

Boy Scout Court of Honor Awards March 7
 Boy Scout Troop 758 will hold a Court of Honor on Monday, March 7 at 7:30 p.m., at Newburg Methodist Church, 36500 Ann Arbor Trail at Levan Road. Eagle Scout awards will be presented to Larry Desmond and Jim Reckitt—the first Eagle awards for this troop. Friends and former troop members are invited to attend.

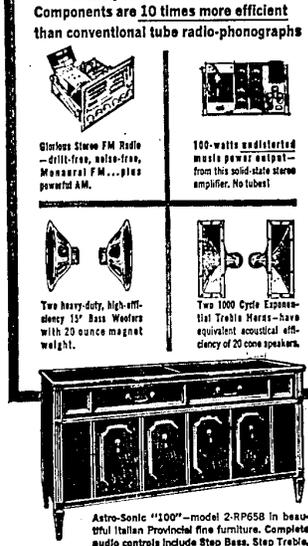
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The Distaff Point of View
Jerry Wendt
Woman's Editor

A helpless child alone in a darkened room with bars on the window, forsaken, frightened, doomed to live forever in the world of the forgotten. This formerly heart-breaking picture has now been changed to one of hope by the Special Education program in our schools. Formerly children who had congenital, crippling defects of mind and body were kept out of sight in an institution, and had little or no chance of living a normal life.

The Observer visited these Special Education classes where many children and adolescents are now being helped to live normal, useful lives. These classes are under the direction of Jack Salvatore, administrative assistant to Supt. Merlin D. Roe, of the South Redford Board of Education. Sometimes a man's whole life seems to bring him to a special destiny, and that seems to be the point in this case. Jack Salvatore spent 10 years in social welfare work for the Detroit Board of Education. He learned first hand knowledge of children and their problems. He brought a forthright approach to the problem of these children. Determining not to dwell on their defects, he encouraged them to use whatever talents and abilities they had in the normal world.

A visit to the Orthopedic class of pre-schoolers in the Horace Mann Schools shows the youngsters busy at their therapy under the direction of Judy Blue. A teacher, Mrs. Carol Chapman, helps them with pre-school lessons. They are learning to walk and play. Sally Blue does not have the use of her arms or legs has drawn pictures of such worth that the teacher has them mounted in a book. The Observer was much impressed with their neatness. (see pictures).

A visit to the Marshall Junior High brought us into the classroom with students who have unusual learning problems. All the children have only one basic characteristic in common; they have difficulty in remembering academic material. Each child is an individual case. Lack of learning does not mean that they are not gifted in other lines. Brad Brzezinski has made a mural of the Mackinac Bridge. The picture is truly remarkable in its mathematical accuracy. Mark Harris is the teacher for this particular class.

There are also classes in speech correction, emotional disturbances and others. Jack Salvatore is keenly interested in this program. He feels that these children can with proper guidance find their way into useful lives. While in Junior High School, jobs are found for these children and they begin to take the first steps. The long range hope for this program is to develop a realistic picture of life for THAT particular child.

He points out that the state now takes care of these children under their education program instead of putting the burden on the parents as they did formerly. Oddly enough Jack feels that the present funds are adequate, does not plan on asking tax-payers for more contributions.

He hand picks his teachers. The Observer asked him, "What is the one quality you demand in your teacher, above all others?" "Compassion," he answered at once. "It is important that there be a real understanding between pupil and teacher. This is important so that the pupils will accept their teachings."

How well he has succeeded in his program was illustrated by the remark one little boy made when he looked at the picture of the students in the orthopedic classes. His face lit up with the sweetest smile as he said, "Why, you've got them the whole family in the picture."

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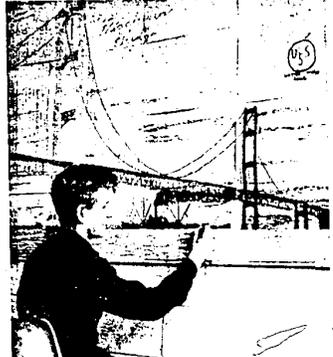
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ORTHOPEDIC CLASS AT Horace Mann School takes a few moments off and lines up some of its members for the camera. Shown (front, left to right) are pre-schoolers Kurt Huzger, Sally Lelci, Debbie Smyka, and David Price. Back row: Pearl Abney, Mrs. Carol Chapman, Jack Salvatore, and Judith Blue.



BRAD BRZEZINSKI, student in the Special Education Class at Marshall Junior High is an artist of no mean note. This remarkable mural is of the Mackinac Bridge. Brad drew in free-hand with no picture to guide him. Note the detail on the cables.

Cub Scout Banquet To Be Feb. 24
 Pack 1733 sponsored by Cady School P.T.A. will hold its annual blue and gold banquet at 6:30 Feb. 24, in the Wayne Ford Civic League Hall, to celebrate the 56th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America. Special feature of the program is the Weishenong Indian dancers of Ann Arbor. Rev. Kaufman of Holy Cross Church will give the invocation and the guest will be Alfred McConnell, the neighborhood commissioner for the cub scouts. Mr. and Mrs. Paul Bandy, ex-cub master; Mr. and Mrs. Roseman, president of the Cady P.T.A. who is sponsor of the pack, and the institutional representative Mr. Wright, Judson Carter, scoutmaster will be master of ceremonies. There will be a chicken dinner and awards will be given out.

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