



Photo by Susan McKinney

Scott Marshal and Madeline Schaefer are happy with the job completed through Hire-a-Teen.

Work Program Helps Both Young and Old

By PAT PETRASKE

With obvious surprise in her voice, the elderly white woman reported how pleased she was with the results of the teenager's efforts.

She had called the 19th Ward Community Association Hire-a-Teen program because it was difficult for her to do her own yard work. Since all the teenagers who are currently involved in the program are black, the senior citizens are forced into having a black teen come into their home and both come out the better for it," maintained Carleen Wilenius, project coordinator.

Improvement of race relationships in this highly integrated neighborhood was not the primary reason for launching the Hire-a-Teen program, but it has promoted understanding between white senior citizens and black youths. In July the job-referral subsidy service was begun "to do something for senior citizens and to help teenagers who can't get part-time jobs."

A grant from the Margaret Woodbury Strong Foundation enables the association to subsidize the workers' wages. When a job is completed, the senior citizen pays half of the \$2 per hour wage. The worker is then sent to Mrs. Wilenius who pays the remaining amount after the job has been verified.

Seventeen teenagers ranging in age from 13 to 16 have been involved in the program although only ten are still active. Fifty-eight jobs have been performed for 30 senior citizens. Teenagers from the ward have been out putting up storm windows, raking leaves, trimming hedges and scrubbing walls and floors. The only girl in the group has been on call for housekeeping tasks.

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

The CYO is offering elementary and high school parish basketball leagues for girls. The league will begin Saturday, Jan. 19, and continues every Saturday afternoon for 10 weeks.

A team entry fee of \$60 is due Saturday, Jan. 5. For further information contact the CYO at 454-2030.

Irish Surveys Show Decline In Churchgoing

Dublin [RNS] — Recent surveys indicate that the number of practicing Catholics is on the decline in Ireland.

A study undertaken by An Foras Forbartha, a government agency, stated that in Dublin only 47 per cent of the people interviewed went to church on Sunday.

Father Michael Gallagher, SJ, has reported that informal surveys he conducted at Dublin's Catholic University indicated that at least one in three students had moved toward "serious alienation from Church practice and personal faith."

The government survey consisted of asking 1,300 persons about their leisure activities, including a question about how they spent Sundays. Results showed that 43 per cent attended services on Sunday morning, 3 per cent on Sunday evenings, and 1 per cent on Sunday afternoons.

In presenting the results of his surveys, Father Gallagher said that 50 per cent of the students may still be counted as regular churchgoers and convinced Christians, but he concluded from the number who were "alienated" that "Irish Catholicism, as we have known it, is unlikely to continue as a majority phenomenon in the next generation."

Students Graduate From Fall Course

Daniel Karl, a student at St. Bernard's Seminary and Donald and Doris DeFraine of Mother of Sorrows parish, were among the graduates of the 10 week Fall session offered by Gabriel Richard Institute.

A non-profit, educational organization, the institute offers a course twice a year in the Rochester area to help members "realize their full potential and talents."

DeFraine was the winner of the Better World Award, voted on by his classmates. It was presented to him at commencement exercises Nov. 28.

The Institute is now forming classes for the spring session which will begin in mid-March.

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