

With a little help

LIT's students find homes

By SUSAN TAUBER KLEIN

Lawrence Institute of Technology's LIT tradition of housing its non-resident students in private homes once more seems to be a success. Last August and September, the Southfield Executive ran a public service announcement for LIT asking area residents with living space for one or more students to contact the school.

The response was so successful that ad-

ditions mostly freshmen, needing living quarters have been housed," said Mrs. Shirley Bolin who coordinated the housing program.

Mrs. Bolin secretary to Lou Moon, director of counseling and student activities screened all potential renters and renters.

"After all, these people, mostly widows, are taking people into their private homes and have a right to be particular," she said.

"Some have reservations about whom they

rent kitchen with two other student-renters. She brought her own towels and cooking utensils."

"All of us share the 1 1/2 bathrooms in the house but surprisingly, there never are any conflicts," she said.

DeJoy has lived with the same widowed lady since coming to LIT in 1973. For 2 1/2 weeks, he receives linens, towels and kitchen privileges.

Since his mother, father and 11-year-old brother live on the island of Hawaii, Robert only goes home during summer vacation. However, living in a private home has helped him combat his loneliness.

"My landlady's daughter and grandchildren come over sometimes. When I see them, I don't feel so lonely for my own family," he said.

Neither DeJoy or Ms. Hunt complained about requirements made by their landlady.

Ms. Hunt's proprietors won't allow smoking and drinking. Robert and the other LIT student living at the same house aren't permitted to come in too late, can't have parties and have to clean their rooms and dishes.

DeJoy, who now has a car, is moving to Walden Lake due to his promotion to night manager at the McDonald's Restaurant there. He wants to be closer to his job.

Many of the renters take in boarders for supplemental money to their Social Security checks. But they also gain secondary rewards in the long run.

"It's a two-way street," said Mrs. Bolin. "The women help the students by boarding them and the students are company for the women who are often very lonely. Some rent to three or four LIT students and only take in boarders from LIT."

Ms. Hunt and DeJoy represent all student boarders, then all think living in a private home with older people is special.

"Ms. Hunt expressed her feelings as special. I think I'll never see my landlady but as my friend."

To DeJoy, who is thousands of miles from home, it is "in-between being home and being on my own."

The unusual response to LIT's request for help from area residents came from the managing director of the Southfield Towers Apartments, Walter Shumie. Shumie made 10 apartments available to LIT students who can rent them from month to month with the stipulation they keep them neat.

"This is a good arrangement for the students. They don't often stay in town during the summer months and this way they aren't committed to one place with a lease."

Shumie also admitted that having the students in his apartments is good for him too. Often, such as in snow emergencies, he needs extra part-time workers. Now, he committed, he has young people to call on for help.

Six apartments are rented by 16 students from the U.S. Lebanon Iraq Iran Thai and Taiwan. A few of them do work part-time for Shumie.

The enrollment at LIT this fall is the largest in its history—450 day and evening students. Because of the seasonal growth, it has more and more out-of-state students to house. Dorms are now being built with occupancy in the spring.

The hundred forty-two apartments, which have different floor plans will be available ranging from two-bedroom furnished for \$490 a month to one-bedroom unfurnished for \$219 a month.



ROBERT DEJOY



KAREN HUNT

will board. Some don't want anyone with long hair and beards or students who smoke. Mrs. Bolin explained that she needs to know this before she places a student in a private residence.

Robert DeJoy, an 18-year-old with more than 1000 miles traveled, housing with Mrs. Bolin's son. He needed to live close to LIT since he has no means of transportation who lives in Michigan.

"I like living in a private home is better than dorm life. There is no room mate to bother me. I can cook myself in my own kitchen and study, or if I want, I can relax at any time to go to a party," he said.

Karen Hunt is one of the 21 females who live in a private home. A 19-year-old, first student from Ontario, Minn., she has resided in the same house for 2 1/2 years. It is called "the cat" because of its white, orange and black fur.

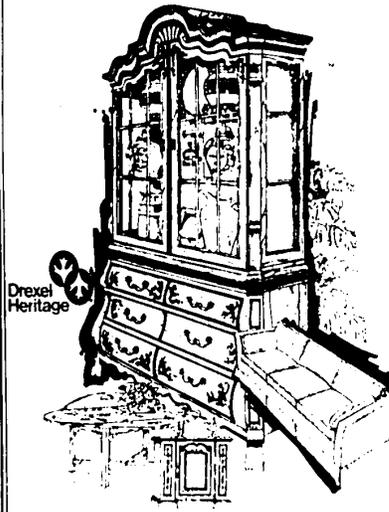
Her landlady, a husband and wife, are very nice people, Karen said. The wife has a few household goods and takes up a job in the living room to sit and talk.

For \$25 a week, Karen gets her own bedroom including linens and shares a base-

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