



VDC NEWS

VINELAND DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER/HOSPITAL
VINELAND, NEW JERSEY

ANTHONY I. RICCO
EDITOR



NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT
OF
HUMAN SERVICES



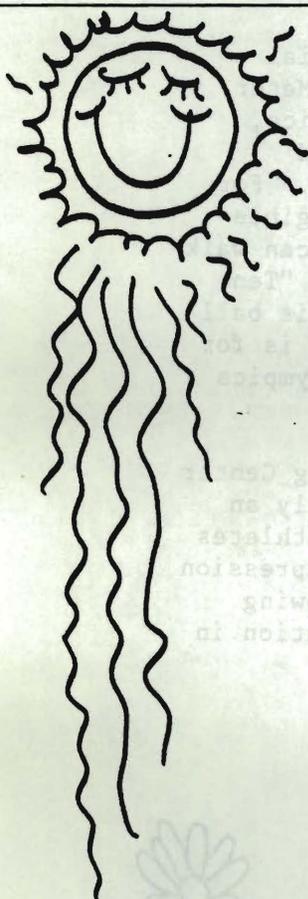
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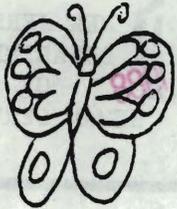
JUNE, 1988

THE CENTENNIAL BLOCK PARTY....."Our Day In The Sun"

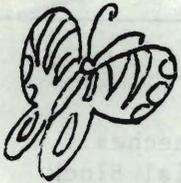
Music...Balloons...Crafts...Displays...Food...Softball...Speeches... A Parade...and tons of people.....best describe the Centennial Block Party held May 21st jointly between the Vineland Developmental Center and the Training School. After months of planning and days of worry over the weather, the clouds parted and the day became perhaps the greatest event staged by either facility in their hundred years of existence. Recapping the events of the celebration would certainly be a momentous task, but not suffice to convey the best part of the day, and that part is the feeling one had from the moment you set foot on the grounds of the facilities. Naturally there was excitement and anticipation, but that wasn't it... there was hustle and bustle, but one would expect that.... Jitters and butterflies as with any staged event were there, but still doesn't give an adequate description of the elusive feeling present. It wasn't until the first car of the parade came into view that it became evident. The feeling was PRIDE. PRIDE in the facilities.... PRIDE in the staff.... and most of all, PRIDE in the clients. The Centennial celebration represented 100 years of existence of two places where developmentally disabled people can live their lives with care, dignity, and love. Growing in the knowledge that the best will

(continued on page 5)



SUPERINTENDENT'S NEWS & VIEWSDEVELOPMENTAL SPORTS

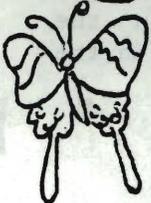
Excitement was in the air the morning of June 10, 1988, at West Campus Learning Center as fifty VDC clients prepared to participate in the Special Olympics Developmental Sports Day. The pageantry began with a parade of athletes around the colorfully decorated gym which was followed by the entrance of a client who proudly carried the Olympic Torch. The Opening Ceremony was culminated with the release of blue and gold balloons which rose to the ceiling and signified the start of the competition.



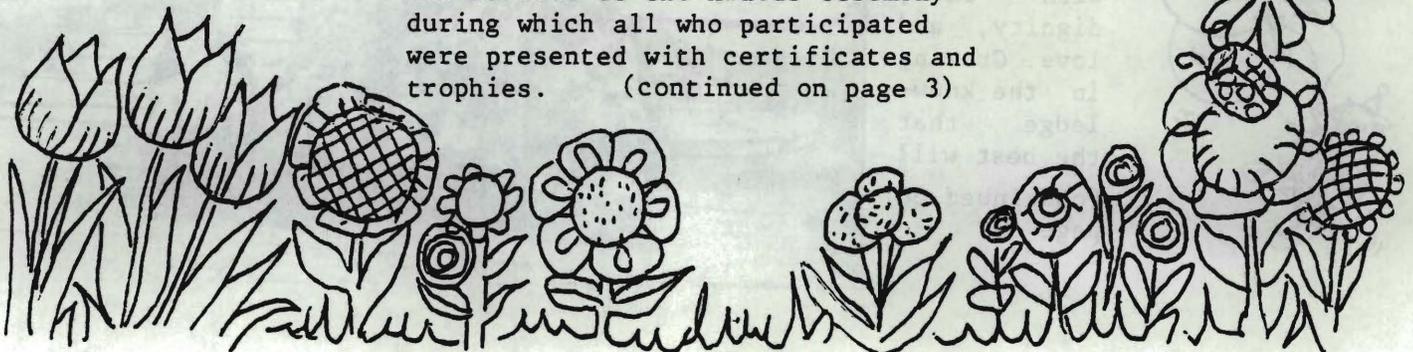
The Developmental Sports Program is a new addition to Special Olympics. It includes seven events: Turning Over, Three Meter Roll, Three Meter Crawl, Ten Meter Walk With Assistive Device, Ten Meter Independent Walk, Five Meter Wheelchair Race, and Bean Bag Throw. Each of these events has an exit criteria. For example, a client who can walk ten meters or more is ineligible to participate in the "Turning Over" event. A client who can walk independently for twenty-five meters is ineligible for the "Ten Meter Independent Walk", and a client who can throw a tennis ball may not participate in the "Bean Bag Throw". This program is for clients who do not already participate in other Special Olympics events.



The aura of success which pervaded the West Campus Learning Center on June 10th cannot be sufficiently described. It was truly an exciting experience to observe VDC staff cheering on the athletes whom they had trained during the past few months. The expression of achievement and pride on the faces of the clients following completion of their events was a joy to behold. Participation in this program certainly fulfilled the Special Olympics objective of building each individual's self confidence and esteem.



Twenty VDC clients qualified to participate in the New Jersey Special Olympics Summer Games which will be held at Princeton University on June 30th. The competition was a tremendous experience not only for those clients who qualified for the State Meet, but for each and every client who participated. The pride of the clients in their achievements was obvious at the Awards Ceremony during which all who participated were presented with certificates and trophies. (continued on page 3)



SUPERINTENDENT'S NEWS & VIEWS (continued from page 2)

A thank you is in order for Central Recreation staff of both campuses for coordination of the day's activities and also Cottage Recreation, Learning Center, Foster Grandparents, and other VDC staff who worked with the clients to train them for their events. It is my hope that many more clients will participate in this worthwhile program in the future.

The Developmental Sports Program is of great value to VDC because it accommodates the ability levels of our clients. This program, without a doubt fulfills the Special Olympics goal of having athletes with mental retardation "reveal to the world those special qualities of the human spirit in which they excel--skill, courage, sharing and joy".

HEAR YE.....

The Centennial Block Party held on May 21st was a huge success. Thank you to all Vineland Developmental Center staff, The Training School staff and members of the community who made this event possible. The Block Party was a fitting tribute to Vineland's century of service for the developmentally disabled. VDC's centennial celebration will culminate with THE VINELAND CONFERENCE which will be held jointly with The Training School in Millville, New Jersey, at the Wheaton Village on June 23 and 24, 1988. This conference will provide an extraordinary opportunity to examine traditional approaches of the past in serving the developmentally disabled and to explore innovative alternatives which will be used in the future.

Robert N. Smith,
Superintendent



The Volunteer Services Office still has available a variety of Centennial Day mementos. If you are interested, you may pick up any listed below at the Volunteer Services Office, Wilson Hall, East Campus, between 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM week days.

The phone numbers are #6050 and #6005.

- | | | |
|-----------------|--------|------|
| MUGS | \$3.00 | each |
| COOKBOOKS | 5.00 | each |
| CERAMIC HOLDERS | 2.00 | each |
| VISORS | 1.00 | each |

S A F E T Y K O R N E R

Submitted by Aldo Mazzoni

**O N C E
U P O N
A
T I M E**

There were four longtime co-workers with unusual names - EVERYONE, SOMEONE, ANYONE, and NO-ONE. First thing one morning, their boss told them there was an important job to be done. It didn't matter who did it, he said, as long as it got done. Well, EVERYONE assumed SOMEONE would do it. ANYONE could have done it, but NO-ONE did. SOMEONE got angry because it was EVERYONE'S job. EVERYONE thought ANYONE should do it, but NO-ONE knew that EVERYONE wouldn't do it. At the end of the day, the job still wasn't completed. EVERYONE blamed SOMEONE, while NO-ONE pointed a finger at ANYONE. But who's fault was it, anyway?

In order to maintain a safe working and living environment for employees and clients, safety becomes EVERYONE'S JOB.

The removal of safety hazards within the workplace cannot be accomplished by inspections alone. To effectively maintain a safe working and living environment, participation of all of us is required. Any safety hazard or potential safety hazard, that may be encountered should be reported immediately to your supervisor.

Pictures have recently been purchased to hang in client living areas. To ensure client and employee safety, only pictures that are fronted with plexi-glass or plastic should be purchased. The use of frames containing glass pose potential safety hazards.

A solution to pictures currently in cottages areas would be to cover the glass with clear contact paper to keep it from shattering. To solve this problem in the future, refrain from purchasing glass pictures. Plastic or plexi-glass makes the environment a safer place for our clients.

**YOU CAN ONLY
IGNORE HAZARDS
SO LONG**



**BEFORE
ONE OF THEM
GETS YOU**

**S A F E T Y
P R O B L E M S**

**CALL: Aldo - 6076
Glenn - 6881
Lee - 6327
Don - 6327**

THE CENTENNIAL BLOCK PARTY....."Our Day In The Sun"

(continued from page 1)



always be there for them so that they can achieve the highest possible level of their potential. May 21st was a day when the love that is shared was taken out of it's regular context and renewed in an atmosphere of caring and fun. Congratulations to everyone involved in the Block Party and may every day reflect the feelings expressed in "our day in the sun".



CENTENNIAL ART SHOW Submitted by Jane Berstein, ATR, Art Therapist

An Art Show of clients' art work was on display in the Thorn Auditorium as part of the Centennial Celebration on May 21st. All clients who are in the Art Therapy Program had at least two pieces of art work in the show. There were 85 pieces of art work on display. Each client whose work was exhibited received a green ribbon for her participation. Six ribbons were awarded in two categories. the judges of the show were Lori Heydolph and Cordelia Owens from the Training School at Vineland.

Holiday/Seasonal Category

1st Prize (Blue Ribbon)
Anna Mae Daubert (West Cottage)
"Fire Works" Picture

2nd Prize (Red Ribbon)
Ruth Moore (Lee Cottage)
Kite

3rd Prize (Yellow Ribbon)
Julia Sweigart (West Cottage)
"Turkey" Picture

Assorted Category

1st Prize (Blue Ribbon)
Eleanore Homan (Kimble Cottage)
"Horse" Picture

2nd Prize (Red Ribbon)
Gale Friedman (East Cottage)
Tissue Paper Collage

3rd Prize (Yellow Ribbon)
Lilianne Sayko (East Cottage)
"Glitter" Picture



OUTSTANDING EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH May, 1988

FRANK GENTILE, Carpenter Shop, was named "Outstanding Employee of the Month" for May, 1988. He has exhibited a great deal of creativity and ingenuity by fabricating special equipment for clients which has helped to improve the quality of their lives. Frank is especially deserving of recognition for his efforts in designing and constructing a special table for a Kimble Cottage client. This table has helped the client to participate actively in daily cottage activities. Although Frank has worked at VDC for only two years, he has already accomplished a great deal through motivation, initiative, and dedication to his work.

OUTSTANDING EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH April, 1988

REGINA ELLIS, CTS, Sykes Cottage has been selected "Outstanding Employee of the Month" for April, 1988. Regina began her career sixteen years ago as an HSA in Pond Cottage, and then worked as a CTT in Cross Cottage. She has worked in her present position as a CTS in both East and Sykes Cottages. Regina demonstrates a patient, caring attitude toward clients and a positive, enthusiastic demeanor with staff. She deserves commendation for the leadership which she provides. Congratulations are in order for Regina for her significant contributions toward the growth and development of the clients.



OUTSTANDING EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH June, 1988

DIANE JOHNSON, CTT, Grisco Cottage, has been chosen "Outstanding Employee of the Month" for June, 1988. Diane began work at VDC ten years ago as an HSA in Donahue Cottage. She transferred to Jones Cottage, and worked there until her promotion to CTT in Grisco four years ago. Diane was honored in June because she generously contributed her time to escort a Grisco client to visit her family in Georgia. This trip meant a great deal to the client as well as to her family, particularly in view of the client's mother's age and health. We commend Diane for her thoughtfulness, dedication and initiative in performing this service for one of our clients.



BIRTHS

Jackie Pannone, Cross (boy)
 Valorie Loatman, Wolv. (boy)
 Kim Brown, Speech Dept. (boy)
 Ella Halsey, Landis (boy)
 Myrna Newell, Giles (boy)
 Dawn Nelke, Unit IV (girl)
 Nancy DiSanto, Lab (girl)
 Elizabeth Franklin, Sykes (girl)
 Edward Bettino, PAFA Tr Cr (girl)
 Bertha Forchion, Bassett (girl)

MARRIAGES

Judith Bell Marchesani, Jones
 Sheila Frye Sansalone, Fisher
 James Rowe, Storeroom
 Arletha Miller, Landis
 Vivian Battle Stevenson, Fisher
 Bobbie Hall, Central Hspkg.
 Judith Seabrook Nichols, Unit II
 Betty Marcus Brown, Morias GH
 Jane Melini Jannarone, Pacific GH
 Elizabeth Still Abdus Salaam, Morias GH

RETIREMENTS/RESIGNATIONS

Margaret Wilkins, Gr Home (6 yrs)
 Gloria Dannenberger, Hspkg (14 yrs)
 Ella Mae Bailey, Main (20 yrs)
 Alberta Dixon, Lee (24 yrs)
 Aida Cruz, Emerlee (10 yrs)
 Brenda Scott, Voc W/C (9½ yrs)
 Bobbie King, Allen (5½ yrs)
 Deborah McLeod, Hosp (5 yrs)
 Rita Barr, Hosp (18 yrs)
 Eula Snuffer, Cross (32½ yrs)
 Evelyn Morton, Food Serv (17 yrs)
 Juanita Douglas, Regan (10 yrs)
 Jose Alvarado, Elec Shop (14 yrs)
 Shantai Bryant, Allen (5 yrs)
 Sheila Kelley, Food Serv (5 yrs)
 Vernese Smith, Hosp (11 yrs)
 Sandra Langley, Wolverton (5 yrs)
 Martin Gillette, Hspkg (7 yrs)

EXTRA!! **VDC EMPLOYEE NEWS** **EXTRA!!**

MARRIAGES

DEATHS

BIRTHS

REGISNATIONS

RETIREMENTS

DEATHS

JEFFREY HOLMES, Employee in Housekeeping

Agnes Branker, FGP (husband)
 Jeanette Aliff, Voc E/C (mother)
 Pearl Hull, Maurice River GH (brother)
 Mary Jane Justice, West (brother)
 Jean DiCriscio, Arbor GH (father)
 Betty Forosisky, Sykes (mother)
 Anna Martinez, Educ W/C (brother)
 Ceffie Turner, Jones (daughter)
 Betty Williams, Jones (mother)
 Francine Rosario, Allen (sister)
 Debbie Harmon, Reeves (father)
 Katherine Harris, Reeves (father)
 Minnie Hayman, Reeves (husband)
 Juan Martinez, Elec Shop (father)
 Margaret Smith, Allen (brother)
 Loretta Ardrey, Hspkg (mother)
 Catherine Bacque, Pacific GH (mother)
 Alverda Prato, Garden GH (mother)
 Beatrice Polk, Regan (brother)
 Pauline Holmes, Food Serv (husband)
 Connie Johnson, QA (mother)
 Irene Loper, Hosp (mother)
 Elizabeth Thompson, Giles (mother)
 Jeanette Ganio, Rec E/C (father)
 Faith Vingi, Bassett (father)



Mother's Day

On May 8th, Mother's Day, a church service was held on West Campus. The service was rendered by Rev. & Mrs. Charles Lewis. Approximately 8 staff and 70 clients attended and worshipped through singing. The main theme of the service was Mother's Day. Staff members who attended were given honor for being Mothers through the ministry of the word and small gifts of appreciation for the oldest Mother, the youngest Mother, the Mother with the most children, and the Mother with the greatest number of years in state service. The oldest and youngest client were also honored. Clients participated by standing up to help sing and play the song "Jesus Loves Me" on the chromaharp. Our clients can feel the presence of God and they dearly love that song "Jesus Loves Me"! A brief message about Mother's Day was given from Matthew 12:48-50 which emphasized the preeminence of spritual relationships. Those who do the will of God in obedience are considered a brother, a sister, or a mother by & through God's spirit. Those who do God's will are part of God's big family!

Submitted by Cheryl Lewis

TRANSITION PROJECT

Submitted by Janice Bono, Social Worker II

The Transition Project has been designed to familiarize clients with living in a group home setting. The Project's objectives are two-fold: to provide an environment in which clients can increase their socialization skills and learn to identify their individual roles and responsibilities in a home setting.

The Thames House on the West Campus is being utilized as the training site. The Project began on October 6, 1987, approximately three months after the first open invitational meeting. Staffing is being provided on a volunteer basis drawn from various work areas; such as Social Services, Mental Health Services, Dietary, Recreation, Speech Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Occupational Therapy.

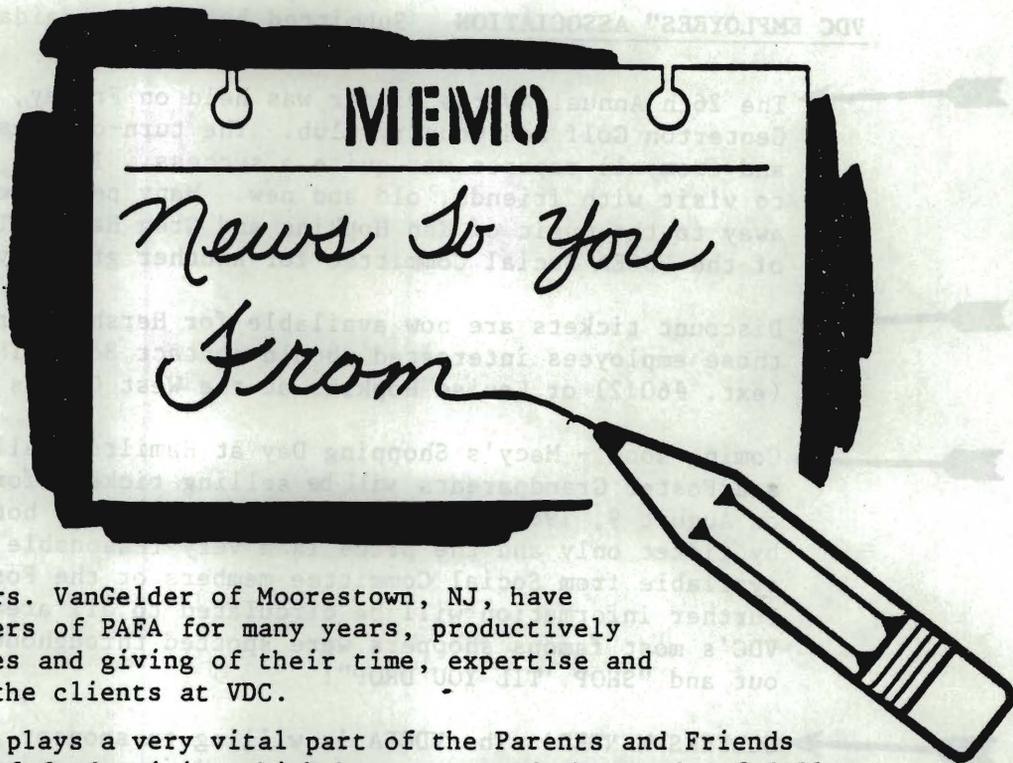
Presently the Project consists of two groups of four clients. Each group meets once a week for three hours. The activities are designed to promote peer interaction and to provide opportunities for development of decision making skills. The time is structured to focus on: household chores, meal preparation and family style dining, self-help skills, and use of leisure time. The daily schedule is based on the functioning level of the pilot group. Adaptations will be made with each new group.

The Transition Project has been running for six months. We are now in the process of developing an expansion of the project. Your support is welcome.

PARENTS & FRIENDS ASSN.

Submitted by Carl Gohn,
PAFA Public Relations

The Parents & Friends Association (PAFA) of the Vineland Developmental Center has selected Charles and Kathryn VanGelder as the honorees at the PAFA Fifth Annual Dinner/Dance to be held at Resorts International Casino/Hotel in Atlantic City on August 7, 1988.



World travelers, Mr. & Mrs. VanGelder of Moorestown, NJ, have been outstanding supporters of PAFA for many years, productively serving on many committees and giving of their time, expertise and caring, so important to the clients at VDC.

This annual dinner/dance plays a very vital part of the Parents and Friends Association in the area of fund-raising which has generated thousands of dollars in support of the many projects not covered by the budget for this facility. The most recent endeavor is the purchase of a special bus at the Center which will accommodate ambulatory and wheelchair clients alike for transportation to a broad range of recreational and entertainment activities. There still remains to be raised \$16,000 for this special vehicle and it is hoped that the sale of ads and donations for tickets to this popular and outstanding affair will bring this project over the top.

For additional information regarding ads or tickets, please contact Rudi Gutman, 105 No. Fredericksburg Ave., Ventnor, NJ, 08406, ph: 609-822-4547.

MANAGEMENT INFORMATION CENTER Submitted by Dom Ciancarelli

MIC was happily able to play a part in the preparation for our Centennial activities. Several mailings have gone out using mailing labels prepared by MIC. This was only possible through the efforts of many persons who contributed their time to enter over 2,300 names and addresses into the computer. Now when the Superintendent asks for a set of mailing labels we can produce them in about 15 minutes. Ah... the wonder of computers...after the time-consuming input is done!

MIC also produces its own monthly News and Views publication. If you wish to be on our mailing list, drop us a note in the mail or call us at 609-696-6723. We would be happy to sent it to you.

Mr. Ciancarelli is active in the Certified Public Managers' Society. The Society is an outgrowth of the CPM program which was introduced in recent years to provide training and development for managers in the public sector. Its objective has been to foster professionalism and to provide public entities in New Jersey with the kind of leaders we need to meet the challenges we face in government. Recently, a southern regional chapter was formed. Membership is open to interested persons in the following ways: (continued on page 11)

VOLUNTEER SERVICES OFFICE Submitted by Carole Braidà

The Volunteer Services Office wishes to thank all employees and their families and friends who volunteered their services at our Centennial Block Party on May 21, 1988. Volunteers were sighted registering guests, selling souvenirs and lunch tickets, escorting clients to various activities and distributing prizes. You name it and volunteers were there! THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR CONTRIBUTION IN MAKING OUR BLOCK PARTY A HUGE SUCCESS!



The Music Division of the Education Department at the West Campus is looking to expand their record library. Employees interested in donating any type of record should contact the Volunteer Services Office at ext. #6050.



Regular hours for the Donation Room at the Multi-Purpose Building, East Campus, have not yet been established; however, please call Paul or Carole at ext. #6050 if you are in need of items or would like to see what is available at this time. We will make arrangements for you to meet us as your schedule allows.



We have plenty of areas where volunteers are still needed. If you or someone you know have a few hours to spare, please call the Volunteer Services Office at 696-6050. We are especially in need of Spanish speaking volunteers. There is also a need for an Italian speaking volunteer to visit with one of our clients. Can you help us out?

**Management Information Center** (continued from page 9)

- FELLOW** those who have successfully completed all six levels of the CPM program.
- ASSOCIATE** those who have successfully completed the first three levels of the CPM program.
- FREINDS** those who have an interest in supporting the goals and activities of the Society.

CPMSNJ meets on the fourth Monday of each month at the Hammonton Motor Lodge, Route 30, Hammonton, NJ, at 6:00 PM. Our calendar for the next few months show:

- Monday 6/27/88 - Regular Dinner Meeting
 Monday 7/25/88 - Regular Dinner Meeting
 Saturday 8/20/88 - First Annual Picnic
 Monday 9/26/88 - State-wide CPM Dinner Meeting at Ramada Inn,
 Route 1, Princeton, NJ

If you want more information, contact Mr. Ciancarelli at 609-696-6723.



**A GENEROUS DONATION TO THE
FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM**

The Foster Grandparent Program is designed to provide employment for citizens over 60 years of age who are living on limited incomes of \$7,165 or less for individual, or \$12,640 or less combined husband/wife income.

The Program here at Vineland Developmental Center currently operates two vans which are used to transport these low income citizens from their homes to their volunteer job-sites each day.

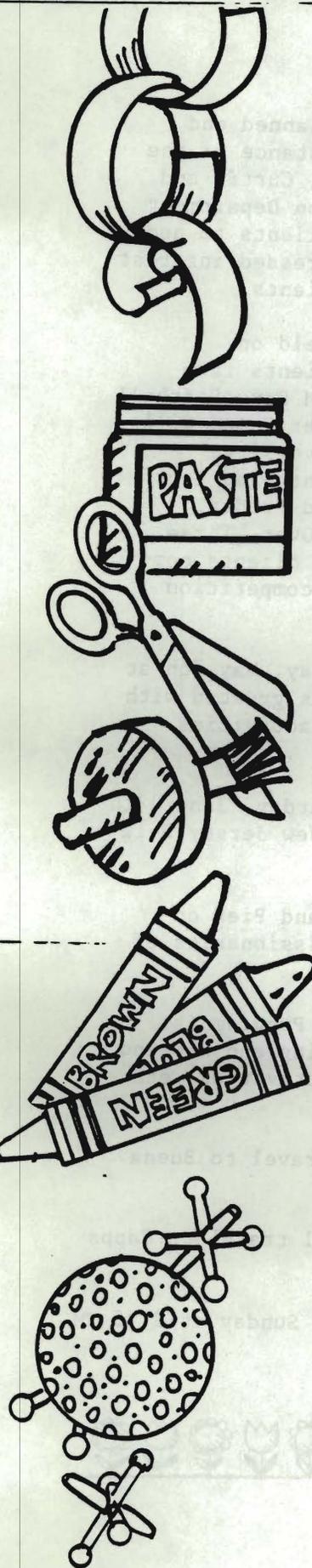
We have recently been looking to replace these vans due to the aging of them.

On December 4, 1987, Mr. Tom Fisher, Purchasing Agent at Prudential Insurance Company of America, informed us of a policy of donating vans to charities that can utilize them. On May 9, 1988, Prudential Insurance Company of America donated a white 12-passenger 1980 Dodge Van with 50,191.7 miles, to our program.

This donation is highly appreciated and will be put to great use.

Again, the Foster Grandparent Program of Vineland Developmental Center thanks Mr. Tom Fisher and Prudential Insurance Company of America for this wonderful donation.

Submitted by
Veronica Tenowich
Therapy Aide/FGP



CLIENT ACTIVITIES

THE SELF-ADVOCACY PROJECT

Submitted by Georgina Gaughran, ASWS

On April 22, 1988, an organizational meeting of the New Jersey Self-Advocacy Project was held in the Thorn Auditorium. Staff and clients from both campuses as well as the PAFA Group Homes attended. Also present were representatives from the office of Community Services/Southern Regional Office and the Bureau of Guardianship Services/Southern Regional Office. In all, there were 190 people in attendance - 120 clients and 70 staff and guest visitors.

Ms. Kate Blizzard gave an overview of the Project, which began in New Jersey several years ago with the deinstitutionalization of people from developmental centers. She then had a slide presentation based on the project. Several clients have expressed an interest in the Self-Advocacy Project and Ms. Blizzard has graciously offered to return to Vineland Developmental Center and work through our Client Council.

Refreshments followed the presentation and it appeared that both clients and staff enjoyed the opportunity to see old friends again. The Self-Advocacy Project meeting could not have been the success it was without the cooperation and assistance we received from all departments. A special "thank you" is extended to all who helped us in this endeavor.

NORTH COTTAGE NOTES

Submitted by Rosemary Peek, CTS/North

Saturday, May 21, 1988, marked our facility's 100th Birthday. To commemorate our centennial, an entire day of festivities had been planned.

North Cottage staff and clients were dressed in their Sunday finest and joined in the day's activities. Several clients were overheard commenting about the festivities, particularly the delicious foods and various entertainment.

Everyone enjoyed the day. HAPPY BIRTHDAY VDC from North Cottage!!!

CENTRAL RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Submitted by Retta Burch, Asst. Supervisor

Centennial Block Party..... "Land of the Lenapes", was the float planned and constructed by Central Recreation Department, to emphasize the existance of the local Indian heritage of the 1880s. Mrs. Pearl Davis and her sons, Curtis and Timothy, dressed in Indian garb, rode our float. Central Recreation Department assisted in coordinating the various activities and transporting clients to and from the lunch and entertainment areas, etc. The Dovells have expressed interest in returning to VDC for a fund raiser and entertainment for our clients.

New Jersey Special Olympics..... Area 8 Track and Field Meet was held on Saturday, May 7th at the Bridgeton Senior High School Stadium. Clients from both campuses competed in: 400 M Run, 100 M Dash, 100 M Walk, 50 M Run, Softball Throw, Standing Long Jump and 25 M Wheelchair Race. The 1988 Summer Games will be held Tuesday, June 28th thru Friday, July 1st, at Princeton University. Twelve clients from VDC will compete, eight in track and field events and four in team bowling. The Developmental Sports competition will be held Friday, June 10th, at West Campus, with 54 clients competing in: Turning Over, Three Meter Crawl, Ten Meter Wheelchair Race and Bean Bag Throw. Twenty clients competing on June 10th will travel to Princeton University for State competition in the 1988 Summer Games on Thrusday, June 30th.

Hand-In-Hand Festival..... This annual festival was held on Saturday, May 7th at Middlesex County College with 20 clients attending. Each client is greeted with an individual volunteer who takes the client to a wide variety of activities throughout the day.

Day-On-The-Bay..... Twenty clients traveled to Brigantine on Saturday, June 11th to enjoy lunch, a boat ride, and a special gift sponsored by the New Jersey Bell Telephone Pioneers.

Day-At-The-Seashore..... Clients will travel to Gillian's Wonderland Pier on Friday, July 1st to enjoy lunch and free rides sponsored by the Missionaries of Sacred Heart.

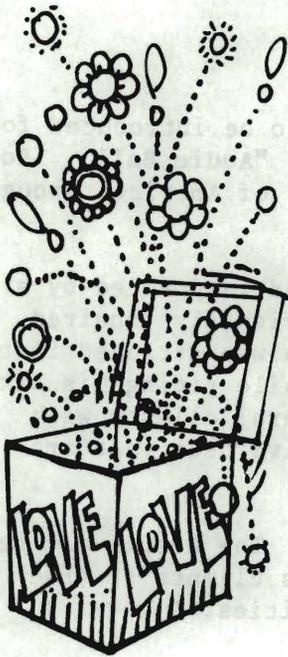
Summer Program..... The Central Recreation Department 1988 Summer Program is underway with: Cottage Chuck Wagon Picnics, Custard Treats, Evening and Weekend Bus Rides, Glide-A-Ride, Camp "Small Fawn", Swimming Pool, Coed Activities, etc. Please check your Summer Booklet for scheduled dates and times.

Buena Campground Day..... On Thursday, July 21st, clients will travel to Buena Campground for a day of relaxation, fun and food!

Capps Day Camp Day..... On Wednesday, September 21st, clients will travel to Capps Day Camp to enjoy a day of relaxation, fun and food!

Religious Services..... Services are held in the Auditorium every Sunday at 2:15 PM and at 6:30 PM the first Monday of each month in the Hospital.





REEVES COTTAGE ACTIVITIES

Submitted by Denise Branin and Cathy Shawlot

On April 22, 1988, a small group was taken to Trinity United Methodist Church in Millville, for a dinner theatre. A buffet style dinner was served and then entertainment was provided by The Covenant Players. This group performs skits and music worldwide. It was truly enlightening. A special thanks to the people at the Trinity Church for their help in making our evening enjoyable.

All of the Reeves Cottage clients attended the Centennial celebration on May 21st. The clients participated in many activities, but the highlight of the day was when several clients participated in the ceremony to bury the time capsule. With the help of the STPA, they helped cover the capsule which contained memorabilia from the past and present. It was later learned that our clients appeared on Channel 40 News the following day. This is certainly a day they will remember for a long time!

BASSETT COTTAGE NOTES

Submitted by Karin Possumato

Easter Season was celebrated at Bassett Cottage on March 29th. An egg decorating contest was held for all clients at VDC on that date and Bassett clients took first and fourth prizes in this contest. Frank Oswald, CTS, sponsored his annual Easter Egg Hunt for the Bassett clients. Everyone had a great time!

SYKES COTTAGE TID-BITS

Submitted by Karin Possumato

An Easter breakfast was celebrated in Sykes on April 5th. The clients were served scrambled eggs, sausage, toast and fruit cups, which was catered by the Brewster Villa Restaurant. The event was planned by Winsome McLeod, STPA. She was assisted by Edna Kelly, CTS; Regina Ellis, CTS; and Thelma Battle, CTS. Everyone in Bassett extends Congratulations to Regina Ellis, CTS for being selected as the VDC Outstanding Employee of the Month in April. This garnered her a special reserved parking space for all of May.

GILES COTTAGE HAPPENINGS

Submitted by Karin Possumato

On April 23rd, a party was held for clients who celebrated their birthdays during the months of March and April. A Chinese dinner and dessert cakes from Liss Bakery highlighted the occasion. Congratulations to the second shift staff for a job well done!



"IF YOU COULD SEE WHAT I HEAR"

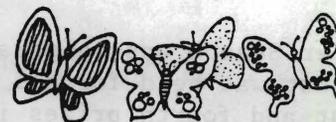
Submitted by Karin Possumato
Unit III

Charles Marder reports the two newest technical innovations to be introduced for use with clients in Unit III. They are the "Cricket" and the "Audie Ball". Both of these devices have been provided by the Telephone Pioneers of America through Mr. Skip Hendricks.

The "Cricket" looks like a ray gun made out of thick tubes and is powered by a nine volt battery. It emits a signal that allows blind and visually impaired persons to follow the beeping sound. It was invented by a man who attached it to the handlebars of his bike, allowing his son to follow him while riding his bike, using the beeping source as a guide. In Bassett Cottage several clients with sight handicaps are able to benefit from a variety of creative uses that are employed with the "Cricket".

The "Audie Ball" is a nerf ball with a beeper in the center. The beeper can be turned on and off by pressing the ball's center. This allows clients to track the ball while engaging in physical, cognitive, and social activities.

The Mental Health staff and nurses use the two devices in psycho-social zoning sessions to enhance their efforts in assisting clients.

**"SPRING IS HERE"**

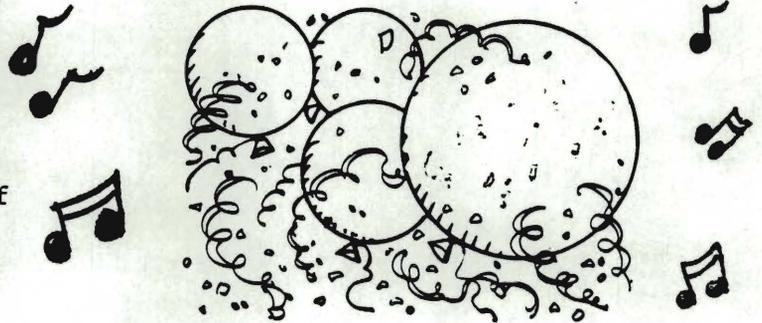
One of our Pond Cottage clients, Florence Rogozinski, would like to thank the Transportation Department for helping her get her bike back on the road. You've done another fine job and many special thanks!



Florence Rogozinski "BACK ON THE ROAD AGAIN"

POND COTTAGE NEWS**CENTENNIAL DANCE** (Submitted by Shirley Rose)

On Thursday, May 5th, Pond clients began their Centennial festivities by hosting a Centennial Dance. Guests were invited from West Cottage as well as the Training School and two of their Group Homes, Dorothy and Buena Vista. The Auditorium was decorated with colorful balloons floating through the air. Music was provided by Steve Tatz, which provided the clients and staff the opportunity to dance all night. The clients participated in a dance contest. A first, second, and third prize were given to the best dancers. For refreshments the clients were served a lovely decorated cake and plenty of soda. A special thanks goes to all the staff who worked so hard to make the dance such a great success!

**POND COTTAGE GARDEN** (Submitted by Kathy Poole)

This is the second year that Shirley Rose, Rec/STPA, has worked with several clients in creating a beautiful flower garden. The clients enjoy working to produce delicate and beautiful works of mother nature. Take a ride by Pond Cottage and enjoy the colorful array of flowers!

POND "PILOT" WORKSHOP PROGRAM BENEFITS ALL (Submitted by Carolyn Parks)

High rates of maladaptive behaviors, as well as the need for a restrictive environment creates many barriers to programming outside of the cottage setting for the majority of our clients in Pond Cottage. In October, with the support of the Vocational Department, these barriers were eliminated for a group of our clients with the acceptance of a Pond Cottage "Pilot Program" into the Work Activity Center.

Coordinated and supervised by cottage mental health and direct care staff, the program offered us the freedom of not only including clients from our least restrictive living areas, but also the most restrictive areas within our cottage. Attending daily, we struggled to keep up with the counting of each client's individual work and were soon amazed at their high rates of productivity in completing the various contract materials. We are also happy to recognize the absence of negative behavior while attending, while their energy is exerted on their new skills. We continue to report very few difficulties through the use of differential reinforcement techniques and teamwork of staff.

The fruits of our clients' labor have provided them with the opportunity to attend shopping trips, have special cottage luncheons in their honor, visits to the Canteen and the anticipation of future activities. We often debate over who enjoys the program more - our clients or us. This debate might be settled by listing the benefits and rewards received by both, comparing their value, etc. Then again, maybe we should just say...."it's special to all"!

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