

Children's House daddies build a playhouse

Crystal Simenton
Student Reporter

The children at Bennett's Children's House can soon say, "This is a house my Dad built."

Children's House, located at the campus entrance on Gorrell Street will soon have a new construction on its grounds: a playhouse.

This past spring the House's PTA sponsored a barbecue fund-raiser where

food was sold at \$5 a plate.

After the fundraiser, the question was raised about what to do with the money. The PTA asked the staff to write a wish list and one of the items was a playhouse.

This idea caught the eye of one of the fathers, Gary Summers. Having recently built a house, constructing a small playhouse wouldn't be a problem for Summers.

He solicited the help of 19 other fathers and they began constructing the playhouse in early October.

The fathers took shifts on Saturday mornings and in sets of five, they worked two to three hours.

"It is quite an achievement for fathers who work all week long to give up their Saturdays to build this playhouse," said Juliette Jackson, director of the Children's House.

There are 35 children that attend the Children's House. The playhouse is small, but according to Jackson, the playhouse is not designed to house all the children. The children will have to take turns to play in it.

"We hope to eventually get more equipment for the house maybe even some child size furniture," Jackson said.

Jackson stressed

that the Children's House strives on parents being a part of the children's school life.

"It is extremely important for us to bridge the gap between home and school," she said.

The playhouse is almost complete; it is simply a matter of a coat of paint, and according to the staff at the Children's House, the kids can't wait to try it out.

Poetry contest announced

The National Library of Poetry has announced that \$12,000 in prizes will be awarded this year to over 250 poets in the North American Open Poetry Contest.

The deadline for the contest is Dec. 31. The contest is open to everyone and entry is free.

Any poet whether previously published or not, can be a winner. Every poem entered also has a chance to be published in a deluxe,

hardbound anthology.

To enter, send ONE original poem, any subject and any style to The National Library of Poetry, 11419 Cronridge Dr., P.O. Box 704-ZT, Owings Mills, MD 21117.

The poem should be no more than 20 lines, and the poet's name and address should appear on the top of the page. Entries must be postmarked by Dec. 31. A new contest opens Jan. 1.



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Across America children are the victims of violent crime. They are being assaulted and even murdered for the sake of anything from a pair of sneakers to some loose change in their pockets.

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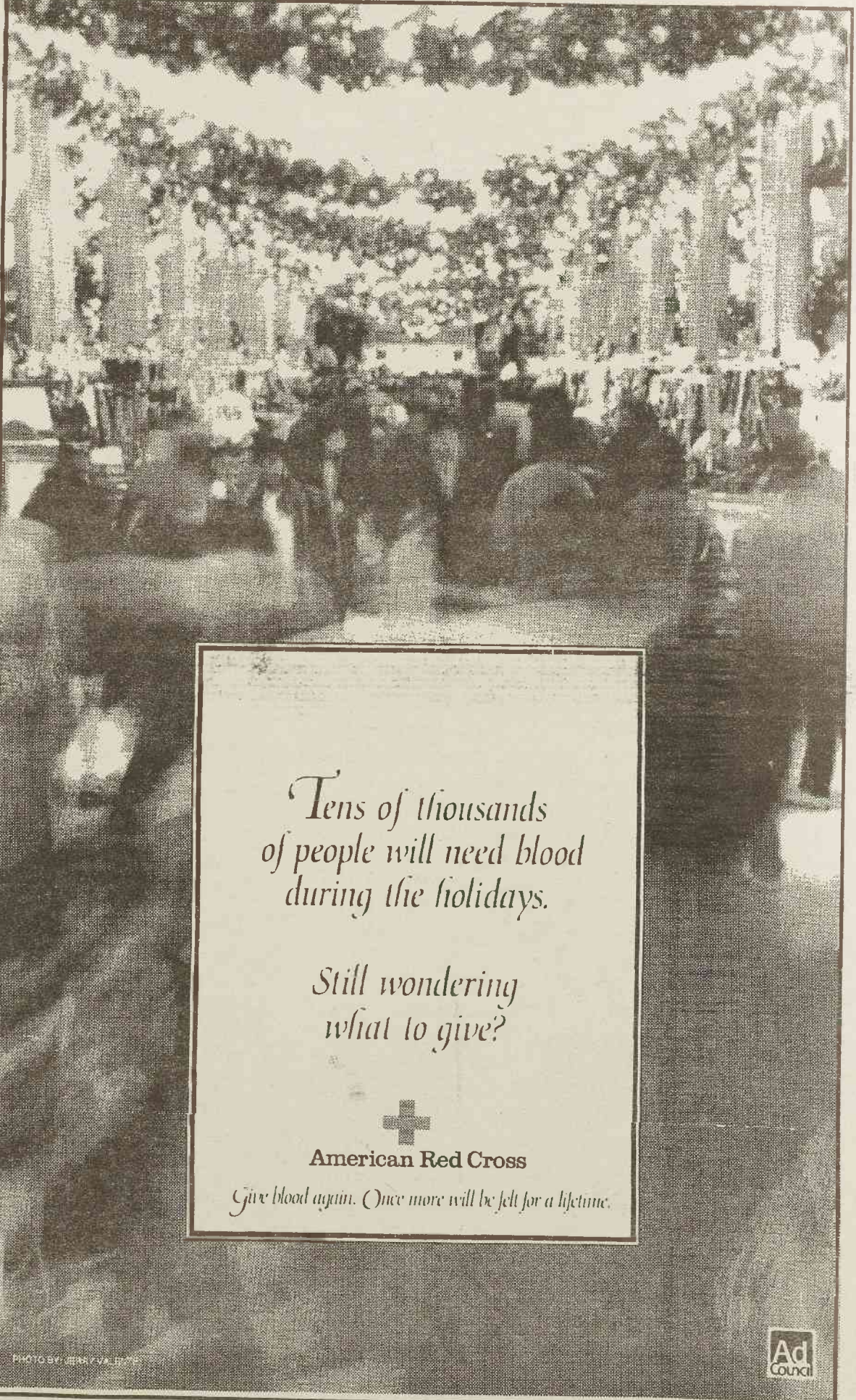
Crime Prevention Council and Department of Justice



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