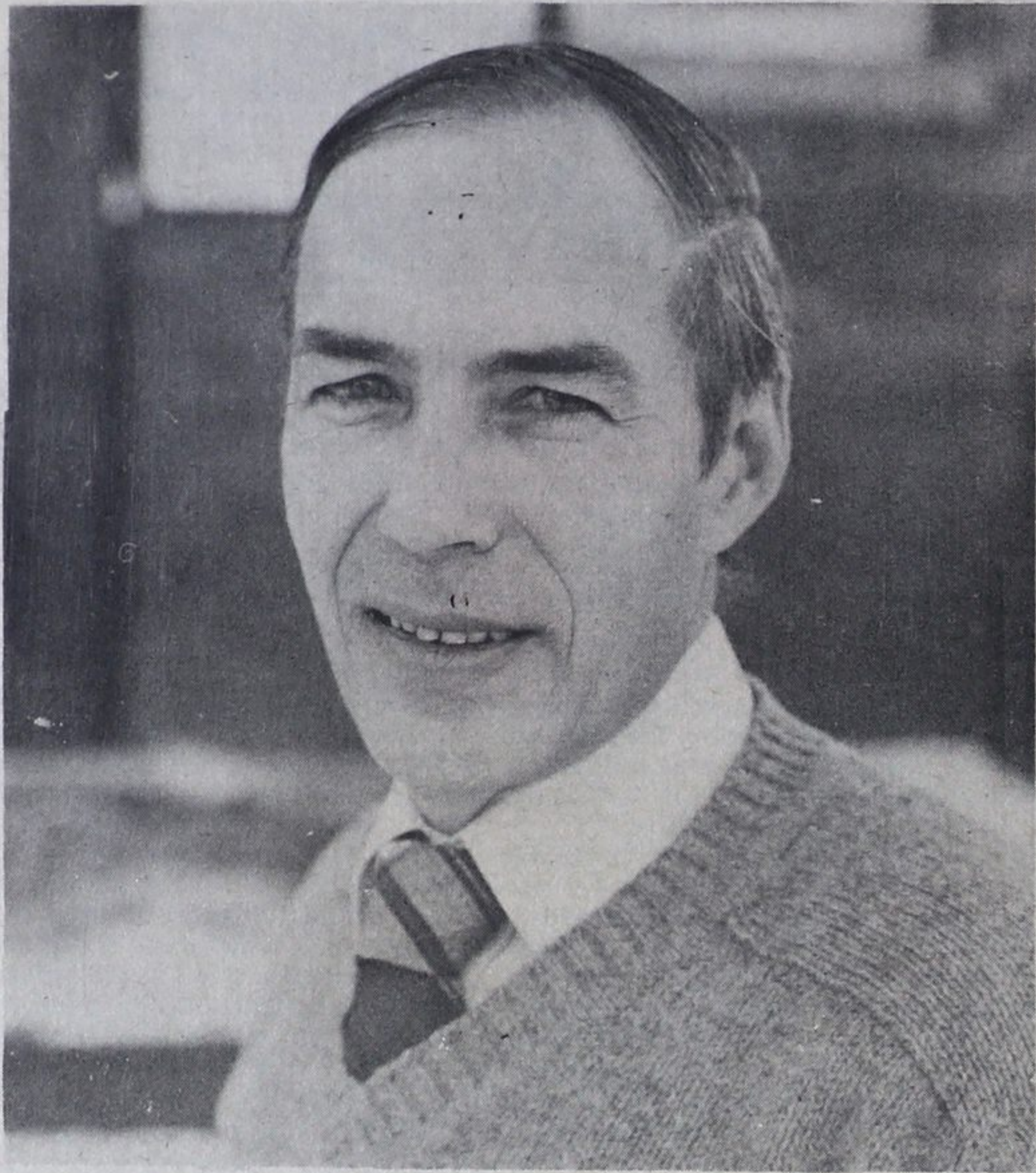


That's My Line



John Chantrel Family Life Centre director

A Family Life Centre funded by the Council of Catholic Charities, Archdiocese of Toronto, is opening in Midland. The Centre's board and staff, including Executive Director John Chantrel, will be present at an open house Sunday afternoon at the Centre's office, located at 354 Midland Avenue, Midland.

Representatives of the parishes of Waubauskene, Port McNicoll, Midland, Penetanguishene, Lafontaine, Perkinsfield, and Victoria Harbour decided during 1979 to ask the Archdiocese, which had decided in 1977 to fund programs beyond Toronto, for support for a counselling service.

The offering of counselling in a central location and a relaxed atmosphere is the centre's purpose.

Chantrel has a grounding in both industry and social work. While an employee of a primary metal industry, he in his spare time studied sociology at McMaster University, earning a BA and an MA. He has been a supervisor with the Children's Aid Society, a children's services consultant, and responsible for programs for the elderly for a social planning council.

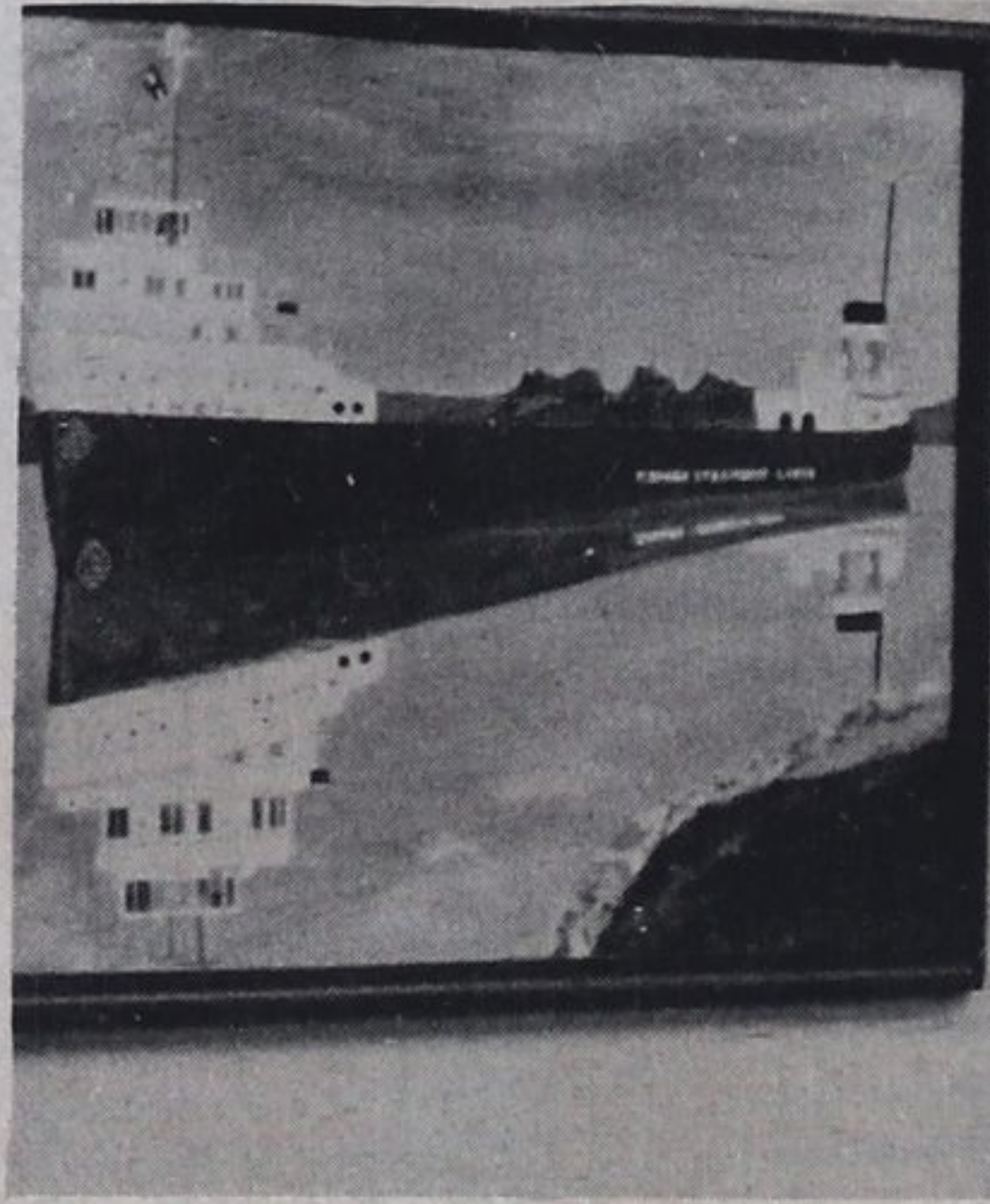
He has spent time in Newfoundland working as an advisor to the provincial government while in addition teaching part-time at Memorial University.

For the beginning, he and a secretary are the staff of the Family Life Centre. The centre will be open during regular business hours. However, arrangements will be made to see people seeking counselling at other times. The centre's organizers realize that not everyone who might want some help is free to visit the centre during business hours.

"I'm very interested in self-help groups," Chantrel said. In past years, before government and private aid organizations were formed, people used to help each other, he said. Friends and family were groups who helped in time of crisis. "That system has broken down, but it is still there, and we think that it can be revitalized."

"You read in the newspapers and hear on television and radio the news that government is cutting back on services. The old ways are coming back." The objective is an attempt to raise again the resource that Chantrel sees present but unexploited in the community: volunteers.

The new service will be explained to service groups, clubs, and individuals in the area. The idea is for the centre to become a new link in the chain of local aid groups. As awareness of the centre spreads, people with a problem will think of the centre, or be referred to it by another group or person, he hopes. "Usually people in need do not advertise this fact on the street." The centre has had some referrals already, however, he said.



Remember the Lemoyne

Paul Kirkup's painting of the Lemoyne, the onetime flagship of the Canada Steamship Lines, is one of six paintings now on display in the Midland office of the Municipal Savings and Loan Corporation. The ship was built in Midland, and launched here on June 23, 1926. The other paintings on display are by Kirkup, and his wife, Vivian Kirkup, both members of the Georgian Bay Art Society. Each month works of a different member or members of the society will be hung for public display. At right are David Hindley, branch manager and Kirkup.



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