

Counselor listens to help prevent delinquency

By CHRISTINE WALLEN
Somewhere between childhood and maturity, young persons can ruin their lives. They can skip school, break into stores and run away from home. They can keep on doing these things until they're labeled "juvenile delinquents" or worse yet criminals.
But they can also get help. They can talk to someone who might understand why they run away from home or how badly they need love. They can talk to someone who might listen.
In ROCHESTER and Avon Township, counselor Gasper Novara

listens, talks with and guides an average of 40 youngsters a month. Under the roof of the Rochester Area Youth Guidance Committee and sponsored by local schools, Oakland County Juvenile Court, the City of Rochester and Avon and Oakland Townships, Novara and his youth assistance program focuses on preventing delinquency.
"Our primary concern is with delinquency prevention," he said. "We're not just an after-the-fact organization. We try to provide programs meaningful to youngsters."
Last year, a volunteer parents' committee (one of seven parents' committees assisting Novara), raised enough money to send 38 youngsters to camp.
That type of effort helps prevent delinquency, said Novara.

PREVENTING delinquency doesn't mean stopping a youngster before he commits the crime. That's part of it, but it's also helping him so he won't do it again.
Consequently, much of Novara's caseload comes from referrals by police, schools and occasionally the youngsters themselves.
"There are any number of reasons we get referrals," he said. "Sometimes parents and children come for counseling because they feel more comfortable discussing the problem with a neutral party.
Or sometimes a history of school truancy, vandalism, shoplifting, breaking-and-entering or incorri-

gibility leads a youngster to Novara's door.
"But usually the immediate problem is a culmination of other problems," explained Novara. "For example, truancy is a good catch-all for other types of problems. You have to ask, 'Why is this child running away?' and usually that's just the surface problem."
PARENTAL CONCERN, he said, is essential in preventing delinquency. Affluent or poor, children must know their parents are

interested. And that interest is the best corrector for youngsters in trouble.
"I would say parents play one of the most important factors in a child's life. Part of that is communication, love and understanding. Poverty is no real gauge. Children can be starved for emotional dollars when they have real dollars."
He added that if poverty were the cause, problems could be more easily remedied. "We could

provide dollars that might eliminate a lot of their problems. But for emotionally starved children it's a little harder to make up things."

The Avon and Rochester guidance centers and others like them have good batting averages. According to Novara about 75 percent of referred youths are rehabilitated. That's fortunate because the center is often the last stop before becoming a ward of the court and establishing a record.

At the center, records are unofficial and "through counseling and talking with parents we hope we can resolve the problems," said Novara.

OF THE 25 PERCENT who become wards of the court, about 25 percent are rehabilitated.

"Anyone interested in counseling for their children or themselves can contact Novara at 651-2990 or 852-3716.



Gasper Novara

One-dish meal wins top spot

By MARY CONNELLY

Sixteen passengers on the morning commuter train may make jokes about "Yuk Pilaf" but the one-dish meal of liver and rice won Diane Pettypiece first place in Detroit Edison's annual Cook-off for Women Who Cook.

Miss Pettypiece, a resident of Bloomfield Hills, was named Queen of the Kitchen for her entry of Penny-Pincher's Potpourri. Miss Pettypiece's winning dish was dubbed "Yuk Pilaf" by 16 passengers who ride the commuter with the junior accountant, for the brokerage firm of Smith Hague and Co.

As a full-time worker and a part-time student, the 26-year-old

woman does not have hours to devote to cooking. Some weekday dinners are the sandwich and cottage cheese variety, she said.

"LIVING ALONE is not conducive to cooking because you waste so much," she said. "But I love to prepare meals. I think it's fun."

"I don't consider myself a really gourmet cook. I'm really rather an ordinary cook."

After a history of recipe-deviations and experimentation, Miss Pettypiece decided to invent a recipe and enter the Detroit area contest.

"Liver stuck out in my mind because it was different," said the owner of Pettypiece Place, a culinary gift shop in Troy. "It's a controversial

meat. And it's unusual to have liver in a one-dish meal."

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Pettypiece of Troy was among more than 300 entrants in the contest.

PENNY PINCHER'S POTPOURRI
1/2 lb. beef liver
1/4 lb. sliced bacon
1/4 lb. small beef sausage
1 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon pepper
1/4 teaspoon paprika
1/4 cup chopped onion
1 cup uncooked long grain rice
1/4 cup tomato juice
2 fresh tomatoes

Cut liver, bacon and sausage in small pieces. Fry bacon until crisp.

Pour off excess fat except enough to fry liver. Fry liver, sausage and onion until browned.

Add salt, pepper and paprika. Save enough bacon for garnish and add remaining bacon to liver mixture.

Stir in the rice. Add 1 1/2 cups water to tomato juice and stir into liver.

Pour into casserole. Bake covered at 350 degrees for about 30 minutes or until rice is tender.

Cut tomatoes into wedges. Save six wedges for garnish. Mix balance of tomatoes into casserole before serving.

Arrange remaining bacon and tomato into garnish. Makes four to six servings.



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