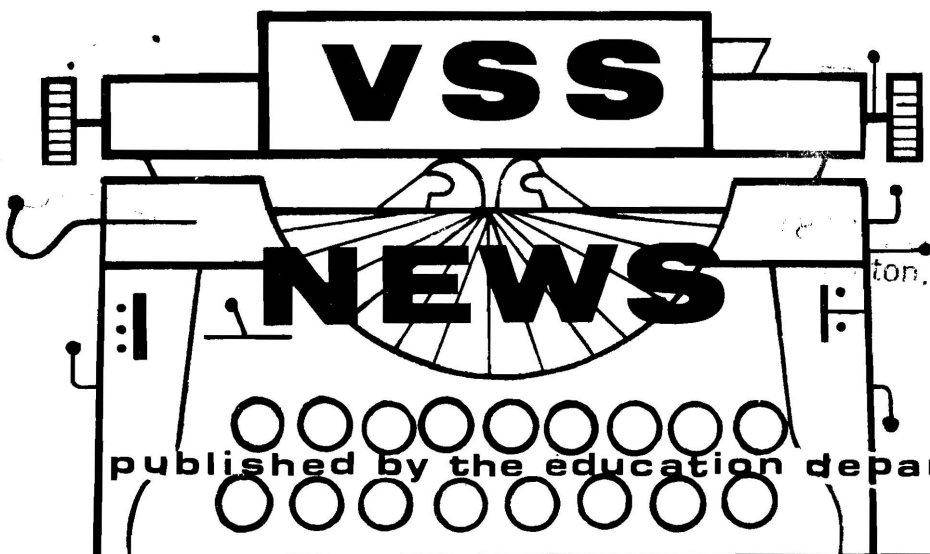
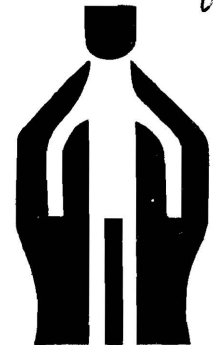


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Dr. Miguel Cruz
Superintendent



new jersey
department of
HUMAN SERVICES

VOL. I

JUNE 1983

NO. 1

VSS EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION ANNUAL DINNER-DANCE

On Friday, May 6, 1983, the Vineland State School Employees' Association held its Annual Dinner-Dance to honor employees of Vineland State School & Hospital. This year, the event was held at Merighi's Savoy Inn and was attended by nearly 600 people.

Awards were presented to employees for five, ten, fifteen, twenty, twenty-five and thirty years of service. In all, 348 employees were eligible for awards. Those who retired in the past year were also given special recognition.

As an employer of nearly 1900 people, the Vineland State School & Hospital draws employees from all over Cumberland County and beyond. This year, Dr. D. Baxter and Ed Quarioli of Vineland, 30 years; Jean Fox and Natalie Stokes of Millville, 25 years; Shirley Bailey and Alice Curry of Bridgeton, 15 years; were the awardees with the greatest amount of service from their respective communities.



Special guests included Mrs. Betty Delaney, Chairperson of the VSS Board of Trustees; Mr. & Mrs. Charles VanGelder, of the VSS Parents Association; Dr. Gwynn Brown, Division of MR; Rev. James Rush; Dr. Miguel Cruz, Superintendent; and Mr. Domenic Ciancarelli, President of the Vineland State School Employees Association.

Dancing followed the dinner and the presentation of awards.

ABOVE: Pictured above are awardees who were honored at the VSS Employees Association Dinner-Dance. Also pictured is Dr. Gwynn Brown, Assistant Director of Residential Services, Division of Mental Retardation.

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Dear Reader:

I am pleased to present the first revised issue of the Vineland State School & Hospital News. Revision of the News format was undertaken with the primary goal being to promote progress in communication, and in so doing, to enhance the quality of services provided at Vineland State School & Hospital. In order to achieve the primary goal, the following objectives are set forth:

1. To publish high quality articles of interest to our staff, our clients' families and the public.
2. To upgrade the level of our journalism, making the Vineland State School & Hospital News both enjoyable as well as informative.
3. To provide an educational mechanism to achieve and maintain transdisciplinary awareness.
4. To provide timely information regarding current trends, standards, new technological advances, etc.
5. To provide a vehicle for the dissemination of information to staff, families of our clients and the public. This information will include our policies and activities, as well as results of reviews by our many survey agencies, and other informative material.

This first revised issue is dedicated to the parents and families of our clients. We hope that by sharing this publication with you we will strengthen our team concept and enhance overall awareness.

Articles will be submitted by our Executive Managers and their designees who will share their skills and knowledge so that information will be presented in an integrated and effective manner.

Articles from families and friends are welcome. Letters to the editor are also encouraged for comments on issues raised in previous articles. Letters and articles will be published as space permits.

I hope you will enjoy this new means of communication.

Dr. Miguel D. Cruz
Superintendent

THE VINELAND STATE SCHOOL & HOSPITAL NEWS

Superintendent
Editor
Editorial Assistant
Printer

Dr. Miguel Cruz
Annette M. Langer
Patricia Toth
Dennis Branin

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
DR. MIGUEL D. CRUZ, SUPERINTENDENT
AND MEMBERS OF THE STAFF
OF
VINELAND STATE SCHOOL AND HOSPITAL

Invite you, your family and friends to
JUNE OPEN HOUSE
Saturday, June 4, 1983

EAST CAMPUS

Auditorium 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Show - staged by - Clients &
Community

ENTERTAINMENT

"A" Field 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Booths - Games of Chance - Music - Field Activities -
Refreshments - Recreation Crafts Sale

12:00 to 5:00 P.M.

Open House in All Areas - - -
Arts & Crafts Sale - ESB

WEST CAMPUS

Field Activities - "D" Cottage Lawn - 1:30 to 4:30 P.M.

D.J. Music - Free Refreshments

Open House in All Cottages
10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

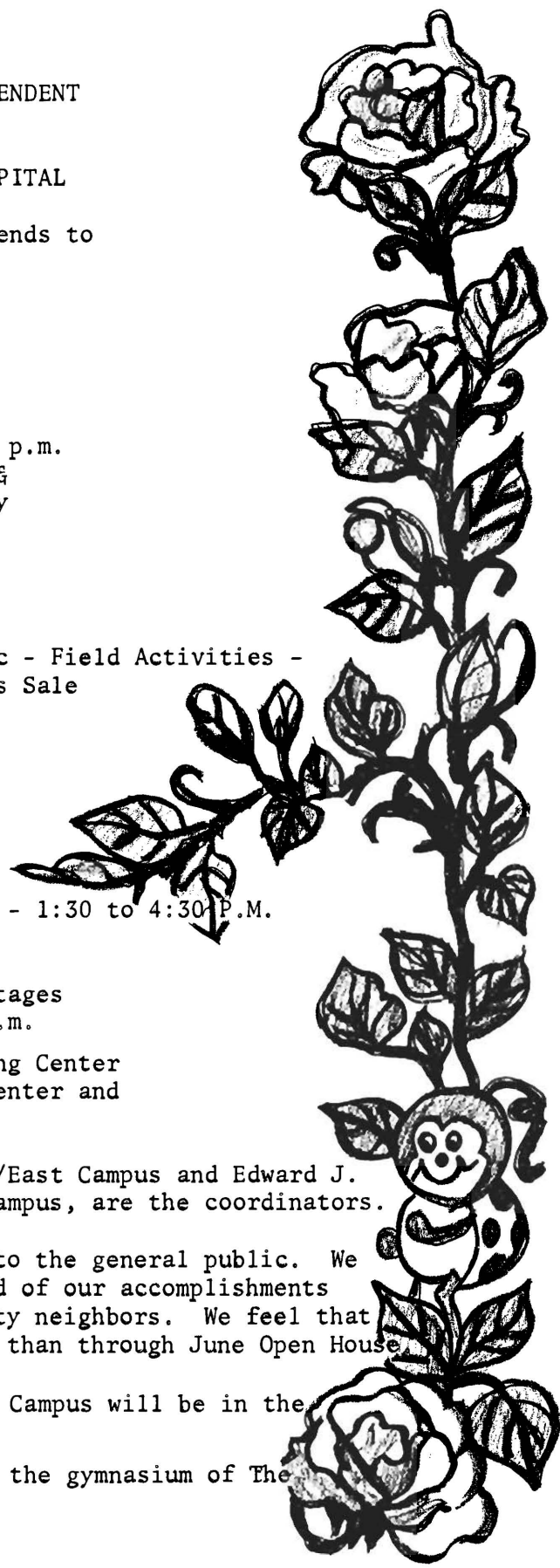
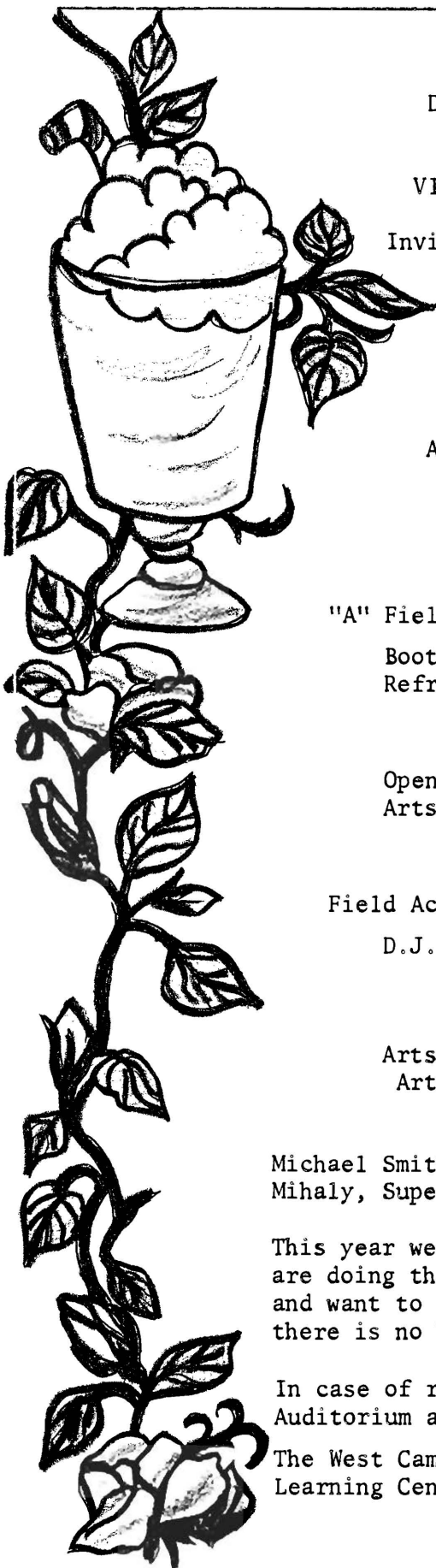
Arts & Crafts Sale - The Learning Center
Arts Exhibits - The Learning Center and
"D" Cottage

Michael Smith, Supervisor of Recreation/East Campus and Edward J. Mihaly, Supervisor of Recreation/West Campus, are the coordinators.

This year we will be opening our doors to the general public. We are doing this because we are very proud of our accomplishments and want to share them with our community neighbors. We feel that there is no better way to greet friends than through June Open House.

In case of rain, activities at the East Campus will be in the Auditorium and Recreation Room.

The West Campus will hold activities in the gymnasium of The Learning Center.





Business Management

The Function of the Food Service Department

By: Tanya Maurelli, Sr. Dietitian

The Food Service Department has the tremendous task of providing three meals daily for the approximate 900 clients at the East Campus and 475 clients at the West Campus. In addition, employees purchasing meal tickets total 290.

Our primary concern are the needs of our clients. Consistency of foods addresses the chewing and swallowing abilities of our clients. Soft food is served to clients who are edentulous or with limited chewing abilities. Puree food is available for clients with limited swallowing ability. Such diets are reviewed by our Dietitians, Physicians and other professionals as needed by the client.

Therapeutic diets are provided in accordance with the physicians prescription. Lo Sodium, Lo Fat, Bland, ADA, and Calorie restricted diets are among frequently served therapeutic diets. Menu adjustments are made to address allergy problems.

Health Services

Clearing the Confusion of Health Services Surveying Agencies

By: Betty Henderson, UR/QA Coordinator

The acronym (word formed from first letter of other words) has become the method of identifying government agencies, business organizations, professional organizations, etc.

One acronym familiar to most medical personnel and often confusing to non-medical personnel is J.C.A.H., The Joint Commission Accreditation of Hospitals.

To describe what JCAH means to us here at the Vineland State School Hospital it is necessary to go back a little in history.

1973 brought the opening of the new hospital at the Vineland State School. Dr. Cruz was Hospital Administrator at that time and his long range goal was to provide medical services equal in quality to those provided in the community.

The services afforded our clients changed after 1973 from the infirmary type care in the old hospital to acute care with the establishment of a full complement of support service including Staff Development, Utilization Review, Infection Control and Safety programs. It became obvious we did not fit the standards of a Skilled Nursing Facility but should be licensed by the Department of Health as an Acute Care Facility.

In 1977 we applied for licensure as a Special Hospital and along with that licensure came the need to seek Accreditation from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals. The State Department of Health licensed the hospital in December 1978 after application to JCAH. The hospital personnel continued to prepare to meet the rigorous standards for accreditation.

In January 1979 the hospital received its first unconditional accreditation.

The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals is a non-profit organization whose primary purpose is to promote high quality in the provision of health care and related human service.

In being accredited the hospital is "deemed" to be in compliance with most of the federal Medicare Conditions of Participation and thus meets Eligibility Requirements for Participation in Medicare (Medicare Legislation 1965).

The second JCAH survey was in 1981 and again resulted in a two year accreditation.

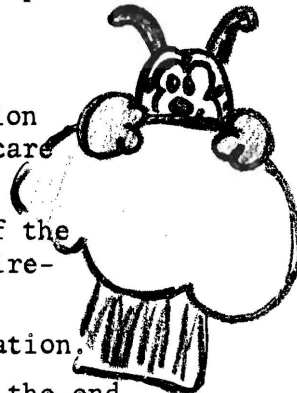
At this writing the Hospital is awaiting another survey. It was expected at the end of January 1983 however communication from the Joint Commission reveals we cannot

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Health Services - Cont. from p. 5

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expect a visit until at least July. Hopefully this survey will result in accreditation for 3 years.

The Hospital has the responsibility to continuously meet the high standards of JCAH thus ensuring continued quality care for the clients we serve.

Mental Health

Why are self-help skills among the most important behavior our clients need to learn?

By: Lewis S. Alban, Ph.D., Chief Psychologist

Self-help skills include, among others, dressing, grooming, personal hygiene, toileting, bathing and eating. These skills are usually the ones we learned without remembering how, and the ones we automatically practice daily. For our clients, mastering the challenge of say, eating with a utensil, or putting on clothing, is a big boost in self-esteem and a major step toward independence.

Our responsibility for modifying behavior is very clear when it comes to self-help skills. For example, at our institution, we provide a toothbrush, toilet, dinner table, bath tub and clothes; meals three times a day, clothes are removed at bedtime and bedtime comes at night. These predictable and established routines provide a setting in which staff can teach a client and a client can comfortably learn.

You could spend entire days washing, dressing or toileting your clients, but wouldn't you rather spend time teaching them to perform those skills?

If we view every client contact as an educational experience and use positive social reinforcement, we would actually be increasing self-help skills training and social education more than a thousand times. In addition, we would reinforce institutional independence and behavioral gains through social reinforcement, the gradual acceptance of clients by their relatives, reduce their stigmatization, and increase their contact with persons and contemporary events outside of the institution which further contributes to their growth.

Foster Grandparent Program

By: Robert Manestrina, Supervisor, Foster Grandparent Program

The FGP chorus has begun rehearsing for this years June Open House. Twenty-two grannies are participating in the chorus under the direction of Audrey Doty. Grandparents working in the school system will also take part in a Square Dance with the school children assigned to them.

A Job Fair for Senior Citizens was held at the Cherry Hill Mall on April 15th to 17th, 1983. The Vineland State School program was represented by Joan Achey, Therapy Aide and two Foster Grandmoms, Willie Carter and Tina DiTrapani. Film clips were shown and brochures were distributed to interested parties. The day served as good public relations for our Foster Grandparent Program.

ICF/MR

Making a Good Thing Better--"The Client Profile"

By: Rebecca Sutton, Program Assistant

The Vineland State School, both East and West Campuses, was home for 1371 clients in the beginning of May. Each client has, on the average, five programs and each client's progress in each program is recorded daily. This, in itself, generates a tremendous amount of information, but our clients also receive special services, treatments, and equipment. Until now, when we wished to measure our success in providing clients with the programs, services, and equipment that they need, we had to do our surveys by hand. This was a time-consuming job when it was done,

Cont. on p. 7

ICF/MR-Cont. from p. 6

and while we did it, the survey sometimes wasn't as complete as we would have liked, or it wasn't done as often as we thought it should be.

Over the past few months, professional staff have devised an overall client assessment form called the "Client Profile." The "Client Profile" allows us to gather vital information about each client into one document through interviews with the staff who work with the client, review of the medical and cottage record, and, of course, discussion with and/or observation of the client. The real benefit of the "Client Profile" is that the information we gather will be filed in a computer with terminals at East and West Campuses. The information will allow us to "flag" outstanding client needs, measure our overall success in meeting these needs, and do so routinely and comprehensively.

The launching date for the "Client Profile" is scheduled for early summer, and we're looking forward to this event which promises to help us refine our services. If you're interested in learning more about what the "Client Profile" is and what it does, let us know.

What's Happening In The Sections Closing of Unit Cottage as Client Living Area

Unit Cottage closed on May 14, 1983. All clients have been transferred to appropriate cottages and all Staff have been assigned to non-ICF cottages. These employees will be reporting to their cottages on May 14, 1983. The cottage is tentatively being scheduled to house the institutional Sewing Shop, Upholstery Shop and Client Clothing Center.

Opening of "E" Cottage and the Closing of "C" Cottage

"E" Cottage staff and clients are settling down from the big move from a non-ICF cottage to an ICF facility on March 22, 1983. Twenty-three clients from "C" cottage and transfers from other cottages have united to make "E" cottage their new home. Ms. B. Jackson, HCTS reports that all employees and clients are adjusting well to their new environment. She is proud of the team work employees have exhibited to provide for "good caring" of our clients.

STPA M. Aikens and Mrs. J. Parker are evaluating clients for training purposes. This will provide for optimal client development. All employees have completed Murdock Training methods. They are using these training techniques with remarkable progress shown.

After Murdock Training, the employees were presented with award certificates. We were pleased that Superintendent Dr. Cruz, Mr. Thames, Mrs. Irby, and former Section Head Mrs. M. Taylor, could join in our celebration.

A New Look in Section III

The "A" Cottage staff is adjusting to the rearrangement of the client population which was devised by the SPRS (Mrs. Mary Taylor) and ASPRS's (Ms. Maryanne Crilley and Mrs. Evelyn Fox) of Section III in conjunction with input from cottage personnel headed by acting HCTS, Mrs. Irene Green.

The clients are divided into four groups according to their functioning level and abilities. Two groups are programmed on first and second floors which include a dayroom and dormitory, respectively. The higher functioning and fully ambulatory clients are programmed on the second floor and the lower functioning clients with ambulation problems are programmed on the first floor.

Cont. on p. 8

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What's Happening in the Sections- Cont. from p. 7

In-Service Training
CPR and First Aid Courses Offered to Community

The VSS In-Service Training Department has embarked on a cooperative venture with the Vineland Chapter of the American Red Cross to offer Multi-Media First Aid and Modular CPR courses to community citizens.

The first of the on-going courses were held on two successive evenings in April with the classes beginning at 6:30 p.m. and ending approximately at 10:30. The total courses consist of 2 (4 hour) sessions which enables the participant to be certified in either course. Because the course is being offered under the auspices of the Vineland Chapter, a \$5.00 course fee is necessary. This fee entitles the participant to receive a workbook, a cloth patch and upon successful completion of the course, a certificate will be issued.

Any VSS employee who feels that a family member or friend might be interested in attending may contact the local chapter at 691-2265. Please ask for Marion or Monica to register for either course. This is an outstanding opportunity to acquire information that, in an emergency, could save another's life.

Symposium at Vineland State School & Hospital

By: Glenn Franzoi, Sr. Training Tech.

On Friday, May 13, 1983, a symposium took place at the East Campus Auditorium which emphasized the importance of Human Sexuality Training for the Developmentally Disabled Person.

The keynote speaker for the occasion was Dr. Winifred Kempton, whose expertise in this area is world renowned. The coordination for this event involved the Division of Mental Retardation, the In-Service Training Department and numerous other agencies.

The total program was funded under Title XX grant, administered out of the Office of the Division of Mental Retardation, Training Department, under the direction of Mr. Allan Howard.

The announcement of the symposium was sent statewide with an overwhelming response that totaled 480 participants. The symposium was held to be an introduction to further workshops that will be conducted throughout New Jersey facilities by various consultants that will encompass the areas of social-sexual aspects of the developmentally and physically disabled citizens.

Staff Development
Training the Trainees

By: Debbie Cormier, Habilitation Plan Coordinator

In order to assist staff and clients, training in the Interdisciplinary Team process is being offered biweekly throughout the month of May at the West Campus. The successful application of the Interdisciplinary Team process is our guarantee that each client will receive active treatment.

The term interdisciplinary, loosely defined, means the combined or concerted disciplines to include the client and the family. In the 1950's and 60's services were provided to clients by the multidisciplinary process.

The interdisciplinary system acknowledges that developmentally disabled and mentally retarded people need a variety of services and programs from different specialists, and so too did the multidisciplinary system. However, the interdisciplinary system emphasizes that these services be provided consistently, harmoniously, and as a team effort.

Cont. on p. 9

Staff Development-Cont. from p. 8

We're betting that the better we are at delivering services and programs for our clients, the better they'll be. We plan to continue a vigorous training program on all aspects of client care and training.

Task Analyses

By: Ellen R. Bleda, Habilitation Plan Coordinator

During the past several weeks Task Analyses have been submitted and successfully piloted in several East Campus cottages.

Among these T.A.'s you will find:

1. "Survival Words - Level I" This includes a one hundred (100) word list which will enable our clients to recognize common signs found in the home, educational facilities, commercial establishments, and on traffic signs.
2. "Basic Number Recognition - Level I" Clients will learn simple numbers to ten (10) and also learn quantity concept.
3. "Putting on a bedspread with two-rounded corners." Clients will learn neatness in preparation for Community Living.
4. "Road Signs" Clients will learn safety and this will aid also in Driving Education. This TA may be used in conjunction with "Survival Words."

Most Task Analyses are now being formulated by STPA's and piloted in Cottage following a review by the Program Assistant. In some instances, modifications are made for individuals as the need occurs.

* * * * *

The Vineland State School Recreation Departments...have had a long association with the Special Olympic Program. Just ask any client which special activity group she would like to join and almost every time she will answer Special Olympics. Enthusiasm has become contagious among both athletes and coaches since the Kennedy Foundation first began the Special Olympic program.

In addition to providing an increase in recreational skills, and physical adeptness, the New Jersey Special Olympic training sessions help to develop socialization skills, competitive awareness and pride in self accomplishment. There are enough varied events, open to athletes on all levels, that everyone can enjoy participation regardless of personal limitations. The non-ambulatory athlete has every opportunity to be part of Special Olympics as well as other handicapped athletes.

The coaches, who are recreation and education staff members, train and practice with the athletes for each meet. The State School, part of Area 8, sent the athletes who place first and second on to the State meets. After competing three consecutive years, an athlete can become a candidate for the International Games held every four years.

There are many types of meets including: a bowling tournament, swimming, run, dribble and shoot basketball, and track and field which are held locally. Winter brings the snow, so there are Winter Games on the State level. The Winter Games, held at Great Gorge, New Jersey, included snowshoeing and cross country skiing.

This year, Janet Gaynor, has qualified for the Summer International Special Olympics. The games will be held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana from July 12 to

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Special Olympics - Cont. from p. 9

July 18. There are seven participants from Area 8 on the New Jersey International Team of seventy-six. All will be competing with over 4,500 athletes from the United States and 46 foreign countries at Louisiana State University.

Participation and winning is fantastic for all involved, but the real reward of all the effort of the volunteers and athletes is to see and feel the excitement at the meets. Special Olympians are happier and healthier for their involvement, the friends made, the effort they give and the joy of competition. This can all be summed up in the Special Olympic Oath:

Let me win,
But, If I cannot Win,
Let me be Brave
In the attempt.

Clients Take Trip to Florida

Sixteen clients from East, Main, West and Pond cottages vacationed in Florida, May 6 thru the 11th. Jacqueline Brown, Supervisor of Professional/Residential Services, Section I, and Irv Segal, the founder and director of the Guided Tour, a unique agency that "offers opportunities for personal growth, recreation, and socialization through travel" to developmentally disabled.

While in Florida the clients visited the Magic Kingdom and the Epcot Center at Disney World, Cape Kennedy, a show at the Hilton Hotel and Leesbury, Orange Grove the citrus tower where clients picked oranges.

Mrs. Brown, a registered nurse accompanied the clients as a chaperone and to dispense medications. Valerie Scavelli, Edwina Carter also traveled as chaperones.

Kimble Clients and Staff Take Trip to Tropicana

On April 27th, 26 Kimble clients and employees had the opportunity to tour and enjoy the facilities of the Tropicana Hotel and Casino.

After a memorable dinner, all tried their luck on the slot machines. Clients Josephine Sarno and Mildred DeRose were two of many who had a stroke of luck - each returning home with \$25.00. Rich memories will remain with clients and staff alike.

+++++

Recreation Service Delivery Award

James Thames, Asst.Supt./West Campus, had the great pleasure of informing Ed Mihaly that he was nominated for the New Jersey Commission on Recreation for the Handicapped 1983 Service Delivery Award. Mr. Mihaly started as the Supervisor of Recreation at the West Campus in 1976 and, since that time, has directed and expanded the Recreation Department's various programs and activities.

The N.J. Commission on Recreation for the Handicapped functions to promote and assist the development and implementation of recreation and leisure services for disabled individuals in the communities of New Jersey. The Commission works on increasing the awareness of the leisure needs of the disabled, building leisure resources and programs in N.J. communities, and promotes the coordination of efforts by state and local agencies regarding recreational programs for the handicapped. It is a branch of the Department of Community Affairs.

Mr. Mihaly indicated that he was honored. However, he also wanted to let his staff and all those interested know that such an award would be impossible

Cont. on p. 11

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Rec.Ser.Del.Award-Cont. from p. 10

without the hard work, ingenuity, and dedication of the members of the West Campus Recreation Department.

A Dedicated Employee

Twenty-five years of service is a time for celebration. Jean Fox, Head Cottage Training Supervisor of Reeves Cottage, Section III, was the honoree May 5, 1983 of a gala coordinated by the Staff and clients of Reeves Cottage. Mrs. Fox has had various jobs during her many years of employment at VSS, but Reeves Cottage is now "home". We congratulate Mrs. Fox, and hope that she has many more years of service at V.S.S. & H.

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Birth Congratulations to:

Robin Blount, WC/H - a girl
Grant Connally, Sykes - a boy
Roberta Hadley, WC/H - a girl
Denise Harris, WC/J - a boy
Cheryl Hyson, WC/Rec. - a girl
Donna Ingram, Personnel - a boy
Sara Irrizzary, Timekeeping - a girl
Marion Radford, Sykes - a boy
Gertrude Rilley, WC/Rec. - a girl
Shirlece Robinson, West - a boy
Wanda Sanchez, Sykes - a girl
Cecelia Segers, Pond - a boy
Jesus Velez, WC/Food Service - a girl
Dorothea Withers, WC/H - a boy

Wedding Bells Rang Recently For:

Darlene Abrams, Food Service and
Kenneth Caterina, Butcher Shop
Pauline Clark, Food Service and
Jeffrey Holmes, Housekeeping
Denise Irby Harris, WC/J

Best Wishes for Retirement to:

Pauline Albanese, HPC/WC - 17 years
Warren Maytrott, Medical Office - 28 years
Antonio Melendez, Food Service/WC - 11 years
Michael Orlando, Maintenance - 11 years
Bertha Paff, Medical Office - 12 years

Sincere Condolences to:

Janet Caldwell, Reeves Cottage on the loss of her daughter
Vera Mae Diaz, Bassett Cottage on the loss of her mother
Amy Ferguson, WC/Inf. on the loss of her sister
Itilda Frances, WC/G on the loss of her mother
Grace Heggs, Hospital/A Wing on the loss of her brother
Theodosia Johnson, WC/B on the loss of her brother
Mildred Jones, Kimble Cottage on the loss of her sister
Rosetta Jones, WC/Inf. on the loss of her mother
Betty Marcus, WC/D on the loss of her brother
Anna Martinez, Education on the loss of her mother
Carmella Mercogliano, East Cottage on the loss of her husband
Marie Randazzo, Medical Office on the loss of her mother
Dennis Taylor, Plumbing Shop on the loss of his mother
Margaret Wilkins, Giles Cottage on the loss of her sister
Barbara Williams, Hospital on the loss of her father
Cathleen Young, Hospital/B Wing on the loss of her father



Annette M. Langer, Acting Dir. of Ed.
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