

Fuel shortage may hit recycling center

By MARGARET MILLER

The enormously successful Redford Township recycling center could fall victim to the fuel shortage.

"Our costs are up," said Mrs. Betty Shaw of Redford Township, director of the center, that has been operating at 12200 Beech-Daly, south of Schoolcraft, for more than 2½ years.

"The commercial haulers who pick up our glass and take it to Charlotte, Mich., for recycling want to put collections on a different basis that isn't as expensive."

"Also, they use diesel fuel and there is the possibility that they may not be able to get enough to continue the collections at all."

Mrs. Shaw said the center's executive board would look at the whole picture when it meets Thursday evening.

"We'll have to decide whether we can continue our complete recycling service for glass, metal and paper," she said. "If it turns out that we have to give up part of the service, we hope to continue at least the paper collections."

The center, open weekends only and manned by volunteer adults and high school

students, has been used regularly by residents of surrounding communities as well as Redford Township.

During its years of operation it has cleared \$16,000, Mrs. Shaw said.

"The profits have been used for beautification projects in Redford Township," said the director, who estimates that ¾ to ¾ of the people who used the center are Redford residents.

"We've tried to gear a lot of our projects to the kids, because we feel we're holding the money in trust for them," she said. "They have given so much help, and we can't pay them directly, so we have tried to make gifts to the community in which they have a special benefit."

This month, Mrs. Shaw said, members of the Thurston High School band are manning the center and in February Redford Union's band will take over. Both are raising funds for travel to musical competitions, and they will receive the profits of the month's collections directly.

"It's the first time we've done it that way," Mrs. Shaw said. "But in the past we've planted trees on school grounds and given ecology materials to school libraries."

Recycling center proceeds also provided \$3,000 to begin a new civic park just north of the township hall and have financed landscaping work around the town hall and the community's new ice skating rink, also on Beech-Daly south of Schoolcraft.

"We also give things away at the center," Mrs. Shaw said. "Several times it has been seedling trees for bags of bottles or cans or bundles of papers, and recently to celebrate our 2½-year birthday we gave out tulip bulbs."

Profits have come by selling used glass to the Owen Illinois Glass Co. in Charlotte, old newspapers to the Fishman Paper Salvage Co. in Detroit and steel cans to Great Lakes Steel through a pilot program in which the metal is reused.

The operation cost problems are coming, Mrs. Shaw said, because Contractor Container, an Ann Arbor firm that has done the glass hauling, has raised its price for hauling a load of eight or nine tons of glass from the \$30 charged at first to \$85 and now, as the new year begins, to \$92.

"We are paid \$20 a ton for glass and we get eight or nine tons into a load," Mrs. Shaw said. "We could get more by crushing the glass,



but we feel that's rather dangerous.

"And in addition to the increased cost per load, the company has asked us to try to have two loads ready for each trip. That means renting another big bin, since we take in clear and colored glass at different rates."

Looking at the priorities of recycling, Mrs. Shaw said collection of newsprint seems the most important, since nearly all that comes in can be reused.

"Our center has collected around 900 tons of newspapers," the director said. "Environmentalists figure each ton of recycled paper can save about 17 trees."

That, she said, is why the center definitely wants to keep the paper collection even if high costs and diesel

fuel shortage cuts out glass collection.

"We also feel that the more cans are recycled the better it will be," Mrs. Shaw said. Up to now the center has sent about 150 tons of steel to Great Lakes Steel's program, which has placed containers in five recycling centers in southeastern Michigan.

"Ours is the only center with a large enough volume for two containers," Mrs. Shaw said.

Although the Redford center has collected some 900 tons of glass since its inception, project leaders feel that outlawing no-return bottles would be a better, solution to the problem.

"The state of Oregon now has had a law against one-way bottles and cans for beverages in effect for more than a year," Mrs. Shaw said.

"And the dire predictions that it would mean unemployment and higher prices and irate customers just have not materialized in roadside litter."

Such a law, she said, has to be on a state-wide basis at least, and to be really effective it should be made national.

No recent effort has been made for such a law in Michigan, but State Sen. Carl D. Pursell (R-Plymouth) has introduced a comprehensive bill to reduce solid wastes through creation of a state authority.



THIS SCENE may see some changes if fuel shortages force curtailment of activities at the Redford Township Recycling Center, Beech-Daly south of Schoolcraft. Working at the center last Friday were, from left, John Morris, Greg Kangas and Larry Janick, Pierce Junior High School students. (Observer photo by Maurie Walker)

Pursell said Senate Bill 946, which recently was endorsed by Gov. William Milliken, would in part "do what the Redford recycling center has been doing, but on a much larger scale."

The authority it would set

up would be empowered to plan, construct, finance and operate solid waste collection, disposal, volume reduction and resources recovery facilities considered necessary for local and regional solid waste management plans, Pursell said.

"I'm making passage of this bill my top priority for 1974," he added.

The Redford recycling center's operating hours are 3 to 5 p.m. Fridays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays and 2 to 5 p.m. Sundays.

Hallet next town hall guest

Jean-Pierre Hallet, said to know Africa as well as any white man alive, will be the third lecturer in the Livonia Town Hall 1973-74 series, appearing Wednesday, Jan. 16.

He will speak at 10:30 a.m. in the Terrace Theater, 30400 Plymouth Road, Livonia, and later at a celebrity luncheon in the Mayflower Meeting House in Plymouth.

Lecture tickets for his talk and the one by television personality Virginia Graham March 20 may be purchased for \$5 at the theater next

Wednesday. Luncheon reservations must be made by Jan. 11 by calling the telephone number listed on the back of season tickets.

In his years in Africa, Hallet has been explorer, sociologist, naturalist, linguist, artist, collector, animal trainer and writer. His international best-sellers are "Congo Kitabu," "Animal Kitabu" and "Pygmy Kitabu." Kitabu means book or diary in Swahili.

He began his service in Africa under the Belgian colo-

nial government in 1948 and was given the Royal Order of the Lion from Belgium's King Baudouin.

Later, after the Congo's independence was won in 1960, he moved his 13-ton collection of African artifacts from the Congo to the University of California and now plans to establish in southern California a Congoland, U.S.A., which will be devoted to conservation and display of African wildlife, villages and culture.



JEAN-PIERRE HALLET

The bazaar--does it build the treasury or the ego?

By LORRAINE MCCLISH

There were as many, if not more, holiday bazaars in Oberlin during the 1973 season than ever before. All of the Oberlin community calendars and bulletin board columns were filled with dates and places for bazaar shoppers from the end of October to mid-December.

But the end result of those bazaars—the money and that feeds numerous charities every year with home made and craft items—left many of us wondering if we aren't seeing the end of bazaars as we once knew them.

We saw women, at the end of one bazaar day, packing up roughly three-fourths of the crafts they had brought to sell to bring back home.

And we saw saleswomen at

one booth buying crafts from women at another booth.

And we saw mark downs galore, before the mid-way point of the sale hours had been passed.

But most obvious of all was that we saw many "shoppers" who were not shoppers at all but had only dropped in to get ideas for things they could create themselves.

We are aware that crafts are the "in" thing. You can hardly go into a shopping mall without bumping into booths and easels filled with hand made works. Neighbors are inviting neighbors into their basements for sessions with the potters wheel or the kiln. The adult education handicraft classes are the first to be filled. The fashionable thing for the fashionable

stores to do these days is hold make-it workshops for everything from Christmas decorations to avant-garde bookbinding.

Wilma Halliburton, of Plymouth, who is a veteran worker in bazaar booths, says the trend coming, and is now one of six women running a craft store in her town.

She said, "We have a year-round bazaar here. A lot of the pleasure in putting on a bazaar is having the chance to show off your work. People are getting so if they are interested in craft work, they make the round of the bazaars."

"Some are shopping for bargains, but often they are shopping for ideas. Bazaars have taken on a carnyvan quality. They don't seem to

attract just church members any more."

Another group that took advantage of the craft bazaar is the Junior Women's Club of Western Wayne County. For several years they have sponsored a workshop for making pine cone wreaths. They furnish the materials and you pay to do the work. It is bigger every year with net proceeds amounting to \$2,300 for the 1973 season.

We found club women who told us they had had successful bazaars but many voiced the sentiments of one Southfield woman who said, "Oh those women worked so hard I hate to tell you our bazaar was a bust. We made money, but not on the crafts."

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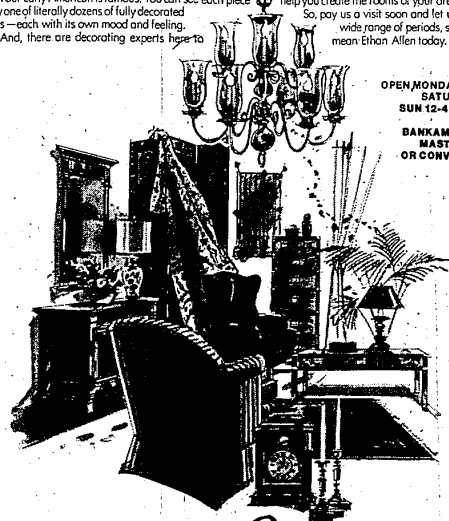
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