

Carol's hang-up is recycling garbage

By Barbara Brooks
UNIONVILLE
Carol Danard worries about garbage. She collects and stacks tons of garbage for recycling. She has help but if she didn't, she'd do it herself.

As founder, head and moving spirit of Unionville's Recycling Depot, she is more than just concerned about pollution.

Carol energetically dedicates many hours a week to her cause. In the four months since its opening, the Depot has handled over 20 tons of recycleable material. She meets regularly with her volunteers to discuss any new facts, details or queries to be added to a report she is preparing to present to the local Council in the near future to enlist government support.

If Carol is the moving spirit of the Recycling Depot, its success is due to the participation of the villagers who use the Depot. Each month the percentage of homes participating increases, so that to date over 200 families are using the facilities regularly and the volunteers have increased from 8 to 30.

Besides sorting bottles and loading the

truck at least twice a month, the volunteers are on hand at the Depot to instruct and advise new participants on how to collect selective garbage. They find out:

Tins must be washed, labels removed and flattened. Aluminum pop cans need not be crushed.

Glass must be washed, foil labels removed and separated by colour. Newspapers must be tied in small bundles.

Families tell Carol how grateful they are that the Depot exists. "People were made aware of pollutions by all medias," she says, "now they feel that as individuals they are at least doing a small part, something to help."

She hopes that the government will take note of such successes as these: 13 tons of paper were collected and sold to mills at \$5-\$8 a ton; 5 tons of glass sold at \$15 a ton; 2 tons of tin cans sold for \$5 a ton.

"There is money to be made," she says "but our Depot is losing." "I'm sure we could break even financially if we had centrally located and larger Depots."

Carol tells of an American machine that after separating metal and glass from garbage, heats the balance and gets crude oil. This procedure costs \$5.50 per ton, and crude oil only costs \$6.00. However, to dispose of the original garbage it would cost \$11.00, thus, the saving is \$11.50.

A well known Greeting Card Company has used recycled paper for many years but now uses this fact as part of their advertising because people today have an enlightened attitude. For every ton of paper that is recycled, 17 trees are not cut down.

"One man asked why our Depot didn't advertise more," says Carol. "When he found out that our operations were all volunteer, he gave us \$20.00 to advertise."

Carol's enthusiasm is as strong today as when the Depot was just an idea. Living in this small village just north of Toronto, she is influenced by the natural rural area and is determined that we should try to preserve the beauty we have.

Concerned about the vast amount of newspapers that accumulated in her home Carol organized a group of 14 houses, using her own garage as a pickup spot. Although Carol's husband is an understanding man, it soon became evident that the group needed another building. "I'm stubborn," she admits. "The Bramalee developer offered a small garage on the village Main Street across from the Post Office where all residents must pick up their mail daily. Plans

seemed to snowball from there." Notice the times and instructions were printed on "recycled" paper and delivered locally. The Depot is open Tuesdays 1-4 p.m. Thursdays 5-8 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 noon. An afternoon and evening and morning time schedule makes the Depot convenient for all.

Through other pollution interested groups, especially

Approve \$9,250 for Mabel Davis Conservation Area

YORK NORTH - Hon. Leo Bernier, Minister of Natural Resources and William Hodgson, M.P.P., York North, have announced the approval of a provincial grant of \$9,250 to the South Lake Simcoe Conservation Authority for the Mabel Davis Conservation Area.

This area comprises some 17 acres of land located in parts of Lots 96 and 97, E.Y.S., Township of East Gwillimbury. The property was donated to the Authority in 1969.

The Authority is proposing to undertake further development work in this Area which will include finishing the basement area to serve as the Authority boardroom, provision of services to provide for future expansion of the building and additional general development work.

All member municipalities will bear the Authority's share of the cost.

Pollution Probe, Carol received help and instructions, and learned from the methods already tried by the recycling group in Burlington, Ontario.

"I wish I could reach the families who are not participating," she says. "I feel helpless when some families copout with excuses and attitudes that mean they just can't be bothered."

"I don't believe that recycling depots are the ultimate answer to some pollution problems, perhaps a door-to-door pickup would be better. We want Council to set up a feasibility group to investigate suggestions, coordinate information and to check into the dump facilities of our village."

In 4 months the villagers have proved the public is concerned. However, eventually the government will have to take control. In the meantime Unionville's Depot is in capable hands.



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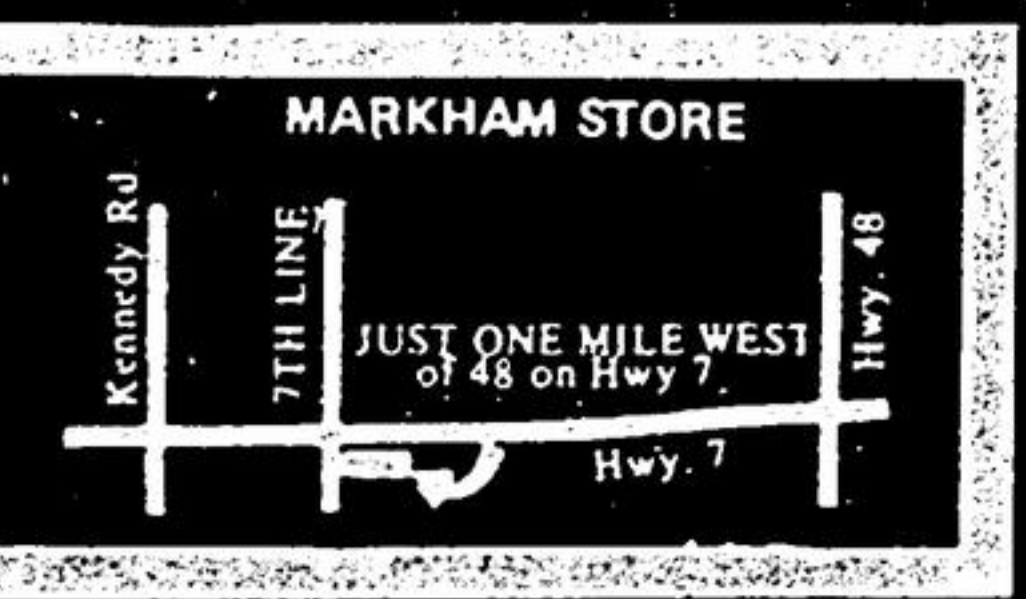
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