

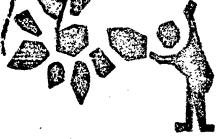
Amendment to Polyzote
City of Cambridge

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council June 26, 1972

	YEA	NAY	ABSENT
Mr. Clinton	✓		
Mr. Danehy			✓
Mr. Duehay			✓
Mrs. Graham			✓
Mr. Moncreiff	✓		
Mr. Owens	✓		
Mr. Sullivan		✓	
Mr. Vellucci	✓		
Mayor Ackermann	✓		
	5	1	3

*Order Failed
 Councillor Moncreiff to reconsider*



PROPOSAL: THE CAMBRIDGE COMMON "YANKEE FLEA MARKET"

Polyarts, Inc., a non-profit corporation headquartered at 863 Main Street, Cambridge, Ma., in order to support and fund its neighborhood recreational arts project "reCREATION '72" would like to create in Cambridge a flea market accentuating the arts and crafts which our City enjoys.

Polyarts has over the years sponsored the New England Arts Festival now regarded throughout the area as the best and largest in New England. We also sponsor the Spring Craft Fair and the Mid-Winter Arts Carnival at the Y.M.C.A. in Cambridge. The results of this activity make us a leader in the area of this type of activity. We have also the largest list of craftsmen and artist in the area. Our experience lends towards these areas and ensures success. We have aside from these areas mentions above supported and sponsored "Animal Day" the "Children's Halloween Party" the "Aero Kite Meet" and the "Hatch Shell Concerts." Our last program was the Charles River Festival.

Most if not all our programs are free. The Yankee Flea Market would be a most welcome project of ours since it would support our free programs that the people of our City come to and parttake in. While this outdoor urban crafts market would be open to the public and while we would not levy a mandatory admission, would feel enough people would contribute as a courtesy to make the event worthwhile.

Our dates are from the Beginning of reCREATION '72, July 8th. from the hours of 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Saturday, September 30th. The YANKEE FLEA MARKET would be Saturday only and would not have a raindate. Polyarts would spend its own funds to publicize this effort and the books like our entire project would be always open to the public.

Cambridge has over the past five years had a proliferation of craftsman who while enjoying the central city life had the discomfort of being poor. There has not been a buying public except for our exhibits and fairs. We feel with a regular Saturday program and with new suburbanites and tourest coming into the City, this would not only mean the difference between life and death to some craftsman and artist alike, but, more bring to Harvard Square a wholesome and warrented image of respectibility which our shore owners are all crying for.

It is our hopes that the YANKEE FLEA MARKET would revitalize and renew our faith in the city as a place for young and old alike, a place to meander and stroll and a place to genuinly eek out a living. The Cities ajtist and craftsman would sure appreciate your support and so would I.

Sincerely,

HERALD NEWS
FALL RIVER, MASS.
D. 41,749

JUN 9 1972

New
England
Newsclip

Mayor, Council Supporting Plans for Re-Creation '72

The Re-Creation '72 staff today received a resolution of support from the mayor and City Council.

The resolution cites Re-Creation '72 as a fine recreational program providing "all sectors

of Fall River's population with cultural enrichment and meaningful activity." The resolution

was proposed by Councillor Springer.

The program is now in the process of organizing its headquarters in facilities donated at the Franklin Street CYO. Scope

of the program has been expanded this year with a number of new events among them is a Heritage Week which will be a celebration of various ethnic cultures in the area. A continuing program of art, music and theatre also will be a part of the summer's activities.

Dan Jones, executive director, said the main goal of the program is to involve the community in creative expression as an enjoyable activity through active participation.

"There is a great deal of pessimism about Fall River's cultural activity but there is really a lot of fine talent around that has not been reached," he said. "We hope to bring that talent out. Re-Creation '72 will not be a success without the support of the whole community. The program needs active participation in both volunteer time and donation of resources," he concluded.



City of Fall River, Massachusetts

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

NICHOLAS W. MITCHELL
MAYOR

LAWRENCE ROMEO
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

THOMAS BRITLAND, JR.
SPECIAL ASSISTANT
TO THE MAYOR

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS: Re-creation '71 and the City of Fall River has embarked upon a program bringing recreation to the citizens of our entire community in the form of entertainment, block dances, arts and crafts and other recreational activities; and

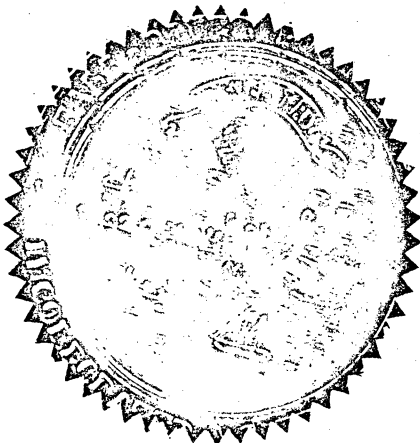
WHEREAS: These activities have proven to be very successful and popular with people of all ages,

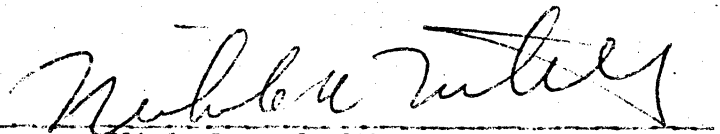
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nicholas W. Mitchell, Mayor of the City of Fall River, do hereby proclaim Friday, August 13, 1971 to be

RE-CREATION '71 DAY

and ask all citizens to heartily commend and congratulate all persons involved in every aspect of Re-creation '71 for bringing to this city much needed recreational activities and to wish them continued success in their outstanding efforts.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Fall River to be affixed this eleventh day of August in the year of our Lord Nineteen Hundred and Seventy-one.





Nicholas W. Mitchell
Mayor

City of Fall River, In City Council

July 20, 1971

WHEREAS, Re-creation 71 has embarked upon a program bringing recreation to the citizens of our entire community in the form of entertainment, block dances, arts and crafts and other recreational activities, and

WHEREAS, these activities have proven to be very successful and popular with people of all ages, now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that this City Council go on record as heartily commending and congratulating all persons involved in every aspect of Re-creation 71 for bringing to this city much needed recreational activities and to wish them continued success in their outstanding efforts.

In City Council, July 20, 1971
Adopted.

A true copy. Attest:

Joseph F. Doran
City Clerk

HERALD NEWS
FALL RIVER, MASS.
D. 41,749

MAR 15 1972

New
England
Newsclip

City Eager For Re-Creation '72

It is good news that the committee responsible for Re-Creation '71 is planning a repeat engagement for the project this year. In case you've forgotten, Re-Creation '71 offered young people in all parts of the city a steady program of fun, games and entertainment. It was characteristic of this wholesome project that wherever possible, the youngsters were urged to participate in the program. Occasionally, for some of the performances this proved impractical, but on the whole the young people were able to enter into the songs, dances and general festivity.

Re-Creation '71 was a huge success. The city government, civic groups of all kinds and interested individuals underwrote the cost, which was surprisingly small, considering the outlay of time and energy by

those responsible for the extensive schedule of events of all kinds. This year it should prove easier for the committee sponsoring the project to get the backing it needs.

The theory underlying Re-Creation '71 was that youngsters, especially in the city, need extra opportunities for amusement during the summer months, when school is not in session. Rather than waiting for government agencies to do the job, the Re-Creation '71 group set out to fill the gap themselves. They filled it so well that they now have a vast number of young people waiting for Re-Creation '72.

Everybody in the community benefits by the Re-Creation project. Anyone who can help it in any way is doing himself, as well as the city, a good turn.

MAY 29 1971 New
England
Newsclip

Re-creation '71 Help To All

Re-creation '71 is a project to engage the city's children in a series of games, performances and activities which will make their summer a release of productive energies instead of a prolonged period of killing time. The principal point involved is fun. Everything the youngsters will see and do will be fun for them, but the concept underlying Re-creation '71 is to involve the boys and girls in activity. Passive enjoyment is never as much pleasure as active participation, and it is through the fun of doing something that young people discover their own creative ability.

Improvisation plays a major part in Re-creation '71, as it does in all youthful games. A year ago when the concept was tried out in Cambridge, it proved outstandingly successful. The group that made it work

in Cambridge is now expanding its horizons. Fall River, which has recently come to realize how important it is to cope with juvenile delinquency before it starts, offers these talented teacher-performers considerable scope for their program. Furthermore, the varied ethnic backgrounds of youngsters here can provide a remarkably wide range of new play experiences from them to share and enjoy. From experiences of this kind a new understanding and sympathy can emerge.

Businesses and individuals are being asked to contribute to help defray the portion of the expenses of Re-creation '71 that will not be met through federal or city funds. Certainly helping young people have a happy, healthy, creative summer is a cause close to everyone's heart.

HERALD NEWS
FALL RIVER, MASS.
D. 41,749

SEP 13 1971

New
England
Newsclip

Letters to the Editor

Recreation '71 Praised

I cannot see the summer come to an end without sending you this letter.

As a parent and mother, I wish to express my gratitude and appreciation to all of the dedicated persons responsible for Recreation '71. Your combined efforts have given Fall Riverites the occasion to see the good that can be accomplished by our youth when their energies are constructively channeled.

Previous to Recreation '71, teenagers were judged by their appearances: long-haired, bare-footed, blue-jeaned bums. The summer's close sees appearance relinquish its limelight to accomplishment. Our youth have donated their time and

energy, everyday, all day, the summer long: movie man, arts & crafts, blockdances, birthday man, music festivals, etc. From one end of the city to the next, our youth were there: greeting the young, cheering the elderly.

I speak not only for myself when I offer my plaudits, my congratulations for Recreation '71, but I speak for the many who have come in contact with the flip-side of teenagers: their relentless energy, their devotion, and thus their multiple accomplishments.

I look eagerly forward to many more summers of Recreation.

Three cheers to you all . . .
MRS. RITA FORCIER
Fall River

AUG 11 1971 New
England
Newsclip

Human checkers

wanted

Re-Creation 71 in Cambridge is seeking about 40 people to be "Human checkers" for a gigantic checker game set for Saturday, August 28 on the Cambridge Common.

The game is scheduled to be played during the Second Annual New England Arts Festival.

Phone 492-2900 for "checker" registration.

AUG 11 1971 New
England
Newsclip

Bike hike

Re/Creation 71 in cooperation with Mayor Alfred Vellucci's office, announces the Youth on Parade Day Bike Hike to be held Thursday, August 19, at 7 p.m. There will be a free bicycle awarded for the best decorated bike courtesy of Bike Revival.

All bicyclists are asked to rendezvous behind City Hall at 6:30. For more information contact Bob at 492-2900.

Success of Re-Creation '71 Here Due to a Variety of Volunteers

The success of Re-Creation '71 here is due to a variety of young volunteers that Director Thomas Norton calls "my army of barefoot beggars."

A thumbnail sketch of three of them gives a look behind the scenes at Fall River's newest summer program.

Michael Kobelecki is entering his second year at Bristol Community College, and when he graduates he's thinking of making social work his profession. Mike lives in the South End, and is an instrumental member of the South End Youth Center.

But, as he says while loading the Re-Creation '71 Birthday Man Van, "Father Kevin Tripp told me about Re-Creation '71, and it sounded like the type of program I could dig, and one which would relate to the courses I'm taking at Bristol. Also, it seemed like the type of program Fall River certainly needed."

It's been eight weeks now since Mike's initial meeting, and undoubtedly he along with 50 of his fellow young volunteers

and workers will leave this program at the end of the summer with a huge sense of accomplishment and personal success.

"Without them," Norton remarks, "we would have been unable to run as successful and entertaining program."

A typical day for a young worker? "Unheard of," says Gail Pacheco, a junior at Durfee High School. "Sometimes we're going out on the Arts and Crafts Man Van and yet at other times I may have to show a movie to a bunch of senior citizens on a moment's notice."

And, to confirm the hecticness and uncertainty of anybody's life at Re-Creation '71, a quick visit to the office is a prerequisite. There, bicycles line the sidewalk in front, and long hair and dungarees are the prevalent uniform.

But, these young people are not the lazy hippies or insolent revolutionaries some might categorize them as being. "They're here at 8 a.m. and many of them don't leave until 10 p.m. and what they do in between is bring smiles across the faces of a lot of people in Fall River," Norton said.

"And they come seven days a week, rain or shine," he added.

In addition to people like Kobelecki and the Neighborhood Youth Corps people who are currently employed by Re-Creation '71 approximately 15 youngsters have been hired by the Youth Action Group to work for Re-Creation.

Paul Roy, chairman of YAG said \$3,000 from the Pace for Progress was donated to Re-Creation '71 so that the program could specifically hire some young people in need of financial help.

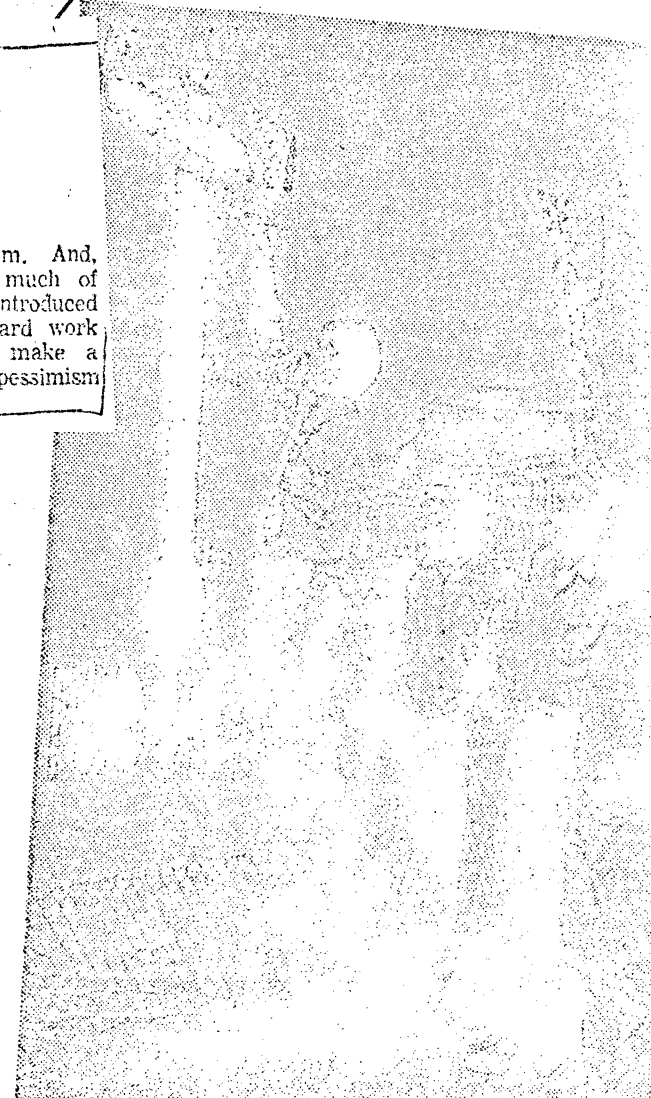
"We don't pay these kids much, but we feel that many of these people would have volunteered for Re-Creation '71 anyway, and this is a small way by which we can thank them," Roy added.

Such an individual is Alexandra Catala, 19, who also works at the Flint Neighborhood Center.

Miss Catala stated that she wanted to work for Re-Creation '71 because "it seemed like a good way of helping to get the people of Fall River together into forming a sense of community, and this is what we so desperately need in this city."

However, whether they're from the Youth Action Group, the Neighborhood Youth Corps, or just a volunteer off the street, Re-Creation '71 couldn't

operate without them. And, through their work much of Fall River has been introduced to the notion that hard work and dedication can make a change, and after pessimism into optimism.



Ronnie J. Ferris, Re-Creation '71 chairman, dabs in final section of the Fund-O-Meter indicating completion of a successful \$19,500 fund campaign. With him, from left, are Thomas Norton, James Wilcox and Andrew Udis. Herald News Photo

Re-Creation '71 Reaches Fund Goal of \$19,500

Ronnie J. Ferris, chairman of Re-Creation '71, today announced that their \$19,500 fund raising goal has been attained and should be surpassed by the end of the program on Sept. 5.

Ferris stated "The community is so pleased with the program, that soliciting funds has become a menial task. Everyday, strangers are walking into our headquarters and donating money and expressing good will to the program".

"We raised approximately \$1,100 on our talk show on WALE. Add that with the contributions that has been received each day and the Model Cities grant of \$5,000 and we are at the \$19,800 mark. Any surplus of remaining money after all expenses are paid, will be allocated to our budget next year for Re-Creation '72."

Ferris expressed appreciation to WSAR and WALE for allowing them use of the radio station on Aug. 13, for Re-Creation's fund raising talk show.

"It is a pleasure to work with such community minded people," the chairman said.

Re-Creation '71's final concert, Togetherness, Part III, is planned for Sept. 5 at North Park at 3 p.m. The featuring attractions for that program will be Alex Taylor and Family and Friends, The Young Rhode Islanders, Vesuvius, Friends Inc., Exuma, Stone Horse and Together.

CHRONICLE
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.
W. 13,735

JUL 8 1971

New
England
Newsclip

Fine Arts Museum Shows His Posters

Ralph Hodgdon, a member of the Polyarts' volunteer cultural corps, who works as a commercial artist in Boston, recently had two of his posters accepted for showing in the Museum of fine Arts. Both represented what the curators felt were some of the best examples of contemporary art.

One poster was for the Boston Ballet production of "Alice in Wonderland". The other was for Polyarts' own Re/Creation '71 Costa Do Sol Hatch Shell concerts.

Ralph said it was "the highlight of his life" and that he was "still walking on air."

HERALD NEWS
FALL RIVER, MASS.
D. 41,749

JUN 7 1971

New
England
Newsclip

Re-Creation Merits Support

Several recent articles in your newspaper have altered us to the fact that something unusual is being planned for Fall River this summer. We refer to the program that is going under the name of Re-Creation '71.

One item about this program described it as "a new, innovative, contemporary, dynamic, vital and exciting constructive approach to social change through the cultural and recreational arts."

As young people who are deeply concerned with the improvement of the quality of

life in our city, we sincerely welcome this effort to bring people of all ages together in a cooperative task.

We hope that the youth of Fall River will really get behind this program and support it with their spirit, involvement and active cooperation.

Good luck and much success to Re-Creation '71.

THE
STUDENT COUNCIL
BISHOP CONNOLLY
HIGH SCHOOL
ROBERT A. AUCLAIR
'71, PRESIDENT
Fall River

JOURNAL & PRESS
SOMERVILLE, MASS.
WEEKLY 13,285

APR 15 1971

New
England
Newsclip

'Sommerfest' plans

for second

HERALD-TRAVELER
BOSTON, MASS.
D. 210,540

JUN 23 1971

New
England
Newsclip

Grand Prix Turtle Race for Cambridge

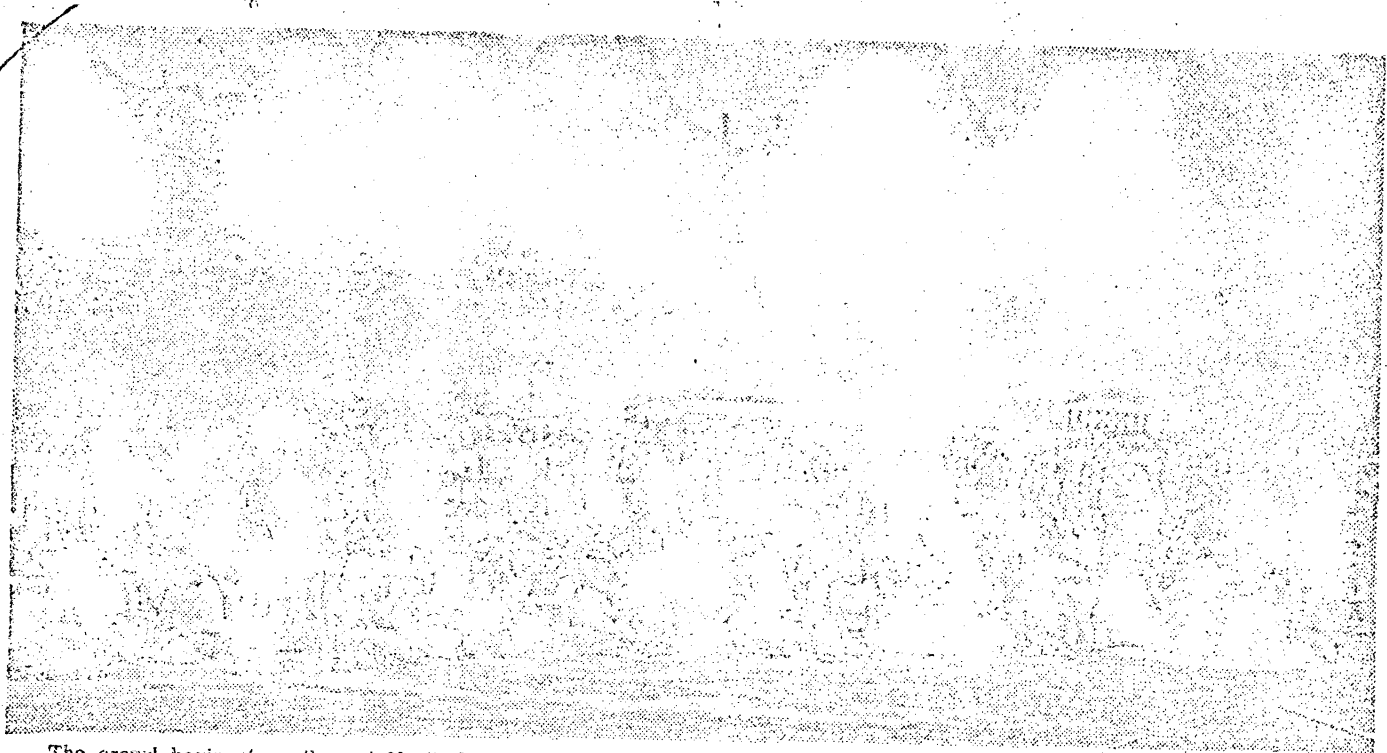
Adding to the Independence Day fireworks this year will be the Grand Prix turtle race, scheduled for 1 p.m. on the Cambridge Common. The event is being sponsored by Polyarts as part of its summer program re-Creation '71. So round up your turtles and don't miss out on this exciting event! If you think your turtle doesn't stand a chance, don't despair—prizes will be awarded to both the fastest and slowest turtles.

The regular Sunday concert will follow from 2-6 p.m.

Re-Creation '70, Somerville's first summer festival program, has changed its name to "SOMERfest." The purpose of SOMERfest is to enrich community life in Somerville by providing activities within local neighborhoods.

Throughout the winter the volunteer SOMERfest staff met on a bimonthly basis to discuss ways of enhancing last year's program. Some of the new ideas include a greater use of local talent for performing street theater groups; an amateur hour to be held in different wards of the city followed by semi-finals and finals; art exhibits in which children will do work in their neighborhoods for display at a central location where people can vote on exhibits; and regular weekly concerts.

In their first annual report to Mayor Ralph, who initiated the program, the SOMERfest committee detailed the various activities which took place last summer. Some of the highlights were three appearances by "Your Father's Moustache Band"; the Proposition; and a group of ethnic festivals which included an Irish night, an Italian night, and a night of Scottish dancing.



The crowd begins to gather at North Park for Sunday's Night of Togetherness rock music concert. The entertainment went on from about 3 to 11 p.m. Herald News Photo

Re-Creation '71 Project Ends on High Note

Under a full moon over North Park, and before thousands of youths, Re-Creation '71 ended its summer-long series of activities with a Night of Togetherness concert Sunday.

Andy Udis, publicity director, feels the recreational program not only was successful for the younger generation but also was accepted by the adult community.

Once the people of Fall River understood the concept of

Re-Creation '71 and saw the program in operation on the streets and playgrounds of the city, then it was accepted, Udis said as Sunday night's entertainment drew to a close.

He appeared satisfied that the city had recognized the program could do "a lot of good things."

And Udis noted that leaders of Re-Creation '71 proved that the various events and activities could be successfully under-

taken before large numbers of people and in a peaceful setting.

He expects that police statistics may well show a drop in juvenile crime this summer — principally because Re-Creation '71 gave youths something to do with their time.

The organization is in the process of incorporating as a non-profit group. Udis commented that he hopes it will remain a "community owned" project.

Rev. Mr. Paul Roy, S.J., resources administrator for Re-Creation '71, expressed the hope that Re-Creation '72, if it comes into being, will supplement whatever the municipal government does next year in the recreational field.

Sunday's entertainment was provided by mostly local musical groups. The feature attraction, however, was Alex Taylor, Friends and Neighbors.

Others on the billing included Stone Horse, Young Rhode Islanders, Together, Swan, Friends Inc. and Vesuvius.

Because of the type of music, Udis noted that a somewhat different and younger crowd came to North Park than did the one on the July 4 Night of Togetherness. The other night was held Aug. 1.

Executive Director Thomas C. Norton of Re-Creation '71 today termed the program a great success as an effort in reaching out to youths and getting them involved.

He recalled that, at the start, the financial situation was shaky but that "the spirit was there." Norton maintains that "the kids were fantastic" both in disciplining themselves—and in providing leadership — facts which "astonished me."

Norton said he is certain there will be a Re-Creation '72—that this first year was just the beginning.

The program did something for youths, he pointed out, by letting them get involved and taking them off the street corners.

HERALD NEWS
FALL RIVER, MASS.
D. 41,749

JUN 25 1971

New
England
Newsclip

Re-Creation '71 Endorsed

I am writing to you concerning Re-Creation '71. At the last meeting of the Massachusetts Police Association, we unanimously voted our support of the Re-Creation '71 program. It is but an understatement to say that this program promises a culturally, socially and educationally rewarding summer for the entire community of Fall River. I would urge every organization, club, and fraternal group to offer their support to Re-Creation '71 for it is a pro-

gram such as this which helps make Fall River a more attractive community for all to live in.

I have been in close contact with both the executive committee and the central staff and it appears that their hard work and dedication will produce a program well worthy of this community's respect and cooperation.

JAMES M. MACHADO
President, Fall River Branch,
Massachusetts Police
Association

JUN 15 1971

New
England
Newsclip

Recreation Program To Start with Concert

A revolutionary program, Re-creation '71, will initiate its summer activities with a concert July 4 at 7 p.m. in North Park. The Jack DeJohn Trio, featured in some of the country's best known night clubs, will top the entertainment bill for the evening.

Plans were coordinated among Re-creation '71 officials, the mayor's office and director of the city's summer recreation program. Officials were in mutual accord at a meeting Monday afternoon in the mayor's office.

Lawrence Romeo, assistant to Mayor Mitchell, said that Re-creation '71 has the full endorsement of the mayor and that all departments will cooperate in making the summer program of cultural arts and entertainment a complete success.

The Re-creation officials in attendance at the meeting were Board of Directors Chairman Ronald Ferris, Executive Director Thomas Norton, Public Relations Coordinator Andrew Udis and Resources Administrator Rev. Mr. Paul Roy, S.J. Miss Rita Sullivan, Park Board secretary and director of the city's summer program, said that Re-creation officials can expect full cooperation from the park department.

Ferris said Re-creation officials intend to work in conjunction with the Park Department and will keep the department fully informed on planned programs.

The Re-creation chairman assured the commander of the War Veterans Council, Anthony Viveros, that the council will have concession rights during the July 4 concert.

Ferris commented that Re-

creation '71 has the support of School Supt. Nagle, who has guaranteed school facilities, should weather force planned programs indoors.

Endorsement has come from the Fall River Area Chamber of Commerce, which has been providing office space until Re-creation '71 is able to find adequate quarters.

In a letter to Ferris, Chamber of Commerce Executive Vice President Dennis C. Orvis wrote, "It is my pleasure to advise you and your committee that the Board of Directors of the Fall River Area Chamber of Commerce unanimously voted to endorse the Re-creation '71 program."

Orvis praised the desire and the organization structure of the program. "It is activities like this, which involve the entire community, that will help mold a greater Fall River," he stressed.

A letter of endorsement has been received from U. S. Rep. Margaret M. Heckler. She wrote:

"One of the truly rewarding benefits of a program such as Re-creation '71, it seems to me, is that the young and not so young, those in school, and out, those interested in drama, or music, or art, find themselves brought together to participate in a very entertaining and enriching personal experience."

Ferris said there have been droves of volunteers responding to calls for community support of the program. Re-creation officials note that there is always a need for more volunteers who want to make the program a success.

The board chairman explained that the programs of art and entertainment will go to various neighborhoods and will visit shut-ins.

He said there will be six neighborhood coordinators who will evaluate the interest of their particular sections of the city. "Programs will be developed in line with those interests," Ferris asserted.

The chairman explained that neighborhood programs will be augmented with at least one major community program each week during the summer.

JUN 23 1971

New
England
Newsclip

Polyarts plans 2d arts festival

Polyarts is planning its second annual New England Arts Festival Saturday Aug. 28, from 10-6 on the Cambridge Common. An estimated 15,000 people attended the event last year.

Craftsmen, photographers, musicians, and theater groups are asked to register for the festival, which drew over 200 artists in its first year, by sending a self-addressed envelope to NEAF, Box 1971, Cambridge, Mass. 01239.

JUN 29 1971

New
England
Newsclip

Endorsing Re-Creation '71

As a concerned parent and community resident, I am writing you in regard to Re-Creation '71, whose aims and goals were recently brought to my attention. I wish to offer my full support for programs of this nature. It has been too long since such a program has been offered in Fall River. Specifically, Re-Creation '71 offers Hillside Manor a unique

opportunity to keep children off the streets, keep adults entertained and senior citizens happy. Can anything derogatory be said about this kind of program? It is my opinion that everyone in Fall River should give Re-Creation '71 full support and cooperation so that this city will again have an opportunity for self-improvement.

ALICE SANTOS
Fall River

JUL 1 1971

New
England
Newsclip

Live Chess

Re/Creation '71 announces its great Boston Common Chess Games as part of its summer fun festival. A group of artists and chess players have organized a live chess game, featuring players in costumes on a giant chess board. The best available chess players will be on hand to call the moves.

The event is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, July 10 at 1 p.m. This could be one of the most exciting events of the summer, so don't miss it! Volunteers are still needed to participate. If you are interested please call 492-2900.



City of Fall River, Massachusetts

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

NICHOLAS W. MITCHELL
MAYOR

Oct. 28, 1971

Anthony Correia
~~LAWRENCE-ROMEIO~~
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

THOMAS BRITLAND, JR.
SPECIAL ASSISTANT
TO THE MAYOR

Mr. Robert Gordon
Executive Director
Polyarts
P.O. Box 1971
Cambridge, Mass. 02139

Dear Mr. Gordon:

Re/Creation '71 has shown that a city working together on all levels can pull its boot straps up and combat urban problems. Fall River, like any other city, is facing problems of today, be it youth alienation, drug abuse, political in-fighting or severe economic depression. But the city is also a mirror of tremendous confidence brought about by a very successful program which you brought us.

Re/Creation '71 channeled the energies of the young and brought them in responsible contact with city government; hospitals, nursing homes, and communities beyond their own. Young and old alike were working toward the same goals. It fostered a new vitality in Fall River, and I am proud to say that my office and administration was the first to recognize its value.

We applaud your decision to see Fall River as a focal point for your program and consider the experiment a tremendous success. On behalf of the city council and the citizens of Fall River, I extend our heartiest appreciation.

Very truly yours,

NWM:jp

Nicholas W. Mitchell
Mayor



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
MASSACHUSETTS

ALFRED E. VELLUCCI
MAYOR

November 30, 1971

Mr. Robert Gordon
Executive Director, Polyarts
P.O. Box 1971
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Dear Mr. Gordon:

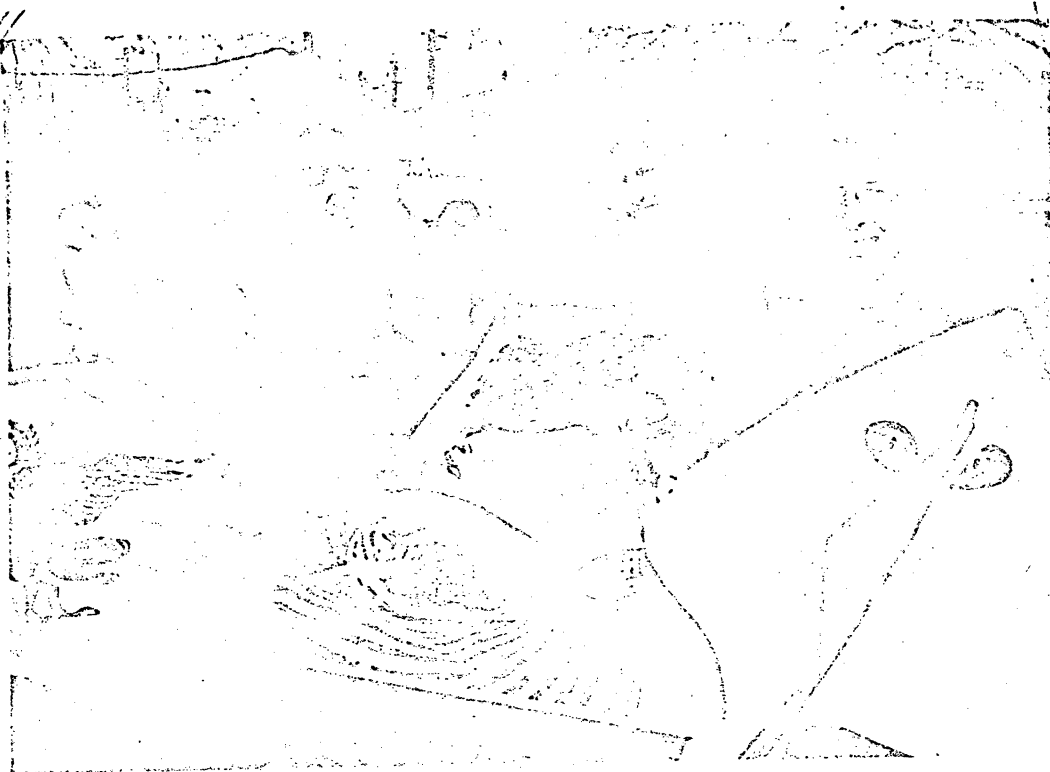
For two years the city of Cambridge has been the recipient of the summer program "re/Creation '70" and "71", and from the beginning I have supported the concept and the program. Word of the success and variety of the programs has reached my office many times. It certainly has caught the imagination of most Cambridge residents, who frequently come across Polyarts programs, whether it be in the hospitals, parks, schools, nursing homes, detention centers, playgrounds, or in the streets of our city.

It is nice to know that in today's disordered world and city chaos there are answers to some of the urban problems that exist. Polyarts and its summer program "re/Creation" are making a real effort to deal with the basic cultural and recreational needs of the city. By sponsoring and producing over 2200 events over the past two years (including free concerts, films, theater, workshop classes, and festival events), "re/Creation" has helped to bring the young and old, rich and poor, black and white together.

I applaud and congratulate your decision to continue the programs against such financial odds as you face. I certainly wish you success in your fund-raising campaign. This office stands ready to support the program. I look forward to your continued success.

Best wishes,

Alfred E. Vellucci
Mayor



AW, GO FLY A KITE: They did, and so did about 200 others in last year's aero-kite meet on the Charles, sponsored by Polyarts. The Polyarts program needs volunteers, and staffers ask those interested to call 536-0400. (Photo by John Lynch).

Polyarts Enters Third Year

By ANNE RAVER

Bob Gordon is urging kite enthusiasts to fly "anything" on Saturday, April 22 in the Second Annual Aero Kite Meet on the banks of the Charles River.

Outdoor happenings like kite-flying are nothing new for Gordon, director of Polyarts, which starts its third year this spring.

"Houses were designed for shelter from the elements, not from other people. Put people where they belong — outdoors. We're afraid of our neighbors, we've lost the willingness to knock on our neighbor's door and ask him how he is," says Gordon.

The main goal of Gordon's program is to take the arts which have become institutionalized and alien to most citizens, and siphon them outside to the streets of the community. "Think of Cambridge as an arts fair itself — the streets are the floor, the buildings are the backdrops for the production."

Gordon cautions Polyarts as bringing people away from their TV sets and into the streets and community interaction. In this way, the arts can become the vehicle and social change through direct community interaction and concern.

Mayor Mitchell said the program "changed the life-style of the city", according to Gordon.

Last Tuesday Gordon met with the Executive Board of New Hampshire Recreation and Park Services in Concord, Mass. to discuss the introduction of such a program in Southern New Hampshire. The Board was favorable to the ideas of Polyarts and set a future meeting in March for further planning.

Despite two court battles, one in which three staff members sued Gordon for non-payment of wages and another in which the Metropolitan District Commission refused to allow a Gilbert and Sullivan production under re-Creation sponsorship last summer, and threatened to suspend the Hatch Shell Concerts, Polyarts continues to expand their program.

Gordon claims that the MDC fears Polyarts is becoming too politically controversial, but he stresses the flexibility that a non-politically affiliated arts organization has in the community. "It has a far more flexibility than a public official."

Major events of the spring and summer include, Great Animal Day on May 13th which will feature costumed snakes, horses, dogs, and other animals parading down Mass. Avenue, the Cambridge Crafts Fair on May 27, the Charles River-Festival on June 10, a live Chess Game played by costumed live figures on a giant chess board on July 22, and the Third Annual New England Arts Festival on Saturday, August 26 and Sunday, August 27. Events, including a major concert and film series will all be advertised on the spring and summer re-Creation "menu".

Other important programs feature the Poet's Collaborative, where original poems are read and discussed; Artissey, a variety of workshops for young and old adults; and Uncle Sam's Dance Palace at the hotel Continental featuring "Renaissance of Blues".

Workshops, instructors, volunteer and coordinators are looking for help. For information, contact Bob Gordon, Polyarts, 1077 Cambridge St., Cambridge, Mass. 02142.

'self' meaning 'political' — using many arts as a political thrust. Through Polyarts, writers, craftsmen, individual people can have as much to say as some of the hacks in Congress."

Re-Creation '72, the broad summer program of over 1500 events and activities beginning July 5, is the Cambridge version of Boston's "Summerthing" which Gordon claims was his pilot project, started under Mayor White's Administration in March, 1968.

Having had experience with the New York World's Fair of 1964 and Expo '67, Gordon was convinced that with mobile and portable recreation, using man's technology, Boston could build a new fair. "Not with mortar, steel and brick, but with man's hands, his mind and his fertile imagination. The folly of man's creativity is to build pavillions and then to tear them right down."

Polyarts is not a building. It is primarily people. With 100 volunteers and \$21,000 of private donations, re-Creation '70 began its first summer with 1100 programs, often running 30 to 55 programs throughout the city on one day. ManVans, similar to Good Humor wagons, come to each city block in Cambridge and set up workshops — Movie ManVans, Craft ManVans, Birthday ManVans set up activities in one afternoon.

Similar programs have been organized in Somerville and Newton and it is hoped that these will become permanent, culminating in the bicentennial of '75 and '76 and continuing afterwards.

Gordon's original idea was to divide the Greater Boston area into 13 districts, with an arts council for each district. "Picture the districts placed under a giant wheel. Each program is a spoke of the wheel and the spokes rotate. At 1:00 a puppet show takes place in Somerville, at 2:00 in Cambridge, at 3:00 in Boston, and so forth."

Gordon says that re-Creation means rebirth — "re-regarding man's creation."

Communities seem to be indeed re-regarding their own programs of taking them, as similar re-creation programs take place enthusiastically here and there.

Fall River, Mass. has its own re-Creation program, and in the summer and fall of 1971, a program for the city of Lowell. With Mayor Joseph P. ... leaving, Cambridge ... commission, Fall River ... and to a ...

Success of Re-Creation '71 Here Due to a Variety of Volunteers

The success of Re-Creation '71 here is due to a variety of young volunteers that Director Thomas Norton calls "my army of barefoot beggars."

A thumbnail sketch of three of them gives a look behind the scenes at Fall River's newest summer program.

Michael Kobelecki is entering his second year at Bristol Community College, and when he graduates he's thinking of making social work his profession. Mike lives in the South End, and is an instrumental member of the South End Youth Center.

But, as he says while leading the Re-Creation '71 Birthday Man Van, "Father Kevin Tripp told me about Re-Creation '71, and it sounded like the type of program I could dig, and one which would relate to the courses I'm taking at Bristol. Also, it seemed like the type of program Fall River certainly needed."

It's been eight weeks now since Mike's initial meeting, and undoubtedly he along with 50 of his fellow young volunteers

and workers will leave this program at the end of the summer with a huge sense of accomplishment and personal success.

"Without them," Norton remarks, "we would have been unable to run as successful and entertaining program."

A typical day for a young worker? "Unheard of," says Gail Pacheco, a junior at Durfee High School. "Sometimes we're going out on the Arts and Crafts Man Van and yet at other times I may have to show a movie to a bunch of senior citizens on a moment's notice."

And, to confirm the hecticness and uncertainty of anybody's life at Re-Creation '71, a quick visit to the office is a prerequisite. There, bicycles line the sidewalk in front, and long hair and dungarees are the prevalent uniform.

But, these young people are not the lazy hippies or insolent revolutionaries some might categorize them as being. "They're here at 8 a.m. and many of them don't leave until 10 p.m. and what they do in between is bring smiles across the faces of a lot of people in Fall River," Norton said.

"And they come seven days a week, rain or shine," he added.

In addition to people like Kobelecki and the Neighborhood Youth Corps people who are currently employed by Re-Creation '71 approximately 15 youngsters have been hired by the Youth Action Group to work for Re-Creation.

Paul Roy, chairman of YAG said \$3,000 from the Pace for Progress was donated to Re-Creation '71 so that the program could specifically hire some young people in need of financial help.

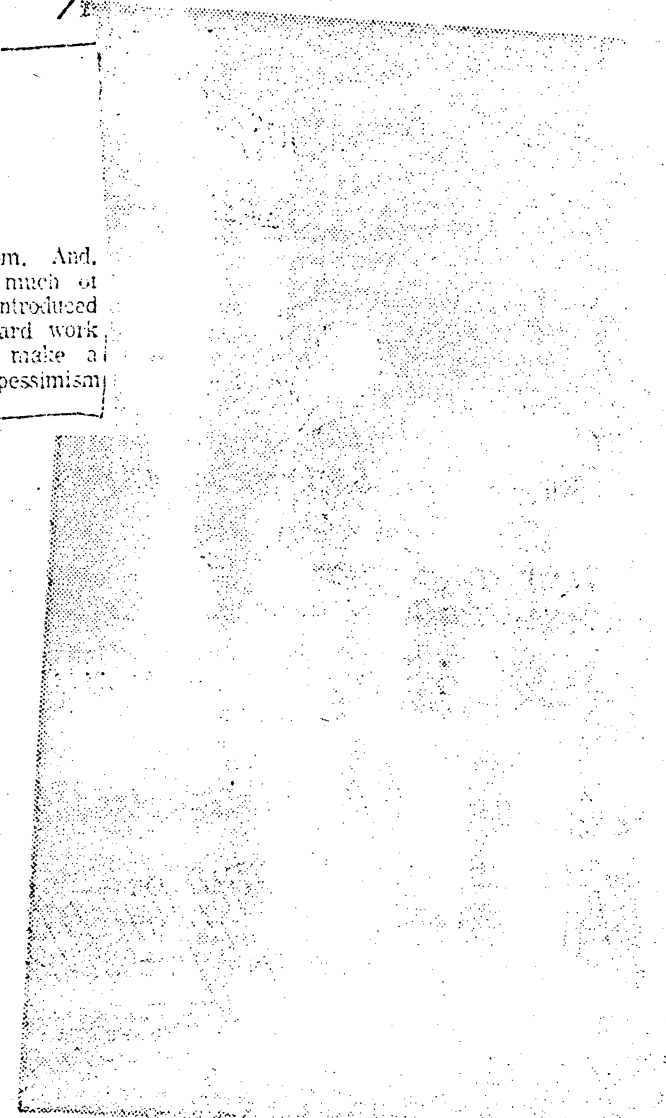
"We don't pay these kids much, but we feel that many of these people would have volunteered for Re-Creation '71 anyway, and this is a small way by which we can thank them," Roy added.

Such an individual is Alexandra Catala, 19, who also works at the Flint Neighborhood Center.

Miss Catala stated that she wanted to work for Re-Creation '71 because "it seemed like a good way of helping to get the people of Fall River together into forming a sense of community, and this is what we so desperately need in this city."

However, whether they're from the Youth Action Group, the Neighborhood Youth Corps, or just a volunteer, all the staff at Re-Creation '71 will

operate without them. And, through their work much of Fall River has been introduced to the notion that hard work and dedication can make a change, and after pessimism into optimism.



Ronnie J. Ferris, Re-Creation '71 chairman, dabs in final section of the Fund-O-Meter indicating completion of a successful \$19,500 fund campaign. With him, from left, are Thomas Norton, James Wilcox and Andrew Udis. Herald News Photo

Re-Creation '71 Reaches Fund Goal of \$19,500

Ronnie J. Ferris, chairman of Re-Creation '71, today announced that the \$19,500 fund raising goal has been attained and should be surpassed by the end of the program on Sept. 5. Ferris stated "The community is so pleased with the program, that soliciting funds has become a menial task. Everyday, strangers are walking into our headquarters and donating money and expressing good will to the program".

"We raised approximately \$1,300 on our talk show on WALE. Add that with the contributions that has been received each day and the Mode Cities grant of \$3,000 and we are at the \$19,500 mark. Any surplus of remaining money after all expenses are paid, will be allocated to our budget next year for Re-Creation '72."

Ferris expressed appreciation to WSAR and WALE for allowing them use of the radio station on Aug. 13, for Re-Creation's fund raising talk show.

"It is a pleasure to work with such community minded people," the chairman said.

Re-Creation '71's final concert, Togetherness, Part III, is planned for Sept. 5 at North Park at 8 p.m. The following performers are: The Community Singers, Alex Catala and Family and Phil... (text is partially cut off)

MAY 29 1971
New
England
Newsclip

Re-creation '71 Help To All

Re-creation '71 is a project to engage the city's children in a series of games, performances and activities which will make their summer a release of productive energies instead of a prolonged period of killing time. The principal point involved is fun. Everything the youngsters will see and do will be fun for them, but the concept underlying Re-creation '71 is to involve the boys and girls in activity. Passive enjoyment is never as much pleasure as active participation, and it is through the fun of doing something that young people discover their own creative ability.

Improvisation plays a major part in Re-creation '71, as it does in all youthful games. A year ago when the concept was tried out in Cambridge, it proved outstandingly successful. The group that made it work

in Cambridge is now expanding its horizons. Fall River, which has recently come to realize how important it is to cope with juvenile delinquency before it starts, offers these talented teacher-performers considerable scope for their program. Furthermore, the varied ethnic backgrounds of youngsters here can provide a remarkably wide range of new play experiences from them to share and enjoy. From experiences of this kind a new understanding and sympathy can emerge.

Businesses and individuals are being asked to contribute to help defray the portion of the expenses of Re-creation '71 that will not be met through federal or city funds. Certainly helping young people have a happy, healthy, creative summer is a cause close to everyone's heart.

SEP 13 1971

New
England
Newsclip

Letters to the Editor

Recreation '71 Praised

I cannot see the summer come to an end without sending you this letter.

As a parent and mother, I wish to express my gratitude and appreciation to all of the dedicated persons responsible for Recreation '71. Your combined efforts have given Fall Riverites the occasion to see the good that can be accomplished by our youth when their energies are constructively channeled.

Previous to Recreation '71, teenagers were judged by their appearances: long-haired, bare-footed, blue-jeaned bums. The summer's close sees appearance relinquish its limelight to accomplishment. Our youth have donated their time and

energy, everyday, all day, the summer long: movie man, arts & crafts, blockdances, birthday man, music festivals, etc. From one end of the city to the next, our youth were there: greeting the young, cheering the elderly.

I speak not only for myself when I offer my plaudits, my congratulations for Recreation '71, but I speak for the adults who have come in contact with the flip-side of teenagers: their relentless energy, their devotion, and thus their multiple accomplishments.

I look eagerly forward to many more summers of Recreation.

Three cheers to you all . . .
MRS. RITA PORCIER
Fall River

AUG 11 1971
New
England
Newsclip

Human checkers

wanted

Re-Creation 71 in Cambridge is seeking about 40 people to be "Human checkers" for a gigantic checker game set for Saturday, August 28 on the Cambridge Common.

The game is scheduled to be played during the Second Annual New England Arts Festival.

Phone 492-2900 for "checker" registration.

AUG 11 1971
New
England
Newsclip

Bike hike

Re/Creation 71 in cooperation with Mayor Alfred Vellucci's office, announces the Youth on Parade Day Bike Hike to be held Thursday, August 19, at 7 p.m. There will be a free bicycle awarded for the best decorated bike courtesy of Bike Revival.

All bicyclists are asked to rendezvous behind City Hall at 6:30. For more information contact Bob at 492-2900.



June 19th. 1972

TO: Cambridge City Council

FROM: J. Robert Gordon

SUBJECT: "reCREATION '72"

Dear City Councilor:

Since the summer of 1970 and every summer thereafter the City of Cambridge has been the recipient of a summerthing type of program known widely as reCREATION. Cambridge has had the benefits of this program without spending one cent from its tax-rolls. Through reCREATION's mobile vans like the Birthday manVan, movies, theatre, musicals, arts and craftsmanVans, etc., more than two hundred thousand persons over two years have enjoyed summer life in the city when they couldn't be elsewhere. Through the MENU (see enclosure) more than 244 workshops are offered not including our hospital and nursing home programs.

reCREATION '71 meant workshops on Sunset Road or a camera workshop in St Mary's Church or a puppet show in Jefferson Housing project. In all, more than 1000 projects during the the summer have caught many Cambridge small kids and big kids with good things to do and wide smiles on their faces. It is often heard that "reCREATION made the difference between having nothing to do on a summer's day and finding other things to do which sometimes means trouble."

Each June since the inception of the project I have come before this Council and ask for funds to carry the project out. Asking the City Council for money means politics and time, something I don't have much of. Summerthing in Boston gets more than \$300,000 from its City Council. But then again, Summerthing is an arm of the administration and reCREATION is not. I will not bother this Council for funds but ask you for the support we hope you might think we deserve and too, allowing us to successfully raise the funds ourselves.

Would you endorse the project, not so much in money since that is a dirty word in Cambridge. Would you endorse it with a sincere proclamation of thanks. (see Fall River) And too, would you endorse our proposal for funding through a project we call THE YANKEE FLEA MARKET. I am enclosing a brief outline regards this program. Your acceptance would mean more vehicles, paid staff and more programs for the people of Cambridge.

We want the best program yet and I hope you do to.

Thank you.

ROBERT GORDON

Communication from Robert Gordon
of Polyarts Inc. requesting the City
Council to endorse their program known
as reCREATION and endorse their proposal
for funding through a project called
THE YANKEE FLEA MARKET

June 26, 1972