

# POINT *by* POINT

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## "HOW COME WE GOT IT SO GOOD?"

"We're so lucky to live in North Toronto."

That's a comment I heard just recently from a newcomer to Toronto - a young woman who, together with her husband and young son, have just moved here from the southern United States.

She loves her quiet residential street with its

large, shade trees - so close to the hustle and bustle of Yonge Street's lively shopping/business/dining areas.

She loves the fact her young son can walk to school, to the library and to recreational activities in parks and playgrounds nearby.

*Continued on page 2*



Executive Director, Joan Osler (left) helps assistant Jamie Cole adjust new POINT display board

## PLAY A ROLE IN POINT'S FUTURE

POINT is beginning an exciting era of community service, and preparing for our move to the new community centre. We invite you to join us and get active.

1. Are you an organized person who enjoys taking pictures? Want to develop your editing skills? "POINT by POINT" needs an assistant to the editor.

2. Are you imaginative? Can you participate in communications planning? POINT's Communications Committee needs three new members.

Contact Claire Hogenkamp - 487-7421

3. Do you have limited time? Looking for a challenging short-term assignment? "Shirley Valentine", POINT's fundraising Theatre Night needs many volunteers.

Contact Wendy Porritt - 482-1579

4. Are you a senior with ideas for programs or services which are needed in the community? Join PLANTSS: Planning in North Toronto for Seniors' Services.

Contact Cynthia Luks - 485-6906

5. If you support your community, are interested in people, and have good ideas to broaden membership... POINT's Membership Committee wants to hear from you.

Contact Kathy Dembroski - 483-9735

Find out how your volunteer talents can make a difference by calling the above Committee Chairs or the POINT office at 487-2390.



*"So Good" cont.*

She cannot get over the fact that in the evenings, she can walk her dog, alone, on these streets and feel comfortable and unthreatened. And she is already an advocate of our public transportation system.

She appreciates, if she has not yet a use for, the various health and social services nearby, and admires the community for making space for the elderly and other residents within our community in need of special facilities.

As this newcomer becomes more familiar with life in North Toronto, she will discover other, equally pleasant things about our community. And she will say so out loud and she will make us feel good.

But because she is also perceptive and caring and curious, she will also wonder about some

things. And she will turn to POINT for the answers. Because we're a "grass roots" organization with good connections, POINT knows what's going on in North Toronto.

POINT knows, for example, about the elderly living within our community - many of them alone. We can tell her that North Toronto contains about one-third of the city's over 65 population and a full half of the city's 75-and-over age group.

She will be interested to learn that the needs of our senior population is an ongoing focus with POINT and that the Seniors Directory, SPRINT (Senior People's Resources in North Toronto) as well as some more recent, exciting and promising housing initiatives on behalf of the elderly, have all been initiated by or involve POINT.

*Continued on page 6*

## SENIORS

### EXERCISE AND FUN OFFERED TO SENIORS

Rendezvous for Seniors, in co-operation with Harbourfront, is offering a wide variety of fall and winter physical activities for seniors...city walks, hiking, bicycling, horseback riding, cross-country skiing, dog-sledding trip, ice skating, ski-skate trip, dancing. If you want to get into motion, phone 973-4093 for more information.

### A HOME FOR ELDERLY WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

De Savery Manor is a home for elderly people with Alzheimer and related disorders located in North Toronto. For further information call 696-0696.

### HELP ELDERLY NEIGHBOURS

Your elderly neighbours need your help this winter! SPRINT URGENTLY needs Meals on Wheels volunteers to spend two hours once a week delivering meals to seniors in need. Mileage is reimbursed or drive our mini van. Please help replenish our dwindling number of volunteers by calling 481-6411 today!

## YOUTH

### SCHOOLS FUNDRAISE FOR CHARITY

North Toronto students, from private, public and separate schools are concerned about the well being of the citizens of their city, and so every year a Charity Week is held during late October or early November.

The schools donate money to a variety of different charities including the United Way, the Daily Bread Food Bank and the Hospital for Sick Children Foundation.

This fundraising is done in a variety of creative and original ways, which all work together towards a common goal - helping those who need help while still having fun.

Some of this year's different school activities included a semi-formal dance, a student auction, a dance-a-thon, student-staff basketball games, casino and dance night at the school, portraits done by the students, fashion show, school wide bazaar, silent auctions, raffles, as well as an activity done by each homeform which could range from bake sales to slam-dunk contests or even a tricycle race around the track.

*Continued on page 5*

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### **LIBRARIES REACH OUT WITH COMMUNITY PROGRAMS**

**Forest Hill Library** sponsors Thursday afternoon films at the library, 700 Eglinton Avenue West starting at 1:30 p.m.

Boys and Girls Activities take place on Saturday mornings starting at 10:30 a.m. Parents are also welcome.

Community Programs include a Friendship Club for Seniors on Mondays and Tuesdays from 12:00 to 5:00 p.m. Phone the library at 393-7500 for further details.

**Deer Park Library** is presenting a slide show/lecture on interior decoration on Thursday, November 21 at 2:00 p.m. Phone the Library at 393-7657 for further details.

**OPEN HOUSE** - Refreshments and music to be featured at the Annual Open House, Deer Park Library, 40 St. Clair Avenue East, on Monday, December 16 from noon to 2:00 p.m.

### **LIBRARY OFFERS FILMS AND VIDEOS FOR DISABLED**

The Audio Visual Services Department and the Centre for People with Disabilities of the Metropolitan Toronto Reference Library has completed a list of film and videos of interest to the disabled population.

To obtain a copy of "Living with Disabilities" please contact the Centre at 393-7099.

### **SEWELL TALKS ABOUT NON-PROFIT HOUSING**

The Housing Development Resource Centre (serving small non-profit groups) is holding its first annual members meeting on Thursday, November

28 at 6:45 p.m., Queen's Park, Caucus Room 247.

The special guest speaker following the meeting will be John Sewell, Chair, New Planning for Ontario.

RSVP by November 21 at 462-9534.

### **RESIDENTIAL HOUSING IN NORTH TORONTO FOR PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS**

The following has come to our attention, and we in turn would like to bring this information to the attention of POINT by POINT readers.

### **DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE GAGE?**

The Gage Transitional Living Centre provides a live-in program that enables adults with physical disabilities to make the transition from living dependently (i.e. an institution or a family setting) to living independently in the community. If you are age 18 or over; medically stable (i.e. able to have your medical needs met in the community); independently mobile (using equipment if necessary); capable, or potentially capable of directing your own care, you may be eligible for residency at the Gage. For further information or to arrange a tour of the Centre call Hazel Self, Community Services Co-ordinator at 243-3714.

### **CANADIAN FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN - NORTH TORONTO**

The Canadian Federation of University Women - North Toronto meets the second Tuesday of every month in Eglinton United Church, 65 Sheldrake Boulevard, at 7:30 p.m.

Interested women graduates of accredited universities who would like to become members of the club should contact Elaine Nugent at 488-2010.



## CONFERENCES

### FOCUS ON ADOPTION

The Adoption Council of Ontario is delighted to announce its 3rd Semi-Annual Forum on the topic: Adoption: A Lifetime Process. Workshops of interest to all persons (adoptees, birth parents, adoptive families and professionals) concerned with adoption will be offered. They are: Adoption Options: How to Adopt; Talking to your Child About Adoption; Adolescent Identity Issues; Discovering Your Roots.

The Forum will be held on Thursday, November 28 from 7:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. at the North York Central Library, 5120 Yonge Street, North York. Cost \$10.00, phone 482-0021 for information.

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR FOR VOLUNTEERS

The Multicultural Mosaic Workshop is a full-day workshop addressing current immigration policies; identifying ways to make your organization more accessible and improving your staff/volunteer's sensitivity to multicultural issues; enhancing cross cultural communications; providing strategies to facilitate your organizational change process.

Date: January 22, 1992  
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Fee: \$75.00 member, \$85.00 non-member  
Location: Queen Street Mental Health Centre  
1001 Queen Street West

For more information call the Volunteer Centre at 961-6888.

## YOUTH QUESTIONNAIRE

The combination of drinking and driving is of great concern within the community. Students are getting licenses at the same time that drinking is prevalent. Several schools have established programs of education and prevention. We'd like to know what your school is doing.

### DRINKING AND DRIVING: WHAT IS YOUR SCHOOL DOING?

1. Is there a program established at your school to increase awareness and reduce the occurrence of impaired driving? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. If there is a program established, what are some activities which have been done, or are being planned to increase awareness at your school? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Why was the program originally established? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. What kind of feedback, if any, has the group received? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### WE ALSO WANT TO KNOW

1. Are there any programs/clubs etc. at your school which have been very successful, or new clubs which you think might interest others (schools)? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Are there any topics which you would like to see in the POINT by POINT Youth Column in the future. (Environment, Stress Reduction, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please take a few minutes to fill out this questionnaire. You can return it to POINT: 59 Briar Hill Avenue, Toronto M4R 1H8, or contact Aviva Wittenberg at 968-3540 or Lydia Lee at 229-2374



The schools continue their fundraising efforts all year round with both food and clothing drives.

During the one week this year designated for fundraising the schools were able to raise nearly \$100,000 collectively.

## RATE DATE RAP SESSION

**How Do You Rate as a Date?** All secondary school students are invited to a rap session by the dynamic Teen Team. Come with your friends to "rate your date" and discuss topics such as dating relationships, dating violence, keeping your cool and helping a friend. There will be free pop and pizza as well as a free draw for two tickets to the Rolling Stones IMAX movie at Cinesphere. Monday, November 25, 5:00 to 7:30, Northern District Library (40 Orchard View Boulevard, 2nd floor). Phone 486-8666 for free tickets. Co-sponsored by The Teen Team, POINT Youth Advisory Group and The Health Station.



Lydia Lee (right) confers with co-editor of Youth Column, Aviva Wittenberg, and Tracy Rotstein

# ENVIRONMENT

## WASTE REDUCTION GRANTS FOR NON-PROFITS

On September 25, 1991, Metropolitan Council approved new criteria for the Community Action Waste Reduction Grants. These Grants are intended to help non-profit groups in Metro Toronto undertake a project that reduces waste produced in their own community or educates their own community about waste reduction, reuse and recycling.

There are similarities to the criteria that were initially approved for the first year of the program. However, there are three important changes in the new criteria:

1. Grant applicant groups with no significant experience in waste reduction issues are now eligible for up to \$5,000.00 in project funding.
2. Grant applicant groups can apply for up to 15% administrative costs in the grant budget.
3. Non-profit organizations that are primarily government funded such as schools, hospitals and universities are not eligible for grants, but community-based groups that are affiliated with these institutions are still eligible. Examples of these types of affiliate groups include Home and School Associations, Alumni Associations and Hospital Auxiliaries.

Staff is available to assist organizations in formulating their project and application. The Community Grants staff can be reached by telephone at 392-3753, by TDD at 397-0831 or by FAX at 397-0928 or you can write directly to: Community Action Waste Reduction Grants, Metropolitan Toronto Works Department, 138 Hamilton Street, Toronto M4M 2E1.



She may be concerned about health issues affecting the community as a whole and how we are dealing with these issues. She will then find out about The Health Station, for example, and that POINT was very much involved in getting this unique community health facility off the ground.

She will be concerned about safety issues. (Who isn't?) So she'll be glad to hear that POINT sponsored a special forum that brought together representatives from all the public, separate and private schools in North Toronto to look at violence on our streets, in our subways and schoolyards.

She may wonder about young people in North Toronto, and what facilities and services there are to meet their needs. Particularly children in distress, many from troubled home environments.

She will discover that POINT has been involved in a multitude of ways in addressing specific youth issues - tough issues like substance abuse and suicide. She may also be intrigued to know that we are giving North Toronto youth a rare opportunity to present their own uncensored views on a regular basis in our monthly newsletter.

She will be interested to learn that POINT is a strong advocate of improved recreational facilities within North Toronto. We have been fighting vigorously, for many years now, to get the much-needed Community Centre in Eglinton Park off the ground. And that in spite of the difficulties still encountered, we're not about to give up!

She will learn, in other words, that POINT is feisty, dedicated, tuned in. We may not always be in the public eye, but POINT always has the public - this North Toronto public - in mind.

She will learn that when it comes to community health issues, housing issues, child care, education, the many needs of our changing family structure, needs of the disabled, youth, seniors, and single parents, POINT has always been there. And intends to continue.

Chances are that you enjoy living in this community as much as my American friend does. We do too. It is good here. But our goal is to make it even better - to make the whole community a healthier, safer, more caring place to live and work.

That's why you are warmly invited to join our cause - to join POINT, in other words, or become a valued donor.

Pointing the way. That's what it says at the bottom of our new brochure. That's POINT. With your support, let's point the way together.

## **BOOKKEEPING SERVICES FOR NON-PROFITS**

Access Data Services (ADS) is operated by a charitable, non-profit group - Skills For Change. This program allows unemployed immigrant women to develop the skills, English language capability and work experience needed to crack the job market.

ADS is also a "fast, accurate computerized bookkeeping service" which is available, at competitive prices, to non-profit organizations and small businesses. Every dollar of profit from the business goes back into the training program.

If you are interested in finding out how this group can meet your needs, or if you know of any other organizations that could use this service, call Richard Fofana or Suzanne Gibson at 658-7229.

## **FUTURE ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS**

- POINT Board Retreat
- Youth Rap Session
- Feedback on Youth Questionnaire
- Theatre Night

There will be no December Issue

Deadline: January 9 for January Newsletter

Executive Director: Joan Osler

Board Chair: Carolynne Boivin

Editor: Sue Keith

