

Troubled boys get help

By SHERRY KAHAN

Tim has a tough time forming relationships. He hates to lose at games. When he's not playing well, he manages to create an argument that allows him to retire from the scene in a huff. Much of his life is filled with verbal and even physical confrontations. No wonder he is never elected Mr. Congeniality. One of the reasons Tim is having these emotional problems is that he



Gerald Levin is director of The Orchards, a Livonia residence that helps boys overcome problems in forming relationships. (Staff photo by Bill Bresler)

didn't form a good relationship with his mother, according to Birmingham psychologist Gerald Levin. He is executive director of the Orchards Children's Services in Livonia, which works with boys who have similar problems.

The facility, borrowing its name from the orchard behind its property, has been operating for 17 years in Livonia under sponsorship of the Greater Detroit Section of the National Council of Jewish Women.

Director Levin and his staff work their way through an assortment of problems, most of them having roots in early childhood. Levin explained that in Tim's case the boy's problems could have started with a mother alone too much, perhaps new to the area and without friends or family nearby.

Frustrated, she may scream and yell at her baby, and the youngster grows up very insecure in his relationship with Mom.

"Establishing a good relationship with mother, father and siblings is important to the child," said Levin, who earned his master's degree at the University of Michigan. "These become the building blocks of future relationships."

Without the confidence of strong home ties, the child forms a low self-concept. He builds up anger. When he goes to school and has to deal with a roomful of 25 children, the situation becomes worse.

Levin compares the psychological system these boys are caught up in to a rock covering a beautiful statue.

"We want to get rid of the ugly rock to reveal the warm caring human being inside," he said.

False expectations on the part of parents are also a good way to start a child off on the wrong foot.

"If the mother received little love as she was growing up, she will try to get

love from her baby, rather than give it," said Levin. "The baby doesn't give love at first, and the mother is disappointed. The situation leads to a poor relationship."

Fathers should be supportive of mother and child from the first, he said. They should understand the mother's crises and trauma, and spend time with their child.

BOYS AT ORCHARDS live there weekdays attending Livonia schools and return to homes throughout the area on weekends. Presently they number nine.

"The program could not operate as it does without the support of the Livonia schools," said Levin. "We don't believe in on-ground schools. All the kids here go to public schools. It is an integral part of the treatment. We want them to feel as normal as possible."

"They are not retarded. They are physically normal and academically talented."

"The fact that the schools have worked so closely with us for 17 years allowed us to be as effective as we are."

A staff of 12, including seven counselors, works with the nine residents. If the ratio seems high, it is, Levin thinks it's worth it. So does the National Council, which also maintains another facility offering psychological help, the Orchards Outpatient Clinic, 24600 Greenwood, Royal Oak.

"IF UNTREATED these kids will gravitate to kids like themselves," said Levin. "Instead of getting rewards for the positive things they do, they get into a subculture which rewards negative behavior."

That might involve joining gangs, becoming shoplifters and vandals or engaging in a variety of hostile acts.

"What we do here is create a therapeutic milieu," he said. "Everything that goes on is part of the daily treatment plan."

The Orchards prescription for recovery is to be with the child for more than an hour's quiet office visit. The staff sees the children when they play, eat, go bowling, swim and do their homework.

"WHEN WE SEE them at play we see what's wrong," said Levin. "We don't have to wait for a child to tell us he can't stand to lose at games or fail a test, and therefore creates a disturbance allowing him to get away from the situation."

The Orchards staff watches the pattern of behavior. They are there when Tim provokes a fight or takes something away from someone without feeling guilt or responsibility.

"We let him see he has a pattern of behavior he can change," said Levin. "He has to accept his pattern, and he does. Our staff is gentle in presenting it to the youngster in a non-adversary way. Kids don't resent talking about patterns. It's not put to them so they have to defend or deny them. We are sharing information."

"When the child sees the pattern, it is an uplifting experience for him. That's because previously he saw his life as a thousand problems that occurred randomly and over which he had no control."

LEVIN SAID children at Orchards tend to look at situations as if they were 2 years old instead of 10. "At 2, losing is frightening," he added. "The boy regards his parents as gods. When they reproach him he is afraid he might lose their love and something terrible will happen."

Orchards Children's Services can be reached at 474-7700.

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Ample Parking U.S.A. Minister No Steps

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GRAND RIVER FARMINGTON ROAD

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MORNING WORSHIP 11:00 a.m.
EVENING SERVICE 6:00 p.m.
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00 p.m.

Birth in the Hills
PRESBYTERIAN
13001 Longfellow Rd.
MINISTERS: James F. Anderson, Robert L. Lindsey
Worship Services and Church School Sundays 9:30 and 11:30 a.m.

ST PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
165 E. Bloomfield Road
Bloomfield Hills (2 1/2 Miles East of Woodward)
338-8233
9:45 a.m. - Church School
9:45 a.m. - Pastor's Class
11:00 a.m. - Worship
Nursery Provided
Dr. David Turan, Pastor

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
33112 Grand River
Farmington - 474-6573
Worship 10:00 AM
Church School 10:00 AM
Nursery Provided
Minister - Charles H. Bayton

FIRST UNITED METHODIST
1559 West Maple at Pleasant
Ministers: James W. Wright • G. Bryn Evans
Douglas W. Verpon • Harold E. Weernhoff
Services: 8:30, 9:30 & 11 A.M.
School: 9:30 & 11 A.M.
Nursery Care Provided
Church School Mon. thru Fri. 9:00 - 11:30 A.M.

FRANKLIN COMMUNITY CHURCH
"On the Village Green"
Services: 9:00 AM & 11:15 AM
Frank B. Cowick Minister

Detroit First Church of the Nazarene
30623 W. Twelve Mile
Farmington Hills, Michigan
Phone 477-2253

9:45 A.M. Christian Ed.
1:00 A.M. Worship Service
6:30 P.M. Praise & Worship
7:00 P.M. Family Night Worship
Nursery Facilities Available

FAITH COVENANT CHURCH
Durling Construction
Meeting at North Farmington High School,
1500 West Farmington Rd.
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Adult Study Groups
Sunday Worship Service 10:45 a.m.

Pastor Michael A. Halleen
Office 32910 W. 13 Mile Rd. 626-7140

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5631 North Adams Road
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WINTER SCHEDULE
8:15 AM Matins Service
Communion 3rd Sunday
9:30 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Morning Worship
Communion 1st Sunday
Fred W. MacLean, Pastor
Diane F. Schaefer, Pastor
MI 6-5041 MI 6-5124

WARD UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LIVONIA
Farmington Road 5, 1/2 Mile Road
Worship & Sunday School 8:30, 10:00 & 11:30 a.m.

"Contributing to the Poor"
Dr. Bartlett L. Hess
7:00 PM
"A Biblical Model for Leadership"
Rev. L. Edward Davis
Ordination and Installation of Elders & Deacons
Wednesday School of Christian Education
Family Dinner 6:00 p.m. Classes & Choirs 7:00 p.m.
Nursery Provided at All Services

FARMINGTON HILLS CHRISTIAN CENTER
Drake Road at Freedom
Phone 478-1551
Rev. Edmund Lothar, Pastor

SUNDAY
9:45 am - Sunday School
10:45 am Worship
7:00 pm Revival Rally
7:30 pm - Thursday
Mid-Week Service
Affiliated with the Assembly of God

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
Missouri Synod
12 Mile & Farmington's
Bellevue Crossings
The Rev. R.A. St. Pierre - Pastor
Sunday Worship 8:30 & 10:45 A.M.
Sunday School and Bible Class 9:30 A.M.
Church Phone 553-3380

The Congregational Church of Birmingham, U.C.C.
Woodward at Cranbrook
Bloomfield Hills
9:30 am - Family Day Worship
11:00 am - Worship & Church School
Nursery Care Both Hours
Ministers: Charles O. Erickson, Earl R. Eckart

Bloomfield Hills Christian Church
The Community House
300 South Bates, Birmingham
Sunday Service 8:30 AM
Sunday School 10:00 AM
11:00 A.M. Worship
6:00 P.M. Praise Service
Worship 7:15 P.M.
Bible Study
645-1202

First Baptist Church
Berg and Wilks, Birmingham, Mont
Robert S. McKeown, Minister
Nancy J. Armstrong Smith, Barbara Sinclair, Associate Minister
Church School 9:45 AM
Worship Service 11:00 AM

COVENANT BAPTIST
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11:00 A.M.: Gospel Song Fest
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Dr. William F. Kuecher, Pastor; Rev. Edward A. Libby, Assoc. Rev.; Judith A. Daniels, Minister of C.E.
5800 W. Maple Road & W. Bloomfield, MI 48063
1/2 Mile west of Orchard Lake Rd. • 655-9191

CLARENCEVILLE UNITED METHODIST
20300 Middlebelt, Livonia 474-3444
Pastor Gerald Felber

9 a.m. First Worship Service
10:15 a.m. The Church School
11:15 a.m. Second Service of Worship

6:30 p.m. Youth Meetings
7 a.m. Sunday Evening Service
7:30 p.m. Wed. The Midweek Service
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Rev. David W. Howell, Dir. of Christian Education
Dr. Harry Langford, Dir. of Music

Adult Bible Study 10 A.M.
Youth Fellowship 10 A.M.
Sunday School 11 A.M.
Morning Worship 11 A.M.

Ample Parking Nursery Care No Stairs Provided

The Orchard United Methodist Church
30418 Farmington Road
Mon.-Fri. 11:30-12:30
Morning Worship 9:30 am and 11:00 am
Church School & Nursery 9:30 am and 11:00 am
Special Program for Exceptional Youth & Young Adults 11:00 am
626-3300
Ministers: Robert L. S. Brown, James S. Thomas

EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
2425 Lerter Road
East N. of 9 Mile
Phone 357-8848
9:30 AM Church School
10:45 AM The Service
The Rev. L. Allen Erhardt

SALEM UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Oakland at Grand River, Farm
9:00 am Church School
10:15 am Divine Worship
Rev. James A. Nelson, Minister
Church Office 474-8859
Personals 474-2844

Ascension of Christ Lutheran Church
16335 W. 14 Mile
Birmingham
SUNDAY
Family Learning Hour 9:15 A.M.
Morning Worship 10:30 A.M.
644-8850

Christian Science Churches

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST BIRMINGHAM
191 Chester at Willits

SUNDAY SERVICES 10:30 A.M.
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 A.M.
WEDNESDAY TESTIMONY MEETING 8:00 P.M.

READING ROOM - 355 East Maple - 644-7935
Mon., Tue. 9:30-5:30 and 7-9; Wed., Sat. 9:30-5:30, Thur., Fri. 9:30-9

FIRST CHURCH OF CHRIST, SCIENTIST FRANKLIN-MEADOWLAKE
Maple at Inkster

SUNDAY SERVICES 10:30 A.M.
SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:30 A.M.
WEDNESDAY TESTIMONY MEETING 8:15 P.M.

READING ROOM - 4361 Orchard Lake Rd. - 851-7740
Mon., Tues., Wed., Sat. 10-5:30; Thur., Fri. 10-9

All are welcome at the above church services and Reading Rooms. Child care facilities provided Sunday and Wednesday.

All are invited to attend a free Christian Science Lecture entitled "Christ - The Light Shining in Darkness"
Lecturer: Robert W. Jeffery, C.S.
Monday, January 28 - 8:00 P.M.
First Church of Christ Scientist Franklin-Meadowlake, Maple at Inkster
Child Care Provided

NORTHBROOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
14 Mile and Lathrop Roads
Worship 9:30 & 11:00 am
Pastors M.L. Dunkelberger, E.W. Dunn
Phone 642-0200

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Farmington Hills
Lowell Anderson, Pastor
478-8520
Sunday - Worship, 10:45 AM
School, 9:15 AM - Nursery Provided

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ROSDEN HEIGHTS
(I-96 & 59 across from Wicks)
Lanae R. Jennings, Pastor
626-9236 475-5504

Adult Bible Study 10 A.M.
Youth Fellowship 10 A.M.
Sunday School 11 A.M.
Morning Worship 11 A.M.

Ample Parking Nursery Care No Stairs Provided

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East N. of 9 Mile
Phone 357-8848
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10:45 AM The Service
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