

'New Horizons' Finds Home At Westbrook

New Horizons, a rehabilitation program for mentally and physically handicapped young adults, is expected to move into the west wing of Westbrook Elementary School in Clarenceville sometime this month.

The program is currently housed in a deteriorating building at 35100 Grand River in Farmington which is owned by Bob Saks Oldsmobile.

After occupying the building for nearly six years, New Horizons has been asked by the owner to vacate it so he can either renovate or demolish it. Westbrook is located at 21120 Osomis in Farmington Hills.

A total of 55 clients participate in the vocational rehabilitation program under the direction of four staff members. They participate in work activities where they develop coordination and become familiar with a job environment.

The move to Westbrook is considered beneficial for both the school district and the young adults. It gives the district an opportunity to rent classrooms which have been vacated due to dwindling elementary enrollments.

It also gives the young adults a brighter environment with better facilities for the program. The move to Westbrook hinges on approval of a contract with New Horizons which is anticipated later this week.



CATHY GALLAGHER (right) of Westland, home economist with the Michigan State University cooperative extension service, was on hand to tell about extension work with homemakers during the Schoolcraft College Women's Opportunity Fair last week. Here she talks with Christine Gorski of Livonia. (Observer photo by Harry Mauthe)

'Michigan Naturalist' Course Set

Kensington Metropark near Milford will be the site for a course entitled "Michigan Naturalist" offered by the University Center for Adult Education starting Saturday, Sept. 23.

The natural history of public lands close to Detroit is the theme of this course, with the study centered on communities of plants and animals in relation to common and peculiar geological formations as well as other environmental factors.



HENRY A. NICKOL of Livonia is now serving as chief engineer for advance engine engineering of the product engineering office in Ford Motor Co.'s engine division. Formerly assistant chief engineer, he joined Ford's staff as a co-op trainee in 1953. Nickol belongs to several engineering societies and honorary fraternities.

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TO THE GAS CUSTOMERS OF CONSUMERS POWER COMPANY

NOTICE OF HEARING ON A CONSERVATION PROGRAM INVOLVING NATURAL GAS RATES

On September 7, 1973, Consumers Power Company applied to the Michigan Public Service Commission for approval of a program for the conservation of natural gas by encouraging and assisting residential customers in the insulation of their homes heated by natural gas. (Case No. U-4416.)

The Company's application states that large numbers of the Company's residential space heating customers reside in older houses which do not have insulation meeting current standards established by the Federal Housing Administration. Studies by the Company indicate that installation of ceiling insulation meeting current FHA standards in a typical house built in the Company's service area prior to 1942 would reduce the quantity of gas used for heating by about 21 percent; and that installing sufficient ceiling insulation to meet current FHA standards in a typical house built in the Company's service area after 1942 would reduce the quantity of gas used for heating by about 10 percent.

The application states that, despite extraordinary efforts, the Company has been forced by the current national shortage of natural gas and resultant curtailments in deliveries from the Company's interstate gas suppliers, to institute restrictions upon gas sales in the Company's service area which currently affect all but residential customers. The application states that the proposed home insulation service program is in the public interest because it seeks to partially relieve the shortage in natural gas supply.

The program which the Company proposes would include the use of mass media and other means to communicate to the public the need for conservation of natural gas and the contribution which home insulation can make to that goal.

The Company would urge homeowners to install insulation themselves or to hire a contractor to do so. The Company would also offer, on a non-profit basis to the Company, to arrange for the installation, in residential premises owned by any qualified residential space heating customer, of ceiling insulation meeting the most recent FHA standard. A residential space heating customer would qualify for the program if he has a satisfactory utility bill payment history. Where the Company thus arranged for installation, it would finance up to the smaller of 80 percent or \$300 of the cost, over a period of up to 36 months, at an interest rate of 1 percent per month on unpaid balance. The Company would not itself sell insulation or install insulation, but would subcontract the work

to dealers and contractors. Under the proposed amendments, any sums owed the Company for installation or insulation would be a part of the charge for residential space heating gas service rendered to the insulated premises; and the cost of such installation, if not paid for by the residential space heating customer who contracted for the work, would be charged to successor customers at the insulated premises at the rate of \$5 per month.

The application asks the Michigan Public Service Commission to authorize the Company's participation in the home insulation service program; and to authorize the Company to include all costs associated with the program as a part of utility cost of service, to be reflected in rates hereafter prescribed by the Commission for the Company.

A public hearing will be held at 9:30 A.M. on October 5, 1973 in the offices of the Commission, Law Building, Lansing, Michigan 48913, for the purpose of determining whether the approvals sought should be granted. Any interested parties may attend the hearing and participate subject to the provisions of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure. Copies of the application may be obtained from the Secretary of the Commission, Law Building, Lansing, Michigan 48913, or from the Secretary of Consumers Power Company, 212 W. Michigan Avenue, Jackson, Michigan 49201.

The Commission's jurisdiction of this matter is pursuant to Section 4 of 1919 P. A. 419, as amended, M.C.L.A. 460.54; Sections 4, 6 and 6a of 1939 P. A. 3, as amended, M.C.L.A. 460.4, 460.6, 460.6a; Section 63 of 1969 P. A. 306, M.C.L.A. 24.263, and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 1954 Administrative Code, as amended, No. 34, R 460.11, et seq.

This Notice is published by order of the Michigan Public Service Commission, which has directed the Company to publish notice of this proceeding in all daily and weekly newspapers of general circulation published within its service area, at least 10 days prior to date of hearing;



Dated: September 12, 1973