

GETTING TOGETHER FOR CHANGE



DELTA COMMUNITY FORUM

A very thought-provoking Community Forum was held at Beverley Elementary School, Delta, on Wednesday, Nov. 9th. During the evening, three main themes were covered.

During the first phase of the meeting, each person made a list of his or her hopes, aims, dreams of Delta in the future, disregarding the possibilities of these things ever being accomplished.

The second part consisted of discussions concerning the obstacles preventing these plans from becoming reality.

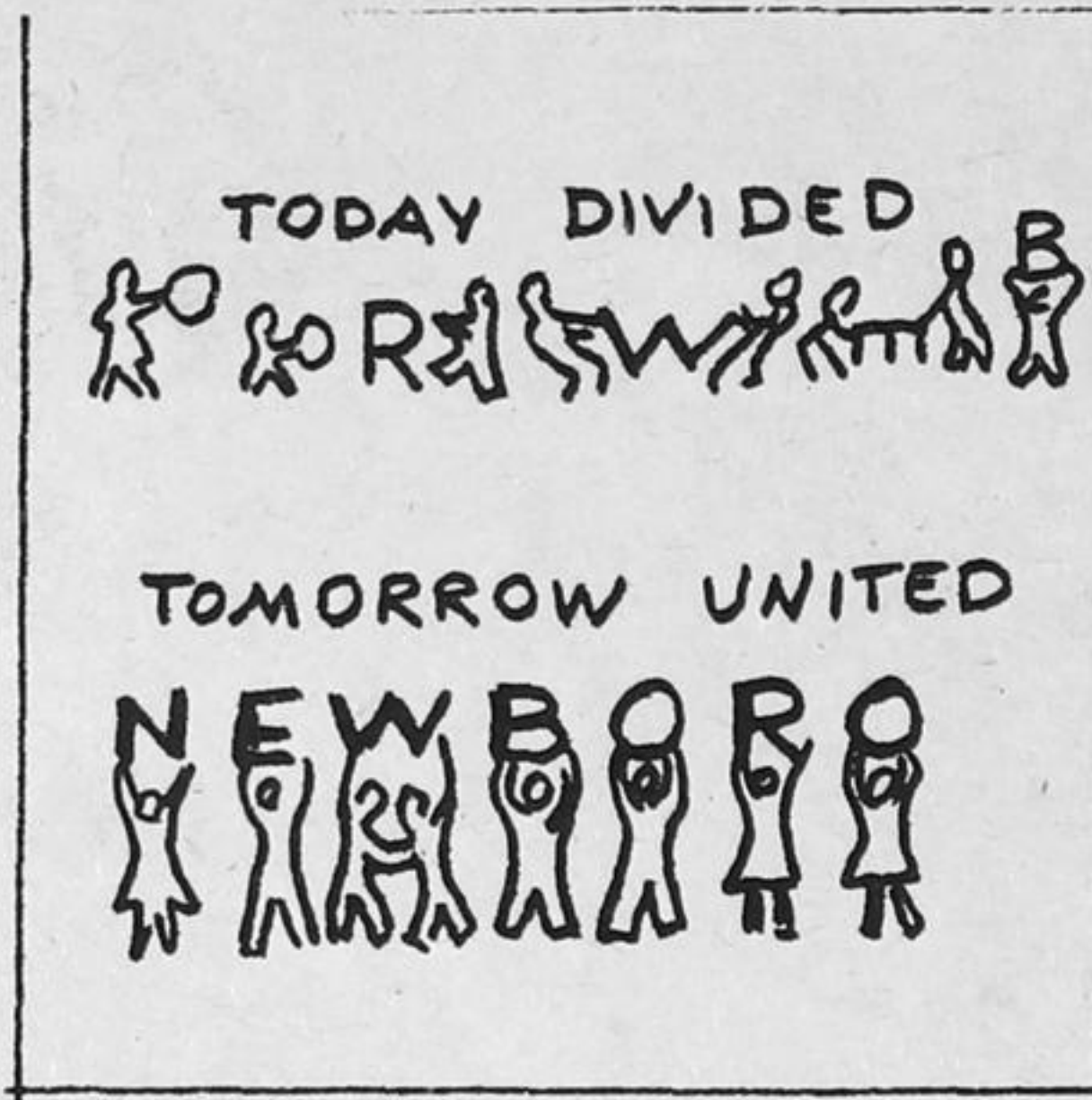
The third part of the evening covered ways of overcoming these obstacles. Delta has a proud heritage. One thing became evident during the evening - Whether or not things get done depends on YOU, not on your neighbour. "The true revolution must come from within. It needs to be accomplished first from within oneself."



PORTLAND COMMUNITY MEETING

A successful forum was held in Portland on Sunday, Oct. 30th. Many ideas for improving the community were discussed. A follow-up meeting will be held Sunday, December 11th at 7:30 p.m. at the Portland Community Hall. Anyone wishing to participate is more than welcome. For further information, call

Paul Byington 272-2810
or
Pat McManus 272-2891



NEWBORO COMMUNITY FORUM

On Nov. 5, a Community Forum was held at the Star Hall in Newboro. The meeting was attended off and on by about 38 participants and had at any given time about 23 town's people present.

The morning after the opening remarks by officials of the Institute of Cultural Affairs and St. Lawrence College, was spent in a brainstorming session, where the people voiced their opinions on what the town had, what it lacked and what it could use and also the problems obstructing these projects.

At noon, they broke for an excellent pot luck luncheon, supplied by some of the better cooks in town.

The afternoon was spent in groups finding solutions to the problems raised in the morning.

One group split off to write a town song, a story, and to form a town symbol.

The whole day was a splendid experience at finding a fun way to do things together. The results of the day findings were, first, the town needs a recreation centre, with a library wing and a reading room, plus tennis courts and possibly a lawn bowling green and, second, a Fire Hall with a volunteer brigade. Also the people need a better attitude toward council, and more information from council, on the various issues discussed at meetings.

COMMUNITY FORUM PROGRESS

Well, we did it! About 60 people from Lyndhurst and Seeleys Bay came to Sweets Corners School on 5 November and buried the hatchet to discuss our common needs. After Reeve Hubert Sly opened the Forum, we spent the morning discussing our visions of the future of Rear of Leeds and Lansdowne, what may block our progress, and what fundamentally is stopping us. The Anglican and United Church ladies of the community combined to put on an excellent lunch, during which everyone relaxed to the music of banjo, fiddle and piano played by Mr. and Mrs. Harry Sheffield and Mr. Gerald Johnson. Thus refreshed, we turned to discuss some practical ideas for progress towards our vision of the future. We discussed practical steps which we ourselves might take in implementing these ideas, and put together a document summarizing the day's work. A few of the ideas were: an effective community centre for the township, a common telephone book and toll-free dialing within the community, a bus service between Lyndhurst and Seeleys Bay, open nomination meetings for council and school board, and possible uses for the Carveth Nursing Home facilities.

The first practical action of the Forum will be to make a joint Lyndhurst-Seeleys Bay float for the Santa Claus parade on 25 November. Watch out for this symbol of our unity!

To keep the ball rolling and give a chance to people who couldn't make the Forum itself, there will be a public meeting at 8:00 p.m. on 7 Dec. at Sweets Corners school for the purpose of putting together Task Forces of people who wish to carry out particular projects.

The person does not exist who will be unable to contribute in some way: with ideas, contacts, making, doing and selling things large and small. It is up to you to affect the future of your community. Please come and join in.



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