

# Meet The Danson Team: Scholars, Artist, Businessman, For Canada And For Trudeau

**By MARGARET McLEAN**  
 Anyone invited to the Danson home at 88 Old Colony Road, York Mills should be prepared to be charmed — charmed by a cultivated and engaging couple, by a close-knit and vibrant family, by an elegant and lovingly restored 140-year-old farm home, steeped in history and filled with treasures from around the world.

For York North Liberal Candidate Barney Danson is one of the 'new wave' politicians, young (at 47 he lacks a year of Prime Minister Trudeau's age), enthusiastic, socially conscious, with a sincere, honest love and pride of his country.

Born in Toronto, he attended Oakwood Collegiate and North York Vocational School. After military service in France with the Queen's Own Rifles (he was severely wounded in Normandy and lost the sight of one eye) Barney returned to Toronto and joined his father's insurance firm. A client interested in the plastics industry and he worked with this firm for three years before starting his own business.

"I wanted my own business so I could go into politics," said Barney, seated in a comfortable chintz-covered easy chair in the Dansons' friendly living room. "I wanted the freedom and needed a home base from which to operate."

Although his family had been Conservatives, Barney was impressed with the Liberal record during the war.

In addition, a much admired commanding officer, Milton Gregg VC, became a cabinet minister in the Liberal government after the war, serving first as Minister of Fisheries and then Minister of Labor and this further persuaded Barney that his real home was in the Liberal Party.

While holding firmly in view his ultimate objective of serving as a Member of Parliament, Barney spent the next 14 years raising his young family and preparing a firm economic base from which to operate. "Holding a job while a member of parliament would mean too many compromises," he said. "I wanted to be economically independent before taking the plunge — I just didn't think it would take so long."

During this time, however, he also was active in the Liberal Party. He served as campaign manager for the south end of the York North riding during the late Jack Smith's 1949 campaign; he is a past president and director of the Liberal Businessmen's Club, served on the management committee of the Ontario Liberal Association, was vice-president of the Toronto and York Liberal Association, chairman of the advisory committee on policy and research for Robert Nixon's Liberal caucus at Queen's Park and was chairman of the Toronto and District Committee for Paul Hellyer in the April leadership campaign.

"Politics is the best way I



York North Liberal Candidate Barney Danson is seen above, surrounded by his built-in campaign team, all of whom are out actively working in the hustings for him. Left to right, are son Ken, 23, and his wife Melanie, John, 21, Mrs. Danson, the former Isobel Bull of London, England, Mr. Danson, and sons Peter, 17 and Tim, 14.

can fulfill myself," stated Barney, and added what to some would be a surprising statement. "Outside of the clergy, it is the highest calling there is. How else could you make a greater contribution to your country?"

He then admitted candidly,

"I also get a great deal of personal satisfaction from it."

Barney is convinced too, that his experience in an international business which has taken him to many parts of the world will be an asset to him as a parliamentarian.

"You get a different perspective on Canada, its trade and commerce and its people when travelling," he said. "I am never more proud of being a Canadian than when I am away from the country."

Mr. Danson stressed that

this international outlook is becoming of crucial importance for all Canadians. "Our kids will vacation all over the world," he stressed. For this reason, he sees bilingualism as an opportunity, rather than a problem. "It gives an extra dimension to

life," he said.

Isobel Danson was an interested participant in the conversation. Now, as her husband exacted himself to find out exactly how to get to the next coffee party, she took over and conducted me on a tour of the ground floor of their home, meanwhile chatting about her family and interests.

Born in London, England she was formerly Isobel Bull and was embarking on a career as a concert pianist when the war and marriage to Barney intervened. She followed Canada in 1943 and reached Barney across the country, living first at Three Rivers, Quebec, then at Vernon, B.C. and at Truro, Nova Scotia.

Her young family took all her time and attention for many years although she was active in home and school work. Now, her four boys are largely independent. At 23, Ken is already married to the former Melanie Ghan and has just completed his second year at the University of Toronto Law School. John, 21, has just finished his second year studying economics at Miami University, Oxford, Ohio and next year will take his courses, all in French, at Luxembourg. Peter, 17, has completed grade 12 at York Mills Collegiate and 14-year-old Tim is at St. Andrew's Junior High School.

While working "behind the scenes" in politics for her husband, Isobel has continued her interest in music (a

baby grand piano dominates a small room off the living room) and has been active in the Toronto Symphony Orchestra's women's group and in arranging the children's symphony concerts. She is a member of the Art Gallery of Ontario and on the Stratford Festival committee.

As a memento of her work in this latter capacity, one wall of the living room is decorated with a series of watercolors, Grant Macdonald's costume designs for Stratford productions in its first two years of operation. A delightful portrait of Isobel, done by the same artist in oil and vinegar hangs over the chesterside.

Possibly the most prized of their objects d'art, however, is the set of original water color sketches used to illustrate Dickens' books. These are hung in a group on one wall and could be virtually priceless.

The living room also boasts a collection of Eskimo sculpture, collected over the past 20 years, old pewter and bits of colorful old glass. Many interesting items of Canadiana are also in evidence, largely pine pieces, a dining table, an unusually large drop sink with three drawers down one end which serves as a buffet and a roomy pine hutch.

Antiques from all over the world rub shoulders with the Canadiana. Most recent addition to the shelves of the hutch were three Sevres china figurines, done in the

1700's and representing three of Napoleon's generals. The recreation room had a large winning tray used as a coffee table and the walls were decorated with a long slender barber rifle, an African spear, a halberd, cavalry lances, and a pair of American Civil War naval officer's swords.

Two colorful oil paintings on the walls here were executed especially for the Dansons by William Winters and an attractive linoleum cut painting by Willowdale artists Carl and Loretto Rix also lent a note of interest and color.

The various items of Canadiana blended happily in this quite unorthodox mélange. Isobel had long had an interest and knowledge of antiques — her father is a dealer in antique silver and jewelry in London — and her initial interest in Canadiana grew out of her friendship with Mrs. Joan Sissons, Jack Fraser's daughter who lived until just a few years ago at Fraserdale Farm at Concord.

Barney Danson has emphasized to the voters of York North that he is a successful businessman, able to use this expertise in the service of the riding and the country.

He is much more than that. Both he and his family are people of intelligence, sensitivity and compassion, with wide-ranging interest in the arts, quite worthy of representing the residents of York North and of Canada.

## THE THORNHILL SPORTS SCENE

Things are beginning to hum for the young people of North Thornhill with the formation of a minor softball league for summer play. They play their games at Baythorn Public School.

It can't help but go ahead with a representative like Will Cross and coaches and managers like the following:

Meet Managers Gyan Kohl, Peter Gregory, George Radford and Bernie Davidson; Coaches Sandra Boyd, Doug Keffer, Mr. Cross, and Sam Masson.

No trouble getting sponsors for the teams.

Sponsors are as follows: Thornhill Garden Centre, Thornhill Paint Supplies, Turner Flowers, Keffer Real Estate, Flecker's Milk, Clark Meat Market, Hilltop Marine, Mar-

shall's Shell, Ketola Power Equipment, Gateway Mercury, Wilson's Esso, Central Auto Machine, Bank's Office Equipment, Harley's Drugs and Costain Homes.

**FIRST WEEK RESULTS**  
 10, Ace Clark 9; Hilltop Marine 10, Marshall's Shell 7.  
 June 11 (girls 8-11).  
 Thornhill Garden Centre 7  
 Thornhill Paint 4  
 Debbie Graham paced the Garden girls with a homer. Jane Edwards got two hits for the Painters.

**Turner Flowers 13**  
 Keffer Real Estate 8  
 Kathryn Rikely hit a grand slam home run to pace Turner's. The losers got two hits from Mary Consentino, Susan

Ralph, Patricia Keffer. Standings for Tuesday evening girls — Turner Flowers 3, Thornhill Garden Centre 3, Keffer Real Estate 1 and Thornhill Paint 1.

**June 12 (Boys, 9-11)**  
 Ketola Power Equipment 14, Gateway Mercury 9; Wilson's Esso 26, Central Auto Machine 8.

**June 13 (Boys 12 and over)**  
 Banks Office Equipment 14, Gateway Mercury 9, Girls 12 and over.  
 An 18-18 tie between Costain and Hurley's Drugs.

This week meet the players of several of the teams and their coaches.

Coaches: Diane Davidson, Liz Seeley, Kim Evans, Donna Courts, Lori Pilcher, Lynne Terry, Sharon Puccini, Lori Marriot, Vicky Michkowsky, Debbie Graham, Ann Weiss, Anne Sullivans, Carolyn Aude, Sandra Price, Karen White, Neila Poscents.

Keffer Real Estate: Coach, Doug Keffer. Players: Brenda Mason, Heather Reid, Nancy McMurry, Teresa Warren, Linda Fogliato, Christine Robertson, Jayne Tomlinson, Donna Buchan, Pat Keffer, Arlene Hay, Janice Todd, Susan Ralph, Mary Consentino, Sandy Friend, Leslie Patterson, Dunreath Thompson.

Thornhill Paint: Coach Will Cross. Players: Mary Warren, Kathy Radford, Jennifer Mauthe, Liza Davidson, Suzanne Seeley, Janet White, Cheryl Stone, Carol Armstrong, Louise Cross, Erica Fear, Barb MacMurtry, Jane Edwards, Marianne Ritchie, Barb Mauthe, Elizabeth Radford, Celia Spouncer.

Turner's Flowers, Coach Sam Masson. Players: Brenda Ashley, Kathy Keffer, Teresa Rowe, Jodi Stone, Tami Brown, Katherine Bonnell, Linda Fear, Susan Dean, Jennifer Aude, Nancy Palmer, Karen Booker, Karen Mauthe, Cindy Moore, Kathi White, Nancy Clure, Katherine Rikely.

## NORTH RICHVALE NEWS

**CORRESPONDENT: MRS. RHONA WEHRENS**  
 130 May Avenue — Phone 884-4333 (Evenings)

**Neighborhood Notes**  
 Best wishes from the community go with Mr. and Mrs. Joachim (Joe) Kliner and their children, Karen, Peter and Brenda of Walmer Road, who will be moving to Halleybury on Saturday to take up residence there.

Belated birthday greetings to Debbie Cummer, Yongehurst Road, 11 on June 15, Brenda Griffin, Pemberton Road, 9 on

June 13, Susie Underhill, May Avenue, 6, June 10 and Karen Stapley, Pemberton Road, 10 on June 4.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Wheneu and family of May Avenue, enjoyed a surprise visit from their nephew, Charles Rusaw of Regina, Saskatchewan.

Debbie Mary Greenfield, two months old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clare Greenfield, Yongehurst Road was baptized at the morning service at St. Mary's Anglican Church, Richmond Hill.

Miss Mary Lenton, Yongehurst Road, aunt of the baby and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ettinger were the godparents.

Following the service, the guests were entertained at a luncheon at the home of the baby's parents.

Steve, Flo and Garry Arbon, May Avenue are spending this weekend at their camp site at Lake Eugenia.

A speedy recovery is wished for Mrs. Connie Stapeley who will be staying with her son, Dennis Stapley and his family, Pemberton Road, following a stay in Wellesley Hospital.

**Church News**  
 A few years ago a piece of valuable property at the corner of Bathurst Street and Weldrick Road was purchased for the purpose of building a church.

In June, 1967 the building program was begun and this Sunday there will be services at 11 am, 3 pm and 7 pm for the dedication of Weldrick Road Baptist Church.

Dr. J. H. Watt of Toronto will be guest speaker for the day and special music will be presented at each service.

Your correspondent extends best wishes for a happy summer to readers of this column and would appreciate hearing from all residents of Weldrick Road, May Avenue, Pemberton Road, Kersey Crescent, Yongehurst Road and Hillside Avenue about visitors, trips, holidays, parties, engagements, birthdays and weddings or news of interest to the community.

## South Thornhill News

**CORRESPONDENT: MRS. MAY BARBOUR — PHONE 889-5205**

**Birthday Greetings**  
 A happy birthday is wished for Janet Penfold who celebrated her 10th with a few school chums June 13 at 125 Clarke Avenue; for Kathleen Wayne, Crestwood Road, who was 13 years on June 16; for Charlotte Evans, Clarke Avenue, who was 14 years old June 19; for Marsha Temple, Glen Cameron Road, who was 13 years old June 20; and for Brenda St. John, Crestwood Road, who celebrated her sixth birthday June 20.

**With The Sick**  
 Friends and neighbors of John Barbour, Henderson Avenue, will be glad to know he is out of the intensive care unit at York Central Hospital. His son, David, expects to leave Toronto General Hospital this week, after surgery.

**Birth**  
 Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. J. DeLaat on the birth of their son, June 12. Mr. DeLaat is a grade 6 teacher at Woodland Junior School.

in each game, with winning teams being awarded trophies made in P. Kirby's opportunity class.

On June 17, pupils of grade 5, accompanied by Teacher J. DeLaat, enjoyed an excursion to Midland, where they toured Fort Ste. Marie Among the Hurons, Huronia Village and Midhurst Park.

Woodland Junior School will hold a graduation assembly for grade 6 June 21. Parents are invited. Awards to recognize efforts and achievements by students will be presented by Principal S. Meyer

of Woodland Senior School, Orchard School and Supervising Principal E. J. Sand.

Awards are given for proficiency, citizenship, school service and academic achievement.

Mrs. J. Peachman's folk dancing group will provide entertainment and the parents association will be serving refreshments and donating prizes. Grade I pupils, with Miss B. Howells and Miss H. Craigie visited Toronto Island for the day, June 13.

## LANGSTAFF NEWS

**CORRESPONDENT Mrs. Geoffrey Cook**  
 84 Garden Ave. Phone: 889-4553

**WI**  
 Mrs. Mary Suter entertained Mark-Vaun WI at her home for the June meeting. The motto was "Take Time To Play — It Is The Secret Of Perpetual Youth". On the same theme, the roll call — "How To Keep Your Vigor And Your Figure" was answered with keep active, don't sit around all day. One member said that she exercises with dumbbells.

The ladies exchanged plants and showed their hobbies, including knitting, sewing, making stuffed toys and liquid embroidery on cloth. Ruby Glassley's hobby is caring for foster babies and she showed the latest pictures of these.

Vi Drew convened the meeting at which plans were discussed for the fall bazaar. Bella McNab presented an institute cup and saucer to Ruby Glassley on behalf of the members in appreciation of her services as president for several terms. Mary Suter and Gert Holt served refreshments following the program. The WI members will hold a meeting this week to arrange the program for the 1968-69 season.

**Neighborhood Notes**  
 Thornhill Vacation Church School Association will have a branch at Emmanuel Anglican Church from July 8-18 on week-day afternoons. Open to all children in the area in the 4-11 age group, it has a varied and interesting program.

Richvale Nursery School will meet in the Charles Howitt playground on July 4 at 2 p.m.

The Tuesday story hour at Richvale Library has been cancelled for the summer, but there will be one for pre-schoolers on Saturday mornings at 10:15 beginning June 22. Library hours are Monday, 12 noon to 5 pm, 7 to 9 pm, Tuesday, 12 to 5 pm, Thursday, 6 to 9 pm, Friday, 12 to 5 pm, 7 to 9 pm and Saturday, 10 am to 3 pm.

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**New Parents' Group**  
 The parents' group at Woodland Junior School has broken away from the federation of home and schools and has formed a new Woodland Parents' Association. The executive includes: President Ann Massington, 1st Vice-President Allan McKechnie, 2nd Vice-President Howard Hunt, Program Convenor and Publications Mrs. Joyce Holubec, Recording Secretary Mrs. Susan Recard, Corresponding Secretary Mrs. Mairia McLean, Publicity Assistant Mrs. J. Flaun, Treasurer Mrs. Thelma Campbell, Membership Mrs. Aileen Hunt, Social Convenors Mrs. Vera Heimman and Mrs. Rozycki and Room Representatives Mrs. Marie Bryden. Principal D. Young and a representative of the teachers will attend the meetings.

June 21 the primary grades will hold a play day.

All grade 4, 5 and 6 pupils participated in a play day last week. A variety of games was well organized by Mrs. P. Wright. Ribbons were presented to the first three winners

Thornhill's Own ...

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**CARRVILLE**

Correspondent: Mrs. Arlene Park Phone 884-5051

**Church News**  
 Members of the congregation of Carrville United Church recently held a surprise housewarming party for Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Read and children at their new farm at Woodbridge. The family was deeply appreciative of the kind thoughts of their former neighbors and friends as well as for the gift of a mantel clock and remembrances for the children.

The summer meeting of the UCV was held at the home of Mrs. Jane Bone. Final plans for the strawberry festival on June 26 were made.

Carrville Sunday school picnic will be held June 23 at Cedar Glen Park, Area 2. Anyone desiring transportation is asked to call Mrs. Jessie Kirk at 884-2945.

The official opening of Weldrick Road Baptist Church will be held June 23 at 3 pm.

**Neighborhood Notes**  
 We are glad to see that both Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Anning are well again after their recent illnesses.

With schools about to close for the summer it is time to plan where your young children will be spending their days. Excellent swimming, summer day camps and vacation schools at the churches in nearby areas are available. Make a happy summer, and make it a safe one for all children in the community.

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ONTARIO MUNICIPAL BOARD

P. 5204-68

IN THE MATTER OF Section 30 of The Planning Act (R.S.O. 1960, c. 296),

- and -

IN THE MATTER OF an application by The Corporation of the Township of Markham for approval of its Restricted Area By-law 2325 passed the 17th day of July, 1967, as amended by By-law 2338 passed the 18th day of September, 1967.

**APPOINTMENT FOR HEARING**

THE ONTARIO MUNICIPAL BOARD hereby appoints Thursday, the 4th day of July, 1968, at the hour of ten o'clock in the forenoon (local time), at the Council Chambers of the Township of Markham (at Buttonville), for the hearing of all parties interested in supporting or opposing this application.

DATED at Toronto this 22nd day of May, 1968.

H. C. T. CRISP, R. SCOTT,  
 Township Clerk, Secretary,  
 Township of Markham,  
 R.R. 2, Gormley, Ont.

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