volunteers

The Oakland County Volunteer Bureau has weekly listings of colun-teer opportunities. Further infor-mation about these and other colun-tees may be obtained by caling the bureau at 642-7272. Any non-profit organization needing robunteer as-sistance may call the bureau.

CASELOAD WORKERS Mature persons are needed by the 48th District Court in Birmingham for Tuesday or Wednesday evenings. Caseload involves seeing probationers on a monthly basis and checking references and paperwork. Training begins immediately in preparation for September casework

NURSES The Michigan High Blood Pressure Council in Tsoy wants volunteer nurses or nursing students take blood pressure readings, obtain medical backgrounds and provide edu-cational materials. Clerical volunteers can assist in counseling and follow-up services for clients. Morring or after-neon commitments available

ACTIVITIES INSTRUCTORS ACTIVITIES INSTRUCTIONS DAY you like sports and working with young people? The Oakland County Juvenile Court in Pontiac is looking for men to help with recreational activities and crafts at a summer camp Aug 31 to

Learning all about animals

Chip and Dale might be cute little animals, but our urbanized wild crea-tures are barely tolerated by most people. Of course, raiding garbage cans, getting stuck in chimmeys, or digging up grass are not endearing habits. But, chipmunks, raccoons, opssums, and skunks are rarely ap-preciated and most often completely ignored.

opassims, and skunks are rarely appreciated and must often completely ignored. This indifference feeds right into the over present egocentracity of the convergence is the only important one. Children are unable to see the larger world picture and, so, cannot grasp the importance wild creatures have. Children believe their influence alone prevails and are not even aware of the delicate balance that exists, between our animal friends and ourselves. Children see the world only from their point of view and if something does not directly touch them, it is of no consequence. Since wild creatures make no apparent or direct contribution — like milk from a cow, or eggs from a chicken, or a car from an auto plant the critter's life may seem superfluous to a child.

AND WHILE these animals AND WHILE these animals sur-round us, their place is not extolled. Even zoos highlight exotic animals from foreign lands, and ignore our lo-cal heasties. Children as a result go about their daily routine without ever



realizing the importance these ani-mals have.

mals have.

Animals do play an important role in our children's environment. A close inspection of them can reveal to our kids how similar all living things are. It can demonstrate how responsive these animals are to our presence. It can show the wast impact we have our surroundings. It can bring the vast world down to an understandable dimension. But, most of all, it can take the focus away from self.

At the Drazton Plaine Nature Con-

At the Drayton Plains Nature Cen-

At the Drayton Plains Nature Cen-re, squirrels come right up to you, chipmanks scamper through the rooms, and you can pet a duck, cuddle askunk, or crawl through a giant log. The center is right in the middle of a subdivision, so it feels like home. It's 137 acres include rivers, ponds, marshes, and fields to walk through. The center itself houses displays and a hands on science table.

a hands-on science table.

BEST OF ALL are the animals living there. Two owls, injured and un-able to fly, make the center their home. So do two skunks, some ducklings, and a newborn opossom. Unlike other nature study areas, this one is informally run and the children are encouraged to pet or hold these wild animals. Farrath the Ferret, another permanent resident is waiting to be admired as well.

The Drayton Plains Nature Center is nestled in a residential area on

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Bell charging for info calls

Michigan Bell is unveiling a longer and a higher price for the service -

— and a higher price for the service — starting July 19. The number will be 1-555-1212 for any directory call, even in your own area code. Customers will be allowed to make 20 calls for assistance within their own area codes cach month without added cost, Each calls above 20 will cost 20

and callers are allowed three phone

and callers are allowed three phone number inquiries per call.

Michigan Bell says the new rates will affect 6 percent of us tous ones with make 50 percent of us tous ones; who make 50 percent of all calls for directory assistance or other handleags that make at difficult to use plone books will not see the new charges, provided they call or visit a Bell office to get an exemption form. The new system was approved last year. It's technically a three-year trial and will be evaluated annually



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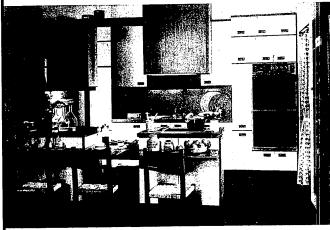
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