

The Farmington Enterprise

FARMINGTON, MICHIGAN

January 22, 1967

SECTION B

New Horizons Workshop Opens In Area Barn

New Horizons has added just that to the Farmington scene.

Located at 35100 Grand River in the large barn at the rear of the YMCA building, New Horizons, dedicated to the rehabilitation of mentally retarded young adults, began its local operation Jan. 16 with 14 young workers.

There is lots of room for expansion in the renovated barn, and already there is a waiting list of would-be employees. All that's needed are a few more jobs for them to do. THIS is where the community can participate.

Executive Director Dale Smith, former teacher-vocational co-ordinator for the mentally handicapped at North Farmington High School, invited civic-minded individuals, groups, and industries to provide on-going occupations for his willing workers.

At present, while they are at work assembling furniture and getting their workshop in order, the young trainees are also putting together chain for Rapistan Keystone and salvaging fuse boxes for Holmco Plastics of Walled Lake.

One young man, who struggled for a year and a half to master the chain assembly job at the Royal Oak branch of New Horizons, is now one of the most competent on the job. Charts are kept on each worker to assess daily progress.

The same young man is making heartening social progress as well. He no longer works in silence but is willing to speak to those around him, staff members as well as his peers.

STAFF MEMBERS are grateful for what has already been done for them at the new location — especially to Norman Lawton of the Star Cutter plant for making the headquarters available to them for a nominal lease and for fixing it in a cheerful style.

Lawton who is the owner of the property, has thoroughly renovated the building.

The operation is also grateful to Michigan Tractor Co. of Novi and Warren Fastner of Mt. Clemens for donations of office equipment, to Aero-Detroit for small tools, to G.M. Truck and Coach of Pontiac for tables, and to Chesley Industries for handcarfts.

Reporting to J. Lyle Winslow, president of New Horizons, are four local board members. They are: Norman Burres, Robert Chesley, Russ Gilbert and Ed Langtry. Israel Hochberg is vocational counselor and Mrs. Ellen Lanski is their social worker.

The group has also received pledges of assistance from the Jaycees and their auxiliary, the Association of Handicapped Children, the YMCA Guys and Dolls group and the Excalibur Club of Detroit.

As the program picks up steam, many more organizations may want to be added to this roster.

ONE OF the greatest needs, according to Director Smith, aside from plumping out their \$30,000 annual budget, is "one stabilized product" to sustain them—something they can depend upon

regardless of fluctuations in the economy.

New Horizons can effectively handle many types of jobs — packaging, simple assembly, salvaging, mailings, collating, accounting and sorting. As their brochure puts it, they can eliminate those "nonsense jobs" to be found around most business premises.

The youngest trainee at the Farmington workshop is 16, the minimum age to be eligible, and the oldest is 29. One member of the group has been transferred here from the Lapeer State Home, the others have heretofore just been confined to their own homes, doing not much of anything.

Administrative assistant to Smith is Keith Poulson. Ken Neal is shop assistant, Gilbert Fleming and Gladys Sherrill, supervisors.

Hours for the workshop are from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 25 to 30 workers can be accommodated in the barn's interior. No fee is charged to the families of the participating young people, and Smith hopes that it will never be necessary.

One of the most encouraging comments, he remarked, came from a parents' meeting where one of the parents gratefully said that it was the first organization which tried to help without having a hand in their pockets at the same time.

For more information, or for contacting this group regarding work that might be available to them, the number to call is 476-8910.



HERE GREG ASSEMAN is being instructed by administrator Keith Poulson in how to assemble conveyor chain for

Rapistan Keystone, one of the local companies which supplies the New Horizons group with jobs.



Johnny's Lunch Costs Tabulated Item by Item

As we mentioned in last week's news, the price of school lunches will increase 5 cents in the Farmington schools, beginning Jan. 30. Elementary will be 35 cents and junior and senior high will be 40 cents.

How much does it cost you to pack a lunch for Johnny? A recent survey in our local super markets shows the following figures for a lunch consisting of one or two bologna sandwiches, 1 cupcake and an orange:

2 slices bread	29 loaf	.029
1 slice bologna	79 lb.	.05
1 cupcake, purchased		.018
1 orange	59 dz.	.05
1 1/2 ft. Wax Paper		.003
1 lunch bag		.005
1 pt. milk, at school		.02
		.233
2nd sandwich		.055
		.328

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WALT DELINSKI assembles a chair for the New Horizons workshop. Most of the equipment for the newly opened facility has been donated by local merchants and organizations.

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