

## Program to aid "special needs" adults

By Brenda Stewart

Life will be made easier for senior citizens and the disabled living in Osgoode Township thanks to a new program about to be launched.

The program should allow "special needs" adults to remain in their own homes rather than being institutionalized.

Already being considered as part of the program are a summer chore service involving teenagers, transportation, visitation, and a telecheck system to keep track of persons living alone.

Last June, the township organized a task force to investigate the requirements of "special needs" adults in the community. It was done with the assistance of the Centre For Community Development at Algonquin College. Home support, senior citizen apartments and nursing homes were examined in the survey.

It was estimated that approximately 200 people needed information services or volunteer and professional services. The home support program evolved from the results of the questionnaire.

A central committee of volunteers is being formed. Barbara Herr, a nurse, is the chairman. Representatives of senior citizen groups, churches and the medical profession will co-operate to discover people's needs and to find volunteers and referrals.

"Home Support will operate along with existing programs like Visiting Homemakers and the Victorian Order of Nurses to keep people in their homes. Right now it's a trial and error thing," says Mrs. Herr.

Fifty per cent of funding will come from the provincial government. Twenty-five per cent will come from the township and the remaining twenty-five will have to be raised through donations and user fees. The township has allotted the necessary funds and all that is necessary to begin is funding from the province.

"We work with a consultant from the Ministry of Community and Social Services and through that person we apply for the budget," explains Mrs. Herr.

She elaborates on the twenty-five per cent which will be raised through donations and user fees, using the example of transportation services.

"Those who can will pay the full charge. On a trip to Ottawa, they would pay for the gas. Those who cannot afford it will be subsidized."

There will be extensive use of volunteers and Mrs. Herr believes that many of these will be the senior citizens themselves. She describes a drop in centre already in existence in Osgoode Village which will now be funded by the province rather than the regional municipality. Some of its services will come under the jurisdiction of the home support program.

The president of the drop-in centre, Irvin Hunt, elaborates on some of the help offered by the centre. Transportation has always been a high priority in the past, he says. It will continue to be offered under the new program.

"We have visiting services now, but on a very small scale and in the past our members have always been encouraged to telephone

those who are not able to come to the centre."

Mr. Hunt adds that there are approximately eighty members, but stresses that a membership is not necessary to use the centre.

Those wishing to make referrals or volunteer their services for the home support program may phone the drop-in centre in Osgoode at 826-2793 or Barbara Hunt, 821-1667; Eunice McCaffrey, 821-3049.

### Heart Fund

Dorothy Marquette, captain of the Heart Fund canvass for Russell, reports that local residents donated \$1,032 in recent weeks. Embrun residents, with Mrs. Leo Gascon as captain, donated \$2,074. A total of \$18,000 was collected in the United Counties of Prescott and Russell. The money is used to support research into heart disease.

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## Greely Grist

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### Railway clues, strange places

Further information has been received on the proposed electric railway that was to pass through Greely some seventy years ago. After reading last month's article about the railway, Mr. Gordon Boland who owns a farm about a mile south of Metcalfe, came forward with some additional information on the subject. Mr. Boland says that he understood that the railway was to go to Cornwall, not Morrisburg as previously stated. He also says that there was a long mound, in some places almost ten feet high, across the east end of his property in the eighth concession of the Township of Osgoode. This would indeed seem to indicate that the railway was going in the direction of Cornwall. Mr. Boland also states that stories he has heard suggest that financial problems were one of the major reasons for dropping the project.

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Many of the small places near Greely have through time changed their names or have been long since forgotten and are unknown to the younger generation or people new to the area. Where would you be if you were at Dawson, Waller, Herberts Corners, Sabourin, Bray Station, Ellwood or Chaudiere Junction? More information on these places in later editions.

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## Singing evangelist coming to Castor

A singing evangelist who avoids cities will stage several gospel music concerts in Russell Village and Kenmore later this month.

Although Toronto-based, Bruce Scott prefers to bring his ministry to smaller churches.



Evangelist Bruce Scott

"I'm not committed," he admits, "to the large, city-wide crusade. My ministry exists to be of service to the local church."

Sponsored by the Castor Valley Baptist Church, Mr. Scott will sing and preach at a banquet to be held at Kenmore, April 25. The following evening, he'll give a gospel music concert at Russell Public School.

On Sunday morning, April 27, the guest evangelist will sing and preach during the Castor Valley Baptist Church worship service at Russell School. He'll do the same during an evening service at Kenmore.

Raised in a pastor's home, Mr. Scott maintains a deep love for local churches and their needs. During the first four years of his ministry, he sang and preached his way across Canada with the Campbell-Reese Evangelistic Society.

During the past five years, he has developed his own distinctive ministry.

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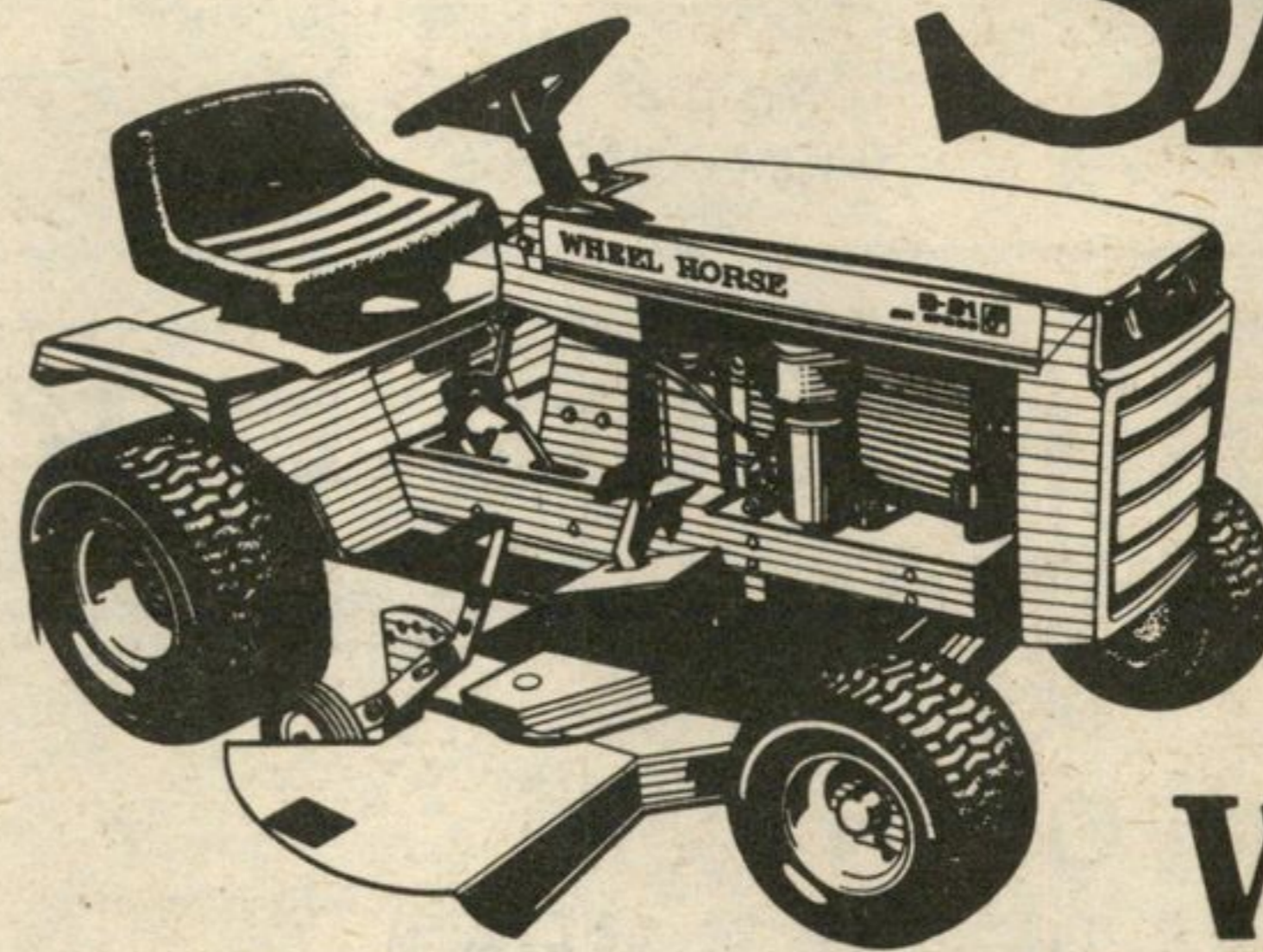
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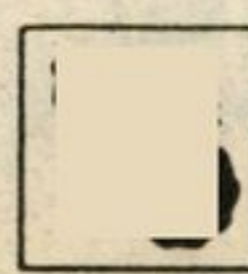


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