population living in house-

holds made up of two or more people. Only 13 per cent of the total number of households were classified as "non-family", meaning people living alone or together with other unrelated persons. By 1981 the proportion of non-family households had almost quadrupled and the number of one-person establishments had zoomed up from 10,225 in 1951 to over 90,000 30 years later. As social workers can tell us, a large percentage of those non-family households are at the lower end of the income scale and these people are fortunate if they can find rental accommodation at a moderate cost, let alone ever being able to make a down payment on a house.

Not only have the private builders stopped the construction of private rental structures, but the demolition of structurally sound rental apartment houses has been stepped up dramatically. Whereas during the period of 1976-80 private developers took down only three buildings containing about 90 rental units, for 1981 the record was 20 apartments containing just over 750 units. These demolitions go on in spite of City Council's efforts to stop or slow down the practice. There is also a tendency to take other apartment units out of the rental market by converting them to condominiums for resale or into hotels. This also is going on over the objections of City Council.

When you ask private builders why they have deserted the rental market they are inclined to blame rent control. That reason is not very convincing after you

read a report issued in February by the Social Planning Council of Metro Toronto. The report shows that rent increases in rent-controlled units which did not go before a rent review board averaged 10.7 per cent for the last year. Since the law does not allow a landlord an increase of more than 6 per cent in one year unless he goes before a review board it is obvious that many landlords are ignoring the law. This report also shows that rent increases for units under rent review averaged 13.2 per cent between October 1981 and October 1982 while average weekly earnings went up by only 10.5 per cent.

It seems much more likely that the real reason for the lack of privately built rental units is that the building industry is concentrating on the biggest share of the housing market, the 80 per cent of people who are able to find appropriate and affordable housing. For them there is no crisis, but for the remaining 20 per cent there is.

After all, the private builders operate for profit, and the way to do that is to sell their product and services where they can get the highest price. A good example of how the search for profit interferes with the supplying of affordable accommodation can be found in a developers' practice of demolishing existing buildings to obtain a site when vacant land is available also. The reason is that the vacant land can be more costly than the already occupied site, thereby reducing the developer's profit. The result is that the housing crisis gets even worse.

Down on the farm

by CARY FAGAN

Those of us who are committed city-dwellers, either by choice or necessity, often forget that there is a world out there — that is, north of St. Clair Avenue. We get caught up in our lives here, busy with work, in our free time enjoying the great variety of activities only a large city has to offer. That's fine, but every once in a while it does us good to escape the grime, the traffic, the crush of people for some wide open spaces. We often forget how easy that is to do.

From Toronto the quiet and ease of provincial parks and gently rolling farmland is only a car or bus-ride away. Anyone can take a day off, pack a picnic lunch, and head for a day of clear air, still lakes and sunsets unobscured by highrises. And staying overnight, in a cabin, motel, or provincial park is a very cheap way to get away from it all.

I'm lucky. I have a friend who runs a farm a couple of hours from Toronto who invites me every year for a long weekend. Otherwise inertia, laziness and an obsessive attachment to city living would keep me downtown all summer. This past Victoria day weekend was my annual sojourn where I got to play at beef cattle farming for three days.

All the pleasures remembered from previous years I experienced again. Walking along deserted country roads, listening to the calls of blackbirds and the barking of a dog. Rising before my farmer friend to drag bales of hay from the barn to feed the cows. Watching with satisfaction as the new calves tentatively pulled the straw from my hand.

Every year I get to try some new aspect of farm work. Last year I helped restrain a cow while a man from the govern-

ment gave the unwilling beast a dose of artificial insemination. The cow showed its displeasure by trying to fall on top of me.

The year before I got to drive the tractor with the baler (if that's what you call it) dragging behind, disgorging bales of crisp yellow hay. I made the mistake of turning my head too quickly, causing my glasses to fly off and into the teeth of the baler. The glasses were found, inside a bail of hay, in four pieces. I spent the rest of that trip squinting at the horizon.



Just a drive away. Photo by Doran Rescheff.

This year's task was a little more mundane: mucking out the barn after the winter. Cow manure, which has a pungent but not unpleasant smell, is surprisingly heavy and after an hour or so of pitchforking it my arms and back ached and I understood why this task was one of the labours of Hercules. After that I quietly disappeared while my farmer friend went on to other tasks. I long ago realized that my klutziness is more a hindrance than a help to my friend, but he's too gracious to say anything. Besides, the beer, bagels and salami that I invariably bring with me are compensation for my lack of country wisdom and muscle.

I already look forward to next year's trip. What task to bungle then? Planting? Tilling? Hog wrestling? But I won't wait until then to get out into the country again. It's so close, it's so easy, it's so lovely.



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CLOSE UP

POLITICAL
FILETTC relief
line not the
better wayby JOANNE CAMPBELL
Ward Seven Alderman

Recently future transit planning has been the subject of much study and debate at Metro Council and at the local level. One of the most hotly debated aspects of this has been the question of whether or not the TTC should build a new subway line into downtown Toronto.

The line would likely go from Donlands Station on the Bloor/Danforth line down to Union Station at a cost of approximately \$380 million. Metro Council has given the TTC the go-ahead to do a feasibility study for this 'relief' line. I, John Sewell,

Mayor Eggleton and a number of others voted against the relief line. We did so for a number of reasons.

Congestion at Yonge/Bloor

One of the reasons given in favour of a new relief line is the problem of severe overcrowding on the Yonge line during peak hours. City planners, who oppose the line, argue that at \$51 million per kilometre there are better ways to solve the congestion problem. Proposals for an express bus from Castle Frank to downtown along Sherbourne and for a streetcar down Spadina from Bloor along the Waterfront are already being studied. The City has hired a consultant to study a proposal to put streetcars back on Bay Street from Bloor to the Waterfront.

These surface improvements would, some of us argued, solve the congestion problems at much less cost. They would also have the advantage of having better off-peak usage than a relief line and they would provide usage all along the north/south route, instead of focusing on

Union Station. Any new transit line wouldn't actually be built until the 1990s. In the meantime we have an immediate and growing capacity problem. It would seem to make sense to do the surface improvements now and look at a new subway line later.

City and Metro's
Official Plans

Another problem with the relief line is that it is directly contrary to both the City and the Metro Official Plans. The Metro Official Plan couldn't be more specific: Metro will support "... improvements to the quality of service on the subway lines; but shall not support construction of additional rapid transit lines into the Central Area." The reason for this is a stated policy of "deconcentration" — i.e. supporting the development of sub-centres such as the Scarborough Town Centre and North York City Centre. This policy was developed so that we would not concentrate all development downtown, leaving the surrounding areas as mere 'bedroom communities', a trend which we learned to avoid from the American experience.

Future Transit Needs

Future predictions are for a population increase in Metro of only 41,000 or two per cent from 1979 to 1991. On the other hand, the population of the surrounding regions outside Metro is expected to increase by 43,000 or 53 per cent — mainly to the west and north in Halton, Peel and York Regions. It is easy to conclude from this that a Donlands to Union Station relief line is not going to solve the needs of these population growth trends.

It is expected that by 1991 there will be some 60,000 new jobs in the downtown area, given the resurgence of development in the Waterfront and Railway Lands. There is no question that increased transit capacity will be needed — the question is what form it should take.

The decision on a new rapid transit line into the downtown has many serious implications, not the least of which is the fare box. Metro seems happy to build new and expensive transit lines — at a 75 per cent provincial subsidy. The crunch comes when you then have to pay to operate them. And according to the existing arrangement 68 per cent



A budding Picasso, Cedric Ng concentrates at the 519 Church Street Fair. Photo by Doron Rescheff.

of the operating costs must come from the fare box.

Metro already has the highest transit fares in Ontario and one of the highest fare box ratios in North America. When we make decisions to build new lines over improving existing services we must be very aware of the future cost implications. Metro TTC riders and taxpayers can't afford to pay more and more for unwise planning decisions.

I would welcome your comments at 947-7914.

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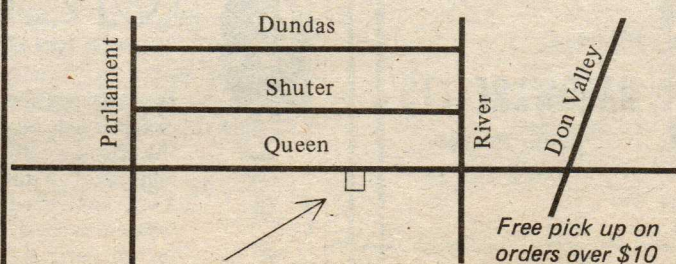
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(Advertisement)

muting in Toronto, the basics of touring and how to use the gears or multi-speed bikes in order to enhance your enjoyment of cycling. The films to be shown cover such topics as safety and traffic technique, touring in Europe and the history and development of cycling.

Hilda Tiesson, co-owner of Sunwheel Bicycle Couriers, who is participating in the Bikefest, will be focusing on the bicycle as a viable means of transportation in the city. Tiesson will be showing a 15-minute slide show called Bicycling: A New Beginning. She says "It's basically a series of pictures of facilities in different parts of the United States, Canada and Europe. The audio is an effort to describe the visions of people who have created a place for bicycles in city planning."

And for those who are more interested in first-hand knowledge of bike touring, seasoned cyclist Michael Moore will be leading a two-hour tour through the Don River park system starting at 2 p.m.

"Anyone who feels comfortable on a bicycle should come out for the ride. It will be slow-paced but is designed for riders who do more than just go around the block" Moore says.

"If the weather is just sort of threatening, we'll still go, so bring a rain poncho or nylon jacket." There will also be a shorter historical tour through parts of the downtown area. The tours are open to everyone and riders should be sure their bikes are in good operating condition. More information on touring in and out of the city will be provided by the Ontario Cycling Association (OCA). The OCA organizes group rides for cyclists of all levels from March to November and along with the Hostelling Association provides a list of hostels and hospitality homes for overnight excursions.

The upsurge in the number of commuter cyclists and the popularity of cycling for recreation should make this a fun and informative event for people of all ages. The Bikefest begins at 10:30 a.m. in the auditorium at 240 Wellesley Street East and will proceed rain or shine.

CLOSE UP

COMMUNITY
BUSINESSSentimental
journey

by K.L. BRANDY

Does coke taste better from small bottles? Take a sentimental journey to Broadview and Gerrard and discover for yourself at Crown Fish and Chips, (349½ Broadview Ave.) an authentic anomaly tucked like a tiny treasure in the dense cluster of restaurants in Bokchoytown.

On May 24, 1983, Crown Fish and Chips celebrated its 24th anniversary under the proprietorship of Elsie and Mike Tostowaryk. As a fish and chips shop, however, it has been a neighbourhood institution for close to 50 years.

Crown Fish and Chips is nostalgic, unselfconscious, and as friendly as if you'd always lived next door. Cider vinegar shakers, napkin stands and sugar pourers, rare in even the greasi-

est spoons, wait on the black-topped tables. Three wood-panelled booths, upholstered in faded lime vinyl, each with its own coat and hat rack, and one small table against the opposite wall make up the seating area. Mike says that the ancient coke cooler is 18 years old, which places it in the era of the posters on the walls, but it looks older to me.

"My customers wouldn't let us change anything," says Elsie. "Don't you dare," they say. They like it like this."

Some of those customers have been coming since they were so small that they account for the chipped and furrowed counter next to the cash register, from which they glimpsed the arcane rites of frying. Mike's movements as he cooks remind one of tai chi, except that he is holding things. Some school children have measured their coming of age from the time that they could see over the main counter.

Thirteen-year-old Jason, who can see easily over the counter now, says he has been coming to Crown Fish and Chips since he was six years old. "My sister comes too, but she's only nine." Some people, exiled to the dreary stretches of suburbia, struggle back for a reassuring memory fix after 10 or 15 years.

Only 10 years ago the intersection was determinedly accidental. But people give up, or grow old, and now the surrounding business village is vigorously Chinese. And the Chinese like fish and chips too, although the old people say "Only fish, please."

From opening time at eleven a.m. a steady parade of people of all sorts — kids, cops and the occasional wistful dog — queue up for their cheap ration of soul. As one of my roommates used to say, "It's probably a good place to meet men" since they present themselves with alacrity in all their infinite variety.

"They're so friendly, always say hello, and the food is very good" said the young man who joined me in my booth. "It's worth the distance."

"Our customers are nice people, you can talk to them," says Elsie, heaping crisply battered fish and piles of chips into a newspaper package. "More salt? Vinegar? We only use halibut, it's the best frying fish. Yes, everything is going up, gas is up 22 per cent since December. Fish and chips should be affordable, though, for everyone."

As I finish my comforting, substantial lunch, listening to Elsie's cheerful chat, I am content. It should always be so.

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4. What was the name of the German nightclub where the Beatles first gained prominence?
5. Who was the song Sexy Sadie really written about?

In the case of ties, winners will be drawn. Staff, volunteers and board members are not eligible. Entries must be received by June 10, 1983. Send your entry right away to Seven News, 249 Sherbourne Street, M5A 2R9.

Beatlemania will be playing at the O'Keefe Centre from June 14 — July 3. Tickets are \$20.50, \$17.50, \$13.50, available at all Ticketron outlets or call 766-3271.

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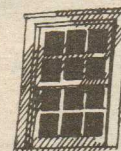
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CITY ARTS

Kids' summer can be a blast!

Community Band even sponsors prospecting for gold

by ANNE-MARGARET HINES

The tiny Parliament Street apartment is crammed with musical instruments, old publicity posters and large canvases of multi-coloured surrealist art. It looks like a garage sale at Waddington's Auction House. In the midst of it all, musician and social worker David Blackmore searches through the debris to find a spare coffee cup and instructs me to step over the drum set and around the young cellist practising in the corner, to get to the table. In spite of the unusual disorder of the room there is a comfortable assurance about the place and about Blackmore himself. It seems to say "We're not here to impress, we're here to get something accomplished" and over the last four years Blackmore has managed to do both.

David Blackmore is the founder and current director of the popular Cabbagetown Community Band, an association which is dedicated to bringing opportunities in the arts to inner city kids. He started the band with the help of artist Tom Oki and other professional musicians, performers and artists all of



"It gives you the chance to stand back and say I did this, I'm worth something." Photo collage by Tom Oki.

whom volunteered their services to provide free workshops and concerts for children from seven to 19-years-old. With the support of Toronto's Christian Resource Centre, the group put together a summer program of music, dance, karate and art instruction which was an immediate success among Cabbagetown area kids. "They just loved it," remembers Blackmore. "They'd never had a real opportunity to be creative and express themselves." Blackmore himself grew

up in the city and, after spending years in group homes and reformatories, has come to realize how much this opportunity to create can mean to a child. "It gives you the chance to stand back and look at something, be it painting a picture, learning a tune on the piano, whatever, and say I did this, I'm worth something."

The children who have taken part in the program over the last four summers have gone on to do even more than that. One

group of children formed their own singing group called Destiny and now perform at a variety of functions around town. Ten year old pianist Paul Legault showed off his ability with a performance for Lieutenant Governor John B. Aird. Other children have taken part in performances on television and radio such as That's Life and Anybody Home. "It isn't how much they accomplish that's important" explains Blackmore, "it's that they're getting the

opportunity to try these things, to find out how much they can do."

The Cabbagetown Community Band is expecting this summer to be just as exciting as the last three. "We're finally paying our instructors now" says Blackmore, "but the programs are still free for the kids." This year's line-up of classes includes music appreciation, practical instruction on a variety of instruments, dance exercise, jazz, practical art, art history and many others. There is still a karate class which focuses on the philosophy and discipline aspects as well as self defense, and a new project called Golddigging. The Golddigging program offers kids a chance to camp up north and actually be involved in prospecting. "It should be very exciting" says Blackmore. "It's designed to be fun and to help the kids learn some independence as well." Classes will be held three times a week throughout the summer starting June 27. Registration begins June 13 at the Christian Resource Centre (363-4234).

"We're expecting about 90 kids to sign up this summer" says Blackmore, "and we're hoping to extend the program into a year-round project. The kids are all for it. We're just looking around for funding now and a suitable location."

Sitting in the small Parliament Street office it's impossible not to be affected by Blackmore's enthusiasm and commitment, to art and to the area children. Certainly many Cabbagetown kids and parents will have the Cabbagetown Community Band to thank for a more exciting and creative summer.

No sympathy for this Eve

by PATRICIA KEENEY SMITH

Larry Fineberg's Eve, taken from the Constance Beresford-Howe novel The Book of Eve, and now six years old, is a vehicle for a virtuoso performance by an actress. A woman in her sixties, with child, grandchild and an invalid husband to keep her responsible, runs away from home, travelling from bourgeois Montreal to its 'franglais' lower town of dingy one-room apartments. Fineberg's script is a humble one, straight-forward and unencumbered, designed transparently to serve the actress playing its central part.

From that performance must come much of the fear, excitement and startling humour that is written into say, Margaret Laurence's Stone Angle, a richly textured novel dealing with similar material. Eve must be an inch by inch process of self-discovery, with pitfalls and pratfalls and the occasional landmine strewn along the way. As this unlikely pension-cheque delinquent crawls along the tightrope between self and security, her audience should gasp when she totters and roar with satisfaction

for those few moments of perfect balance at full height.

What we get in the Theatre Plus interpretation (at the St. Lawrence Centre until June 11) of Eve directed by Stephen Katz is mostly bravado. The net is always there and Madeleine Thornton Sherwood's intrepid Eve never really needs it. She's robust from the beginning with an imagination that has already encompassed her shabbily romantic future.

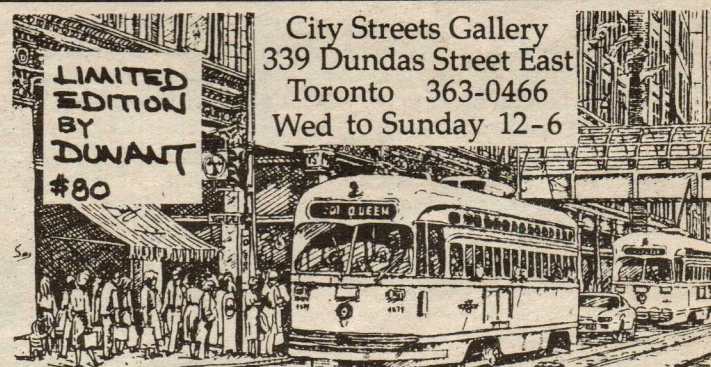
As a result, the play has nowhere to go. Eve is without vulnerability and so, while we can snigger and bellylaugh with her through the adventure, she does not elicit the sympathy one would expect to feel for a brave and fragile human being in plight. Lines and images that should be poignant are cosily funny, as though we're sharing an in-joke with a revolutionary who's been guaranteed success. When Eve pines for her warm coat and winter boots, or swills cheap sherry and contemplates yet another can of tomato soup, we don't feel her anxiety and wounded pride. When she roots around in garbage cans for the third and fourth time, both the humiliation and the curiously compelling colour of life below the bottom line are missing. While east end Montreal is not quite Gorky's lower depths, there is surely some point at which Eve must snap in strong

reaction at the circumstances that finally entrap her in a lunatic freedom. On the contrary, she slides right in, as to the low-life born.

The play's flesh and blood vitality, the real indication of who Eve is becoming emerges in her meeting with a crusty, suave, sometimes drunken, Hungarian neighbour in her rooming house. Played by George Toulaitos, Johnny embodies the vibrant, lonely courage and independence for which Eve, though she will not admit it, is looking. She clears up his vomit; he looks out for her during illness. At first they are like alleycats hissing at each other in suspicion.

Johnny's charm and integrity eventually converts them both. Dashing, tender, and fully aware of the prickly pear he has in his hands; still wounded himself by forceful eviction from Hungary and family ties in 1956, this man alone begins to draw out Eve's complexity — that combination of bourgeois and eccentric, the female anger and female need that constitute her generation of wife, mother and woman. No one evolves alone.

Two people from such different histories catapulted into similar circumstances might have provided the fully engaging drama that nudges out from under Eve's single-handed self-propulsion only by the end of the play.



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Friday

June 3

The Dixon Hall Summer Camps are now open for registration. Tiny Tots — a summer program for children ages 3-5. Mon.-Fri. morning or afternoon sessions. Weekly July 4-Aug. 26. Only \$1.75/child/week (½ day session).

Day Camp — an exciting outdoor day camp for children ages 6-12. Monthly sessions beginning July 4 and Aug. 26. Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Only \$1.75/child/week. Registration forms are now available for both programs at Dixon Hall. Call Virginia at 863-0499 today.

Come for our swimming program. John Innes Community Centre, 150 Sherbourne St. All levels, from kids to adults. Learn and have fun! Further information: Mandy Nichols, 366-0767.

Saturday

June 4

For the 10th year in a row, the **Toronto Harbour Commission** will operate a summer activity program on the Outer Harbour East Headland, a three-mile long spit of land arching into Lake Ontario from the foot of Leslie Street. Beginning today, the site will be open to cyclists, hikers and birdwatchers from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays until Thanksgiving Day. A TTC bus will operate along the 3.2-mile long paved roadway only until Labour Day.

A conference entitled **Co-operatives: A Democratic Alternative** will be held on Saturday, June 4, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Steelworkers Hall, 25 Cecil St., Toronto, sponsored by the St. George NDP Association. The day will include a film, workshops on financial, housing, retail and worker co-operatives, and a panel discussion. For further information: Angela Goyeau 929-9797.

To all members of the Corporation of the South Riverdale Community Health Centre: Take notice that the Annual Meeting of the Corporation will be held at the South Riverdale Community Health Centre, 126 Pape Ave. Toronto at 5:30 p.m.

Flea Market 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. St. Barnabas Church (Chester) 361 Danforth Ave.

The Regent Park Day Dance is planned for non-stop culture, non-stop dancing! Come, bring your friends, meet new people with a purpose, enjoy a new neighbourhood, soak up the culture, and dance to the latest dub sounds from dis ya locality! St. Cyril's Church, corner Sackville & Dundas. 7 p.m. Tickets \$5 at BASS, \$7 at door. Food, Bar. For more information call Mike Sterling, Regent Park Residents' Association, 863-1768.

Sunday

June 5

2nd Annual Toronto Walkathon for Salvadoran Refugees. For further information: David 962-7489 or Cathy at 485-5972.

30th Anniversary Coronation Concert. Simpson Ave. Church, 115 Simpson Ave., 7:30 p.m. Concert & refreshments \$3 at door. Everyone welcome.

Monday

June 6

Everything you wanted to know about the Flute but didn't know whom to ask (including the history and music of the instrument popularized in recent times by Jean-Pierre Rampal and James Galway). With flutist Ross Pearson. 2 p.m. Riverdale Library, 370 Broadview Ave. at Gerrard. 466-2197.

Tuesday

June 7

Open House and Annual General Meeting of Neighbourhood Legal Services. Open house 3-7 p.m. Annual General Meeting 7 p.m. Neighbourhood Legal Services 238 Carlton St.

International Theatre Congress: A folkloric history written and performed by John O'Neal. Don't start Me to Talking Or I'll Tell Everything I know: Sayings from the Life and Writings of Junebug Jabbo Jones, opens tonight in the Ice House Theatre at 8:30 p.m. \$7.50. Through Thursday and Sunday only; \$9 Friday and Saturday. York Quay Centre, Harbourfront.

Wednesday

June 8

The Annual Meeting of the **Neighbourhood Information Post** will be held at 7 p.m. at NIP's office, 265 Gerrard St. E. (corner of Gerrard and Parliament) Guest speaker will be Margaret Scrivener, MPP, St. David.

Saturday

June 11

The semi-annual **City/Metro Toronto Public Auction**, beginning 9:30 a.m. at the Metro Toronto Roads and Traffic Service Yard at 64 Murray Road in Downsview, (off Wilson Ave. between Keele and Dufferin). Make your bid on hundreds of items—everything from heavy-duty construction and removal equipment to desk-top calculators and bicycles; a great opportunity to pick up some real bargains while enjoying the excitement of a free-wheeling auction. For further information call the Department of Purchasing and Supply at 947-7326 during regular business hours.

Treasures of City Archives on view at Market Gallery. Discover rare paintings, artifacts, historically significant maps, documents and photographs from the City of Toronto archival collections, to August 20, 1983 at The Market Gallery, 95 Front St. E at Jarvis. Open to the public, free of charge, Wednesday to Friday, 10-4 p.m. Saturday, 9-4 p.m. Sunday 1-4 p.m. Closing Mondays, Tuesdays and all Civic Holidays.

Sunday

June 12

Baby resource fair and flea market at Alexandra Parks Community Centre, 105 Grange Ave. (Just west of Spadina between Dundas & Queen). Admission is \$.50. Information: Kathy at 960-1396.

Tuesday

June 14

Reading Series: Poet John Balaban (USA) reads his translations of Vietnamese poetry, and Jan Kerouac (daughter of Jack Kerouac) reads from her first novel, *Baby Driver*, about coming of age in the 1960s. 8:30 p.m. Free. York Quay Centre, Harbourfront.

Wednesday

June 15

Parkview Secondary School will be holding its final graduation ceremonies in the school grounds at 2 p.m.



A family affair: shopping on the Danforth makes a fun outing. Photos by Anne Wilbee.

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Senior Citizens — unfurnished 1 bedroom apt. New, over small grocery store. Queen St. East. Suitable for 2 senior citizens. Non smokers, non drinkers. Electric heating. \$300 month. 466-3530. 20

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Services

Neighbourhood Legal Services — Legal Clinic for low-income people within Don River-Bloor-Yonge. PROBLEMS: Landlord-tenant, welfare, UIC, Consumer, CAS, Immigration. Call: 961-2625. 238 Carlton St. at Parliament. 3

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Psychotherapy problems?? Let's talk!! Marriage, family, sex, addiction, therapy . . . sliding scale based on your financial means. Dr. Lichtenberg Ph.D Reg. CPFCA, AAMFT. Cabbagetown Counselling Centre. 562 Parliament St. By Appointment. Strictly confidential 922-2996. A

Wanted

Volunteering adds meaning to life. Would you enjoy helping a senior citizen and making a new friend? If so, call about Woodgreen's Friendly Visiting Program. 469-5211 ext. 131.

Man, 40, handy about home with all tools seeks reduced rent in exchange for maintenance work about house. Available in June. Phone Mike 461-3488. 3

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.

Classes

Are you trying to be a super-woman — 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 work-

ing 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.

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.

SEVEN CLASSIFIEDS get results. A listing of 30 words, only \$5.00; double listings available. Classifieds must be paid in advance to the Seven News Office the Monday before publishing.