

BUS STOP PARADISE

Winnipeg While some might see a stop in front of their home as an eyesore. Sally Papso of Winnipeg sees it as a stural extension of her yard. She has samed this nine- by one-metre strip into a parklike setting where neighbours take refuge under the shade tent of morning clories or sit on the bench Papso made.

Papso started by planting a few irises, then she painted the bus pole red and added bright red litter cans. Now the area has become a community treasure. Anonymous visitors leave cards and letters of thanks. Teachers bring their students for art class. Neighbours meet to exchange bedding plants for their own newly adopted city boulevards.

Besides tending to her bus stop garden for the past six years, Papso counsels female survivors of sexual abuse and is a full-time counsellor at the Manitoba Youth Centre.

— Louise Blank