



NANCY GREEN



MARIE KLINKERFUSS



ELIZABETH TAYLOR

Exploring medicine as a possible career

By LORRAINE McCLISH

High school students who are contemplating a career in medicine keep finding choices harder and harder to come by because the field keeps expanding constantly.

High school counselors are hard put to keep up with the changes and expansions, and academic requirements keep fluctuating.

An answer to this for students in West Bloomfield and Farmington has come through the Holy Spirit Lutheran Church, now sponsoring an Explorer Post in cooperation with the Scouts.

The post is co-ed - this aspect of Explorers came into being about five years ago - and the word "explorer" is taken very literally. The post created here a few months ago was developed for teens who want to explore the field of medicine.

MEMBERS DO THIS, how and as they can, with the help of an adviser, Ray Urruh; a three-women committee made up of Elizabeth Taylor, Nancy Green and Marie Klinkerfuss, plus their own elected officers.

About 20 area teens have taken advantage of the group's offerings, though attendance from month to month varies, as some bring friends, and others don't find the agenda for the next program all that interesting.

Field trips and bringing in speakers comprise the bulk of the group's goings-on. This programming is in the

hands of the three-member committee, all members of the church, who volunteered to take on the job because of their interest in either Scouts or medicine.

In a short conversation, the three rattled off such terms as "scrub nurse," "engineers who design vans for the handicapped," "physio-therapist," "emergency squad," "radiologist."

"YOU SEE HOW far-fung this can get. You see how many options there are," said Mrs. Klinkerfuss.

"Now where do you go to apply, how do you apply? Even for starters, how do you know to plan for a two-, three- or four-year course?"

The three said they have known students to spend years in school before they realized that they were taking courses which were not applicable to what they wanted to do.

By spending a few months exploring the field, Ms. Green believes, you can get "the most-out of what you put your money into."

"And you better know what's in store for you," she said, referring to some of the fantasies one can create by not knowing any more about the field than can be gathered by watching Ben Casey or Marcus Welby.

"Our kids are pretty protected out here," Ms. Taylor said. "I'd like to get them down to Receiving (Hospital) because the difference between Receiving and Beaumont is like night and day."

"I'D LIKE TO HAVE them see some babies who are born heroin addicts."

"I wonder how many of them can imagine themselves giving mouth to mouth resuscitation to a drunk drying out in the Salvation Army's Harbor Light Center."

The closest the group has come to this sort of reality is when they questioned a visiting doctor whose job was treating, for the most part, terminal cancer patients.

The group is chartered through the end of the year, and the committee is pleased with what has gone on so far. The participants have surprised their elders with the penetrating questions they've asked and by revealing they knew a lot more than expected.

"AND IF you know anything about body language at all, you can tell how intent they are when a speaker is here," Mrs. Klinkerfuss said.

Another bonus for the committee came when, during a visiting tour through the Detroit Medical Center, several of the Explorers asked how to become a volunteer there for the summer.

Membership to Explorer Post #223 is open. Meetings are held at the church, 4800 Orchard Lake, every other Tuesday evening under the presidency of Peggy Hagopian.

The post is non-denominational. "We sponsor it as a service to the community," said Pastor John Freed.

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A radiologist from New Grace Hospital comes to lecture.

Tots geared to creativity

BY MARGARET MILLER

Creativity comes in many packages when a couple of pre-school teachers like Ellen Wahl and Ann Stasinos get together.

It started out as the major ingredient of a nursery school they have taught in Northville for six years now.

Named, not surprisingly, the Creative Day Nursery, it has slanted its activities especially to helping young children use their hands and imaginations in play and projects active rather than passive.

The approach was so successful that Mrs. Wahl, a Northville resident, and Mrs. Stasinos, who lives in Farmington Hills, decided parents could use a portion of creativity too.

THUS CAME INTO BEING the creativity workshops, in Northville Presbyterian church, home of the nursery class, taught by the two teachers for mothers and children together and conducted outside nursery school hours.

Next, they decided to record their ideas. A spiral-bound handbook, "Creative Activities," was published last year and now is in its second printing. It contains a wealth of ideas for creative play and has sold several hundred copies.

AND IT HAS LED the teachers to their most recent creativity package—a traveling creative activities workshop that they will take to any organization interested in education of young children.

Since launched in December, the workshops have been conducted for

some 30 groups, including a pre-school group in Livonia, the para-professional in-service aides in the Farmington public schools, Plymouth Montessori pre-school, Family Life pre-school parent cooperative in Southfield and the Marquette School parent and pre-school groups in Garden City.

THESE ARE TRIED AND TESTED ideas that have been especially popular and successful with children in our own school," Ann Stasinos said.

"We've tried to simplify the great number of ideas we've collected and get the demonstrations down to several basic activities."

These include collages, magic clay, paper dyeing and making doughnuts from canned biscuits.

Groups that book the workshop—which costs \$30—are asked to have a few supplies on hand, but Mrs. Wahl and Mrs. Stasinos carry along quite a few things they need for the teaching.

"ALL THESE THINGS are very simple, but enjoyable for all age groups," Mrs. Wahl said. "They all are things that can be done with materials available in a grocery or hardware store."

"That's the thing about encouraging creativity in young children—it shouldn't involve a lot of complicated preparation. It's more enjoyable for everyone if it works out spontaneously."

Their workshop presentations also have the advantage of being versatile. Magic clay, for instance, is made from a home recipe and can be turned by little hands into mobiles, models, beads.

EACH PRESENTATION, the teachers said, seems to bring with it ideas for other creative play.

"Every time we meet someone and get talking about creative ideas for little children—we come out with new suggestions for activities," Mrs. Stasinos said.

"We figure by the time we finish many more of them we'll have enough ideas for a new book."

THE WORKSHOPS, like the book the pair compiled, also include "some of our philosophy on early childhood education," as Mrs. Stasinos put it.

"We hit other ideas besides just activities," she added. "It's so important for people to get some understanding of the great potential for creativity in cooking, sewing, other things that go on in a little child's life."

"If people understand how it is that a small child learns, his world can be expanded tremendously."

A good share of this philosophy can be summed up in a paragraph from the teachers' book.

"In today's highly-mechanized world," it reads, "it is refreshing and fun to return to using our imaginations and our hands; and it is still good for children to be actively involved with play materials rather than to be passively entertained by too much television and too many gadgets."

Groups interested in having the demonstration may call either of the teachers, Mrs. Kishor Wahl, 29900 Taft, Northville, or Mrs. Steve Stasinos, 2855 Hawberry, Farmington.

