

He's helping boys who fall into the cracks



CHEZZ COHEN

By SHIRLEE IDEN

Every society has some people, who because of severe emotional disturbances, fall through the cracks.

Israel is no different. Though a tiny country, it has its share of troubled boys.

Take Zohar for instance. Zohar is 14, the illegitimate son of a prostitute in Israel. His father is unknown; his mother doesn't acknowledge him and his numerous foster parents couldn't cope with his emotional problems.

Then there's Philip, a child of the middle class. Born in Venezuela, his mother now lives in Israel with her second husband, an American.

Unable to speak Hebrew or English, Philip began to express his frustration, not in words, but in aggressive behavior.

The schools could no longer manage him and the situation at home had become untenable.

Both boys have found help. Zohar and Philip are learning to cope with their troubles at the Bnai Brith Women's Children Home in Jerusalem.

Zohar has a home at last, and Philip, after two years in the home, will soon be ready to return to his mother and stepfather.

A firsthand report of the human side of what happens at that home was reported this week by director Chezz Cohen, who spoke at BBW's Special Gifts Luncheon and visited their Lathrup Village office.

COHEN, who has four children of his own, refers to the 70 boys at the home as "my boys."

He said they are treated in two installations, one a group home for 14 to 18 year-old adolescents, and the other the residential children's home for eight to 14 year-olds.

"The home has a school on the grounds and the boys live there and study there," he said. "In the group home, all the boys go out to work or school."

The boys come to the home when all other resources have been exhausted. They are from broken or displaced homes or from families with problems at the core.

They are boys who who express their inability to cope in society

through social acts or aggressive behavior.

"All the kids are referred by the government," Cohen said. "They have severe emotional disturbances but normal intelligence."

Began in 1943 to care for young victims of Nazi terror, the home is quite old "in Israeli terms," according to Cohen.

"It was started on the second floor of a two-story building and, from the beginning, times were tough. Then, the Bnai Brith Women took over and things changed."

They eventually bought land and moved into the present facilities. Each boy at the home receives individual treatment, a comprehensive therapeutic environment in a small family setting.

The staff numbers about 70, some part-time, in an almost a one-to-one relationship which Cohen considers necessary.

"WITH THE same facilities, we

could maybe serve more children, but these kids need intensive therapy," he said.

"We truly appreciate the understanding of the Bnai Brith Women of our situation, and how vital it is to maintain this as a relatively small facility."

Cohen said he has visited a number of cities in the U. S. and Canada on this tour, and found the BBW women very compassionate and interested.

"They don't just come to a luncheon and donate money and then ask to be let alone," she said. "They ask questions and want to be involved."

Proceeds from Thursday's luncheon were partially earmarked for the home, and many area BBW members contribute to its upkeep to mark deaths or happy occasions.

Born in Germany, Cohen came to Israel when he was six years old.

"It was 1930, and the last moment in terms of the Holocaust," he said.

A clinical psychologist and psy-

choanalyst, he has been at the boys' home for 21 years. He combines the tasks of therapist and administrator.

"Everything I do has an impact on what goes on here," he said. "Even if I buy a chair, it affects the children. I am in charge of the budget, but also the case conferences."

FOR COHEN, the home is a very special one, a last chance for a normal life for his boys.

"What makes it unique is that we get children who could not be handled elsewhere and we treat them for four or five years in most cases. We get very severe cases," he said.

"But about 65 per cent or maybe a little more really leave to lead a nor-

mal life. We have many examples of kids who were terribly disturbed at age eight or nine and have made good progress."

"They're not on the streets and not on welfare. That's a high rate of success according to the scientific literature."

Use of drugs is avoided. "We don't believe in them," he said.

"Drugs might calm a child's aggressiveness, but we wouldn't be able to build an independent personality."

It costs \$500 to keep each child in the Bnai Brith Children's home. Three-fourths of that support comes from the Bnai Brith Women's organizations in the U.S. and Canada.

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING October 23, 1978

The City Council of the City of Farmington Hills met in Regular Session on October 23, 1978. Mayor Dolan convened the meeting at 7:30 P.M. Council Members present were: Alkateb, Deacon, Jones, Oppenheimer, Smith, and Sorenson. Others present were: Acting City Manager Cairns, Deputy City Clerk Thomas, and City Attorney Dembo.

After Public Hearing, costs in amount of \$109,852 for Sanitary Sewer Improvements in Glenbrook Subdivision were unanimously approved.

Amendatory Ordinance #C2-168 to rezone property located on the west side of Halsted Road north of Grand River Avenue, from (RA-2) single family residential use to (LI-1) light industrial use was unanimously enacted.

Amendatory Ordinance #C2-169 to rezone property located on the south side of 12 Mile between Stansbury and Orchard Lake Road from (RA-2) single family residential use to (OS-1) office service use was unanimously enacted.

Amendatory Ordinance #C2-170 to rezone property located on the south side of 12 Mile between Stansbury and Orchard Lake Road from (RA-2) single family residential use to (OS-1) office service use was unanimously enacted.

Amendatory Ordinance #C2-171 to rezone lots 1, 2, and 3 of Supervisor's Plat of Forest Hills Subdivision from (B-2) Business Service District use to (OS-1) office service district use was introduced.

Amendatory Ordinance #C2-172 to rezone property located at 35091 and 35097 Orchard Lake Road, between 14 Mile and Ravine Street from (RA-1) single family residential use, to (RC-2) multiple family residential use, was unanimously enacted.

Amendatory Ordinance #C2-173 to rezone parcels at 35091 & 35097 Orchard Lake Road, between 14 Mile and Ravine Street from (RA-1) single family residential use to (RC-2) multiple family residential use was introduced.

Participation Agreement with Oakland County to make intersection improvements at 12 Mile & Middlebelt Roads the City's share being 50 percent or \$8,500 was unanimously approved.

Final Preliminary Plat for Farmington Green North Subdivision (188 lots) including escrow deposit in amount of \$100,000 was unanimously approved.

Final Preliminary Plat for Meadowbrook Park Subdivision #1 (79 lots) located south of Nine Mile Road, east of 12 Mile including escrow deposit in amount of \$68,000.52. Necessity Hearing date set for November 20, 1978 for Quail Hollow Road Improvement.

Traffic Control Order #7-78 (Oakland County) to install a traffic signal at Drake & 12 Mile Roads was unanimously approved.

Traffic Control Order #7-78 (Oakland County) to install a traffic signal at Farmington & 14 Mile Roads was unanimously approved.

Traffic Control Order #7-78 (Oakland County) to install a traffic signal at Inkster & 12 Mile Roads was unanimously approved.

Traffic Control Order #7-78 (Oakland County) to install a traffic signal at Halsted & 12 Mile Roads was unanimously approved.

Traffic Control Order #7-78 (Oakland County) to install a traffic signal at Haggerty & 12 Mile Roads was unanimously approved.

Traffic Control Order #7-78 (Oakland County) to install a traffic signal at Haggerty Road & Grand River Avenue was unanimously approved.

Traffic Control Order #7-78 (Oakland County) to install a traffic signal at Kendallwood & 12 Mile Roads was unanimously approved.

Traffic Control Order #2-C-20-78 (Michigan State Highway Department) to establish a stopping, standing, or parking at any time within the right-of-way of Grand River Avenue between intersecting centerlines of M-102 (8 Mile Road & Warner Street) was unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

Prepared by: FLOYD A. CAIRNS, City Clerk

Approved by: JAN DOLAN, Mayor

Publish: Nov. 12, 1978

CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS City Council Regular Meeting October 9, 1978

The City Council of the City of Farmington Hills met in Regular Session on October 9, 1978. Mayor Dolan convened the meeting at 7:30 P.M. Council Members present were: Alkateb, Deacon, Jones, Oppenheimer, Smith, and Sorenson. Others present were: Acting City Manager Cairns, City Attorney Dembo, and Assistant City Clerk Thomas.

After Public Hearing, necessary regarding Sanitary Sewer Improvements in Glenbrook Subdivision on Eastfield and Greening Streets from Bond to Ravine was established by a vote of 6 to 1. Mr. Alkateb opposed.

After Public Hearing, necessary regarding sanitary sewer improvements in Franklin Oaks Subdivision on Rock Ridge Road was unanimously approved.

After Public Hearing, necessary regarding sanitary sewer improvements in Supervisor's Middlebelt 10 Mile Road Plat on Stockton Avenue was established.

After Show Cause Hearing, a request to demolish dwellings at 21516 St. Francis, 21116, Ontario, 20811 Ontario, and 21024 Wheeler according to Section 20.100 of the City Code was unanimously approved.

After Public Hearing, consideration to demolish a dwelling at 21417 St. Francis according to Section 20.100 of the City Code was tabled until November 13, 1978.

Amendatory Ordinance No. C-25-78 to the City Code regarding swimming pool fences was unanimously enacted.

Presentation made by Daniel Tosch of Progressive Architects, the Housing Commission, and Building Authority of preliminary estimates and the architectural rendering of the City's proposed Drake-Freedom Road Senior Citizen Project, and Acting City Manager was directed to request the Board Council to draft the appropriate bonding documents.

Proposal from Governmental Affairs Consultant regarding the search to hire a City Manager was approved.

Farmington Area Jaycees request to use a building located at 34834 Grand River for their Hallway "Haunted House" project from October 20 through October 30 was unanimously approved.

Final Plat for Green Hill Woods Subdivision No. 2 (59 lots) located at 9 Mile and Halsted Road was unanimously approved.

Amendatory Ordinance No. C-22-78 to the City Code regarding establishing Special Assessment Districts benefiting parcels to be platted was postponed.

Council appointment of F. Baile, N. Carter, M. Bonland, G. Froehman, W. Saum, B. Schulz, G. Weis, D. Wolf, F. Ziegler, N. Oswald, and T. Sever to the Ad Hoc Committee re: Funding of Programs eliminated with termination of the Community Development Block Grant Program were unanimously confirmed.

School Property Control Code Enforcement Contract for Our Lady of Mercy High School request to enforce the School Property Code was unanimously approved.

Council appointments of Wiley Primmer to the Building Appeals Board, Norbert Burton, Margaret Bonland, Aldo Vagazzi to the Committee to Increase Voter Participation, and John Glick to the Farmington Area Arts Commission were unanimously confirmed.

Cost Hearing date set for October 23, 1978 for Sewer Improvements along 14 Mile Road.

Contract with J.M.S. and Associates to provide data processing services for a three year period effective from October 1, 1978 was unanimously approved.

Final Balance Appropriations to the Road Equipment Depreciation Fund in the amount of \$116,000, Self-Insurance Reserve in the amount of \$100,000, and Liability Claims and Settlements in the amount of \$50,000 were unanimously approved.

1978 Delinquent S.A.D. and tap-in fees in the amount of \$20,247.34 added to tax rolls was unanimously approved.

Low bid by G.M.C. Truck and Coach in the amount of \$5,412.05 to provide a 1979 1/2 ton pickup truck was unanimously accepted.

Low bid by Morton Salt Company to provide the City's annual salt supply for snow and ice control at \$12.56 per ton was unanimously accepted.

Low bid by E.C. Levy Company to provide the City's annual Sand-Chloride mixture for snow and ice control at \$6.16 per ton was unanimously accepted.

Motion to hold Executive Session after the October 16, 1978 City Council meeting to discuss pending litigation was unanimously approved.

Low bid by Marcell Construction Co. to construct the Drake-Freedom Road Fire Station was unanimously accepted.

Meeting adjourned at 1:34 A.M.

Prepared by: FLOYD A. CAIRNS, City Clerk

Approved by: A. JANETTE DOLAN, Mayor

Publish: November 13, 1978

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