# SEVEN REVIS

JANUARY 26, 1984

TORONTO'S OLDEST COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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# OPEN DOOR CENTRE ROOMS REGISTRY SERVICE HOURS CENTRE ID AM - 4 PM MOR-FRE

In transit: a bag lady in front of All Saints Church. Transient women will now have a "quiet place" to go for assistance, advice and human services. The new drop-in centre will be located on Dundas Street

#### ... and the poor get poorer: report finds

#### by CINDY WEINER

Jean, a single mother of one, had to quit her part-time job because she could not afford to work.

Jean (not her real name) is on welfare and receives family benefits and subsidies of \$7,850 a year.

After paying for daycare, clothes and transportation to work on top of rent and food expenses, Jean found that she was spending almost as much as she was earning.

And while she was working at a secretarial job her family benefits were cut back.

Even with full benefits, Jean is receiving \$4,840 less than the poverty line.

The National Council of Welfare estimates that \$12,691 a year is required to provide such basic necessities of life as proper food and housing.

And Jean is only one of more than 225,000 people on welfare in Ontario today.

As many as 30 to 60 percent of the province's social assistance recipients are living on incomes that fall below the poverty line, according to And the Poor Get Poorer, a report prepared by the Social Planning Council of Metro Toronto and the Ontario Social Development Council.

The report, published in September, states that the majority of welfare recipients are chronically ill or disabled while 20 percent receive benefits because they are unemployed.

Single parents caring for children make up 31 percent of those receiving social assistance.

There are three social welfare programs in Ontario that help those with little or no means of

livelihood

The Family Benefits program provides income to meet basic needs for certain people requiring long-term assistance.

These include single-parent families, elderly persons under 65 and children in foster care.

The program is funded equally by the provincial and federal governments and benefit levels vary according to family size.

The Guaranteed Annual Income System-Disabled (GAINS-(GAINS-D) is also cost-shared by Ontario and the federal govern-

It provides guaranteed income to persons who are blind or who have a long-term disability that severely limits routine activities as determined by a medical advisory board.

continued on p. 2

# Bag ladies find refuge

by ALDERMAN DAVID REVILLE

If ever you need friends, you couldn't do better than the group I've gotten to know over the last few months - the Friends of Shopping Bag Ladies. They're warm, friendly and very, very determined. Their determination is going to be rewarded soon when they open a dropin centre for about forty "homeless, transient or socially isolated

The media, ever conscious of catchy phrases, likes the label "bag ladies" and has begun recently to popularize a caricature - an older single woman trudging along with all her possessions in a couple of shopping bags. In fact, the Friends expect to be providing a safe, warm and welcoming haven for women of all ages and diverse backgrounds.

The Friends of Shopping Bag Ladies became known to Seven News readers last fall. The Friends had commitments for capital and operating funding from a variety of sources; what they lacked was a suitable site. When Joy Reid, the head Friend, so to speak, saw 474 Ontario, the little church now owned by the City, she was convinced she'd found the home she'd been looking for. The building needed see p 6

a lot of work but it was the right size and in the right place. The City, however, had made a commitment that the use of 474 Ontario would be decided by a neighbourhood committee. In fact, the neighbourhood committee had gone through an exhaustive process twice already only to have the selected group change its plans. And this time, the neighbourhood committee decided that a local seniors group (the Sacre Coeur seniors) were the most appropriate users. Undaunted, the Friends of Shopping Bag Ladies took their case to City Hall. They made such a strong impression that, although they didn't get 474 Ontario, they did get a promise that City officials would provide whatever help they could in locating a suitable building. I was delighted by the co-operation our planning, housing and property people provided but I wasn't surprised because we work together on the Alternative Housing Com-

In the end, the Friends found a privately-owned building and on January 9, City Council authorized a grant to cover the costs of leasing 416 Dundas Street East for a 12 month period. The Friends have found a home. Ward 7 has gained a valuable asset.

for more on the story

#### Trojan Horse is alive and well on the Danforth

by ANN-MARGARET HINES

The New Trojan Horse Cafe (179 Danforth Avenue) has proved its point.

Almost a year ago a small group of volunteers got together

at the flagging Trojan Horse Cafe to discuss the need for a different kind of entertainment in Toronto. An entertainment which did more than make you want to stamp your feet and rush out and buy the record. They were sure that Toronto audiences were looking for a place where the music and other entertainments reflected their social concerns and awareness.

Almost a year later, this same small group of volunteers (now with a paid part-time manager) feels that its proved its point.

The Trojan Horse Cafe has a long history in Toronto as a starting ground for folk singers, poets and other entertainers. Originally started as a Greek coffee house in the 1970s, it became more of a sixties-type drop-in. Then the Chilean community of Toronto took it over and used it as a place to congre-

continued on p.5

#### Heating and hydro: are you overbilled?

#### by HOWARD HUGGET

Now that Christmas is well over the incoming mail will be heavy with bills. Some of these may be for expenses incurred during the last festivities, but utility bills are a certainty in any season. The ones that have to do with heating costs will be at their highest right now, but they have to be paid. However, those charges may just be bigger than they should be. That observa-

tion does not apply to oil bills because they charge for the fuel as it is received. Neither is it relevant in the case of customers who are on an equal billing program, where fuel costs are spead evenly over the 12 months. The bills that this article is concerned with are those gas and hydro ones that are based on the energy actually used in a certain period - or for the amount that the utility company estimates to have been used.

Over-billing can occur for periods when the meters are not read. The Consumers Gas Company sends someone around to residential addresses every second month and estimates how much gas has been used for the intervening periods. But there is often no one home when the gas-man cometh, resulting in more estimates than readings. Toronto Hydro has a schedule for residences that allows for six calls and six billings per year. Here again, they often get no answer to their calls, so estimates can be frequent.

So what is the problem? We

are living in the age of computers, which can perform complicated calculations at a very rapid rate, so the utility companies should be able to come up with a close estimate of how much fuel their customers have used up in a given period, based on past performances. Hydro always supplies a comparison between the average daily usage for the period billed as compared with the same time last year, so they are not just flipping a coin.

continued on p.2

Frantic time at Toronto Free

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Welfare continued from p. 1

General Welfare Assistance (GWA) differs from these because it provides basic income support for people who are in short-term or emergency need.

Its main function is to ease the financial impact of unemployment, family break-up, disability, illness or aging, but those who are able must try to find work

Unlike the others, the cost of this program is also shared by the municipality.

Monthly benefits from these assistance programs vary from a low of \$250 for a single unemployable person on GWA to a high of \$758 for a family of four on GAINS-D, according to the report.

John (not his real name) is ashamed that he had to go on GWA.

He is unable to work because of his poor helath brought on by alcoholism and a poor lifestyle but he does not qualify for GAINS-D benefits because he is not considered to be permanently unemployable.

He also has little incentive to work because he is unskilled and knows he can expect low wages, inadequate fringe benefits and poor job security.

John now receives about \$500 a month but because he lives with his 18-year-old son who has a part-time job, John's welfare benefits are cut back as his son's earnings increase.

Now his son may have to quit school and move out on his own so that his father can get the benefits he needs.

Due to the recessionary economic conditions of the past two years, GWA has become a replacement for unemployment insurance for many work but can't find jobs.

However, monthly benefits for an employable person on GWA are less than half of that received by someone earning the minimum wage.

Disabled persons on GAINS-D have fared somewhat better than other assistance recipients because their per capita benefits are higher.

But even with maximum benefits a mother with one child must live on an income that is 30 percent below the poverty line.

Of the 10 provinces in Canada, Ontario ranks no better than eighth in its social assistance to the needy.

In providing adequate income to either welfare recipients or working poor families, And the Poor Get Poorer finds that Ontario's performance "is a dismal one.'



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Gas bills continued from p. 1

Well, it seems that when it comes to making guesses utility companies are eternal optimists. My experience has been that whenever my gas or hydro meters have been checked by an employee after the receipt of several estimated bills the following charge is noticeably lighter. In fact, I have on one or more occasions received a credit. This indicates that the estimates have been too high. In these times when so many people are struggling with a budget they are naturally concerned to avoid even temporary over-billing.

For anyone who has reason to

is first necessary to telephone the company to find out at what time of the month their meter is scheduled for checking, which is information they can quickly give you as soon as you tell them your account number, name and address. For the gas company the number to call for information about dates is 492-5100, and this is also the number you use to report the reading. Consumers Gas also has a 24hour phone-in number which records your information no matter when you call. That number is 492-3430.

For Toronto Hydro the number to call for the reading date is 595-6480, and here again you need to supply your name, adthink that some monthly bills dress and account number. Howare too high there is something ever, when phoning in your readthey can do; they can read the ing another number is used, 595-meter themselves. To do that it 6735.

#### Dial-A-Law 25,000 calls in just six months

Ontario's Dail-A-Law program has helped 25,000 people since it opened just six months ago.

The free program consists of a series of pre-taped legal information programs covering 12 areas of law such as criminal, family, employment, consumer, landlord/tenant, worker's compensation, immigration, real estate, and wills and estates.

Each tape, on such topics as wrongful dismissal and making a will, has been prepared by Ontario lawyers and lasts between five-eight minuts. There are cur-

rently 69 tapes available, with more being added each month.

Callers simply call the Dial-A-Law number (947-3333) and ask for the tape of their choice. Once the tape is completed, they can stay on the line to request another tape or additional information.

The program is not designed to answer callers' specific legal questions, but it does outline, in general, the rights and obligations flowing from particular federal, provincial and municipal



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## **SPEAKING OUT**

## FROM THE EDITOR

So, who says January is dull? Why, here at the Seven News

offices things couldn't be more exciting!

Why already this month we've received three posters, six press releases and any number of little buttons and flags announcing that 1984 is Toronto's 150th birthday. (I know it is, I watch the Eaton Centre ads.) Not to be outdone, the province is also deluging us with notices that this is Ontario's 200th birthday. This must be why the politicians are saying, "Let them eat cake."

It is also apparently, Official Natural Childbirth Year (what are you doing to celebrate?) and National Quit Smoking Year and Outdoor Canada informs me that this is the year to finally take up black bear hunting. These people should get together, surely the year you finally take up black bear hunting is the worst possible time to quit smoking.

It is, of course, the Year of the Rat and the Year of the Squirrel and around here it seems to be the year of the cockroach (again). A travel brochure assures me that this is the year to see Europe and my anti-nuke friends seem unconvinced that there will be a year at all. I for one am not buying a ticket to Europe until they put in a guarantee that it will still be there when I arrive.

More exciting news. Our own Deep Throat has revealed that Joanne Campbell's mantra is "Sesqui."

And at the Seven News Board Meeting we voted not to send an agency to collect an advertising debt from a localpsychicfor fear of being placed under a gypsy curse. The vote was split, however, as many members argued that we seem to have had a curse on us for years. Keith Tarswell pointed out that its impossible to collect from the psychic anv-

#### SEVEN NEWS

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Editor: Anne-Margaret Hines Assistant Editor: Michele Young Photographer: Doron Rescheff Typesetting: Anne Dancy

#### Board of Directors:

John Campey, Meg Floyd, Peter Oliphant, Rob Hutchinson, Barb Hall, Frank Guile, Albert Ng and Keith Tarswell.

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.

Next Deadline: February 4



Members of the Downtown Interaction Group (DIG). At a meeting held last week, local community agency representatives of DIG voted on an endorsement of the Regent Park Committee Against Police Harassment. Charles Smith (far right) of RPCAPH said they were looking for open-mindedness about issues and a belief in the legitimacy of allegations raised by RPCAPH. Community Relations Officer, Gerrard Jones (centre) asked whether DIG members would be voting as representatives or as individuals on the matter. Seven people abstained and the motion was passed with 12 in favour.

way, because they know when you're coming. It was finally decided to forget the debt if the psychicwill make IBM of Canada disappear so we can stop making payments on our typesetter.

Happy January.

HMA

#### Political file

from ALDERMAN
JOANNE CAMPBELL

In recent weeks a number of articles have appeared in the daily newspapers saying social housing is too expensive and fails to house the needy. This is nothing new. Housing has always been expensive; it takes a long time toproduce and people can only be allocated apartments when they are completed. This is the situation whether the developers are private or from the municipal, non-profit or co-op sectors.

What I find disturbing about the recent comments from senior levels of government and the private sector developers is the implication that a shelter allowance program will somehow improve the situation.

A shelter allowance program is a system of direct cash payments to families and individuals made according to a formula based on income and housing costs. It's theoretical advantages are that it is easily targeted to low income renters; as a cash payment it assists all those who are eligible immediately, and that is maximizes choice for people by allowing them to live wherever they want to and can afford.

Unlike the present programs which subsidize the construction of moderately priced housing where and when it is needed, shelter allowances subsidize individual households. When the household moves, the shelter allowance moves with the family.

In theory this allows low income families to act like consumers in the housing market.

It assumes that the major housing problem in Toronto today is the inadequate incomes of the poor, and that there is a sufficient supply of moderately priced units from which people can choose. Unfortunately, this is not the reality. The vacancy rate in Metro is less than one per cent. There is not the wide range of choice the shelter allowance scheme assumes - especially in the low and moderately priced sector of the housing market. The number one problem in the housing market today is the lack of supply. Shelter allowances increase demand. They do not

build rental accommodation.

And a housing allowance scheme is expensive. Few can even begin to estimate the costs.

One recent policy study estimated the cost at \$465 million but admitted that the costs could easily escalate to \$4 billion annually.

The real danger is that shelter allowances will increase demand for moderately priced rental accommodation without increasing supply. As rents rise in response to increased demand shelter allowance payments rise too. Taxpayers make up the differences and the whole scheme amounts to a massive income transfer from the taxpayers to landlords.

There is no assurance that the owners of rental properties will use this windfall to build new apartments in the moderate price range. They could as easily use the money to build luxury condominiums. Further, the cost of the shelter allowance program may mean an end to the funding of non-profit and co-op programs that actually address the question of housing supply.

There are just too many uncertainties to the shelter allowance program to consider it as a workable alternative to programs which actually build housing.

The co-op, non-profit and municipal housing schemes have more than met their targets for housing people in need.

I will be urging Metro to convey to the senior levels of government that the shelter allowance option be dismissed as unrealistic. Instead we should be seeking to improve and expand the social housing programs that have served as well.

# Bricks and bouquets: show wars

by THE OBSERVER

The sooner we get this on the road the sooner it will be finished. So here goes. \*\*\* Apart from the current gas and meat wars that are going on right now there is another one. (NO, not Number Three, it's coming.) This one has to do with theatres, mini-movie houses and big buck

pay TV. It looks very much as if the mini-houses will close. They can't come up with the big bucks for the screen product the producers ask. (Seems funny. Try to get into one. There are mountains of candy wrappers and pop-corn containers lying

around that you have to crawl over or through.) We're going back to the big movie houses with a product made especially for them. TV and the mini's can have the rest, and the biggy house products will be kept

away from both of them until every last nickel has been pulled out of it. Then they'll hit the big pay dirt circuit, e.g., T.V. \*\*\* Have you noticed packages and liquid products are not going completely metric. They adver-

tise them in pounds or gallons. Metric will take another 25 years to become a reality here. We've got too good a customer just south of us to bamboozle with 85 km/hr. They take it for grant-

ed that its 85 miles per hour and they zip right along until one of the friendlies stops them and presents them with a ticket. I'd better get out of this one. I could fill the whole paper with the disadvantages of metric. \*\*\*

Speaking of bamboozling, hotel keepers and restaurants are finding it very discouraging to hear patrons say "This is the last time I'M coming here." \*\*\* The corner of Sherbourne and Queen

has a variety store. This store got tired of replacing plate glass windows, so they boarded them up. Now some wit has nicely lettered the boards "Affluence Cor-

ner." \*\*\* Speaking of corners, our own Parliament and Gerrard has for a long time had a bunch which hangs out there trying their luck on the handout gim-

mick. The tap used to be anything from a dime to a quarter. Like everything else the tap has now gone up a buck. Donation or not the tapped one gets well blessed in profanity.

#### Seven News

Next Board Meeting Wednesday, February 1 8:30 p.m.

Next Editorial Collective Meeting Wednesday, February 15 8:00 p.m.

# Your Community Representatives Toronto City Hail

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(Advertisement)

# Profile: Dan Harrison gruff and giving

#### by ANN-MARGARET HINES

On my first day as editor of Seven News, I told Dan Harrison in my very best "I'm a feminist and will not be condescended to" manner that I did not want to be called "dear." Now he calls me blondy.

From his dreary office on the main floor of the Dundas Sherbourne Cityhome highrise development, Dan Harrison, both President of the Tenant's Association and Director of the adjourning Community House, dispenses jokes, jibes and a lot of problem solving from 9 a.m. to noon every week day.

Inspite of his gruff exterior and love of poking fun at everything and anyone with an ounce of pretension, Dan Harrison is without a doubt the best known and among the most popular Cityhome residents.

Originally from the Niagara region, Dan has been everything from a farmer to an insurance salesman, from a department store worker to a hotel manager, plus a few things in between.

He also served for five years with the Royal Canadian Air Force as Director of Intelligence Air. When he found himself in Toronto with medical problems, he moved into Cityhome, a government subsidized housing development and was first elected President of the Tenant's Association in 1977.

For many, Dan's election (and re-election every two years since) has been the best thing to happen to that housing project. "He's the sort of person you can got to for anything," explains one resident, "Even if you just feel like chatting for a minute, Dan's always glad to have you stop by the office." "He's what keeps this place going," says another resident who has lived in the project for many years, "You get to feeling like the government doesn't care about your problems here, but there's always Dan that you can go to when you've got a problem."

Acting as liason between tenants and the City is only one part of Dan Harrison's job. He's also involved with overseeing the project's expenditures, a tough job when costs are rising and the

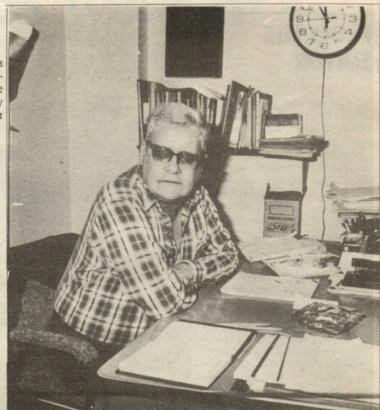
government's housing budget is shrinking. He advises the Tenant's Association, looks after the operation of the Community Centre, helps out with minor

repairs and helps tenants with problems that range from erroneous eviction notices to how to deal with noisy neighbours.

Dan also gets involved in beg, borrow, or stealing the money and supplies necessary to provide the tenants with summer outings and special events. These outings have included bus trips to Marineland, the Farmer's Market, the Stratford Festival and the Police Museum. Special events have included everything from a picnic for 160 people on the Toronto Island to the annual Christmas Turkey Dinner.

As important as the problem and the organizing is, the fact is that Dan Harrison does care. He puts more energy and dedication into his non-paid position as many big-dollar(s) a year employees, but he says simply, "I have to be doing something. I'd go crazy sitting around all day."

I have learned many things since my first day here and two



Dan Harrison keeps things running smoothly at the Dundas Sherbourne Cityhome project.

of the most important have been that the Dundas Sherbourne Cityhome would be a colder

place without Dan Harrison and that he can call me dear any time he wants.

# CALLED TOGETHER BY THE CROSS

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If you qualify but have not received an application, or would like more information, call the City Clerk's Department at 947-7036. Even if you received this Tax Credit for 1983, you must still apply for your 1984 credit.

Remember, you must apply for your Tax Credit on or before March 31, 1984.

## **CITY ARTS**

## Toronto Free has a Frantic time

#### by MICHELE YOUNG

The curtain rises to a confused waiter who has come on stage in answer to a call for waiter number eight to "please pick up your perogies." He shuffles doubtfully off looking for his perogie customers, followed by four odd and apparently hungry puppets yelling "oh boy perogies!"

This strange scene is followed by a little foam rubber, remote controlled chevy that rolls around the stage with tiny legs failing out the windows, and its seems to be the legs that are yelling "yippee, yahoo!"

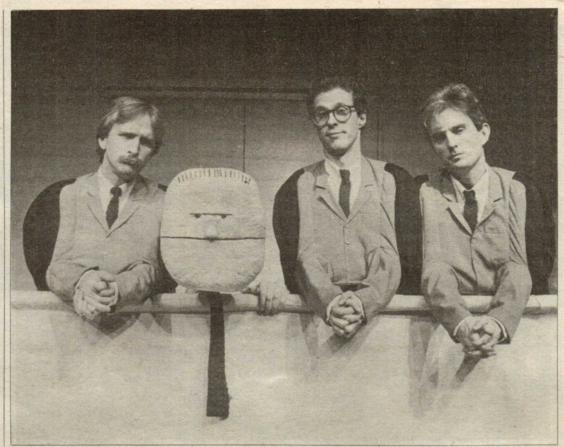
The sight is so abusrd, one can't help but snort with laughter.

The Frantics, having fractured radio audiences on Frantic Times, a half hour of humour heard Saturday mornings on CBC-AM, are now cutting up on stage at the Toronto Free Theatre with more visual humour. It's their first long-running stage show in Toronto.

Running until February 12, it includes political, philosophical and lots of pointlessly silly sketches. The scripts and characters have all been created by the Frantics themselves.

The cast also includes half a dozen puppets, such as J. D., an entrepreneur who raves on about acquisition, competition and free enterprise, "this my boys is America!" he tells his board members. When reminded that this is actually Canada, he remarks, "not if my new merger works out."

As well there is a strange creature that looks as if it walked off a Star Trek set and it introduces itself as "all the pieces of foam rubber that didn't make it into



The Frantics include (from left to right) Peter Wildman, J. D. (operated by Don Redican) Paul Chato and Rick Green.

the show but were promised a cameo appearance." The show continues in the same vein with bizarre characters, foam rubber props and many perogie jokes.

The Frantics consist of Paul Chato, Rick Green, Dan Redican and Peter Wildman, who, like the characters they play, are an assortment of faces, physiques and backgrounds.

Chato is a graduate of Ryerson's radio and television arts program, who has "the funniest knees in show business." Green has a degree in physics and was a teacher at the Ontario Science Centre. Both Green and Chato had entered the comedy writing and performing field before meeting the other two Frantics.

Wildman says his first love was acting, and he came to Toronto from Peterborough to pursue it. His first involvement in comedy was in workshops at Second City and soon after he hung out at the former comedy club on Sherbourne called the Pink Flam-

ingo, doing a three minute spot every night. He also lived in New Zealand doing revues and has driven a truck to pay the bills here. He calls himself a "Roads scholar..."

It was at the Flamingo that he first met Green and Chato who came in to do a show and "blew the place away."

Dan Redican also appeared at the club one evening as a folksinger-puppeteer who called his act Poopy Dan and his Lunch.

"There was an immediate at-

traction between all of us," explains Wildman. "Each had the same absurd sense of humour and we all liked to write."

The foursome eventually decided to make a more concrete arrangement of themselves and they officially came together as the Frantics in mid-1979.

From there they started doing, of all things, the Holiday Inn circuit throughout Ontario. "It was hard work playing in bars," says Wildman. "The first couple of nights they would be ready to boo us off the stage. But by Saturday night word had got around that we were good and the response would be great."

Another problem with the bar circuit was the material they had to use. Competing with the video machines for the attention of the audience meant they had to rely on jokes like "take my wife . . . please," and "just flew in from L.A. and boy are my arms tired."

Now with substantial exposure through CBC national radio and the theatre (they have also appeared at places like Harbourfront on Canada Day), they are in a position to consider their next move. They are now hoping for a crack at television or film. But that won't happen until they have a suitable offer.

Wildman says, although they have been approached with television deals, they are looking for something that includes all the Frantics in a group billing and in a format they feel comfortable in. In other words they are not so willing to compromise on their unique style of satirical and bizarre humour.

But while they cautiously wait for their next step, they may still be seen and heard continuing their frantic pace on radio and stage.

GLEANINGS

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gate and share concerns about their country of birth and their new way of life.

When the New Trojan Horse Collective took over the running of the cafe in April of 1983, the Chilean community seemed ready to close the doors on the Horse's long years as a refuge for the socially and politically aware of Toronto. "It took some negotiating to get possession," explains David Welch, president of the new volunteer collective, "but people already knew the Horse as a place for music that was a little more then just entertainment, and that was the kind of reputation we were looking for."

The collective officially opened its doors in May of 1983 with a new paint job, no money and a volunteer work force of about

35 people who served as waiters, kitchen staff and even occasionally provided the entertainment. "It wasn't easy co-ordinating all those people, plus booking the entertainers, making the posters, looking after the daily bills and business of the place, but the response of the audiences kept the group going. "Everyone had a

great time," says Welch, "They got something here that just wasn't available anywhere else in the city. Great entertainment plus social conscience and exchange."

The great entertainment has included most of Toronto's favourite social change artists. From unionist, feminist, peace activist Arlene Mantle and her collegue singer/songwriter Rick Fielding to Stringband's popular Mary Lynn Hammond, both solo and with the group. The Horse also offers weekly Native Expression nights when the Native Canadian community of Toronto gets together to share their music and culture. There are poetry nights, regular Sunday pick-up sessions when the aspiring poets and musicians are invited to perform and theatre evenings. ACTS (a nuclear disarmament group) has regular social evenings here as well. "We have artists who are involved in all areas of social change," explains Welch, "We even have visual artists displaying their work on the walls." Right now the collective is negotiating with well-known performers like Nancy White, who have special appeal to the audiences at the

A year later, the collective is still in business, still meeting to discuss volunteer co-ordination, new bookings and maybe another coat of paint in the kitchen. And they're more sure than ever that Toronto needs a place for quality entertainment with a social change perspective.

The books aren't showing a profit, but they are breaking even which, as every small businessman knows, is a triumph in itself after only nine months in operation. "We still have money worries," Welch admits, 'Right now we're working on a big fund raising drive and membership sales to pay off some old debts and hopefully start a fund that we can use in emergencies, but the audiences are growing, people are getting to know the kind of quality performances which happen here. I guess we've made our point."



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# Pat Shulz: In memory of a brave woman

#### by CHARLOTTE MORGAN

"Let's get on with it" still rings in the ears of Pat Schulz's many friends and associates, even though Pat is no longer around to say them. A long-time resident of Ward 7, community activist, feminist, friend, spell-binding orator and mother, Pat died December 12, 1983 at the age of 49 after a long struggle with cancer.

Best known for her efforts to provide decent, affordable child-care through Action Daycare, an organization she helped to found and which occupied much of her time and energy, Pat was a woman of many parts and her interests in daycare reflected the kind of practical politics that were her trademark. Her brand of politics was not so much concerned with building a better tomorrow as with aleviating suffering today.

Born in East York, the daughter of a Dutch Canadian postman, Pat was a teacher by profession and completed her MA in the last years of her life. During the course of her professional career she taught elementary grades and the Early Childhood Education course at Centennial College.

Leadership training came early to Pat. As a member of the League for Socialist Action, she crossed Canada with the Vanguard Tour, helping to build a coast-to-coast network of men and women interested in social justice. In Toronto, she organized one of the first cost-war picket lines when, in 1953, she picketed the Palais Royale over a matter of racial discrimination. She took the case to Toronto City Council. The Palais Royale apologized.

Friend Harry Paine claims that one of the most important things about Pat was that she was a direct link to the old order of re-



Pat Schulz (right) with friend and filmmaker Catherine MacLeod, faces the camera at International Women's Day 1980, for a scene in an upcoming film about her life.

volutionaries. She was politically active on the left during the Mcarthy ear, long before the rise of the '60s generation of political activists. Pat knew many of the old guard, working-class generation of Canadian socialists, and Pat and Harry met when both worked on the East York Co-operative Commonwealth Federation (CCF) newsletter.

"Pat wasn't always right; she enjoyed debating the issues," claims Harry, "and her working class background enabled her to cut through a lot of the confusion surrounding the intellectual socialsim of the middle class."

Action Daycare colleague Chris Judge, who has inherited Pat's monthly column in the tabloid Mudpie (an alternative look at Toronto's educational scene) points out the Pat's strong interest in feminism led her to question the old guard male dominated politics and took her logically into the daycare movement.

"Pat's husband died shortly after the birth of their daughter," says Judge. "As a single parent,

Pat not only needed childcare for Cathy, but believed it was good for children to spend time in a daycare setting. Pat was at home working in a movement dominated by women."

In what was to be her last major endeavour, Pat was hired by the Ontario Public Servants Employees Union (OPSEU) to set-up a daycare centre in Hamilton. The union was on strike against Mini Schools and wanted to provide an alternative service so that parents and children would not have to cross the OPSEU picket line. The Mini

School in Hamilton is closed now. The daycare Pat organized has survived and prospered.

On January 7, 1984, more than 150 people filled the auditorium at the Toronto Board of Education to honour the memory of Pat Schulz. Whether you were for or against her, Pat was an indominatable, principled force to be reckoned with.

She leaves behind daughter Cathy, a sadly empty apartment at the Bain Co-op and her rallying cry for social justice — "Let's get on with it." Pat, it will be harder without you.

#### Position Available

Seven News is looking for a distribution/advertising person. This position is partially funded by the Young Careers Training Program. It is a full time position, with flexible hours. The succesful applicant will be outgoing, responsible, and will preferably be familiar with Ward Seven. No experience is necessary.

To be eligible for this position, you must be 29 years of age or under, and not have previous full-time experience in this area. Pay is a combination of salary and commission. The YCTP grant is for a 26-week period, and it is hoped to make this into a permanent full-time position.

Inquiries regarding this position should be made to the Seven News Office at 921-2548. If no-one is in the office, please leave your name and number on our answering machine, stating that you are interested in the position, and you will be contacted.



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# Bag ladies can come in from the cold, at last

continued from p. 1

The Friends of Shopping Bag Ladies are pleased to announce they have located a house to be used as a drop-in centre, a quiet place where transient women in Toronto can come for assistance, advice and human services.

The house, located at 416 Dundas Street East, has been obtained on a 12 month lease, with two options to lease for a further six months each.

The City of Toronto will be covering the building occupancy costs, including rent, taxes and all utilities. It is hoped to have the centre fully operational by early March.

Fund-raising and efforts for operational expenses have to continue. A Gala Evening has

been planned for Thursday, February 2 at the Town Hall, King and Jarvis Streets. This will be

followed by a major fund-raising effort directed to large cor-

porations. Considerable support has already been promised from the provincial government.

While appliances have already been donated, furniture and furnishings will be needed to fill this empty house. The Friends

are also hoping for a piano and a television set. Volunteers will be needed to work in the centre when it opens.

This Dundas Street shelter will provide laundry facilities, showers, coffee, tea, soup and snacks, plus warmth and care. A place

where these socially isolated and transient women can come for assistance, advice and human services.

For more information please call Joy Reid 487-2615 or Pam Jackson 694-1409.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

#### Friday

January 27

Come ring in the Chinese New Year at a giant banquet sponsored by Metro NDP MPs Dan Heap, Lynn McDonald and Neil Young. The food will be great, (the company exquisite). Location: International Restaurant, 421-429 Dundas St. West. Tickets are \$20. For more information call 465-4847.

#### Saturday

January 28

Peace Works: For the family, 4 to 6 p.m. Children get a chance to design and make a peace mural with the help of artists and skilled child care workers. For the parents — a chance to discuss how the threat of war affects children. Community supper from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Bring a dish. Child care will be available from 7:30 p.m. to midnight. Broadview-Greenwood Constituency Office, 678 Pape Avenue. 465-1105.



#### Monday

January 3

EAST Annual General Meeting election 1984 executive. Also, French Education changes, cutting costs, staff? How will this affect all our schools? Speaker Don Rutledge, Associate Director ED/programs.

#### Tuesday

January 31

Rendezvous for Seniors: Seniors boogie to the disco and ballroom beat every Tuesday from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Enjoy international folkdancing on Thursdays. Free.

Parenting and Personal Stress: A discussion series with Kathleen Robertson, the east area public health nurse. Topics will concern children's behaviour problems and the rights and needs of parents themselves. Everyone is welcome. Riverdale Library, 370 Broadview Ave. 466-2197. 7 p.m.

Playter Area Residents' Association annual meeting. All residents living in the area bounded by Broadview, Danforth, Jackman and Fulton Aves., are welcome to attend. The agenda includes election of 1984 officers and plans for PARA's sesquicentennial celebration. 8 p.m. at the Jackman Public School.

#### Wednesday

February 1

To Live or Let Die: A Question of Medical Ethics is the topic at CentreStage Forum at the St. Lawrence Centre, 27 Front St. East. Guest panelists are Dr. Harley Smyth, Dr. Bernard Dickens and Dr. Benjamin Freedman, Admission is free.

Equity Showcase Theatre: Anton Chekhov's The Seagull is this month's production, directed by George Pothitos. 8:30 p.m. Free admission. Reservations recommended at 869-8412.

#### Thursday

February 2

Teens and Drugs: A presentation by Norm Panzica, author of Your Teens and Drugs — A Parents Handbook on Drug Abuse. All welcome. 7:30 to 9:30 at Lakeview Secondary School. 45 Felstead Avenue.

Friends of Shopping Bag Ladies are having a fund raising evening at the St. Lawrence Hall, 157 King Street East, 6:30 p.m. The evening will feature nonstop entertainment, and the speaker is Patricia Moore, a 30year old New Yorker who spent three years disguised as a bag lady, documenting her experiences of isolation, poverty and degradation. Her story has achieved world-wide fame. Tickets are \$50 each which includes a shopping bag supper. A cash bar is available. Entertainment. For more information call 487-2615.

#### Tuesday

February 7

Toronto Secondary School Music Teachers' Association presents Encore at the Roy Thomson Hall. Tickets \$3.50. Contact the music teacher at any Toronto high school for tickets.



#### Tuesday

February 14

East End Network Meeting: agenda includes Information Sharing, and Crime in the Community. Ralph Thornton Community Centre 765 Queen Street East. 2 to 4 p.m.

John Innes Community Centre's new winter program has begun. Swimming, sports, arts and crafts. All programs are free to residents of the City of Toronto. For information please call 366-0767

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Fudger House Home for the Aged needs volunteers. Share a visit with a senior, demonstrate a skill to a group, help out at special events. Our seniors are eager to meet you. Please call Mrs. Jessie Smythe at Fudger House, 439 Sherbourne Street (at Wellesley 925-4274.

Your contribution to the John Howard Society of Metro Toronto will help someone find a new way of life. The Society is a non-profit community-based correctional agency whose goals are to reduce crime and ultimately the resultant social and economic costs to the community. Make your bequest or donation now. The John Howard Society of Metro Troonto, 168 Isabella Street, Toronto, Ont. 925-4386.

The Elizabeth Fry Society of Toronto needs volunteers to help provide services to adult women who have been in trouble with the law. Volunteers may help in many ways: visiting jails on a monthly basis, helping in the Provincial Courts, serving on task oriented committees, helping in the office and so forth. Short and long term positions available. Full training and orientation program is provided. For information please call Brenda Somers 924-3708.

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Seven News Classifieds — reach Ward Seven for only \$5 for up to 30 words. Classifieds for the next issue must be received by February 4, 1984.

Having an Affair? Make it more memorable with a mention in Seven News. Parties, awards, presentations, weddings . . . what have YOU been up to lately? Scribble down the details and send them to: Social Lites, c/o Seven News, 249 Sherbourne Street, Toronto, M5A 2R9. Or leave a message at 921-2548. (Gossip welcomed, but it must be verified.)

#### **Help Wanted**

The Citizens Independent Review of Police Activity (CIRPA) has three full time positions available: co-ordinator, researcher and courtworker. Applicants must be registered with Canada Manpower. Community experience and good communication skills required. For more information call Mark Wainberg 368-2908.

Wanted: 50 overweight people who want to lose pounds in a safe, easy and guaranteed way! Call Gail at 469-0653.

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Keith Kwan.



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