

Cathe

Continued from Page 1C

the mothers and children and occasionally arranging bus jaunts for the mothers. In the new set-up, the Salvation Army provided space and clean-up equipment, too.

So, in the pleasant SA playroom and under Cathe Walker's guidance grew what Mrs. Abell called "a return to the neighborhood." It now is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 to 11:30 a.m. and Wednesdays from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m.

"We didn't want to be a structured co-op," Cathe explained. "No one was to be made to feel she must help. We want a place where people care for people and give help where it's needed."

Most of the mothers do help run the center, its leaders said. Nina Goodman, a social work student from Eastern Michigan University, comes twice a week to help.

"We're sort of feeling our

way," Cathe said. "There isn't any other center just like this, and we have to experiment in its operation."

WITH THE CENTER running well, Mrs. Walker was ready for two other major changes in her life.

She qualified for one of the Federal Housing Administration loans available to low-income families, and recently moved her brood from the downtown Plymouth apartment to a brand-new home in Westland.

"I was lucky and got a good contractor, and it's just beautiful," she said.

AND FAMILY SERVICE decided she was a staff member who needed more professional training, so Cathe now is enrolled in Wayne State University's Child Care Center program, set up with federal funds to provide more and better day care centers.

Carrying four credit hours at a time, and with babysitting costs covered by a grant from the Plymouth Jaycettes, she hopes to earn a degree in 2½ to three years.

And that gets back to her dreams for the future.

"I'd like to have my own drop-in center," she said. "What I'd really like is a big building with separate parts—a drop-in center, a day care center, a nursery school, a place for mothers.

"We can meet so many needs of mothers and children in one building. I think such a program should be federally funded, and I want to be one of the people trained to run it."

Meanwhile, she concentrates on making a few needed improvements for Plymouth's successful center—things like fencing and outdoor play equipment to use when the weather warms up—and on spreading the word so more mothers and children may know its benefits.

With Cathe Walker's record for getting things done, that shouldn't be hard.

Schoolcraft

Continued from Page 1C

some action. A day-care center at Schoolcraft and a spring session with Mrs. Isabelle S. Streidl of the U.S. Department of Labor were included in the schedule.

Far more can be done to make Schoolcraft more responsive to women's needs, said Miss Geil.

There's the matter of career counseling.

"The last couple of years," she said, "have seen the shift from teaching, for so long the one big field for women, to concentrating on health fields, and those too may close soon."

"There are women in this area in less traditionally feminine fields—engineering, veterinary science,

chemistry. We want to draw on them as resource people."

Then there's more research into what fields have the best employment outlook, bearing in mind the fact that "suburban women don't want to travel great distances for employment," Miss Geil added.

A lot can also be done, she added, in setting up times for courses women want to take, so they could, for example, spend one day a week at Schoolcraft instead of an hour a day and thus need a baby-sitter only once.

"We're even thinking in terms of once-a-month weekend courses," she said. "That would require a lot of independent study, but any woman who has been running a household for a number of years has to have some organization."



FOUR GENERATIONS were on hand as Mr. and Mrs. Wilford Bidwell of Farmington celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary Feb. 21. The Bidwells, who have lived in this area for 40 years, are shown seated here, and Mrs. Bidwell is holding their great-grandson, Steven Edward Buchanan. Behind them are their granddaughter, Mrs. Arthur Buchanan, left, and their daughter, Mrs. Albert Washburn. The Bidwells have nine children and 25 grandchildren, and Steven is their first great-grandchild.

Malnutrition Damage Can Be 'Irreversible'

Although the effects of later malnutrition are also serious, Dr. Herbert Birch of Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York City believes that the most terrifying and permanent damages of malnourishment occur during that period of human life from conception to age two.

One of the most challenging experts to speak at the annual Merrill-Palmer Infant Conference, Dr. Birch addressed a capacity crowd at the conference banquet held in the Founders Room of the Engineering Society.

FETUSES IN THE womb of a mother who is malnourished during the first seven months of pregnancy, he said, often are born below normal mentally and physically. Because the brain reaches its full size by the seventh month of intrauterine growth, these fetuses can experience what he called "permanent alterations in brain organization and structure" which may be irreversible. Malnutrition at this prenatal time interferes with cell number, cell division, and cell multiplication.

Even the most creative and stimulating later environment cannot totally reverse the physical impairment caused by malnutrition in these early months.

Another problem according to Dr. Birch, arises between the ages of seven months to two years when the supportive network of the infant's brain is developing. Malnourishment during this time causes serious disorganization of cells in this network and consequent permanent impairments.

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Farsettis Will Celebrate 50th Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Farsetti will be honored at a 50th wedding anniversary party in Roma Hall early in March.

They were married Feb. 27, 1922, in Detroit, and lived there for 47 years until moving to Livonia three years ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Farsetti have nine children, John Farsetti of Commerce, Ann Duvall of Detroit, Rose Camponella of Florida, Pete Farsetti of Livonia, Marie Fossano of Detroit, Margie Leitz of Westland, Joe Farsetti of Wayne, Dolores Farsetti of Livonia and Sonny Farsetti of Plymouth.

They have 18 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

Wayne School Plans Reunion

The reunion committee of the 1962 graduating class of St. Mary's High School, Wayne, is attempting to locate the following members for a reunion to be held in the fall of 1972: Sandra Claborn, Clarice Hester, Raymond Lantis, Tim McGee, Keenan Miller and Tom Quinn.

Anyone having information about these individuals is asked to contact Ed Bishop, 636 Deatrice, Westland, or Jim Gzalek, 1245 Sharon, Westland.

4th Daughter

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew McKinnon of Kinloch Avenue, Redford Township, announce the birth of their fourth daughter, Kristine Marie. She was born Feb. 8 in St. Mary Hospital. Her mother is the former Kathleen Henkenius.

Club Has Sale

The Moms' and Dads' Club of St. Mary's Preparatory School, Orchard Lake, is holding a rummage sale continuing through March 11. The sale is being held from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday, at 4771 Michigan Avenue, Detroit.

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