

Special 'family' plans for holidays

(Continued from page 7A)

THE WOMEN have a lot of activities. "They love to shop, to eat at McDonald's and go to disco night at the MR Center in Pontiac. They have a better social life than I do," jokes another staffer.

All the women joined in planning the Thanksgiving menu. The traditional items such as turkey, stuffing, cranberries and pumpkin pie were listed. Then Phyllis grinned: "You forgot the wine."

Four of the women were transferred from the Plymouth Center for Human Development in Detroit, one from a foster home and one from Lapeer.

"Three were born with Downs syndrome (mongolism). The others are older so who knows the causes of their disability," says Mrs. Brayton.

Last April, several Green Lake Road neighbors protested the establishment of the home in their community. Township officials objected to the state deciding foster home locations without local input.

WHEN THE MOVE was publicized, Mrs. Brayton was threatened and the home was vandalized.

But before the women moved in, those incidents stopped. The township was allowed to make its own inspections of the facility and found no violations.

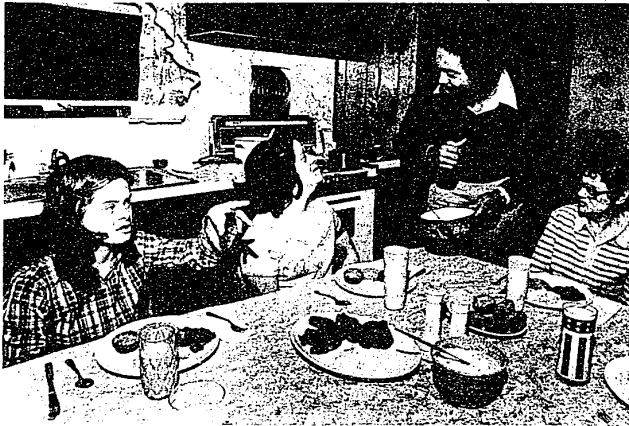
Mental health leaders blame fear and ignorance for the lack of understanding of retardation. Impairment is not insanity, they explain.

"Institutions have become dumping grounds for the retarded. They need to be integrated into a community, not put in mental health ghettos," says Jerry Leismer, director of community services development for the Michigan

Department of Health.
Two other foster homes have opened in West Bloomfield's northeast section without incident.

Some of the parents or guardians of those placed in families were fearful of the change because they had become used to the security of an institution, says Mrs. Brayton.

These fears dissolved when the parents saw how well the retarded adapt to and grow in a family atmosphere, explain administrators.



Diane (left), Emily and Phyllis (right) are served a dinner of corn, pork chops, mashed potatoes and biscuits by Butch Steward

(standing), who visits the home three or four times a week to help out. (Staff photos by Santa Fabio)

By Jewish Community Center

Israel program offered

The Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit in cooperation with the West Bloomfield School District is inviting 11th and 12th grade West Bloomfield students to apply to attend high school in Israel this summer.

Each year, the "High School in Israel Program" brings about 70 students from all over the United States for an eight-week live travel study program.

Two sessions are available starting Feb. 3 and April 20. Applications are due Dec. 15. Full credit for the pro-

gram will be granted by West Bloomfield Schools, arranged on an individual student basis.

The program calls for 300 hours of interdisciplinary study with the history of Israel at the core.

Applicants should be above average

in potential, independence and maturity.

For more information, contact Sandy Cogan at the Jewish Community Center, 661-1000, ext. 206. A limited number of tuition scholarships are available.

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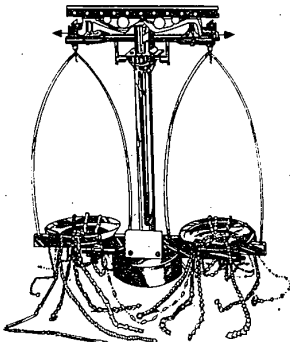
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***Holiday Children's Train now through December 31.
Santa arrives magically 11 a.m. November 17.
Meet FUBAR the robot November 23-25.***

'Tis the Season

Wow the Wizard makes Santa appear magically at Tel-Twelve Mall 11 a.m. November 17. Come sing your favorite holiday songs, played by the Southfield Lathrup High School Marching Band and march in the Santa parade to Santa's throne. Pictures available.

Holiday Children's Train now through December 31. The Tel-Twelve Train is back in operation for the 1979 season. Winding through a mythical medieval village, the ride is sure to delight children of all ages. The village, of Romanian design, is populated by a darling mouse community including knights on horseback, lords and ladies, kings and queens on thrones, a baker making hot cross buns, and a six-mouse carousel. Bring your children and your camera to the Tel-Twelve Holiday Children's Train now through December 31. Train operates during Mall hours.

FUBAR is coming. Man? Robot? Cosmic comedian? Come meet him at Tel-Twelve Mall November 23-25.

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