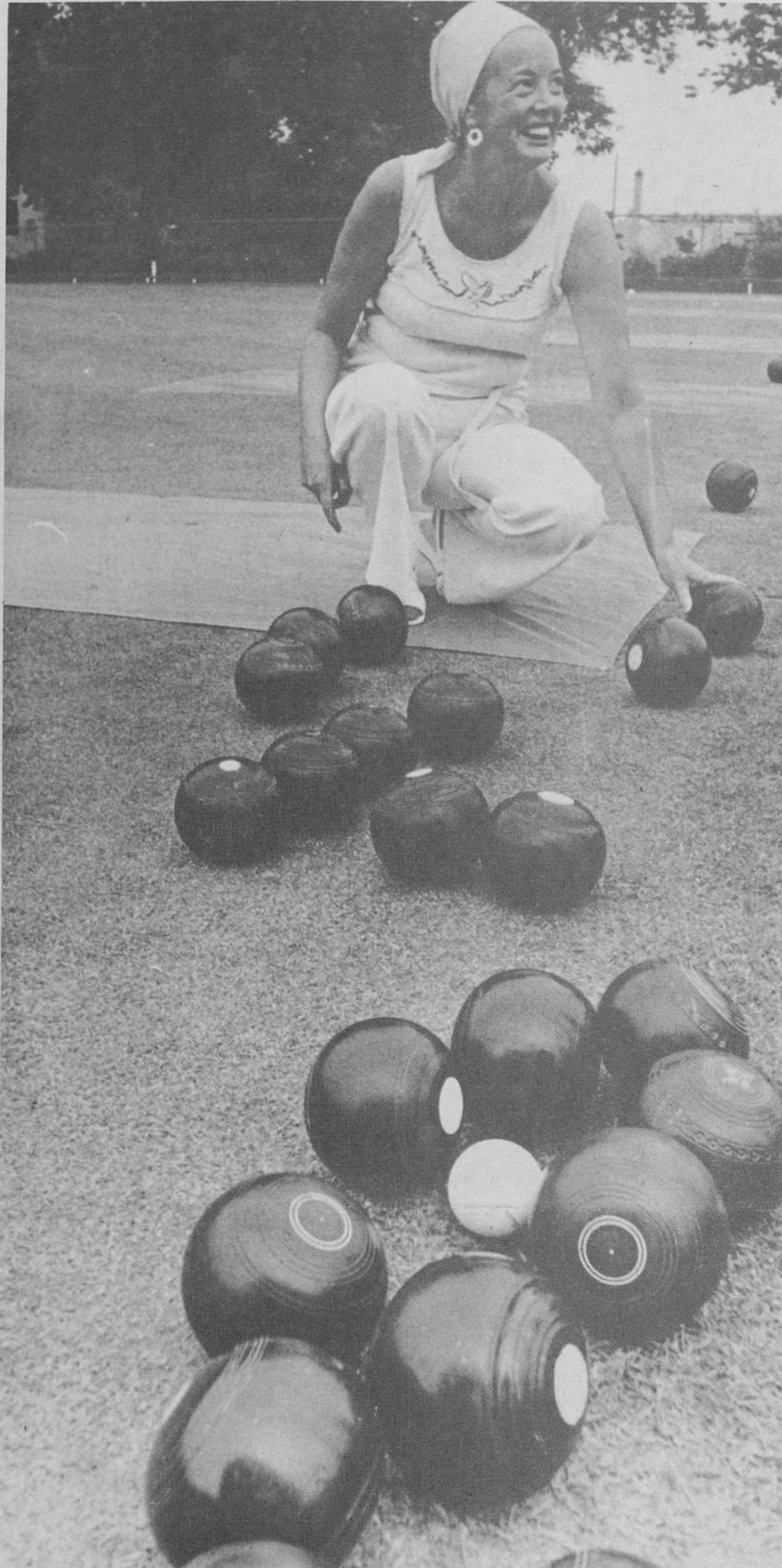


Wednesday, July 13, 1977

Summertime ...bowling's easy



Count 'em up

Life's a "bowl" of cherries here for Richmond Hill Lawn Bowling Club member Tessa Henderson of Inverlochy

Blvd., Thornhill. She's busy counting up the bowls that surround the white kitty. Great score.

Summertime and the living was easy in the 1920's at the Richmond Hill Bowling Club. Right behind the arena. Life on a typical July afternoon was a satisfying bowl which gently eased its way along the greens and sighed to a stop just a tickle away from the kitty. Great shot.

It was a day of civilized warfare with time off for tea midway through the afternoon. A good draw brought genteel applause, a bad one, a murmur of sympathy.

Things haven't changed much. Just the faces.

Same station
The scene is still the same area behind the Richmond Hill Arena and tea is still served in the same clubhouse built in the early 1920's.

"Most of the afternoons during the week are used by the members to tune up their games in preparation for tournaments or regularly scheduled games," states member Jim Grainger.

"The club committee organizes teams and everyone has fun games although they're pretty serious with their bowling," he said.

All ages
Grainger is one of the veterans in the 108-member club which runs the gamut of years from teenagers "to us old fellows".

He joined the club in 1938 and has reeled off numerous championships ever since including winning the American National Singles tournament two years ago.

That same year saw Grainger and partners, Floyd Perkins, Al White, and Curley Lynett, runners-up in the Canadian team championships.

But that's the serious side of lawn bowling.

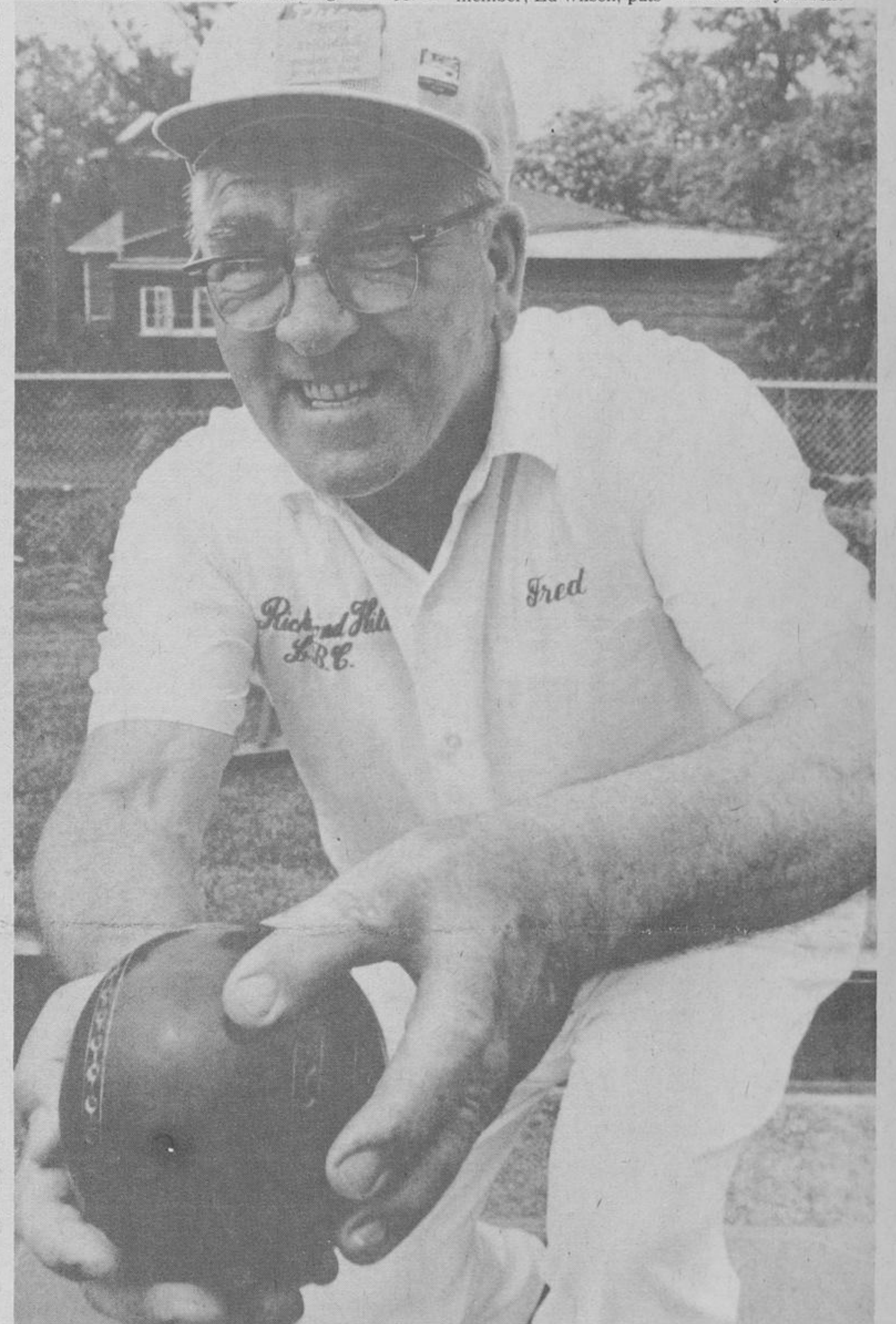
Game of bowls
A more typical side of it is the camaraderie involved with just getting together for a "game of bowls" with age no barrier.

"It's a game that you can get great pleasure out of, at any age," says Grainger. "At one time it was considered a game for old people." Not any more. "The young people are

finding it's a challenge at any age and we have quite a few teenagers involved in lawn bowling," he said. Despite this the real pleasure to be had with lawn bowling is its appeal

and availability to the senior citizen who still likes to compete in sports and have fun doing it. "It gets you out of your chair and into the action," is the way another member, Ed Wilson, puts

it. "I'm retired and it's an excuse for me to get out and get moving." What better way to spend a hazy, lazy afternoon in July. Drop around to the club and see for yourself.



This one's gotta be

Member Fred Thomas has that look of anticipation as he takes deadly (hopefully) aim at the kitty in typical summer's day action at the Richmond Hill Lawn Bowling

Club. He's one of 108 members who have fun taking their game seriously on the local greens.

Photos
by
Hogg

Government helped her build a house

When Mrs. Charlotte De Neve, 82 of 589 Sunset Beach Rd., brought materials from Holland to build a house in Canada in 1952, she had no idea the government would be helping her to make home repairs 25 years later.

She is repairing her home through a government scheme called Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program (RRAP).

The program gets 50 per cent of its funds from the municipality and 25 per cent from provincial and federal governments.

The plan allows \$10,000 maximum repairs per house, with funds available through Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC).

"We built this place up little by little", said Mrs. De Neve.

"When we came over, we brought the lumber, windows and everything in parts since we were only allowed to bring a limited amount of money into the country."

"It was not easy in the beginning. Our friends helped us build the house but there was no water and we used to go down to the lake for a bath. We were also fairly isolated in those days," she said.

Mrs. De Neve first heard about RRAP when she received a flyer about RRAP in the winter. At first she didn't know what to think of the idea

but a neighbor suggested she look into the plan because she "was entitled to be helped".

And it has worked out very well for her. She will receive a \$3,000 grant which covers the cost of insulating the roof and basement and painting the exterior.

"I do not see this as just money from the government; it is like money from heaven", she said.

"On my pension, there is no way I could afford to do these repairs".

She did not know her house should be insulated. She did know it was very cold in the winter months and her heating bills were taking a larger and larger amount of her pension.

Jack Hollowell, senior building inspector for the town, and Bill Coristine of the town planning department, inspected Mrs. De Neve's home last winter and realized the need for insulation.

"They were so nice and helpful", Mrs. De Neve said. "They explained everything to me and arranged for the workers to come in"

A neighbor was visiting her and asked her how she could stand the banging as the insulation was being installed in the basement.

"That may be banging to you, but it is music to my ears", said Mrs. De Neve. "I tried to keep the fuel

costs down by turning down the heat and wearing a sweater around

the house, but the bills were still pretty high" Because of Mrs. De

Neve's financial position, she received a grant from RRAP and does not have

to pay back any money if she remains living in the house.

If she moves, she will be expected to meet the debts.

This part of the program is to prevent speculators from repairing with government money and selling to make a profit.

"Mrs. De Neve's case is not a typical example of the housing problems we face in the Lake Wilcox region", said Bill Coristine. "Her house is well-kept and has a rebuilding

basement" Since this is a beach area, there are many old cottages people want renovated and in a lot of instances rebuilding would be a better idea, said Hollowell.

This is not possible under RRAP, which only offers money for rehabilitation, not well-kept and has a rebuilding



Dry spot

Richmond Hill senior citizens found one of the few dry spots in the community Thursday as rains drenched the town. This awning on Yonge St. provided protection while seniors waited for a bus to take them to the races.

Re-zoned land allows 'mini-skool' operations

Mini-Skool is a facility" and there are proposed day care program for the Avenue Road and Carrville area which the town of Richmond Hill has re-zoned from residential to restricted commercial specifically for the operation of a private day nursery school.

Mr. and Mrs. R. N. Smith of Avenue Road, opposed the change in zoning since they fear a precedent would be set for changing the rest of the residential zone.

They fear traffic would increase with this "luxurious baby sitting

already at least two day care or nursery centres in the immediate area.

Although some points made by the Smiths were considered valid by the Town, it is pointed out that in the present Official Plan, Avenue Road is designated as a future collector road to have a right-off-way 86 feet wide and traffic would naturally increase.

Also, the Mini-Skools operation is a specialized type of operation and it is not likely that other commercial uses would be considered in the area.