

GS Leaders Try New Idea

Girl Scout leaders in this area are participating in a new kind of leadership training. The course, which is being held at the First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth, is part of the new Design for Learning of the Huron Valley Girl Scout Council.

The Design for Learning, ending Dec. 2, is a plan for helping leaders teach themselves — to take responsibility, with guidance, for their own development as leaders. The design lets the people decide what they need to know and how they will go about learning it. The theory is that unless adult troop leaders know themselves — their strengths and weaknesses — they cannot be of real service to the girls in their troops.

The Design for Learning is built on a three-part process: self — diagnosis of strengths and needs, learning new things, and sharing what they have learned with other participants in the training course.

MRS. GEORGE ANDREWS, Plymouth Area Association Chairman, said the board of directors of the council voted last spring to adopt this new design for use in training all leaders. After intensive study and a one-year pilot use of the training design, they are convinced that it helps leaders gain a better understanding of today's youngsters.

"In this day and age," says Mrs. Andrews, "it's more important than ever for Scout leaders to understand how to help children learn to work together. They need to help girls learn to develop to their fullest potential. Our organization isn't concerned with teaching girls to sing songs or tie knots or make crafts; it's concerned with helping girls grow up and this is what our training is directed at now."

WHAT ARE the general fields of study for Girl Scout leaders? Almost anything is possible, according to Mrs. Andrews, but usually they choose individual girl behavior, group dynamics, personal values or troop management.

The trainees decide what they want to learn about and get together with others who have made the same choice. Then, with the guidance of the volunteer trainers, they decide how they are going to gain the desired knowledge. Trainers for the local course are Mrs. Walter Helmreich, Jr. and Mrs. Donald Cortright, both of Ann Arbor. What the trainees do might be as varied as accompanying a troop and its leaders on an outing, talking with a specialist in the field of child development, observing a classroom at a public school, doing library research or talking with girls.

WHEN THE TRAINEES feel they have gained insight and knowledge in their chosen field, they get together with the other trainees and share what they have learned.

"The day when Girl Scout leaders spent a lot of time learning to tie a square knot has long since past," says Mrs. Andrews. "Our main concern today is the child and what is happening to her."

New Adoption Agency Head Addresses COAC

Unique adoption policies of Spaulding for Children, an adoption agency, will be described by one of its representatives at the meeting of the Council of Adoptable Children at 8 p.m. Friday, Nov. 29, in the Church of the Good Shepherd, Ann Arbor.

The speaker will be Mrs. Kay Haar Donley.

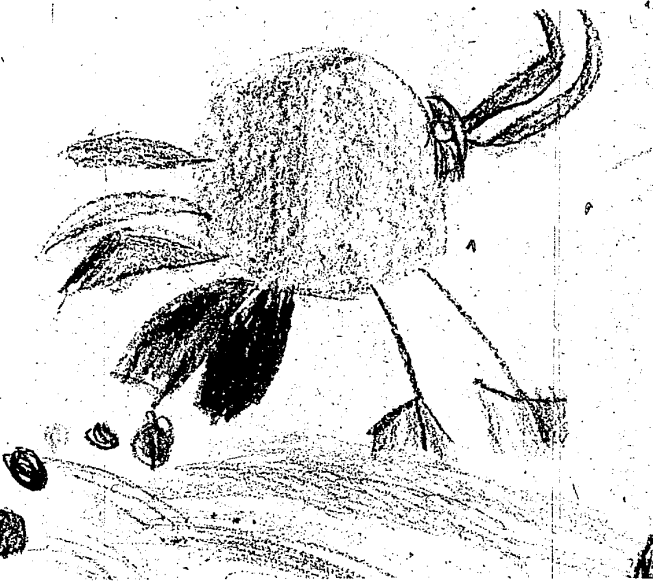
Spaulding for Children, in Chelsea, attempts to find homes for youngsters now under the care of other agencies and courts in Michigan who are not being placed in adoptive homes.

THIS ART SHOW IS SPECIAL — A Thanksgiving turkey crayoned by a 10-year-old Mongoloid is one of the art items that will be on a display in a Livonia Mall exhibit of work of the Plymouth State Home and Training School's mentally retarded children. It will feature water color, crayon drawings, mosaics, ceramics and

string collages. The school, one of Michigan's newest facilities for the retarded, has a bed capacity of 1,295 and includes special programs for the blind retarded and the physically handicapped requiring intensive habilitation work. The show opens tomorrow and will run through Nov. 30.

The Observer

Women



m. m. memos

I must recount the adventures of our faithful and much-traveled living room chair. It has been in the household, well, not quite as long as the children, but for enough time for us to feel a definite lack if it isn't around.

So when it developed a malady in its recliner innards, we felt concerned.

But it was the type recliner that we thought was guaranteed forever, so we confidently called the store where we made the purchase, to have it fixed.

The store's representative came out and agreed it needed fixing. He'd send a truck to pick it up.

The truck arrived and two men loaded it in. After due passage of time—three or four weeks, I think—the same two men brought it back.

We were glad to have our friend with us, but couldn't see that its reclining problems were much improved. Then, when we were trying to decide whether a complaint was in order, the store called one day and left a message that the guarantee had run out and we'd have to have the chair repaired.

The policy must have changed. Oh well, we didn't want to argue. We'd just use the chair until it fell apart, then replace it.

Then came another call. The store would send a truck in a few days to pick up the chair. And so it did—the same two delivery men, of course.

Again, in due time, they brought it back. This time we tried it out immediately, and agreed there was definite improvement.

But as the delivery men departed down the front walk, we heard one of them say:

"Wonder when we'll be back for that one. I'm getting kind of attached to it."

—Margaret Miller

Turkey Prices Expected Low

Wholesale turkey prices are up this fall, but consumers can still expect to find a good buy on a Thanksgiving bird this year.

While wholesale prices for a family-size hen turkey (10 to 14 pounds) will probably run three to four cents more per pound than in 1967, store prices will not necessarily follow wholesale prices, reports a Michigan State University agricultural economist.

Dr. Henry Larzelere, who is also a member of the Poultry Survey Committee, explains

that stores usually offer turkeys as promotional or sale items just prior to Thanksgiving to build holiday trade for the store's overall business. Larzelere also said there is no turkey shortage.

Johnsons Visit

Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Johnson, 35115 Grove Drive, Livonia, visited the Western College campus for the annual parents' day festivities, Nov. 9. Their son, Douglas, is a freshman at the college.

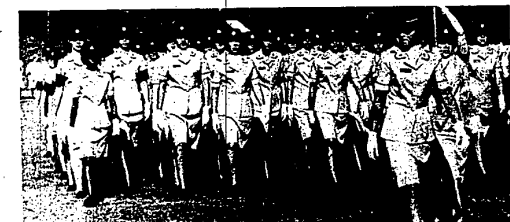
Wayne AAUW To Hear Talk By June Sears

Mrs. June Sears, family living specialist, with the Michigan State University extension service, will speak to the Wayne Branch of the American Association of University Women at 8 p.m., on Monday, Nov. 25, at the Holy Cross Lutheran Church, 1119 North Newburgh Road, Westland.

Mrs. Sears will discuss the various aspects and effects of welfare and other assistance programs for low-income families.

She received a Superior Service Award this year from the U.S. Department of Agriculture for her work with low-income families.

Any woman who holds a bachelor's or higher degree from a qualified college or university is eligible for membership in AAUW. Those interested may call 728-1229.



MICHIGAN WACS — This is the all-Michigan company of the Women's Army Corps that was sworn into service before a baseball game in Tiger Stadium last June 29. These women, 70-strong, just graduated from basic training at Fort McClelland, Ala. They now are continuing training for a variety of assignments in medical, communications, secretarial and other fields, in posts all over the country.



SALE FOR PARTY — Kathy Prebick (left), and Sandra Jarkowski, both of Redford Township, look over some of the items they'll sell Saturday to raise money for a Christmas treat for underprivileged youngsters. (Observer photo)

Carpet

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