

Diabetes group sends call for volunteers

By LORAIN McCLISH

The American Diabetes Association Michigan Affiliate has sent out a call for volunteers to help fight the disease that is now emerging as one of the most serious public health problems in the nation. We've got probably 450 volunteers in the state at best right now to serve about 250,000 diabetics and that number keeps rising. We've got detection week (National Diabetes Detection Week Nov. 7-13) coming up and we expect the number of new diabetics to be made known will be staggering. The thing is just getting out of hand," said Tom Vance.

Vance is director of field services for the association, headquartered at 6331 W. Aztec Drive in Detroit, in Mt. Carmel Hospital complex.

On his volunteer staff, Philane Lahiff, a Farmington resident who single-handedly recruits an office crew, says, "I am running out of relatives and friends and neighbors to do this. I am looking for clerical help that is needed in the office that we simply can't pay for—that would be money spent that has to go for research."

A STAFF OF EIGHT paid personnel administer the activities of 25 individual units throughout the state on a two-pronged front: Contributing to research while at the same time working with the known diabetic with his immediate problems, helping him function.

Vance cited other services as administering a summer workshop camp for young diabetics, public information and public education sessions, professional seminars, and the upcoming detection week in cooperation with local hospitals.

Now we are going to be in the throes of more fund-raising, and that takes more manpower because we've reached the top plateau of spending from what we get

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from United Way. And pitifully little goes into research," Vance said.

The ADA's board of directors has determined the Spring Blue-Thon as a stand-and-stroll event, "and there are one million ways people can help with that," Vance said.

There is need for persons to sit on a state-wide committee to help develop educational programs to keep professionals abreast of ever-expanding fields of treatment.

Persons are needed on another state-wide committee to help administer Camp Michda, open for eight weeks every summer for the 6- to 18-year-old diabetic.

There is a need for persons to sit on the ADA's public affairs task force, which keeps an eye on what is happening in both local and national legislatures regarding funding for diabetes research.

VANCE will take calls from others who can help out in a long string of jobs he rattled off that need doing.

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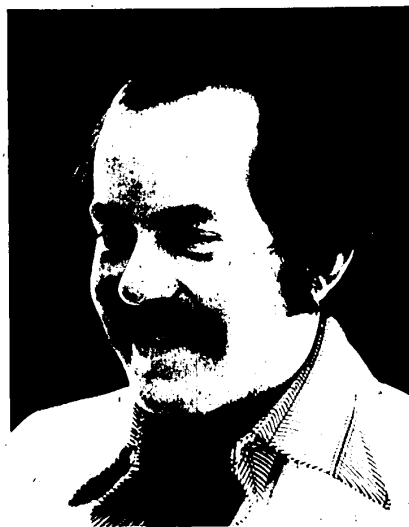
Vance lists as "very important" the need for expansion of programs within local units. We need people who can help obtain speakers and coordinate public information meetings at all local levels," he said.

The county units are our nerve centers where all the person-to-person work is carried out, and these keep getting more important as the numbers of persons we serve keep increasing.

There is a need for people "to dream up and promote more fund raising programs for money to go directly to research. Over the past five years we have kept increasing our allocations for research, but we are reaching a breaking point," he said.

And there is a need for persons in the VIP program. The program is designed for a volunteer to visit a newly diagnosed diabetic on a one-to-one basis to introduce the services that the organization has to offer the diabetic.

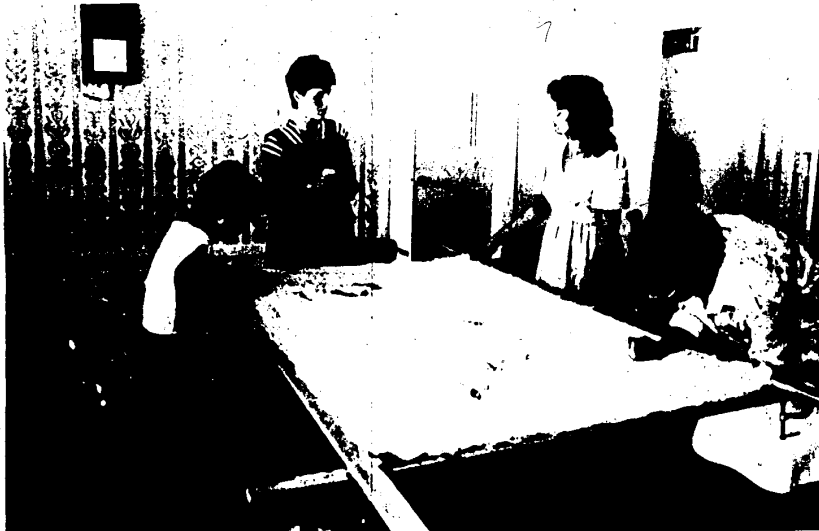
Vance can be reached by calling him at his office, 342-9333.



TOM VANCE



Clea Cook, left, and Lorraine Milne learn about growing their own fruits and vegetables at Relief Society meetings. Display table includes information on growing and canning.



Mormon women of the Bloomfield Hills Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints attend Relief Society meetings weekly for spiritual guidance and to receive instructions in homemaking, motherhood, social relations and cultural refinement.

ment. From left, Cindy Davies, Martha Schickedanz, Lorna Pack, and Betty Murray learn quilting. Mrs. Pack is the society's president.

Mormon Church membership continues on the upswing

Before George Romney decided to toss his hat into the Michigan gubernatorial race in 1962, his supporters wasted while he sought spiritual guidance.

He told the public he had to be certain the duties of the governorship would not interfere with his relationship and responsibilities to his family.

The fundamental responsibility of a Mormon father and mother is to the family, and George Romney is a Mormon—probably one of the best known in the United States.

When professional golfer Johnny Miller was in Bloomfield Township in July to play in the Wabash PAL Golf Tournament, he spent an evening visiting and speaking to fellow Mormons at their church in Bloomfield Hills.

"BACK WHEN I WAS national president of the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce," said Richard Headlee of Farmington Hills, "and traveled all over the world, I was invited to speak at Mormon churches wherever I went. It's always that way. We all do it."

Headlee, president of Alexander Hamilton Life Insurance Co. with headquarters in Farmington Hills, is second counselor in the Bloomfield Hills Stake (a local word for area) presidency of the church.

Because the Mormon religion is a total way of life, family units are knit closely within themselves and with other Mormon families in their own areas and all over the world.

It involves total dedication of lives, time, financial support and spiritual study.

'Women are superior to men. Those who want to be equal to men lack ambition. The greatest role a woman can have is procreation...it never changes, regardless of how sophisticated we become.'

—Richard Headlee

AS A RESULT, it's become one of the wealthiest churches in the United States, and its membership continues to grow. The Bloomfield Hills Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints—the actual man of the Mormon Church—is at 425 Woodward.

It's the center of the Mormon community in Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, West Bloomfield, Troy, Royal Oak, Southfield, Farmington, Detroit and surrounding communities.

Headlee said he couldn't confirm that the church, with its international headquarters in Salt Lake City, is the wealthiest, "but it certainly is the wealthiest spiritually."

SPRITUAL, STUDY and recreational programs are provided for men, women and children of all ages.

Approximately 4,800 Mormons belong to the Bloomfield Hills Stake, and it has baptized—by full immersion—about 300 converts so far this year.

Dr. John Pfeiffer, a Bloomfield Hills resident and chief of surgery at Providence Hospital in Southfield, is president of the

Bloomfield Hills Stake and devotes many hours a week to his church.

"Many of the doctors doing their residencies at Providence are Mormons, recruited by Dr. Pfeiffer from the University of Utah," said Headlee.

The Detroit area's growing Mormon community had its beginning in the middle 1800s when a few members left the main body of the church as it moved westward and settled in this area.

The church was founded in New York in the early 1800s and fled westward because Mormons were being persecuted for their beliefs. The main body of the church settled in Utah.

ALTHOUGH THE MORMON Church stopped performing plural marriages in 1890, discussion of polygamy still comes up whenever the church is discussed by non-Mormons.

When the U.S. Supreme Court upheld federal legislation outlawing polygamy, the church stopped the practice and excommunicated members who took more than one wife.

"There's been a great misunderstanding

about polygamy as it was practiced by the Mormons," said Headlee.

"In the first place, probably fewer than five per cent of the Mormons practiced it."

"And in those times, like in frontier days, it was a matter of survival for a family that had lost its male provider and needed to be cared for."

"There's a tendency for people today to dwell so much on sex. This was more of a spiritual relationship."

THE WOMEN'S LIBERATION movement sweeping the country and changing family relationships hasn't made any headway within the Mormon society. Male members hold the priesthood, are the family providers and watch over the interests of the church.

Women are dedicated to the home and family. They study homemaking, motherhood training, social relations and cultural refinement, he said.

Lorna Pack of Bloomfield Hills is president of the Relief Society, which meets weekly throughout most of the year for spiritual work and training.

"WOMEN ARE SUPERIOR to men," Headlee said. "Those who want to be equal to men lack ambition. The greatest role a woman can have is procreation, giving life itself."

"The Lord designed this plan of life, not man. And it never changes, regardless of how sophisticated we become."

Divorce is counseled against, as is women having careers to take them away from their responsibilities at home.



Speaker Norma Davies from Salt Lake City teaches food storage techniques to Mormon women.