

**At Hornell Youth Program**

**Counseling Effort Begins with Trust**

By MARTIN TOOMBS  
Southern Tier Editor

Hornell - An activities calendar on the door marks the entrance to the Hornell Area Concern for Youth center, an agency dedicated to assisting the teenagers in the Hornell area.

The calendar lists such activities as camping and bowling trips and tours to Watkins Glen and Niagara Falls. But the organization's director, Andrew Sullivan, explains that the recreational activities are just part of the program.

Hornell Area Concern for Youth is designed to open a channel of communication to local youth, especially those with problems, Sullivan explained. The activities center, above an appliance store in a city-owned Main Street building, provides a base of operation, but Sullivan pointed out that the program extends into the Hornell streets. He called that part of the effort "relationship building in the streets," which is necessary because "some kids don't come up here."

As Sullivan describes the program, he often raises the importance of establishing trust. He explained that to be effective, it is important for the program to establish trust with the teenagers and with the townspeople.

Establishing trust with the youth is possible through the activities, he noted. As a relationship is built with individual persons, they

come to trust the staff, he said, and will seek advice or counseling from them. Sullivan commented that teenagers are unlikely to say later that the advice they received helped, but he noted that sometimes he can see that "they've taken what we talked about and used it."

Establishing trust with the community has been the goal of the agency's board, Sullivan noted, which includes many local leaders. The agency has established good relationships with the local probation department and school district, he said, which resulted directly from the membership of a probation department staff member and the high school principal on the board. The agency receives counseling referrals from both groups.

As for the future, Sullivan said that he would like to establish a relationship with the local police and with St. James Mercy Hospital. As part of its work, the agency does drug abuse counseling, and would like apparent drug abusers referred to the service by the health facilities, Sullivan explained.

While the counseling is important, Sullivan noted that most counseling contacts are informal, and he hopes the program never becomes just another agency, where persons are required to wait to talk to someone behind a big desk.

The longest running program the agency sponsors is the "Rent-A-Kid" project, Sullivan said, which

matches teenagers with local persons who need odd jobs done. The program, begun in 1974, has been "good publicity" and a "big draw for kids," he explained, in addition to its useful goal of employing youth.

The center is open on Tuesday and Thursday evenings for general activities, such as ping-pong, pool and other games. The center also includes a lounge area and a collection of books. More structured activities are planned for the other nights of the week; classes in communications have been conducted in the past, Sullivan noted. In September, he intends to expand the offerings, he said including other types of courses, such as guitar and parenting skills, as well as classes for parents on how to deal with their teenagers. Parenting skills will be a priority, he noted, as the incidence of teenage marriage is high, and the youthful parents need assistance.

The agency receives funding from a variety of sources, including the city of Hornell, the Steuben County drug abuse program, the state Division for Youth, and a recent \$850 grant from the Campaign for Human Development. The state Division for Youth matches such grants, Sullivan said, which resulted in \$1,700 in funding for the center. Sullivan noted that "we wouldn't have been able to have the summer program" without the campaign funds.



**35th Anniversary**

Four classmates celebrated the 35th anniversary of their ordination on August 5 at Mercy Rehabilitation Center in Auburn. Shown here attempting to remember their class song are from left Father Robert Quigley, pastor of St. Stephen's Church, Phoenix, N.Y.; Father Clarence Gardner, chaplain at the Center, Bishop Hogan and Father Thomas Cleary, pastor at Holy Cross, Dryden.

**SOUTHERN TIER**  
**AUBURN-GENEVA**

**ALCOHOLISM SEMINAR**

Elmira-A panel discussion on Alcoholics Anonymous will be presented at an alcoholism seminar Thursday, Aug. 18 at 12:15 p.m. in the Doctor's Meeting Room of St. Joseph's Hospital. Further information can be obtained from St. Joseph's Social Work Department, 733-6541.

**ON THE RIGHT SIDE**

Fr. Paul J. Cuddy

Dear Bill:

A psychologist should make a study of my correspondence to you, or rather the lack of it! There are few people whom I consider closer or dearer friends than your own self. Yet despite your years of frequent notes, clippings, and Herman cartoons, I have rarely written. I wonder why? Perhaps because I feel so confident of your friendship. A dangerous presumption, but a genuine one.

Recently I filled in for a week at Genesee Hospital, Rochester, for Father Larry Murphy, who was on retreat. The George Cuddy children called to say they were having a reunion at Jim's, who has a large house, a huge yard and a large family. It is almost opposite the Carmelite Novitiate on South Street of your younger days.

George and Florence had five children. The 5 have 27 children, plus one Canadian grandson. Not much joy to the Planned Parenthood outfit. I've wondered when these dreadful people will press for legislation to club to death born babies two years of age, Herod's cut-off age, even as the pelt hunters club the baby seals.

The reunion anticipated the birthday for Florence who will be a diamond jubilarian come October 16. Observing great people like her gives me a great contempt for forcing retirement on capable, experienced generous people because of arbitrary age. All the family remember you with great affection.

On the way back I stopped about 10 at a family who have charity as well as

faith. The parents were out, and I had a great visit with four of the youngest children. A few days later the mother wrote, "The children were thrilled to have you stop by. You are to them what Father Curtin was to us..." That is superlative praise.

Do you remember Him? I do not know a person who compressed more wisdom in a concise sentence than he. In 1935 I was his newly ordained assistant. With the earnestness of young priests of that time, I came in from Mass and said uneasily, "Father, I just said the wrong Mass. I said the Mass of St. Expedite instead of St. Sebastian." His eyes twinkled as he drawled, "They're all good." With three words he summed up the folly of needless worry, and the holiness of the Mass.

Do you remember when we were at Sampson Mother Angela Murphy used to invite me to give an occasional retreat at the Rochester Cenacle? They were well received. I am scheduled to give a retreat at the Cenacle Sept. 23-25 sponsored by the Legion of Mary. If you know any Canadian women who would like to share the retreat, phone Sister Rogers, Tel. 716-271-8755; or write: The Cenacle, 693 East Avenue, Rochester, N. Y. 14607. The one last year was a booming success; and this should be equally so.

My joy is great that you are so happily married, and such a good father to your children. I bow to your wife, Mary, who has been good not only to you, but also for you. Oremus pro invicem.



**Corning Musical**

St. Mary's in Corning will present *Damn Yankees*, a musical, Aug. 18-20 at Corning East High School. Director is Robert Ainsworth and musical director Father Steven Kraus. In dress rehearsals, Lola (played by Patty Campbell) and the devil (B.J. Smith) tempt Joe Hardy (Jim Rossi), center of photo above; at right, Joe and wife Meg (Cindy Patrick) and below Father Kraus directs the band.



That was our first and last meeting until October 1946. Then by Divine Plan he registered as a student at Sampson College, near Geneva. Bishop Kearney had just assigned me there, newly returned to civilian life, as chaplain to a student body composed entirely of ex-service men. Bill became our first Newman Club president, and so close a friend that he became part of my family in Auburn.

After Sampson he tested a religious vocation with the Auburn Carmelites, and decided it was not what God wanted. He enrolled at Assumption College, Windsor, conducted by the Basilian Fathers, which is now the University of Windsor. He took his master's degree in Library Science at Ann Arbor, Michigan, and became head of the library at Windsor University. He married a beautiful bilingual Canadian girl. They have five bi-lingual children, one of whom is named "Paul Joseph", a kindness from our friendship. Here is a heartfilled letter.

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