

Family Involvement Blue Hills Plan

Visitors to the annual meeting and open house at Blue Hills Academy for emotionally disturbed children on May 29 did not see the children, for they go home on weekends.

But they did see the bright and cheerfully furnished cottage style buildings and savored the tranquility of the gently rolling acres of grass and trees and flowers, relaxing at picnic tables on the lawn while they enjoyed the refreshments provided by the Blue Hills Auxiliary.

Something of the activity at Blue Hills, the counselling and living pattern, the work and play sessions was portrayed in a showing of slides taken and presented by Child Care Worker David Waite, former reporter-photographer and UNICEF worker.

"There should be 100 of these (centres like Blue Hills) across the country," observed Mr. Waite.

In welcoming the guests, Glenn Ferguson, president of Blue Hills' volunteer board of directors, paid tribute to "helping services" in the community and a dedicated staff for a successful first year of operation.

The board is now awaiting approval from the legislature for the second phase of the building program — construction of a family service building. This, said Mr. Ferguson, would make it possible to more adequately build in a program of after-care, and would also free the building now used for offices for its intended use as a residence for 12 more children.

Treasurer Arthur Johnson reported that pre-opening and development expenses for the two buildings now in use were paid from donations received. Capital requirements during 1970 were provided from donations, provincial grants, an interest-free loan from the United Church, and a short term bank loan.

Capital receipts during 1970 were \$209,868.45 and capital payments, including repayment of a \$5,000 loan provided by the York County Mental Health Association, were \$204,932.23. Donations, gifts and pledges received in 1970 came to \$104,757, of which \$23,472 remains to be paid in 1971 and 1972.

The original capital to be raised from sources other than provincial grants was \$209,000. Of this, \$110,000 has now been obtained from private subscription, and an additional \$60,000 had been approved by York Regional Council pending approval by the Department of Municipal Affairs.

Operating budgets are submitted to and approved by the Department of Health, which funds the complete operation.

DEVELOP NEW PROJECTS
Two new projects developed during the year were described by the chairman of Blue Hills' Professional Advisory Committee, York County Board of Education Psychologist Dr. Jason McCallum.

The committee was formed three years ago to work with the Director Fred Boden and senior staff in formulating policies and exploring community needs.

As children move into, and out of Blue Hills, the after-care service became increasingly important and another social worker was added to staff to provide continuous follow-up of the child and the family.

Two other projects were described by Dr. McCallum. A special adolescent program was established for "hard to teach" students who had various problems in relating to people.

These students came to Blue Hills twice a week for open discussion of their feelings and behavior, and their attendance was perfect for these sessions, also for school.

The second development is the proposed extension of the summer camp for non-resident children. This year the camp will be held for four periods of weeks with financial assistance from the Youth Opportunity Fund administered by the federal government. It will be staffed by students from universities, colleges and senior secondary schools.

There is a sizeable list of children waiting to attend camp, said Dr. McCallum, and a number of students have applied for positions as counsellors.

Throughout the year child care workers have kept in close touch with the child's home and school, and a follow-up questionnaire had been devised which is given to community health nurse, principal, teacher and parents.

SCHOOLS CO-OPERATE
Since children in residence continue to attend their home schools, the Ottawa behavior school check list is distributed to the child's teacher by the county board's psychological services department which works in the schools of the region both before and after the child is admitted to Blue Hills.

This, said Dr. McCallum, provides ongoing evaluation of the treatment program.

It has become very apparent, reported Dr. McCallum, that there is a growing need for more children and family help as offered by Blue Hills.

Other members of the professional advisory committee are Mrs. Carol Davis, a psychologist with the Institute of Child Studies at the University of Toronto; Dr. Mary Douglas, York County Board of Education's Superintendent of Special Services Mavnard Hallman; Dr. Douglas Murdoch, chief of staff at York County Hospital, Newmarket; Newmarket Psychiatrist Dr. Paul Perry, and Miss Verma Smyth, director of community health nurses for York Regional Health Unit.

Auxiliary Committee Chair-

man Mrs. Sandra Silcox reported on the auxiliary's first year of development.

Several times adults and teenagers have assisted with catering and entertaining outside groups who have expressed interest and visited Blue Hills.

A volunteer program has also been developed under the direction of Chief Child Care Worker Norman Knappont and 20 teenagers are now involved on a regular basis, assisting staff with the children in early evening activities.

Adults with particular skills have volunteered their time and are giving weekly art instruction and driving children to and from outside activities.

The first four children arrived at Blue Hills on May 1, 1970, reported Mr. Boden, and by November they were operating at capacity with 12 children in residence, although full staff complement was not filled until March of this year.

DISCHARGE 21 CHILDREN
The academy has received 44 referrals and has discharged 21 children, with the average stay 19 weeks. Seven children referred were not admitted for a variety of reasons, and four are in the process of being admitted, Mr. Boden continued. There are 12 children in residence, capacity for present facilities.

The program, said Mr. Boden, has been developed along four major lines. First is the five-day week residential treatment of the child involving intensive contact between the child, other children and professional staff. In this way the child is helped to develop methods of

dealing with his frustrations and problems that will produce positive rather than negative returns for him.

"This in part is accomplished through constant reflection of what his behavior means to himself and to other people and by the total acceptance of him as a worthwhile human being even if his behavior is not always acceptable," explained Mr. Boden in his report.

"This treatment effort is maintained by weekly conferring and by consultation with our consultant or with referring psychiatrists in the area."

The second major effort is directed at the total family, with attention channelled to the particular needs of the family of the child in residence — his parents, brothers and sisters — and involves also the child, a social worker and a child care worker. It is an involvement that is very intense and demanding to all concerned, but is designed to improve communications between members of the family, to lay before them what is actually going on, and to support the family to become more helpful to its members.

"Another way of stating our goal is to say that we design a program which will develop happier families," declared Mr. Boden.

The third area of involvement is with the school. This can be a rather casual weekly contact or it can mean spending the day in the classroom with the child. This line of involvement also can be very demanding if it is to be effective, drawing in teachers, principals and supportive services of the schools in frequent conferences with Blue Hills' staff.

AFTER-CARE GROWING
The fourth area of involvement-after-care — is one that was not anticipated a year ago to be as big a part of Blue Hills program as it has become.

Most families are now participating in an after-care program when the child leaves the residence, and some have remained in contact since the child's discharge last summer. Others have been picked up by referring agencies, and still others are managing quite well on their own.

Mr. Boden referred to support received from the com-

munity: politicians, press, staff of York County and York Central Hospitals, community health nurses, etc.

Many service clubs and organizations have given financial support, and have invited representatives of Blue Hills to talk to their groups. There have also been a number of visits from other professional groups that are interested in the program.

Mr. Boden and others associated with Blue Hills expect the need for such services will increase, not just because they are available, but because of a growing population and increasing expectations placed by society on individuals.

Although it had its face and hands scrubbed for company, and its hair combed, Blue Hills has a lived-in air. The children's art work adorned bulletin boards in dining hall and lounging areas, and the individual bulletin boards at the head of each bed in their two-bed and three-bed rooms displayed the treasures and interests of the youngsters.

Color is the key in decor, with bright furnishings and draperies against pale walls.

PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT
And the people are important — not just the professional staff, but board members, volunteers, and workers who take the children to their hearts. They even have a grandfather and a grandmother at Blue Hills.

Max Meharrie, who heads the maintenance staff, is a carpenter by trade, but jack-of-all-trades at Blue Hills. With eight children and 15 grandchildren of his own, he is a popular man with the young and troubled residents. And so is his wife, Mrs. Meharrie, the cook, but she is more than that. With her warm personality and motherly appearance she is the sort of person children are instinctively attracted to. Both were on hand for the annual meeting.

Tranquil, deserted Langstaff Jail Farm off Highway 7 at Yonge Street was turned into a miniature version of World War II recently as a bevy of CBC film crew members arrived on the scene to film "Firing Squad." Well known actor Paul Bradley (inset) gets some last minute instructions from one of the crew members while below it's action cameras as a tense scene involving a World War II army truck prepares to get underway. Other actors involved were Hollywood's Keith Dulleax and Lloyd Bochner. The movie will appear in the fall as part of the CBC Anthology Hour.

INNSIFIL: Estimates are being sought for renovating a room in the old Stroud School for use as a library. The present facilities in the community hall are proving too small for the number of users.



(Photo by Stuart's Studio)

War Movie At Langstaff Jail Farm

Tranquil, deserted Langstaff Jail Farm off Highway 7 at Yonge Street was turned into a miniature version of World War II recently as a bevy of CBC film crew members arrived on the scene to film "Firing Squad." Well known actor Paul Bradley (inset) gets some last minute instructions from one of the crew members while below it's action cameras as a tense scene involving a World War II army truck prepares to get underway. Other actors involved were Hollywood's Keith Dulleax and Lloyd Bochner. The movie will appear in the fall as part of the CBC Anthology Hour.

SWIMMING POOLS



- CONCRETE — STEEL REINFORCED
- FIBREGLASS
- VINYL LINER (in-ground or above ground)

WHITECAP POOLS LTD.
342 HIGHWAY NO. 7 EAST
THORNHILL, ONT. — 225-2461

WINEMAKERS
COMPLETE LINE OF SUPPLIES
• Complete Counselling Service
• Quality Ingredients
• Reasonable Prices
QUALITY • VALUE • SERVICE

Wine Art

89A YONGE ST. S. - RICHMOND HILL - Phone 884-1300
OPEN DAILY 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Thurs. and Fri. 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. — Monday Closed

PLEASE NOTE:
To Our Customers and Friends, our telephone number is now

884-1188

GUARANTY TRUST
COMPANY OF CANADA
RICHMOND HILL

MUNTZ TAPE AND CARRY CASE OFFER

- STURDY WOODEN CONSTRUCTION
- DURABLE, ATTRACTIVE ALLIGATOR VINYL EXTERIOR
- ATTRACTIVE RED PLUSH INTERIOR
- EACH TAPE HAS ITS OWN INDIVIDUAL COMPARTMENT
- EQUIPPED WITH LOCK AND KEY

No. 85TC — 24 Capacity Deluxe Stereo Tape Cartridge Carry-Cases

Portrait Of Bobby	Bobby Sherman
Do It	Neil Diamond
Best Of	Van Morrison
The Hawk	Ronnie Hawkins
Greatest Hits	Lynn Anderson
Leon Russel	Leon Russel
Most Of All	B. J. Thomas
Baby Batter	Harvey Mandel
Very Dionne	Dionne Warwick
Alone Together	Dave Mason
Best Of	Ramsey Lewis
Nantuckett Sleighride	Mountain
Greatest Hits	Chuck Berry
Boots With Brass	Boots Randolph
Orient Express	Liz Damon
More Of Orbison's Greatest Hits	Roy Orbison
Sho' Is Funky Down Here	James Brown
Golden Hits	Waikiki
Best Of	Tommy James
Rastus (Double Album)	Rastus

REGULAR \$15.95
\$4.99

GET THIS DELUXE CARRYING CASE WHICH REGULARLY SELLS FOR \$15.95 FOR ONLY \$4.99

WITH THE PURCHASE OF ANY 3 MUNTZ TAPES FROM THESE SELECTIONS

Open July 1st

MUNTZ CENTRE

59 Newkirk Rd.
Richmond Hill
889-0260

STORE HOURS
Mon., Tues., Wed., Sat. — 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Thursday and Friday — 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

You're miles ahead at
Firestone STORES

SUNSATONAL

CLEARANCE

of SUMMER ITEMS

(4 ONLY) 18" TWIN BLADE ELECTRIC MOWER \$63.00	(3 ONLY) 18" ELECTRIC MOWER Adjustable wheels \$63.00	(2 ONLY) 18" ELECTRIC MOWER \$59.00	(1 ONLY) 18" GAS MOWER REEL TYPE \$119.00
---	---	--	---

Just a few of the many Clearance Bargains

CHAISE LOUNGES FROM \$7.99	ALUMINUM FRAME, SARAN WEBBING DELUXE 3-PIECE	PLASTIC GARDEN HOSE 38¢ ONLY 40 feet
BARBECUE TOOL SET \$1.49	PORTABLE BARBECUE \$3.69 (with hood)	SPALDING PACE SETTER GOLF CLUBS \$29.95 Set features 2 woods and 5 irons
		JACK NICKLAUS GOLF CLUBS \$62.00 Set features 2 woods and 5 irons

WHILE THEY LAST — Take advantage of our regular low priced merchandise

Jack Nicklaus GOLF BALLS 3 for \$1.33 (each 6V45)	WEED & FEED 20 lb. bag of Witts 20-10-5 fertilizer 6V114 \$2.88	FERTILIZER 40 lb. bag of Witts 7-7-7 fertilizer 6V112 \$1.38	Road Atlas Travel Guide ONLY 89¢ Main traffic routes across Canada and U.S.A. All provincial campsites listed. Fits in glove compartment. 96 pages • Vinyl cover 6V92
--	--	---	---

Firestone STORES
RICHMOND HEIGHTS CENTRE, RICHMOND HILL 884-4401 or use your... **CHARGE**

Open Thursday & Friday Evenings 'til 9 p.m.