

Thirteen years of Seven News

SEVEN NEWS

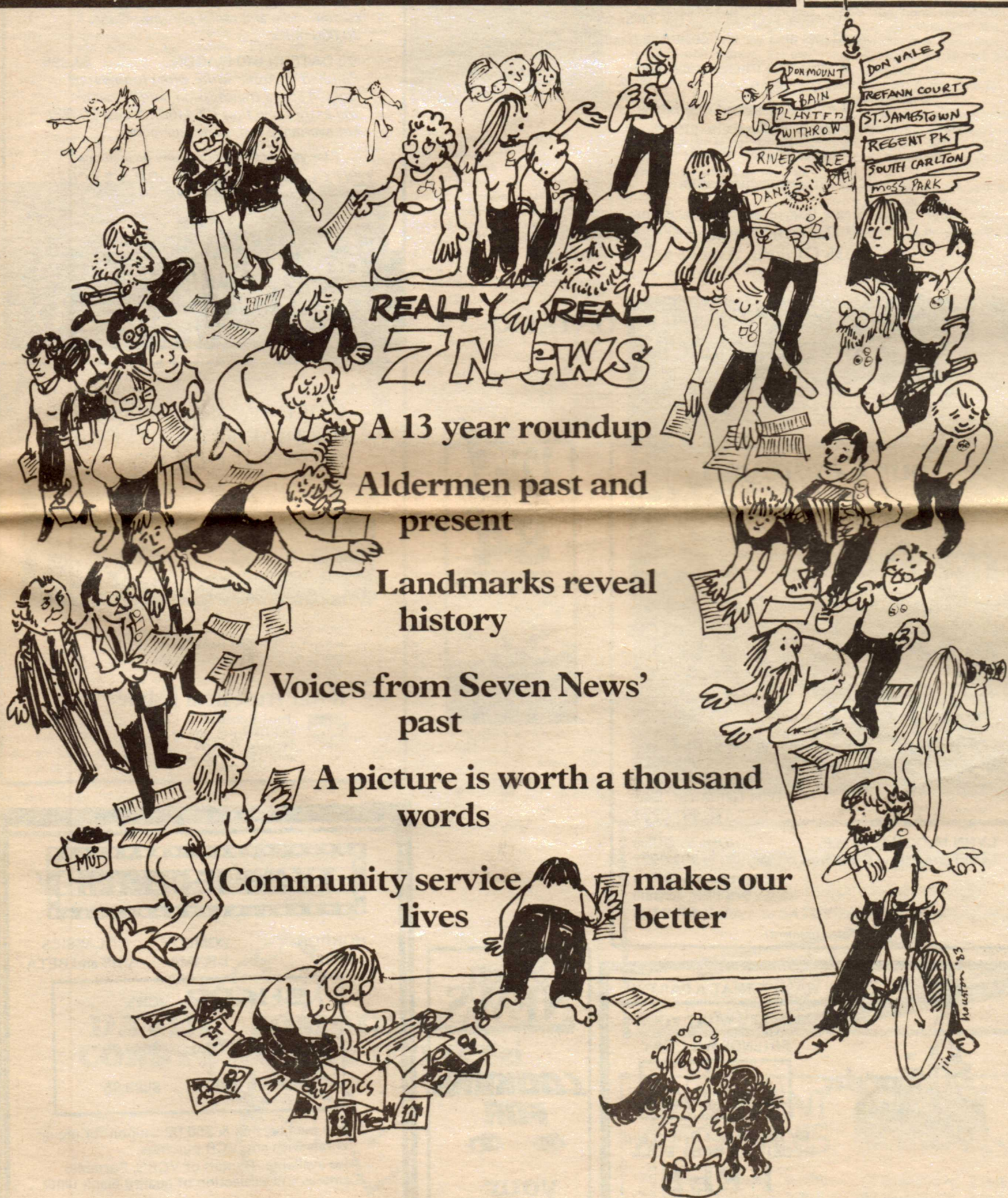
Inside

Special issue!

SEPTEMBER 22, 1983

TORONTO'S OLDEST COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

FREE



REALLY REAL 7 NEWS

A 13 year roundup

Aldermen past and present

Landmarks reveal history

Voices from Seven News' past

A picture is worth a thousand words

Community service lives makes our better

Come to our dinner and dance — see p. 9

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Special issue!

FROM THE EDITOR

Many months ago the Seven News board decided to hold a banquet to celebrate 13 years of getting the paper onto the street, to recognize the many people who have contributed time and money to keep it going, and to raise some funds. Not least of all was the desire to just get together, raise our glasses in good cheer, and have a little fun. We hope that you will join us at our dinner and dance on Oct. 1. More information appears on page nine.

We've also taken this opportunity to produce this special issue in which we look back at the history of the ward and the newspaper. Jean Wright has compiled a fascinating anthology of excerpts from the past 13 years (that's about 300 issues!) that reveals what was stirring up ward interests, as well as some lighter moments. George Rust-D'Eye, who has contributed many historical articles in the past, now highlights the architectural wonders of where we live. And Anne-Margaret Hines has followed around some of the residents of Ward Seven whose service to the community renews one's faith in people (we hope to write about many more worthy people in the future).

Jim Houston's drawings, archival photographs and the other articles also make this an issue to save as a remembrance of our banquet. Gayle Mercer and many others have worked hard to make the banquet the 'must' event of the year.

So long, not goodbye

It is with regret that I have announced my resignation as editor of Seven News. The last seven months have been very exciting — and frustrating — for me and I've learned a great deal. I've also met dozens of active people who make this ward arguably the most interesting in the city.

I'm sure that my successor will get as quickly caught up in Seven News as I have, will suffer the same depressing lows as well as the exhilarating highs (such as sailing in a cab through the dark streets of the city towards the printer at midnight, the boards of the new issue cradled in my lap). And if he or she won't mind then I'll keep my nose in the business, get in the way now and then, and take pleasure in knowing that although it's now someone else's problem I still care. Just like so many others over the last 13 years.



A 13 year roundup of Seven News

by JEAN WRIGHT

When I first arrived in Cabbagetown in 1976, I thought that all the great battles here had been fought long before. Regent Park, St. Jamestown, Dachi, Trefann Court, Don Vale, block-busting, white-painting — it all seemed far away.

But preparing these excerpts of Seven News from its beginnings in 1970, I see that in fact when I arrived the oceans of controversy and shock waves of "participation" had then hardly begun to subside. Reading the early editions, I can now see why in 1976 when I mentioned someone, the first question from my listener would often be "Is he a leftist?"

Over the years, however, the confrontational, polarized "good guys, bad guys" attitudes have been mellowing. People who weren't speaking to each other in 1972 were working together by 1977.

An obsessional interest gripped the writers and readers of the early editions of Seven News — housing! Almost every controversy that raged through our "village" has centred around who should live where, and how.

Gradually, stability has been restored and other issues and events of a gentler kind have arisen and been reported. And this walk through recent history, to my surprise, showed me that I had been more closely involved with the newspaper than I had remembered. Various articles, a couple of flattering pictures, myriad press releases for community groups — Seven News has been a larger part of my own life than I had realized.

There were a lot of laughs and surprises in the reading, too. For the first time I noticed that "Santa Claus" in one Cherry Hassard picture had identified himself as merchant Sol Wayne. In fact, I happen to know it was Charlie Burt, obviously playing a joke on Sol. A laugh of a different kind was provided by John Sewell, who stated if the Don Jail should be destroyed "because of the horrors that took place there, then on that basis the first thing that should come down is the Legislature Building. More terrible things have happened there than anywhere else."

As Ward Seven musical Damned if You Do put it:

Life in the inner city. Sometimes hot and sometimes

gritty.

But this place is where we hang our hat.

Ward Seven's where it's at.

So many thanks to the editors, Bob Barraclough, Norm Browne, Ulli Diemer, Jennifer Martin, Cary Fagan, to the photographers, writers, administrators, salespeople, printers and the little fellow who brings it to my door, for years and years of compulsive reading about this funny, famous, maddening, fascinating place where we live. Long may Toronto's oldest community newspaper continue to tell us "where it's at."

"We are printing a community paper. Who are 'We?' We are the Ward Seven Co-operative, a group of residents of Ward Seven and their supporters outside the ward who have pooled their time, money and prayerful efforts into putting together a newspaper that will be the community's newspaper."

"Fifty angry residents from the South of St. Jamestown area marched in front of the City Hall carrying picket signs accusing Meridian of destroying neigh-

bourhoods, and demanding that the city save Bleeker and Ontario Streets."
— July 17, 1970

Alderman June Marks says "the poor people of the Don District just want food in their stomachs and a roof over their heads and aren't interested in being asked their opinion" about what type of building is to take place in the district. "They don't need groups . . . of phonies . . . opportunists . . . and parasites who come in and use these people."
— Oct. 2, 1970

"After more than a month of rumblings and rumours, the first concerted effort has been taken to unseat Aldermen Karl Jaffary and John Sewell in the next municipal election: A letter and poster asking for "Two Honest Men — Neatly Dressed. Well behaved." was signed by Eric Rosen and mailed to every member of the Ward Seven Businessmen's Association . . . Sam Rotenberg, president of the Businessmen's Association was visibly upset."
— Nov. 12, 1971

"Local youths get short-short haircuts to appear in movie titled The Class of 44, to be shot in Toronto."
— Aug. 26, 1972

"The residents of the South Cabbagetown area celebrated their second annual Cabbagetown Ball with Doug Rice crowned King and Jackie Taylor Queen. Runners-up, Pat Travis and Leona Barton."
— September 30, 1972

"Sewell-Jaffary Team Double Vote. Cressy tops polls. Barr defeats Barrie."
— Dec. 9, 1972

Trees grow on Parliament Street — in boxes — thanks to the efforts of the Ward Seven Businessmen's Association. It is hoped to inset them permanently into the sidewalk later.
— Oct. 6, 1973

Don Area Co-op Homes, Inc. (DACHI) has taken an option to purchase 39 homes called the Cowley Assembly east of Carlton and Parliament following a a strife-ridden meeting of Don Vale residents.

Over 150 area residents turned out to witness the second annual Forsythia Festival and see Tony Brady present the "mutt" trophies.
— May 4, 1974

Contd. on p.4

SEVEN NEWS

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Editor: Cary Fagan
Manager: Frank Langrell
Typesetting: Anne Dancy

Board of Directors:
John Campey
Barb Hall
Ron Kaplansky
Gayle Mercer
Peter Oliphant
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Excerpts from p.3

"It could only happen in Ward Seven. With over 500 candidates running for office across Metro and 11 candidates running for alderman in Ward Seven, the two incumbent school trustees, Gord Cressy and Doug Barr were acclaimed."
- Nov. 23, 1974

"Ward Seven motorists to fight permit parking."
- Feb. 1, 1975

The Seven News editorial committee made an award to George Rust-D'Eye for his entertaining and informative articles on the early days of Ward Seven.
- April 13, 1975

"The future looks dim for the Cabbagetown Boxing Club and Youth Centre . . . John and Peter Wylie and fellow organizers are planning to appeal the decision of the city's budget committee. Last month, under the chairmanship of Alderman Art Eggleton, the committee approved a \$3,000 grant. Alderman Janet Howard said the sum won't cover even the cost of the year's oil bill."
- July 12, 1975

"Termites reported in Don Vale."
- Jan. 24, 1976

"In recognition of the large Chinese community in Ward Seven, the Riverdale Library will be holding a festival to mark the Chinese New Year. And of course Chinese food will be served."
- Feb. 7, 1976

"Police estimate that 200 people sleep outside in the winter months. So far this year, three people have died cold lonely deaths from exposure to Metro streets. Most of the deaths occur in the Don District in Ward Seven. Statistics show this area has the highest incident of alcoholism and homelessness in the city. A group of concerned citizens, community workers and aldermen met at the Christian Resource Centre to deal with the problem."
- Feb. 21, 1976

Chairman John Rae reports the Don Vale Community Centre is fighting for its life as the United Church, which owns the building at 80 Winchester, plans to terminate the lease.
- Nov. 20, 1976

"Sewell and Howard re-elected; Barr and Holmes for education."
- Dec. 18, 1976

"Central Area Plan: goodbye green space, hello high-rise."
- Feb. 26, 1977

A too-realistic rehearsal of Theatre Next Door's production of Frankenstein resulted in a call by two somewhat confused police officers, reports director Walter Rubino.
- April 9, 1977

Seven News has a new office in St. Peter's Church, moving from the Don Vale Community Centre, which is now closed.
- May 7, 1977

The St. Jamestown YWCA immigrant coffee groups prevent isolation for immigrants without friends says Mrs. Eva Robenak of St. Jamestown.
- June 4, 1977

Provincial elections see all three incumbents - Jim Ren-

wick in Riverdale, Margaret Scrivener in St. David, and Margaret Campbell in St. George, returned to office.
- June 18, 1977

"The old Don Jail will be closed down."
- July 30, 1977

"Saint Lawrence going up."
- Aug. 27, 1977

"A live concert at 7 p.m. on Thursday September 15 will signal the beginning of the first Cabbagetown Cultural Festival."
- Sept. 10, 1977

"End of the line for Nellie's Hostel for Women."
- Oct. 22, 1977

"South St. Jamestown high-rises approved."
- March 11, 1978

Kerwyn Jones and his basset hound Boadicea won the "Dog who looks most like his master" contest at the Forsythia Festival.
- May 20, 1978

"Sewell goes for Mayor's job."
- June 17, 1978

"Wanted by the Wellesley Hospital and this community: 25 confident, sympathetic, sensible people to work hard for no pay in the Emergency Waiting Room."
- July 1, 1978

"Seven News is moving its office on August 29 from Eastdale Collegiate to All Saints Church."
- Aug. 26, 1978

"Crombie, Rae top Polls."
- Oct. 21, 1978

"The winners: Cressy, Howard, Martell, Tulip. Sewell Elected Mayor."
- Nov. 18, 1978

"Darrell Kent was elected president of the Ward 7 Business and Professional Association."
- Dec. 2, 1978

Howard Huggett writes of "going down the dirty Don" on the annual Don River Day seventh annual canoe trip.
- April 20, 1979

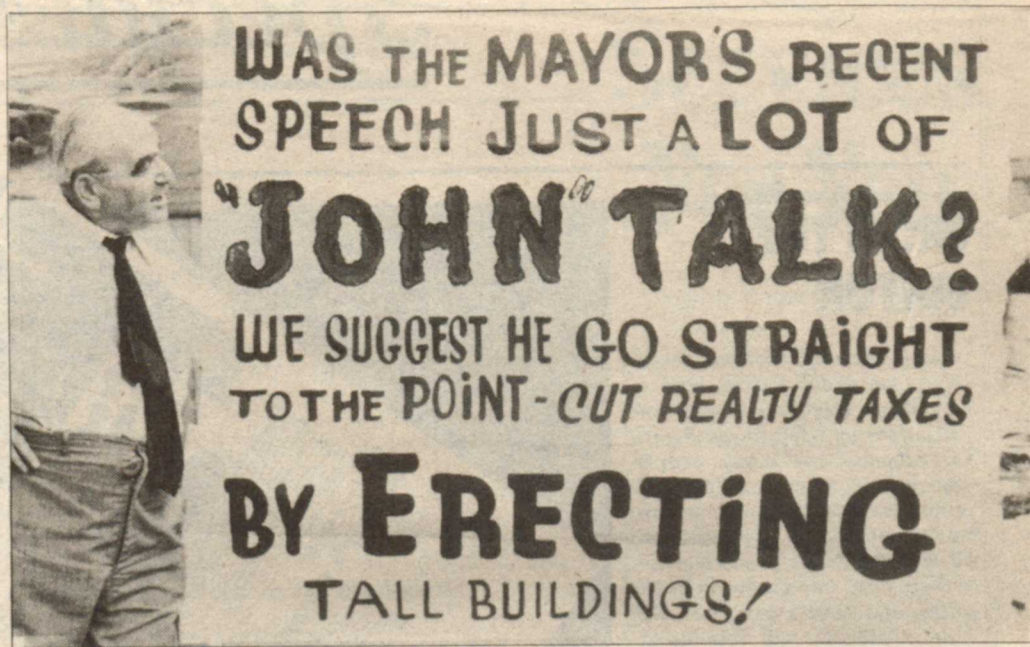
"People are no longer going to be satisfied with the uncontrolled use of chemicals," said Jack Shapiro, chairman of the city's Board of Health at a meeting on lead pollution caused by the Canada Metals plant on Eastern Avenue."
- June 15, 1979

"Local Cabbagetown boxer Pat Fennell came back with a bronze medal from the recent Pan American Games in San Juan, Puerto Rico," writes Peter Wylie.
- Aug. 24, 1979

"Gays fight for change in Human Rights code."
- Nov. 16, 1979

Businessmen on Queen Street East have decided to form a business improvement area."
- Jan. 11, 1980

"St. Peter's Anglican Church, on Carlton Street at Bleeker, is among the oldest and most beautiful church buildings in this city," writes George Rust-D'Eye in his continuing series of historic buildings in Ward Seven.
- Feb. 1, 1980



Another point of view. Photo from the Seven News archives.

The "T-Shirt of the Week" series of photographer Cherry Hassard features Pat Searle, who with two teenagers, wears a shirt that says "Insanity is hereditary. You get it from your kids."
- May 23, 1980

A front page picture shows the cast of Ward Seven's smash hit musical, Dammed If You Do, belting out the finale, "Life in the Inner City."
- July 11, 1980

"Loblaws closes, Ralph Thornton Community Centre Opens."
- Sept. 12, 1980

"South Riverdale Neighbourhood Improvement Program is now well on the way to completion."
- Nov. 5, 1980

"Cressy, Reville, Endicott, Clandfield winners in Ward Seven."
- Nov. 21, 1980

"East End Literacy, a program which assists illiterate adults to learn to read and write, is a very special program."
- March 13, 1981

"The Feb. 28 All Saints Open House was a great success" reports the cutlines on a picture of Rev. Norman Ellis, Luana Nolin and Millie Redmond.
- March 27, 1981

"Police want more money. The better to harass us with."
- April 10, 1981

"Seven News is celebrating its birthday. We're 11 years old."
- June 5, 1981

"Three years ago, artist Tom Oki was impressed by a young man's enthusiasm for music and working with children . . . the result is the partnership of Tom Oki and flautist David Blackmore in an informal music program at 14 Spruce Street."
- July 3, 1981

"This fall and winter at the Enoch Turner Schoolhouse, you can explore the city's past and learn about the historical dynamics that affect its present day development."
- Aug. 21, 1981

"The over-night Drop-In Centre housed in the All Saints' Anglican Church has been given an additional grant of \$10,000 by Metro."
- Nov. 27, 1981

"The Cabbagetown Historical Project, sponsored by the Parliament Street Library, Dixon Hall

and the Enoch Turner Schoolhouse, will begin gathering information and memorabilia for a booklet and archives."
- Ibid

"2,400 Ward Seven homeowners face re-assessment."
- Jan. 15, 1982

"The director of this year's ambitious performance of Mother Courage and her Children by the Regent Park Teen Association is Debbie Carter - a modern day Mother Courage."
- March 12, 1982

"Tenant activist Nelson Clarke dies at 67."
- May 21, 1982

"Sole support mothers held a rally at Queen's Park to protest the transfer of women on Family Benefits to the municipal welfare system, which will force them out to work without any adequate daycare and job training."
- June 18, 1982

"A walk for WoodGreen and Canada Celebration raised over \$5,500 for the centre's programs. Man Han Chan won the grand prize for most pledges collected. Other top walkers were Gaston Desgagnes, Yee Choy, Peter Williams, David Reville, Danny Wanamaker, Shelly Barlett, Farah Malik, Brian Moss and Stephen Corneau."
- July 8, 1982

"The fight in the Broadview-Greenwood by-election is between Lynn McDonald of the NDP and Peter Worthington."
- Oct. 8, 1982

"Norman Ellis is dead."
- Oct. 29, 1982

"Joanne Campbell is the new senior alderman for Ward Seven; her running mate, incumbent David Reville will keep his position as junior alderman. Campbell inherits the seat from Gord Cressy, who has retired from politics to head the United Way. Pam McConnell and Fran Endicott were elected school trustees."
- Nov. 12, 1982

"Seven News in serious trouble."
- Ibid

"Welcome back, Ward Seven News - you've been sorely missed."
- Letter from Donya Peroff.
- April 8, 1983

"Organizers of a Toronto rally against the testing of the cruise missile in Canada are expecting a turnout of 10,000 and possibly much larger."
- April 22, 1983

"Whereas in the seventies the physical survival of our neighbourhoods was at stake, the issue of the eighties is the social survival of our communities," Gordon Cressy, United Way president, commented at a Community Forum.
- May 6, 1983

"Is Metro's drinking water safe?"
- May 20, 1983

"Edna Dixon was long-time community activist."
- June 3, 1983

"Unless a last-ditch effort on the floor of the House of Commons by some members of Parliament is successful, Ward Seven will soon be split between three federal electoral districts."
- September 8, 1983

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Picture is worth a thousand words

Photos from the Seven News archives



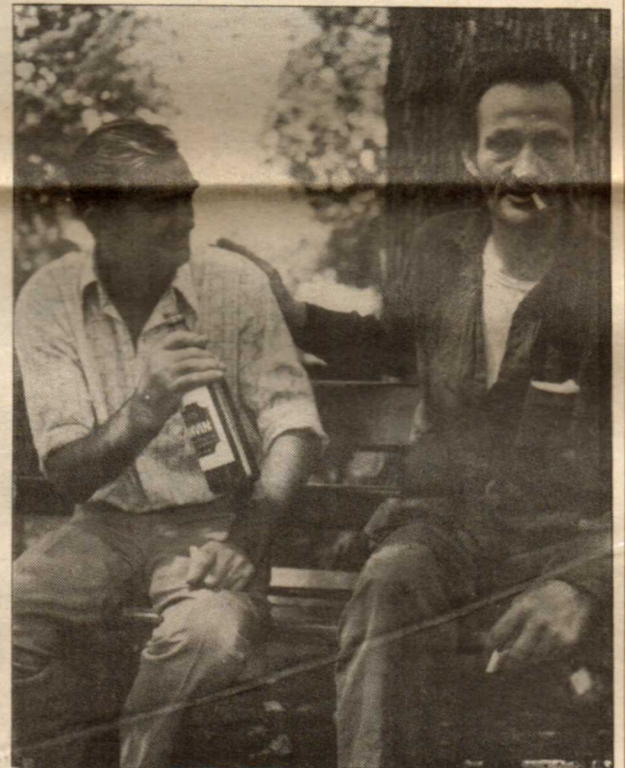
Agnes Ward makes lovebirds at the Second Mile Club for the Red Cross, 1976.



Cabbagetown Boxing Club.



The Ward Seven musical.



Dawn Jobson, a Seven News distributor, was photographed with her cat "Blondie" in 1977.



Cherry Beach.

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There are some very good reasons to stop for stationary school buses. Such as the penalties for not stopping, which could include six demerit points, fines of up to \$1,000 and even imprisonment.

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So remember, drivers going in both directions must stop for a school bus flashing its red lights. And

drivers approaching from behind must stop at least 20 metres (about 4 car lengths) behind the bus.

And this year, there's something new to watch for. Every school bus in Ontario is now equipped with a STOP SIGN ARM that is automatically raised when children are getting on or off a school bus.

So keep an eye out this fall for flashing lights and stop signs on school buses. Please, don't take a chance with the life of a child.



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Seven News briefs

The JHS Club

In this day and age, we all need some kind of social direction, whether it be recreational or socializing. Yet when it comes right down to the bottom line, this can be a very difficult task for some of us to accomplish. That is why the John Howard Society has given birth to what is called the JHS Club. In this club, correctional clients along with many people in the community now have that "sense of belonging" to something that is directed to their everyday needs, such as community events, literacy programs (one to one), relaxation class, meeting new friends, information night, i.e. sports and so on.

This club is open every week night Monday to Friday, from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. at 168 Isabella, where the majority of these activities take place. Weekend events are planned together and usually run both Saturday and Sunday, involved are such things as picnics and horseback riding. The fee for all this is \$1 for a year, and each individual is given a membership card.

Help for Seniors

Senior citizens who are having trouble filling out their applications for the Ontario Property Tax Grant can get help at Neighbourhood Information Post, 265 Gerrard St. E. (at Parliament, next to the library).

Those unable to get to the Neighbourhood Community Centre can telephone NIP at 924-2543 to find out the location of the information centre nearest them.

REACH

REACH is an organization developed by and for Canadians with Herpes Genitalis. We exist to provide support and information for the general population, but more specifically, for people who think they may have herpes or have already been diagnosed. We have a very positive approach to herpes, and are committed to developing community and professional sensitivity towards this health issue. We also advocate further research in the area of herpes to develop a cure or treatment, as well as, broaden our general knowledge base with respect to herpes genitalis.

Our organization respects the confidentiality of all who receive our newsletter and participate in our groups. We are developed as a membership organization, which means that our direction is determined by those with herpes, aided by information and suggestions by our Advisory Committee, and other interested health care personnel.



Ward Aldermen past and present

by GAYLE MERCER

Ward Seven is fortunate to have had a succession of active and concerned aldermen representing it at city hall. Since the inception of Seven News the following people have served as aldermen: John Sewell, Karl Jaffary, Gordon Cressy, Janet Howard, and (presently) Joanne Campbell and David Reville.

Seven News asked those it was able to contact to comment on their efforts during their term in office and on their vision of the Ward Seven community. Here are their replies.

Joanne Campbell: "... a ward where poopers scoop, dogs don't bark and every car has a place to park!

"... our ward is one of great diversity. It is our challenge to learn from and draw strength from the many things that make us different."

David Reville: "I've got shelves full of dreams for the ward and the city. The dreams that recur most often are about housing and jobs and OHC keeping its promise to Regent Park residents to build a community centre."

John Sewell: "Helping to control public and private re-development in Trefann, Don Vale and South St. Jamestown.

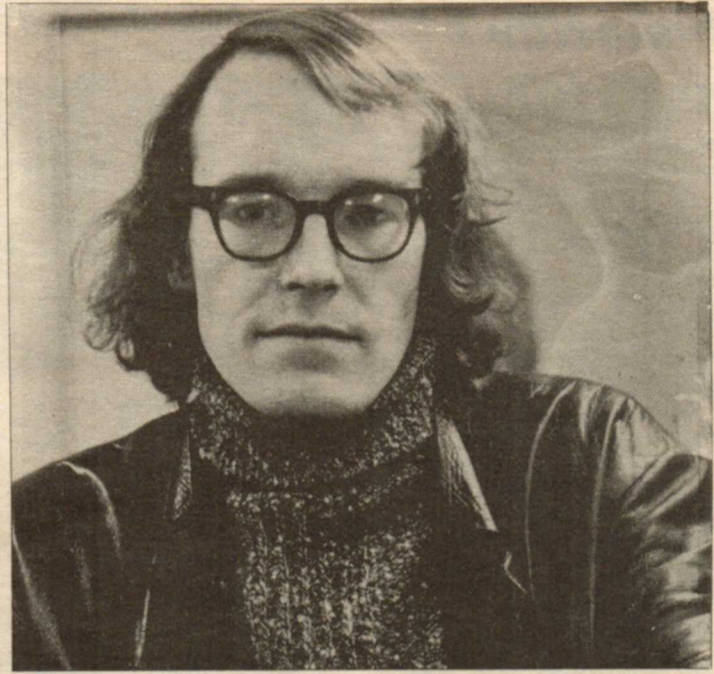
"... establishing strong housing policies that led to forming Toronto's Non-Profit Housing Corp."

Gordon Cressy: "... the little things that make Ward Seven a neighbourhood to be proud of, like Women's Hostel on Sherbourne Street, having the Chinese and Greek communities part of what makes this ward a better place.

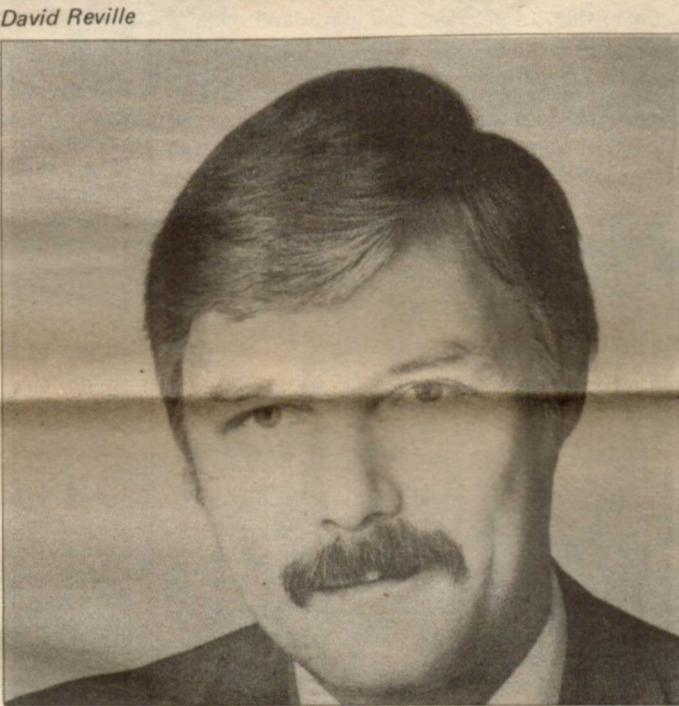
"... helping to open up the school system so that parents could participate and really be involved."



Janet Howard



John Sewell



David Reville



Joanne Campbell

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Landmarks reveal history's secrets

A historian's view of the ward's highlights

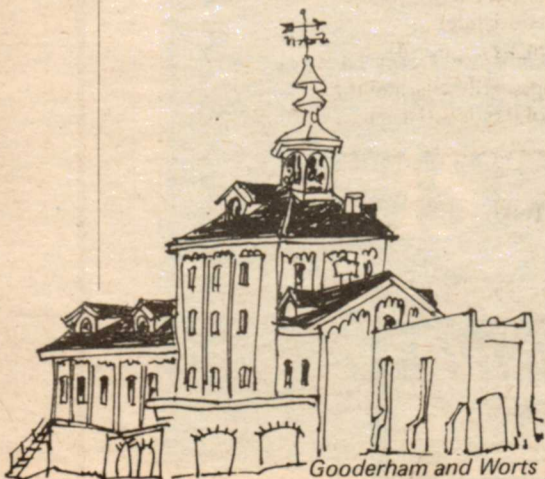
by GEORGE RUST-D'EYE

In Ward Seven can be found the oldest parts of the City of Toronto and some of its oldest neighbourhoods. John Graves Simcoe established the Town of York here in 1793, and built the first government buildings of the new Province of Upper Canada, near the foot of what is now Parliament Street. Early industries established in Ward Seven included Gooderham & Worts Distilleries, the Consumers' Gas Company, and Canada Packers. The area was also the site of some of Toronto's major institutions, such as the Toronto General Hospital, a number of the city's earliest schools and churches, two large cemeteries, the City zoo, and the jail and industrial farm. From the middle of the nineteenth century onwards, a large number of Toronto residents made their homes in Ward Seven, ranging from the smallest labourers' cottages of Cabbagetown and a similar area across the Don River south of Gerrard, to the impressive large houses on Sherbourne and Carlton Streets.

Today, many significant parts of Ward Seven's Victorian heritage remain to be seen and enjoyed by modern-day Torontonians and tourists, including some of the city's major architectural and historical sites, together with large sections of beautiful Victorian residential streetscapes in neighbourhoods still lived in and appreciated by their occupants. In this wealth of Victoriana, it is difficult to single out a small number of sites of greatest importance. However, in the opinion of the writer, the following sites, (arranged in geographical order, from south to north), would certainly rank near the top of any such list.

Gooderham and Worts Distillery Complex

In 1832, James Worts and William Gooderham erected a wind-operated flour and grist mill, on the waterfront near the foot of what is now Trinity Street. From this humble beginning grew the gigantic Gooderham and Worts distillery, which was, by 1861, the largest distillery in Canada and one of the largest in the world. Today, the company continues to carry on its business at its original site. The windmill is gone, but what remains includes a large number of handsome Victorian brick and stone buildings. A fire which swept the site in 1869 destroyed most of the early buildings, so many of the existing ones were built in the 1870s, apparently under the direction of the well-known Toronto architect David Robert. The large grey Kingston limestone building which dominates the site, was erected in 1859 and rebuilt after the fire.



Gooderham and Worts

Little Trinity Church and Enoch Turner Schoolhouse

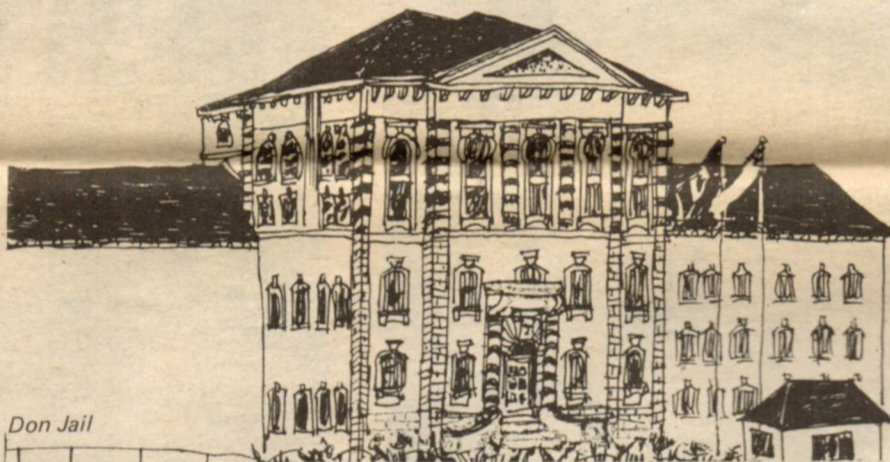
Trinity Church, the oldest church building in Toronto, was built in 1843 at the corner of King and Trinity Streets, to the design of architect Henry Bower Lane. Known as the "poor man's church," it served mainly the Protestant Irish settlement east of Parliament Street, who couldn't afford the pew rents at St. James Cathedral. The church, of Victorian Gothic derivation, together with its late-Georgian rectory (1853) to the west, are listed as historic sites by the Toronto Historical Board.

Also listed by the board is the small building to the south of Trinity Church, Enoch Turner Schoolhouse, built by a local brewer, in 1848. This was the first free school in Toronto. Today, it is still in active use as a model Victorian school and as a centre for community activity.

St. Paul's Roman Catholic Church

This magnificent Italian Renaissance-style church was erected in 1887 at the corner of Queen and Power Streets. The parish, which recently celebrated its 160th birthday, enjoyed the distinction, from 1841 to 1848, of cathedral church of the diocese of Toronto. Designed by architect Joseph Connelly, St. Paul's boasts what the late Professor Eric Arthur called "quite the most beautiful church interior in Toronto."

The Don Jail



Don Jail

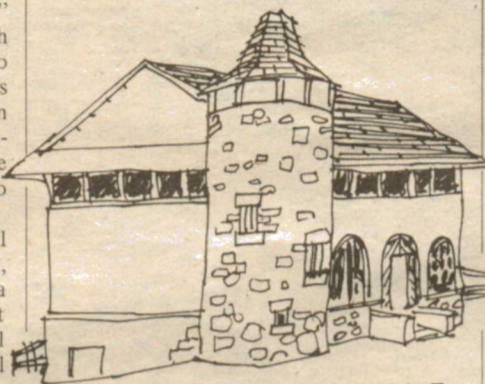
Designed in 1858 by the renowned Toronto architect William Thomas, the fourth Toronto Jail opened its doors to visitors in 1865. Considered at the time an attractive and spacious suburban accommodation for prisoners, in accordance with the most enlightened approaches to rehabilitative justice of the day, the jail later suffered an undesired bad reputation, not due to inadequacies of its own, but to the way in which it was used. By the time it was closed as a jail, in the late 1970s, it was being used to house 600 prisoners, twice as many as it was intended to accommodate. An impressive architectural work, the Don Jail sits empty today, awaiting, it is hoped, restoration and recycling.

Riverdale Zoo Site

Riverdale Park was officially opened in 1880. By the mid-1890s, Alderman Daniel Lamb had successfully promoted the concept of establishing a City zoo in the park, just south of Winchester Street, east of Sumach. Through purchase and gifts, the City acquired a collection of animals, displayed for the first time at the Riverdale Zoo in 1899. The zoo remained very popular until it was finally closed in 1974. Still remaining from the zoo are its large stone gateposts and segments of walls, the "Donnybrook" building (built in 1902) and the zookeeper's cottage.

The site is still in public use as the Riverdale Farm, which has also proven very popular with Torontonians. As well as retaining the excellent siting and picturesque surroundings of the zoo, the farm maintains historical continuity with its Victorian neighbourhood through its

buildings, the Napier Simpson farmhouse (new but of authentic 1850s style) and a small barn, both designed by the late architect Napier Simpson Jr., (and marked by a THB plaque), and a genuine 1830s Pennsylvania German style barn moved in pieces from Markham.



Riverdale Zoo

Necropolis Cemetery

The name means "City of the Dead." The Necropolis was established here in the 1850s, to replace "Potters Field," or "Strangers' Burying Ground" in Yorkville, from which the graves and remains of many of Toronto's earliest residents were moved here by the 1870s. The cemetery has for over 120 years operated as a non-sectarian burial ground and continues to be used for interments. The Necropolis is the resting place of many historic Toronto figures, including

297 Carlton St. (1892); 314 Carlton St. (1876-7); 37 Metcalfe St. (1875); 156 Winchester St. (1867); 502-8 Parliament St. (1879); 384 Sumach St. (1866); 314 Wellesley St. E. (1890); 402½ Wellesley St. E. (Owl House, 1886), Alpha Ave. (1887), and Wellesley Cottages (1887). All of the above, together with many other houses in Don Vale, are listed in the THB Inventory of Buildings of Architectural and Historical Importance.

Daniel Lamb House 156 Winchester Street

One of the earliest residents of this area was Peter Rothwell Lamb, who operated the only major industry ever to be established in Don Vale, the P.R. Lamb Manufactory, makers of glue and stove blacking, at the site of what is now Hillcrest Park, at the east end of Amelia Street. His son, Daniel Lamb, married Elize Lumbers in 1867, at which time they moved into their new house at 156 Winchester St. As well as founding the Riverdale Zoo, Daniel Lamb served as alderman for the area in 1885-6 and 1895-1902 and sat on the City Board of Control in 1897, 1989 and 1901. Among his other achievements, he has been credited with responsibility for many improvements in the city, including the Rosedale Valley Road, the water works at the Island, the reclaiming of Ashbridges Bay and the provision of main railway throughfares from the east end.

The house, which contains parts of an 1830s residence, was modified in 1877, producing the attractive facade which can be seen today.

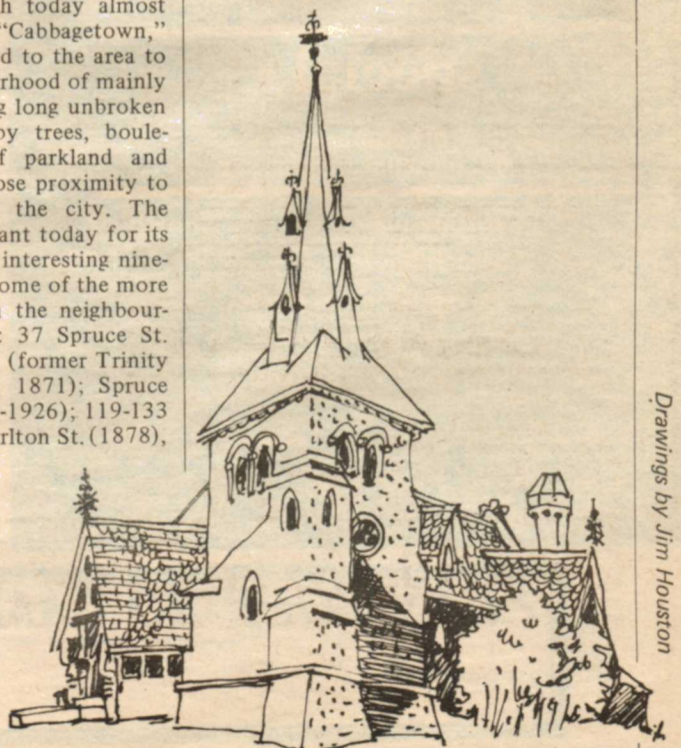
St. James Cemetery

Like the Necropolis, this cemetery was laid out in the mid-1800s, to receive the remains of early Toronto residents originally buried in another graveyard, that which surrounded St. James Cathedral. This was to be the resting place of members of the Church of England. The grounds were laid out by architect John G. Howard, Toronto's first City architect. In 1858, the little Gothic chapel of St. James-the-Less was erected, to the designs of architects Frederick Cumberland and William Storm. It has been called one of the 10 most beautiful churches in Canada.

St. James Cemetery, like the Necropolis, contains many excellent examples of Victorian funeral art, commemorating some of Toronto's and Canada's most famous citizens, including the tombs of William P. Howland and James Cockburn (Fathers of Confederation), Samuel, William and Mary Jarvis, Henry Scadding, Enoch Turner, Robert Baldwin Sullivan, Robert Baldwin, Sir Casimir Gzowski, Bishop Strachan, William Gooderham and James Worts, as well as many other prominent politicians, jurists and industrialists.

The houses of Don Vale

Until recently the area bounded by Parliament Street, Gerrard Street, the two cemeteries and the Don River, was known as "Don Vale," although today almost everyone refers to it as "Cabbagetown," a name previously applied to the area to its south. It is a neighbourhood of mainly Victorian houses, forming long unbroken streetscapes, enhanced by trees, boulevards, and stretches of parkland and cemeteries, located in close proximity to the downtown area of the city. The neighbourhood is important today for its number and diversity of interesting nineteenth century houses. Some of the more remarkable residences in the neighbourhood are the following: 37 Spruce St. (c. 1860); 41 Spruce St. (former Trinity College Medical School, 1871); Spruce Court Apartments (1913-1926); 119-133 Spruce St. (1881); 295 Carlton St. (1878),



St. James

Drawings by Jim Houston

Voices from Seven News' past

by HOWARD HUGGETT

Seven News is celebrating over 13 years of publication, and it is interesting and useful to take a look or two at some of those early days, to see how it got started and perhaps form some opinion as to how much of a success it has been.

Like a lot of other institutions, Seven News began as an idea in someone's head - John Sewell. When John was running in the aldermanic race for Ward Seven in 1970 he made a promise to start a local paper in the ward. As Norm Browne, one of the editors during the early 1970s, remarked to me when I interviewed him just recently, when a ward alderman is trying to accomplish something in city council he may not get support from other council members, so he must look to the electors for

advice and assistance. That was the purpose of starting Seven News, to provide a vehicle and a voice for citizens who wanted to get involved in the political process.

It took quite a while, six months and more, before the first issue hit the streets, and many meetings were held, first in Sewell's home and then in public buildings. Naturally, money had to be found somewhere before much could happen. Interestingly enough, there were differences of opinion as to what kind of a newspaper should be produced. There were some people who wanted Seven News to be a professional project, with experienced writers who were basing their articles on intensive research. This concept would of course run counter to the idea that the paper should be the voice of the ward. Fortu-

nately, the original idea as proposed by Sewell won out, and the first issue of a grass-roots newspaper came out in June 1971.

This information as to the argument over the character of the paper I was fortunate enough to learn from a brief telephone chat with Dallard Runge who was the first editor of the newspaper. One of the most important tasks, Runge told me, was to find volunteers to deliver the paper in the different areas. On Saturday mornings after the paper was issued Sewell and Karl Jaffary would load up a car with bundles of copies and deliver them to the distributors. Sometimes there were no distributors, so Jaffary and Sewell had to fill in. It was all a labour of love, and I doubt if anyone got expenses, let alone salary.

So Seven News became the voice of the ward, and it would be interesting to know how many people got their first opportunity to get into print their ideas and problems. Norm Browne told me that whenever someone stopped him on the street with a "beef" he would always advise him not to bother

talking but to go home and write a letter or an article and share his thoughts with thousands of Seven News readers.

It wasn't only the writers who were amateurs; so were the editors. When Runge and his wife took on the running of the paper they had no experience whatever for such an occupation. They learned by studying other newspapers, they edited articles, made up headings, cut and pasted, sold ads, kept records, etc. When Browne took over the editorship some time later, he admitted, his only experience with editing consisted in having an article he had submitted to the Toronto Star cut to pieces. Maybe that made him more understanding when processing other people's copy.

It is very encouraging to note how ordinary people can meet a challenge and use their imagination and initiative when they are given a chance. When I was interviewing Norm Browne he told me that he once got someone to write an article on a haunted house in the ward.

We talked about a problem that has always been there with newspapers such as Seven News - how to publish a paper that

reflects the opinion and desires of its readers who are interested in such issues as improved community services while appealing to business owners whose main concern is running their companies at a profit in spite of pressures from various levels of government, rising taxes, etc. Norm told me that he always sent a reporter to the meetings of the local businessmen's association, so that he knew the members and was well aware of their problems.

When I asked Browne what was the most enjoyable and rewarding part of editing Seven News he replied without any hesitation that it was that he was making it possible for ordinary citizens to express themselves and get involved in the affairs of the ward. My last query was: If you had to do it all again, would you do it? He thought it over for a while and then replied that he would.

Well, the paper is still doing the job for which it was first put together, thanks to the efforts of many dedicated and hardworking people over the years, of whom Norm Browne and Dallard Runge are two examples.

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The Administrator is responsible to the Board of Management for the overall management and operation of the Centre, supervision of centre staff, assisting with the development of policies, guidelines and board agendas, working with local groups on community needs and program development, budget preparation, property management and administration.

The successful candidate should be familiar with the South Riverdale Community, and have strong management, supervisory and public relation skills. Knowledge of Financial Control and Property Management procedures, and community organization and development techniques. Good oral and written communication, and program planning and development skills. Experience in working with volunteer groups. Educational requirements are a University Degree or equivalent education and experience, preferably with additional related training.

Some evening and weekend work will be required.

This position is open to men and women applicants.

To apply for this position, please submit resume in confidence by October 7, 1983, to:

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Community makes our lives better

Here are a few of the many people who give of their time and energy

by ANNE-MARGARET HINES

Walking into Nettleship's Hardware store on Parliament Street is like stepping back in our area's past. Since 1920 when John Henry Nettleship opened the little shop at the corner of Parliament and Wellesley, there has been a plaster corniced ceiling, a creaking floor and a family member behind the counter.

Marg Taggart, the third generation of Nettleships to live and

work in this store, greets her customers by name, asks about the family and wipes the paint off of her fingers before shaking hands. "I was born and raised in this house" she explains, "and my father was born here before me."



Marg Taggart and son Donny: "We knew everyone who came into the store." Photo by Anne-Margaret Hines.

work in this store, greets her customers by name, asks about the family and wipes the paint off of her fingers before shaking hands. "I was born and raised in this house" she explains, "and my father was born here before me."

Marg and her husband took over the store from Donald

in Nettleship for a while yet."

Professor Jeremy Carver looks back at the five years he spent in Ward Seven community work as winning many battles, but not the war. From 1968-72 Prof. Carver, presently with University of Toronto, was an active member of this area's Residents and Ratepayers Association which, at the time, was fighting strongly against the city's urban renewal schemes.

"We were trying to retain an economic mix" he explains. "We didn't want to see lower income families moved into one area and wealthy people into another."



Jeremy Carver

The Association worked with City planners for two years to come up with a viable housing plan for the area but nothing satisfactory ever materialized. "Even when we managed to elect a 'reform' council" says Carver, "when it came to facing the builders they just backed down."

Another battle which Carver was more successful in was the founding of the Donvale Community Centre. A property of the United Church, the centre was up for sale when the Residents' Association persuaded the church to rent it to the community. Carver was Association secretary at the time and remembers the complications in getting the centre going. "The limited church wanted a respectable group in charge so most of the board members were academics. We painted the place and organized social welfare activities, Boy Scouts, etc."

"The real problem, though, was always the people of the Business Association who resented using prime commercial real estate for community activities." Today the building houses the Toronto Dance Theatre.

Jim and Marylie Houston make you feel excited to live in Ward Seven. In the 30 or so years they've lived here Marylie has helped organize EAST, an association of parents which acts as a liaison with school boards and teachers, has run a hugely successful English - as - second language course for mothers

and pre-schoolers, organized the first Toronto Parents Convention to discuss education, fought Bill 127, and has been active on the committee which worked nine years to build the new Franklin School.

She also worked on the Toronto East Community Council which opposed government cutbacks of some school programs and sat on a staffing committee which made Franklin School the first to involve parents in the hiring of principals and the placement of teachers.

Jim Houston worked for several years as Interfaith minister in St. Jamestown, where he headed the Community Action Project to give support to tenants. In 1975 he became a community worker in the Don District and handled church and community duties such as chairing the Franklin Community Centre.

He also draws for Seven News and designs flyers and newsletters for many groups who

need his talents.

Together they have raised three children Tara 16, Joel 13 and Rebekka 10 who Marylie sites as her real reason for getting involved in community activities. "A teacher said my children would get a lot more out of school if I participated too. I soon realized how much work needs to be done in our education system. And then one thing just led to another."

Jim has been approached to run for alderman and Marylie, for trustee, but both have declined. "We've got enough going on" explains Jim, "and we're careful about having time for the family as well."

However they still managed to participate in the two Ward musicals and have helped out with Franklin School theatre productions.

"I guess if we weren't busy we'd be wasting our time on TV or something" laughs Jim. "It gets hectic around here, but never dull."

The Houston family: "One thing just led to another."



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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Thursday

September 22

Parent Awareness Group. This is a new program for the parents of young children who are interested in learning more about children's services available in Toronto, especially in the Riverdale area. Mrs. Janet Mason, Early Childhood Consultant for this area, will be available to discuss all types of Day Care (private home, group, informal) for children from infancy to school-age. Mrs. Mason will be speaking courtesy of the Ministry of Community and Social Services which is responsible for licensing "over 500 centres in Metro Toronto with a capacity of approximately 23,000 children." Today at 10 a.m. Riverdale Library, 370 Broadview Ave. 466-2197.

Saturday

September 24

Pets depend on us. Even when they are lost, abandoned, abused or simply unwanted, somebody must take care of them. That somebody is the Toronto Humane Society. Today is Tag Day, and the Toronto Humane Society needs volunteers to collect donations which will be used to care for the animals. Will you help? Call 362-2273 and volunteer now. The animals need you.

Giant Lawn Sale at Simpson Ave. United Church. 115 Simpson Ave. Also bake sale, luncheon and much more. 11 to 3 p.m. Everyone welcome.

The United Way launch will be more than a kickoff. It'll be a chance to listen to good music, good humour and good fun. With 680 CFTR's Trivial Pursuit; The Radio Game with morningman John Landecker. See the Bopcats, Borgys Banjo Reunion, Homenetman Brass Band, the Labatt's Blue Balloon. Make it a family affair! Children's games, fitness tests, clowns, prizes and celebrities. Learn about some of United

Way's agencies and their services. Nathan Phillips Square, noon.

Kids Films at the Riverdale Library (370 Broadview Ave.) 2 p.m. 466-2197.

A Whale of a Weekend Films: In celebration of the new Greenpeace compilation book Whales: A Celebration, Harbourfront shows a mini-festival of whale films. Children's films from 1 to 4 p.m. include Flipper, Beluga Baby, and We Call Them Killers. At 7:30 p.m. watch Moby Dick and Greenpeace: Voyage to Save the Whales. Free. York Quay Centre, Harbourfront.

The 519 Church Street Community Centre will be holding its 3rd Annual Fundraising Auction today. Articles to be auctioned include art work, dinners for two, and other unique items including synthetic mink to kitchen sink. Dinner at 5:30 consists of chili, rolls and salad - cost \$3.99. The auction starts at 7:30 p.m. sharp and there will be no admission charge. For further information call 923-2778.

The Burloak Theatre Group presents the new comedy play Happily Every Laughter by Neville Bryant, at the Enoch Turner Schoolhouse, 106 Trinity Street. 8 p.m. 863-0010 for tickets or information.

Sunday

September 25

Toronto Heritage Fair. The greatly expanded 3rd annual Toronto Heritage Fair, sponsored by the Toronto Historical Board, will be hosted by 36 groups, each of which will show the circumstances of their arrival, the story of their involvement and their contributions to Toronto. Grounds open at 9:30 a.m. and exhibits will be staffed and special activities will begin at 11 a.m. Come join the fun. Learn a song in another language, get involved in a traditional dance, see scouting from different communities, enjoy the camaraderie of a bonfire and sing-along. Senior citizens and all those wearing national or pioneer costumes are admitted Free and are invited to march in

a Heritage Parade, led by the Fort York Guard and multicultural marching bands. Children can join in playing games, seniors can match wits at board games, and everyone can help to create a Toronto mural. Fort York is located on Garrison Road, off Fleet Street, between Bathurst Street and Strachan Avenue, and is open daily from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission for adults is \$3, for children and seniors \$1.50, but for the Fair seniors and those in historic costume are free. Take the No. 511 Bathurst streetcar to Garrison Road on Fleet Street.

Monday

September 26

SEPT 26 East Area Schools Together, Queen Alexander School (Dundas and Broadview) presents Video Arcades - A Debate for and against; Students, Teachers, Parents, Community Workers and Police. 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday

September 27

Teens: Join us for a karate demonstration by Centennial College's Karate Club at Riverdale Library, 370 Broadview at Gerard. 7:30 p.m. 466-2197.

Reading Series: The gala launching of the Greenpeace anthology Whales: A Celebration, edited by Greg Gatenby. Contributors in attendance include Margaret Atwood and Josef Skvorecky. 8:30 p.m. Free. York Quay Centre, Harbourfront.

Wednesday

September 28

Update on Birth Control. Carolyn Klopstock, Family Planning Community Worker, will use slides, posters, pamphlets and discussion to give us the latest information on birth control - new methods, drugs and the Pill, reversibility of tubal

ligations, vasectomy, teens and birth control, involvement of men, and other questions participants may have. Free child care. Central Neighbourhood House, 349 Ontario St. 925-4363 7 p.m.

Facts and Artefacts a showing by Ana Santos, Sept. 28 until Oct. 8. Gallery Nine Forty, 940 Queen St. E.

Thursday

September 29

Free Fitness Classes - exercise to music on Thursdays, today through Oct. 27 from 7 to 8 p.m. at Central Neighbourhood House, 349 Ontario St. Free child care. 925-4363.

Friday

September 30

Funnel Experimental Film Theatre: Richard Lerman, U.S. electronic music composer and filmmaker Lerman combines his film, science and music background to produce his innovative work which has included compositions for film, bicycles, typewriters, metal wheel rims and chopsticks. Lerman will present four pieces tonight including Incident At Three Mile Island - Perhaps An Elegy for Karen Silkwood - a performance for amplified tuning forks and laser light. 8 p.m. 507 King St. E (at Sackville).

Sunday

October 2

Harvest Festival at Colborne Lodge Drive & The Queensway (south entrance to High Park). 1 to 5 p.m. 19th century crafts by costumed demonstrators. Musical entertainment by Muddy York. Dances from around the world by the Folk Ballet Theatre. Fort York Fifes and Drums. Puppet Theatre - Children's Games. Barbershop Quartet singing. Historic House

tours. Collectables and White Elephants. Preserves, home baking and refreshments for sale. Adults \$1.50, children and seniors \$1.

Margaret Randall, poet, author, social critic, mother of four children, will talk about her new book Christians in the Nicaragua Revolution. The book records personal accounts of Christians who were both directly and indirectly involved in the overthrow of dictator Somoza. She will discuss the status of women, the objectives of the revolution and the current political military crisis. Trinity-St. Paul's United Church, 427 Bloor St. W. 8 to 10 p.m. Sponsored by the Ecumenical Forum.

ONGOING

Dixon Hall Community Music School in south Cabbagetown needs volunteer teachers in guitar strings, brass, winds, piano, to give private instruction to inner city kids. If you have one or two hours a week phone Doug Jamieson at 863-0499.

Houselink Community Homes is a non-profit organization that establishes co-op housing for people who have received psychiatric treatment. We need dedicated volunteers to attend regular co-op meetings and facilitate discussion with four or five people. If you are looking for challenging and satisfying volunteer work and the opportunity to work with small groups of people or you want to get involved with a strong community based organization call Erich Freiler or Joyce Killin at 968-0242.

SEND NOTICES FOR THE COMMUNITY CALENDAR AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE TO SEVEN NEWS, 249 SHERBOURNE ST. M5A 2R9.

CLASSIFIED

For Sale

Needed in this area: people who would be interested in being a Michele Lynn Hostess at home. For more details call 961-4894 22

Help Wanted

Seven News needs ads sales people. Why not help your community paper and make a few extra dollars?

Phone Frank at 921-2548.

Positions available as fashion coordinators, management positions as well. No investment required. Commission basis only. If interested please call 961-4894. 22

Classes

Gain new energy with dancercise by BODY SCULPTURE total fitness workout. Variety of music. Free trial class. Danforth and Chester. Call Pat 429-3607.

Music at Sprucecourt. On Sept. 28 several after-school music classes will start again for "ORFF" and recorder. In a fun way children from 3 to 9 will learn the basic elements of music. Fee for a ten-week session (every Wed.) is \$25. Phone Ada Vermeulen at 368-7291 for more information. 22

Organ or piano lessons by experienced teacher with diploma from Trinity College, London. All ages. Preferably in your own home. Call evenings 463-7919. 22

Services

One way, 1 Wardair ticket to London. Early October. Only \$290. Call 922-4048. 22

Piano Tuning. ½ price special only \$20 for all uprights. Call 466-3711 now. 6

K & L Painters Interior and exterior. Excellent rates. Free estimates. All work guaranteed. Eavestrough cleaning, small moving jobs, backyard and basement cleanups. Various other jobs. Call 699-1584. 22

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.



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Carl Ellison	Wed. nights 7:30	Robert Frayne	Sat. nights 10pm
Ken Williams	Thur. nights 8pm	Dunstan Morey	Sun. nights 6:30