

Sept 12, 1958

### Retarded Children Can be Helped.

The combined Public and Separate School Boards of Sandwich South met recently to discuss the formation of a class for children who are mentally retarded.

These Boards will meet again Thursday evening, September 18, at 8 p.m., at Chas. Collins school, corner Malden Rd. and South Talbot Rd., one mile south of Maidstone.

An invitation is extended to all parents and friends of children who are mentally retarded in Sandwich South and the surrounding areas to attend this meeting on the 18th, for the purpose of forming an association and setting up a class to meet the special needs of these children.

Sept 17, 1958

## Retarded Aid Urged

### Organize School In Sandwich South

ESSEX—A school for retarded children is to be started in Sandwich South Twp.

The original plan was formulated by members of the Sandwich South Separate and Public School Boards. They plan to hold classes in the recently vacated one-room school on South Talbot Rd. near the new Charles Collins School.

The building has been donated by the Public School Board and the school will be affiliated with Windsor's Churchwood School for Retarded Children.

All persons in Sandwich South and the surrounding district interested in education and the welfare of retarded children are urged to attend a meeting in the Charles Collins School Thursday at 8 p.m.

At that meeting plans for the new school will be explained and the necessary organization discussed.

Mrs. Howard Market, of Sandwich South, an enthusiastic supporter of the scheme, says retarded children of the rural areas urgently need an opportunity to attend school.

"We have the building. All we need now is enough people interested in the welfare of these children to help us iron out problems of organization and get classes started as soon as possible," she said.

Sept 20, 1958

## Parents Finance District Project

### Sandwich South Meeting Elects Board of Directors

ESSEX — The Sandwich South school for retarded children is expected to open within three weeks.

Located in a vacant one-room school on South Talbot Rd., the school will be financed by parents until the organization is complete and grants can be arranged.

One of the chief grants is from the Department of Education, but no levy can be made on the township.

A meeting at Collins School, across the road from the new school, appointed a board of directors to investigate the problems attached to opening such a school.

About 50 attended the meeting, including representatives from the Churchwood School for retarded children, Windsor, with which the new school will be affiliated. The school was donated by the Sandwich S. Public School Board. The Separate School Board is also cooperating in this project.

Indications at the meeting were that the initial attendance at the school will be eight children, most of whom are not attending school at present.

Ed Michael, president of the Essex Kiwanis Club, said his club would assist with the transportation.

Named to the board of directors were:

Howard Market, Colchester N., president; Brian Pettypiece, Oldcastle, vice-president; Chester Marshall, Colchester N.; Stan Welsh, Oldcastle; Mrs. Brian Pettypiece, secretary-treasurer.

Oct 3, 1958

### For Retarded

## Plan Special School Near Maidstone

A school for retarded children in Sandwich South Twp. will be established in the near future near Maidstone.

Mrs. Edward Saby, president of the Windsor Association for Retarded Children, made this announcement Thursday following a meeting with parents of retarded children in that district, Wednesday evening.

She said the Windsor association's education committee and board of directors has agreed to take over the administration of the school in the township.

Parents in the township have been promised the use of an old school building near Maidstone for the education of retarded children.

Mrs. Saby said that any parents of retarded children interested in the project should con-

tact the Churchwood School, 1304 Church St., Windsor.

"We are now receiving applications for children with an I.Q. under 50 or for children who will never reach the mentality of an 8-year-old," Mrs. Saby said.

She also said that any service clubs or other groups in Sandwich South should seriously consider giving their aid to the project.

Any donations from persons or organizations in that district will be earmarked for use only at the new Sandwich South institution.

Providing a teacher, transportation and setting up a training program are the first three major steps in organizing the school.

Dec 18, 1958

## 6 Retarded Registered

ESSEX—Six children have been enrolled in the Sandwich South School for Retarded Children, which is slated to open in January.

A meeting to enroll any further pupils will be held in the Charles Collins School, S. Talbot Rd., Thursday, at 8:30 p.m.

The school to be used, donated by the Sandwich South Area Public School Board, is a one-room building opposite the Collins School. The teacher will be supplied by the Churchwood School, Windsor.



Oct 23, 1959

Mar 14, 1959

## PBX Club Gives Retarded Children \$30

The PBX Club of Windsor presented the Maidstone Retarded Children's Association with articles valued at \$30 at a meeting in the Maidstone School for Retarded Children.

Miss Rita Campbell, PBX secretary, and Mrs. Mabel Ball, a member of the board of directors, made the presentation of a tool punch, a wood-burning kit, and \$25 worth of milk tickets for the students. The club raised the money through a raffle.

A large size paper-cutter for the school, valued at \$25, will be the club's next project.

Mar 14, 1959

## O.P.P. Give To Retarded

OLDCASTLE—The Ontario Provincial Police Association of Essex County has made a \$150 donation to the Sandwich S. Twp. School for Retarded Children.

A cheque was presented at the meeting of the Association for Retarded Children at the old Charles Collins School. It was presented by Cpl. R. H. Graham and Const. D. P. Allison.

The immediate need of the association is a station wagon to replace the one borrowed from Churchwood School in Windsor. The \$150 donation will be used for this purpose as will others from South Windsor Lions Club; Pope Pius X School, Colchester N. Twp.; Charles Collins School, Sandwich S.; Fair Play Home and School Association, Maidstone Twp.; Catholic Women's League of Maidstone; Roseland and Oldcastle Women's Institute; P.B.X., Windsor, and the Salvation Army Fellowship Group.

June 24, 1959

## They Knew What She Wanted

The Windsor Association for Retarded Children didn't have to guess at a farewell gift for Mrs. Sunny Ray, teacher at Churchwood School. They knew what she wanted, an electric drill. She loves her workshop.

At a special meeting, Mrs. Ray, who is leaving to take over teaching duties at the new Sunparlor School for Retarded Children, in Sandwich South, received her drill.

She was also presented with a gift of jewelry from the 64th Group of Scouts, of Churchwood School. Tommy Durocher, a member of the troop, made the presentation.

## Defer Grant For School

A request from the Sun Parlor School for Retarded Children for a grant of \$100 per pupil was received by Essex County Council. No action was taken at the monthly session.

The letter noted that council made a similar grant for county students attending Churchwood School in Windsor and asked the same consideration. It said nine pupils were attending the recently established school in Sandwich South Twp. south of Maidstone.

Nov 14, 1959

## Fund Drive Gets \$200

### Campaign to Aid Retarded Pupils

ESSEX—The Essex Kiwanis Club has touched off its campaign to raise funds for the Sun Parlor School for Retarded Children by donating a cheque for \$200.

A door-to-door canvas, conducted by the Kiwanis club with the help of volunteer canvassers, will be held from November 14 to 26. Residents of Essex, Anderton, Maidstone, Colchester N., Sandwich S. and Gosfield N. will be asked to contribute.

The school, located on South Talbot Rd., in Sandwich S., is the only rural school for retarded children in Canada.

Since the school opened last January, the enrollment has grown to 15 students, with 2 more being screened for admission.

Since the children live over a wide area, transportation has become a major problem. A recent charter entitles the school to government grants, but there is no special grant to cover transportation costs.

Mrs. Ethel Jenner, Howard Ave., picks up the pupils in a rented station wagon, making four trips a day in an area that extends from Amherstburg to Emeryville, covering a distance of over 200 miles.

Mrs. Jenner also assists the teacher, Mrs. Sunny Ray, Windsor, in teaching. If the rate of enrolment continues to climb, an additional room and teacher will be required.

William Quance, Essex, who has recently been appointed public school inspector for Inspectorate No. 2, is a qualified psychologist and tests applicants for admission.

Nov 1959

## Grant Given to Retarded

Essex County Council made a grant of \$900 to the Sun Parlor School for Retarded Children on recommendation of its special finance committee, last week.

Some council members wanted to make a grant of \$1,700 this year, \$100 for each county pupil attending the school in Sandwich South Twp., but agreed to the lesser amount which contained a rider. It asked the association operating the school to make a further request for a grant in 1960.

Dec 2, 1959

## THANK YOU

Those responsible for the establishment of the Sun Parlor School for Retarded Children, wish to sincerely thank all who helped in any way, in the recent door to door canvass for funds. The total far exceeded their expectations.

Wishing everyone a very Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year. Again THANK YOU.

Nov 17, 1959

## Retarded Get Help

### \$5,000 Drive Gets Under Way

ESSEX—A door-to-door campaign to raise funds for the Sun Parlor School for Retarded Children is officially under way.

Funds collected during the two-week canvass will be used locally to solve current problems dealing specifically with accommodation and transportation.

Dave Freeman, president of the Kiwanis Club of Essex, and chairman of the campaign, said the money is needed to increase current accommodation and provide more adequate bus transportation.

The school opened in January with less than 10 pupils. Enrollment since then has grown to 15. Two more are awaiting admission.

An estimated 150 campaign workers are expected to canvass persons throughout Essex, Anderton, Maidstone, Colchester, Sandwich South and Gosfield North during the two weeks.

Mr. Freeman, who, as chief of the local police and president of the sponsoring organization, has taken a profound interest in the campaign, said the drive was not designated as a "one-day blitz." It was designed as a "week-long concentration of effort to achieve a common goal," he said.

He said workers are seeking a \$5,000 goal to meet existing needs.

"We've set the goal at \$5,000," he said. "But if we top the mark we won't be unhappy in the least."

Plans for the drive were sparked some time ago when the Kiwanis Club was asked to contribute \$2,000 toward the school.

The club, 30 members strong, was unable to comply, and launched a campaign to raise funds among persons in the municipalities served by the school. The school is located on Talbot Rd. S., Sandwich South Twp.

According to Mr. Freeman, retardation today, although a subject still largely misunderstood in the province, is becoming of greater importance to the general public.

Nov 20, 1959

## \$900 Grant To Retarded

Essex County Council made a grant of \$900 to the Sun Parlor School for Retarded Children on recommendation of its special finance committee.

Some council members wanted to make a grant of \$1,700 this year, \$100 for each county pupil attending the school in Sandwich South Twp., but agreed to the lesser amount which contained a rider. It asked the association operating the school to make a further request for a grant in 1960.

The decision was reached only after a lengthy discussion and an outline of the work done. This was given by Stanley Welsh, a member of the association.

Dec 16, 1959

## \$5,800 Now In Jackpot

ESSEX—Final figures resulting from the recent campaign for funds to provide more adequate accommodation at the Sunparlor School for Retarded Children, were released by Chief Const. David Freeman, drive chairman.

A total of \$5,800 was collected during the canvas through Essex and surrounding township areas.

The chairman said the final figure represents an increase of \$800 over the initial \$5,000 goal.



# Sun Parlor - Newspaper Clippings

Sept ,1960

Mar. 15 - 1960

On motion of Milton  
Farough sec by Grant  
Mikes the deed transferring  
the old no. 8 school to  
the Essex & Dist Assoc.  
for Retarded Children  
was accepted & signed

June 3, 1960

## Meeting at Sun Parlor

On Friday evening, June 10th at 8 p.m. a special meeting has been called at the school. The guest speaker is to be William Kirk, of Toronto, executive director of the Ontario Association for Retarded Children.

Anyone wishing to join us will be most welcome and will find Mr. Kirk most interesting. Lunch will be served.

Sept 20, 1960

## Two Mishaps Mar Benefit Horse Show

### Rider's Shoulder Dislocated, Boy Escapes Runaway Steed

AMHERSTBURG — A rider suffered a dislocated shoulder and a spectator was run over by a horse during the rescue race event at a Retarded Children's benefit horse show here.

The horse show, sponsored by the Trail Riders Club, drew a crowd of more than 1,000 persons and raised more than \$500 for the Essex District Association for Retarded Children, who operate the Sun Parlor School for Retarded Children.

William McGaffery, 24, of 297 McNaughton Ave., Chatham, was preparing to mount his horse to take part in the event when he was injured. He was taken to Grace Hospital, Windsor, and released after treatment.

Charles Hurst, 13, of Amherstburg, escaped unhurt when a runaway horse crashed through the fence and ran over him during the event. He was taken to a local doctor for examination.

Several of the children who attend the school were guests at the show held on the grounds of St. John the Baptist Church.

June ,1960

## From The Retarded Kids Corner

Next general meeting will be held at the school, Friday, June 10th, at 8 p.m. Bill Kirk, executive director of the Ontario Association for Retarded Children will be the guest speaker in attendance.

Retarded school will close on Wednesday, June 29th.

From the pages of the Retarded School Bulletin comes some information for parents to read. In the June issue of Chateline Magazine on page 29, Ruth McConnell has an article that is well worth reading, writes our Bulletin reporter.

From this corner of the county all we hear from the Retarded School is praise for this wonderful school that started with just an idea of a few interested people.

Many folk are talking of the wonderful progress of its students and the work its teachers have done for handicapped tots.

Here is something done that is most useful for tots that otherwise would go through life as a burden and a look of awe from others.

Thousands of things like this can be done by a human being if only one was to just stop and give life a serious thought. Just don't wrap life all in your own little world, don't throw a talent away for something that could give many others around you enjoyment and happy feelings towards life in general.

One only has to look around and see human beings who have thrown a life away when there are so many things that life could have been given towards a better life for all.

Oct 31, 1960

## Essex

A campaign for funds with more than usual appeal is to open within a few days by the Essex and District Association for Retarded Children. It's for a two-room addition to the Sun Parlor School for Retarded Children.

The school started from nothing and only the hard work of a handful of people, backed by the generous support of service clubs, the general public and township councils, has made its existence possible.

If it is to assume even an even more important role in the education of children less fortunate than the average, it must again have that same generous support from Essex County residents that it has had in the past.

## Horse Show

Lovers of horse flesh can attend a good horse show and at the same time support the Essex District Association for Retarded Children this coming Sunday at Amherstburg. Showing of horses will commence at 1 p.m. on St. John the Baptist Church grounds. Remember the date Sunday, September 18th and if you might forget clip this out of the paper. Admission will be 50c for adults.

From reports the Retarded School this year are erecting two new rooms to accommodate pupils this year. Some 30 students are registered this semester and some classes will be held in the St. Stephen's Church basement until the new rooms are completed. Increase of students of this most worthwhile institution has increased by double since its start and more help is still needed. Maybe you might approach its board if you have some extra time and odd buck that needs a good home to be placed in. For instance that extra beer and smoke could help a child a long ways to enjoy life.

Oct 19, 1960

## 2-Room Addition Planned

MAIDSTONE — A two-room addition to the Sun Parlor School for Retarded Children near here, is planned by the association which operates it.

This is the decision over the alternative of purchasing an annex from Sandwich South Twp. Area Public School Board and moving it to the present school.

A drive for funds will start shortly to pay for the addition. Some money is on hand but an additional \$8,000 to \$10,000 is required.

Plans for the addition are now before the Ontario Department of Education.

The school, operated by the Essex and District Association for Retarded Children, has an enrollment of 27 pupils. One class is held in the basement of St. Stephen's Anglican Church.



Jan 12, 1961

## Essex Town & District Association For Retarded Children

### NOTICE:

January General Meeting at the Sun Parlor School, Maidstone, Ontario, Thursday, January 12th, 1961 at 8:15 pm.

### A Review of 1960

Once again we face a new year. I wish to take this opportunity to say to each and every one of you, "a happy and prosperous new year."

As I look back, this has been a most eventful year for the Association. We have grown from a school with the threat of closing its doors, because of lack of students, to a school, (and I'm sure the teachers will back me up on this statement,) that is literally bursting at the seams. 30 pupils as of this writing.

In January, we were greatly encouraged when the Town and Township Councils agreed to back the school with financial support. We sincerely hope they will continue to do so this year.

Additional students required more transportation facilities, and in February we placed our second station wagon on the road. Also this month, the P.B.X. Club presented us with a movie projector and screen.

In March, a second teacher was added to the staff, and with the coming of spring, things ran pretty smoothly. In June we closed the school and said goodbye to Mrs. Ray and Miss Chassar who were off to Toronto to take the 5-week Department of Education Summer Course offered for teachers in our schools.

During summer months talks were held with parents of children from Amherstburg, resulting in these children being transferred from Windsor to Sun Parlor

School. When school opened in September, seams were stretched so much they couldn't take it, and one class was transferred to St. Stephen's Church Basement until a classroom closer to the school was placed at our disposal by the Separate School Board in December.

In September, Mr. Pettypiece and his money making horse show kept us all busy. With fall coming, the energies of the Association were turned to the Fund Raising drive. This carried over through October and November.

With Christmas just around the corner, all thoughts turned to our Christmas Concert held at the Essex Community Hall. An estimated 200 people attended and enjoyed seeing our children.

Money raising projects in 1960, were: Dance at Knights of Columbus Hall, McGregor, \$580; Rug, donated by Mrs. Gray (raffle), \$104; Amherstburg Horse Show—Trail Riders Saddle Club, \$441; Erie Ramblers Motorcycle Race, \$280; Band Concert, Essex-Kingsville Boys' Band, \$91; Christmas Cake (raffle at Concert), \$21.

A special and sincere thanks to each person, and every group that helped, with these projects. Best of luck to you all, and we hope to see you again this year.

1960 seemed to be especially hard on our Presidents. Dave Freeman had an operation, and on his way to recovery, fell and broke his leg. For all his misfortunes, he is looking forward with our group to a better year in 1961.

Following Mr. Freeman, we lost Gerald Shanahan due to an operation. He is also back in the fold again. Then Jerry Lavender who took over the Presidency, was transferred almost immediately to Ottawa for the remainder of 1960. Let's hope 1961 will be an easier year on presidents.

Stan Welsh,  
Vice President.

### Coming Events:

February Frolic, Saturday, February 4th, at the K of C Hall, McGregor. Sponsored by the Mothers' Auxiliary. Stan Dupuis' Orchestra, tickets \$1.25. Special Note: Please remember this is an Adult Dance.

### Did You Know?

1. The Amherstburg Auxiliary donated \$10 toward the gifts the children received from Santa at the Christmas Concert.

2. Our Brownies were guests of St. Stephen's Brownie Pack at a pot-luck supper-Christmas party. They enjoyed it too!

3. Treats for the children's Christmas were provided by the Oldcastle Women's Institute, The Playmates Club, and Mrs. Jackson (California).

### From the Region I Meeting in Chatham

The Education brief asking for more Department of Education support of our school programs (through local school boards, or increased grants) has not yet been officially accepted, but there is optimism in the cordial person reception from Department officials.

About half of the locals in the Province campaigned for funds 1½ per cent from locals will cover O.A.R.C.'s costs for the recent campaign. The budget for 1961 is only slightly higher, \$63,000.

Region I is asking for an increase in representation from locals. Regional Annual will be January 28th, Chatham.

Sun Parlor School

Our second annual Christmas

Concert was held at the Town Hall at Essex this year to facilitate a larger attendance, and about 200 persons enjoyed the program.

A pantomime of the Nativity was done by 28 of our children with the primary class in their white gowns and cellophane wings, looking truly like shining faced cherubs. Shepherds with their staves and the three Kings, and many worshippers came to kneel and place their gifts before the manger.

(much rehearsing was done at school for this, and 'things at hand' were used to represent the 'gifts'. Today mother took Larry to church for the Feast of the Three Kings, patiently explaining the reason for the churchgoing. "You remember the Christmas Concert, how the three Kings brought gifts of gold, . . .". Says Larry, "No, pegs!". It was a box of pegs he had practiced with. You can't fool the kids!")

This was the first time the children had worked on a stage, and they had only one rehearsal there, the day before. Our Dancers performed beautifully, as did the Primary class in their hoop routine, and the Seniors with their Flag drill. The Rhythm Bands (3) did a bang up job too, what with Dale's Bass drum and Sam at the Snare—then to finish off, a short skit about a tired Santa who couldn't wake up until his elves woke him with popcorn. Rudolph led the reindeer, and Mrs. Santa and Bobby Shafto and the 'girls' waved old Santa on his way. Then, just as everyone was shouting 'Merry Christmas,' who should come bounding in the Hall, but Old Santa Claus in person, and 28 kiddies could hardly wait for him to get up on the stage. Yes, they were sure a happy bunch of children!

Several kind sources provided treats for the holiday season. The annual visit to Dorwin Center, from the first visit to the reindeer at the Sportsman's Club, to the ride on the Christmas Train and Merry go Round was a thrill for all. Free rides were given the children, as well as hot chocolate from Kresge's, donated by the store.

The last day of school was a real Party Day, with games and dancing topped off by hot dogs with all the trimmings, candy and peppermint ice cream cones, and a treat to take home. Hope no one was ill afterward.

The Senior class has moved to the annex at the Separate School at Six Corners for their morning work. This provides a spot where books and equipment may be more available for use every day.

The Christmas Workshop consisting of some children from all of the classes, although mostly the older ones, did very well this year, netting about \$75 from their various Christmas projects. We regret we were not able to fill some orders, because of lack of materials.

The children were given a share of their earnings just before Christmas, based on individual performance. The balance of craft funds will go to purchase additional craft materials to be used during the year.

Gifts were made for parents too, wrapped and proudly delivered home. A very satisfying finish to a season of concentrated effort. Hope you appreciated them, even if they weren't always the best work.



# Sun Parlor-Newspaper Clippings

Jan, 1961

They said the new school, if built, will cost about \$70,000 and will serve the children in rural Essex County not already served by a retarded school.

The Sun Parlor School, only one of its kind for children of rural areas, opened in January, 1959, with an enrollment of nine. Its facilities were soon taxed and by the fall of 1960 the enrollment had climbed to 27, which resulted in overcrowding.

Pupils have had to be turned away because of the lack of space and two extra teachers and one volunteer teacher were added to the staff.

The school has received financial aid from many service clubs in the area and a government grant of \$1.25 per child per half day has assisted in paying operating costs.

Sept 25, 1961

## Sun Parlor School Grant

ESSEX — The Sun Parlor School for Retarded Children, now located here, will get a smaller grant from Essex County this year than anticipated.

As approved by County Council earlier in the year, the grant will be \$1,800, the same as last year. School officials were under the impression the grant was based on the number of pupils and accordingly now have asked for \$3,000.

Reeve John Offler of Leamington, chairman of County Council's special finance committee, said the \$1,800 grant last year was not for 188 pupils attending the school but the same as was given to Churchwood School, also for retarded children.

Mr. Offler said that no further money was available for grants but school officials have been asked to submit their request in January.

## 2nd Annual FEBRUARY FROLIC

Saturday, February 4th, 1961

Knights of Columbus Hall - McGregor, Ont.  
STAN DUPUIS ORCHESTRA

Dancing 9 to ? Adm. \$1.25 ea.  
Spot Dances and Door Prizes

Proceeds to Sun Parlor School for Retarded Children

Oct 5, 1961

## School Opening

### Retarded Children Return to Class

ESSEX—Essex and District School for Retarded Children has opened in the new location at the corner of Talbot and Cameron streets. Over 41 children enrolled the first day and there are many more on the waiting list. The children are brought by three buses making two trips each a day from all parts of Essex County except Metropolitan Windsor.

"It is gratifying to see the improvement in the children who have been here before and the joy and wonder of the new pupils who are experiencing a whole new world for the first time. Our opening was delayed because of renovations required by the Ontario Fire Marshal and some of our former pupils cried every day because they could not go to school," Mrs. Sunny Ray, principal said.

The school has appealed for volunteer workers to supervise children from one to two o'clock each afternoon.

In addition to Mrs. Ray, staff members include Mrs. Laura Rock, Windsor, Mrs. Thelma VanEenoo and Mrs. Margaret Kosokowsky of Sandwich South. Opening of the school contrasts sharply to the initial opening when four children turned out for the first class in January, 1959. The classes were held in a one-room abandoned schoolhouse on South Talbot Road in Sandwich South.

Mrs. Ray and her staff have invited the public to attend open house at the school Nov. 6 to 11.

Jan 27, 1962

## Retarded Centre Draws Plaudits

ESSEX — The Sun Parlor School for retarded children has drawn favorable comment as a result of the first inspection in the school's new location on Talbot St.

William Quance, public school inspector, said Mrs. Amelia Stocker, special service inspector for the Ontario Department of Education, had made a recent visit to the school.

Mrs. Stocker commented on the homelike atmosphere of the school and was pleased with the renovation of the building.

She congratulated the staff on the educational program being carried out.

Mr. Quance works with the education committee in screening youngsters for entry into the school and said they now have an enrollment of over 40 pupils from all parts of the county except Windsor.

Feb 13, 1962

## Retarded Group Names Officials

ESSEX — Stanley Welsh, Sandwich S., was named president of the Essex County Association for Retarded Children at the annual meeting.

Also elected to office were: Brien Pettypiece, Sandwich S., vice-president; Leo Bertoria, Sandwich S., second vice-president; Mrs. Margaret Strohm, Harrow, secretary; Harold Robidoux, Amherstburg, adult program; Arnold McLean, Essex, educational chairman; Dr. Ronald Hodgins, Kingsville, institutions chairman; John Crump, Leamington, research; Harold Beetham, Amherstburg, membership.

Jan 24, 1962

## Retarded Get Help

### Youngsters Enjoy Scout Training

ESSEX — Mentally retarded children who were once kept at home are now enjoying membership in the Boy Scout organization, according to Mrs. Sunny Ray, principal of the Sun Parlor School for Retarded Children. Mrs. Ray was guest speaker at the 7th Ladies Auxiliary Conference, Boy Scouts Essex District committee.

"Working with the mentally retarded child is much like working with a normal child," she said. "They have the same desire to be loved, wanted and to excel, and because they cannot progress as quickly, we gear our program accordingly. They show appreciation in many ways and every inch of progress is a thrill to we who work with them."

"Isolation makes a retarded child more retarded. We take our Cubs, Scouts, Brownies and Guides out in public and are proud of the way they behave. They are proud of their uniforms, perhaps more than the normal child and desperately want to be part of a group."

"Some can barely mumble the Scout promise and for some it is difficult to raise their hand in salute, but how hard they try to do what they are capable of and to help each other."

"Through participation in the Scout organization and school, we must try to help these children to go as far as they can and get the most out of life."

The success of summer camps is best expressed by the children who say when camp closes:

"I wish I didn't have to go home."



Sept 27, 1962

Mar 23, 1962

# **\$51,102 Grants Get County O.K.**

## **Retarded Children's School Top Beneficiary at \$21,650**

Grants totalling \$51,102 were approved for inclusion in the 1962 Essex County Council budget as recommended by the special finance committee.

Sept 21, 1962

## **Fund Drive Set To Aid Retarded Children**

The Sun Parlor School for Retarded Children will begin a drive throughout the County for the sum of \$40,000 to pay the balance of indebtedness on the present building and to expand the present day school program to include a young adult program and a sheltered work shop.

At present government grants cover only a portion of the cost of buying a building and do not cover any of the costs of a program for children over 18.

The Association hopes to set up a program where the over 18 age group will be able to continue under the supervision of qualified instructors. This type of program has already proved its worth in other centres.

This two week canvass for funds for the Sun Parlor School will begin October 15th. A local supervisory committee is in existence to organize the canvass from house to house. All interested persons or groups wishing to take part in this canvass should contact the local team captain.

**Sandwich South** — Mrs. M. Crowder, Walker Road.

**Colchester North** — Mrs. S. Welsh, Oldcastle or Mrs. Eve Market or Mrs. N. Rocheleau.

**Essex and Gosfield North** — Mr. D. Freeman % Essex Police Dept., Essex, Ont.

Sept 28, 1962

Sun Parlor School for Retarded Children are holding their annual drive for funds starting October 15th.

If you receive this edition of the Free Press by Thursday all interested people can attend a meeting tonight, September 27th at 8 p.m. at Sun Parlor School.

Sun Parlor School needs the help of every friend and parent to help every kid to have a break that God gave you.

Largest of the grants was \$21,650 to the Sun Parlor School for Retarded Children in Essex and this provoked the only discussion during the budget deliberation. As about \$3,000 of the figure is for capital expenditures, suburban reeves asked for the same treatment for Churchwood School. This was granted.

Agricultural grants of \$3,475 were broken down as follows:

**South Woodslee Agricultural Society, \$25; Comber Agricultural Society, \$500; Leamington Agricultural Society, \$750; Harrow and Colchester South Agricultural Society, \$500; Essex County Jersey Cattle Club, \$200; Essex County Holstein Breeders Association, \$200; junior extension work, Junior Farmers, \$300; Junior Institute, \$100; 4-H Clubs, \$100; Oldcastle Agricultural Society, \$25; Essex County Guernsey Breeders Association, \$200; Essex County Hog Producers Association, \$200; Sandwich East Horticultural Society, \$25; Essex County Shorthorn Breeders Association, \$200; Western Ontario Agricultural School, \$100; Essex County Plowmen's Association, \$50.**

**General grants:** Salvation Army, \$500; Windsor-Essex Advisory Board of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, \$1,500; Essex County Trustees and Ratepayers Association, \$250; Windsor Association for Retarded Children, \$2,800; Sun Parlor School for Retarded Children, \$21,650; Essex County Tourist Association, \$2,000; Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatic Association, \$200; North Essex Women's Institute, \$100, South Essex Women's Institute, \$100; St. John's Ambulance, Division 284, \$25; Essex County Baseball League, \$100; Assumption University of Windsor, \$18,000; Kiwanis Club of Windsor, music festival, \$300; Catholic Charities of Windsor, \$102.

The funds will be used to wipe out the \$15,000 mortgage on the present school building, for the construction of an assembly or "activity room" and to establish a sheltered workshop for retarded young adults.

The funds for the workshop must be raised through public donations because a retarded over 18 years of age is not eligible for government grants. From the ages of 5 to 12 years the school receives \$300 per year for each student and \$500 for the pupils between the ages of 12 to 18 years. This year, four of the children at the school will reach their 18th birthday.

The school facilities at present do not offer a room large enough to assemble all of the students for physical co-ordination instructions, which is an important part of the training offered to the youngsters. There are 41 pupils at the school from most parts of the county. The largest room is the music class but when we get everyone in, there is no room to move," explained Mrs. Sonny Ray, the school principal.

The \$15,000 mortgage on the building is all that is owed on a total expenditure of \$37,000 to purchase and renovate the school in 1961. The structure was formerly a doctor's residence. It was purchased for \$20,000 and changes to meet with the fire marshal's requirements consumed the remaining \$17,000.

The drive will be under the co-chairmanship of M. S. Dickson, retired vice-president of the H. J. Heinz Company, and David Freeman, of the retarded association. Mr. Dickson will coordinate the appeal to industry and Mr. Freeman will organize the house-to-house canvassers.

Mrs. Ray, who has worked with the retarded children for the past 11 years, said that the purpose of the school is to teach the children to live as normal a life as is possible with their limited abilities. "They can never lead normal lives such as you and I, but some day they will have to look after themselves," she said.

According to Mrs. Ray, the parents of the children are either over-protective or indifferent to the child. "The pupil who has had previous outside contact with people fits more readily into the training at the school," she said. Children as young as five years are being accepted by the school, this year. Although all the classrooms are in use, they are not filled to capacity and there is room for a total of 60 students.

"We make the routine here

as normal as possible," she explained. "The children are taken out to eat occasionally and there is ice skating. We go downtown at Christmas time and we have made trips to see Ambassador Bridge."

A daily routine is very important, according to Mrs. Ray. The children learn through repetition and the parents should bear in mind that the "cute antic" of a two or five-year-old are not so cute when the child is 16 or 17. She cited an instance of a boy who was very affectionate and who had been taught in his early years to express his affection to his parents by kissing. The lad got into trouble with the police in later years when the habit persisted.

Academic subjects are taught to those who are capable of grasping the lesson. "For the most part we teach them to look after themselves. Many children as old as 11 or 12 come here not knowing how to wash their hands," she said.

The most striking feature about the children is the unaffected innocence of their nature. They appear to be more generous than their normal counterpart and are readier to help each other.

Their daily prayer is as moving as it is simple. . . "Please, God, help us to learn." And learning they are—to share their limited limits not with others like themselves, but with any one who will take the time.

June 8, 1962

## **Horse Show**

All those interested in horses and horsemen can "horse around" at the horse show at the Biederman farm, at the corner of Howard Ave. and Essex Townline, June 17th, at 1 p.m.

Proceeds will go to the Sun Parlor School for Retarded Children. If you have a space Sunday and the kids are itching to be on the go, a horse show can't be beat for an afternoon outing.

The Biederman family have lent their beautiful grounds for the occasion and charitable purposes as well.

Let's all be charitable and help the retarded kids out and see local horsemen as well as visitors perform.



# Sun Parlor - Newspaper Clippings

June 21, 1963

## Sun Parlour School For Retarded Children

General meeting of Sun Parlor School will be held at the school Thursday, June 13th, at 6:30 p.m. Please note the time change. This meeting is our annual Pot Luck Supper and is mostly a social evening. So bring whatever you please to eat and we'll all share in a good old fashioned style Pot Luck supper.

Just a reminder that memberships are due. Have you paid yours yet?

There will be a horse show on June 16th at the corner of Lauzon Road and No. 2 Hwy. Mother's Auxiliary is in charge of the booth. This could be another

money making project for the school, but we'll need a little help in the booth.

It's fun time again for the Sun Parlor pupils. The picnic, races, etc., to be held at the "Old" school in Maidstone, on June 20th, at 10 a.m. Parents and friends invited. Bring a picnic lunch and join the fun and a little chit chat.

Please send in your stubs on the quilt raffle. Raffle will be at the June meeting.

Mother's Auxiliary is selling Beauty Counselor Soap. Four bars to a box. Ideal for gifts and card party prizes, \$1.50 a box, profit to the school fund. Let us know if you would like a box or if you would like to help sell it.

Mother's Auxiliary is planning a rummage sale Saturday, September 21st. Please save your old clothes for the sale. But don't take the shirt off your back. Time and place of the sale to be announced later.

June 28th will close our doors for the summer. Our children have had a happy year and enjoyed many privileges, for which we thank our many friends and parents. We wish you all a very happy summer holiday.

Recently, we have enjoyed a Concert at the Kinsmen's Centre, Windsor, put on by the Walker Ensemble of Detroit, with Kathy and Richard VanEenoo as soloists; a most wonderful and delightful visit to that joy of every child's life, the Circus. You should have seen some of their faces! It was quite an experience; and a chance to swim, courtesy of the Browns down at the Drive-In Restaurant.

A special thank you to Joe Lester of Sun Parlor Taxi for taking home a sick child when the bus driver was not available.

Special thanks also to those wonderful volunteers who came in so faithfully all year long in order that our Junior I (nursery) class might continue: Mrs. Val Cervin, Mrs. Wm. Ellis, Mrs. Wm. Mertins, Mrs. Kenneth Graff, Mrs. Ann Chiro, Mrs. Scott Rowson, Mrs. Gerald Lavendar and Mrs. Ganderton.

Our Guides and Brownies also say "Thank You" to Captain Millie Quick and Brown Owl, Evelyn Denomey for working with them all year.

There will be no further meetings for Scouts, Cubs, Guides or Brownies after Friday, June 14.

Parents: Please provide, for your child for September, running shoes of the slip on type to be left at school for gym and trampoline. Time to get them is now. They will be pretty well off the counters by September.

Will the parents of girls needing new culottes for September please get in touch with Mrs. Ray.

To date, we have 26 campers enrolled for summer camp from July 21st to August 3rd. If you have not yet registered your child, there is still time to get the application in. The children are looking forward to being to-

gether again in July for fun in the out of doors. And Mothers and Dads, this is a wonderful time for you to have a holiday too. Your child will be well supervised and happy.

1964 Sunparlours  
Retarded  
School

The Sun Parlour School  
Rhythm Band performs  
a non-competitive  
piece before the  
adjudicatorial part  
of the program began  
with 3 young trumpeters

Apr 3, 1964

## Sun Parlor School Notes

General meeting to be held Monday, April 9th at 8:15 p.m.  
Open house at Sun Parlor School Wednesday, May 6th from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Amherstburg Auxiliary will hold a dance at the K of C Hall in Amherstburg on April 18th at 9 p.m. Admission will be \$2 per couple. Proceeds for a new piano, for the music room, at the school.

Annual Scout-Guide-Cub-Brownie Pot-Luck Supper will be held April 29th at 6:30 p.m. Children are inviting their parents to a square dance.

Keep these dates in mind all of you interested in the Sun Parlor School activities. All you not interested might get interested by attending some of these functions.

May 15, 1964

## Welcome Surprise to Sun Parlor School

A cheque for \$93.81 (U. S. Funds) has been received by Mrs. Sunny Ray, Principal, of the Sun Parlor School for Retarded Children. It was sent by the Rhine Pfalz Girl Guides and Brownies at R. C. A. F. station 3 Wing, which is in Zweibruechew, Germany.

Last Christmas the groups of girls sang Christmas Carols on Christmas Eve and collected the sum of money to send to a school for retarded children.

Fortunately, a Virginia Nurse, one of the Guide Captains, having heard of the good work being accomplished at the Sun Parlor School recommended that the money be sent there.

The donation was made to help buy books or equipment which the school could not otherwise afford.

The Rhine Pfalz Girl Guides certainly believe in helping others.

Long may they sing!



Oct 22, 1964

## Chief's Visit Delights Children

### Sun Parlor School Has Fire Drill, Inspection

ESSEX—Volunteer Fire Chief Allen Maedel who donates hours of his time to the department, took time out to drive the first

truck to the Sun Parlor school for Retarded Children and give the pupils a chance to examine the equipment.

The children's delight was equalled only by that of the fire chief.

It was all part of fire drill and inspection conducted in the schools. Classes were brought to the fire hall, given lectures on fire prevention and permitted to examine the equipment.

"Children at the Sun Parlor school were wonderful at fire drill," Chief Maedel said. "Personnel cleared the school in 35 seconds. They couldn't attend

the lectures but I felt they should have equal chance to ride on the truck."

Results of fire drills showed Maplewood school cleared 382 persons in 55 seconds; J. A. Dowswell school cleared 215 in 40 seconds; Holy Name school, 306 persons in 75 seconds, and Essex District High School 1,956 persons in two minutes.

"This is an excellent record and time varies according to the structure of the school building," Chief Maedel said.

### Training Centre to Hold Official Opening

The Sun Parlor Training Centre Workshop for Retarded Adults and Physically Handicapped Adults will hold its official opening on Saturday, November 28th, from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. The official ceremonies will take place at 2 p.m.

There will be a sale of Crafts and Baked Goods. Tea and coffee will also be served. Everyone in the community is invited to attend.

The location of this centre is one mile south of No. 3 Highway at Maidstone. A green sign on No. 3 Highway at the turn off, will direct visitors to the centre. See you there.

Apr 29, 1966

Essex County Sun Parlor School will hold their next general meeting at Essex, Thursday evening, May 5th, at 8 p.m. Mrs. Farold Malott, of Cottam, will present her trip from Halifax to Vancouver and also her beautiful Canadian Bird Collection.

If any of you youngsters have found some polly wogs in the local ponds or ditches, the Sun Parlor School could use them for nature study and save the rings around mothers bath tub and a few snarls besides. Some good soul with a woods or bush on their property could also help the school kids study the signs of spring. If you would like the School to have permission to use the woods, telephone, 776-7556.

May 6, 1966

#### Sun Parlor School

Word from the Sun Parlor School is a reminder that the annual Flowers of Hope Campaign will start on Mother's Day, May 8th. Each year the school sends out little packages of unusual flowers seeds throughout the county in hopes you will send them some small donation that will help their cause for the Retarded Kids. This year the school has a special cause in adding a new addition to the school that is badly needed to advance the cause of those that can't help themselves. Essex County could give \$20,000.00 if just one dollar was donated from the homes about. One dollar will promote a great cause and no hardship to most residents who could — well you know what we mean — slip by that short beer, that extra fag, hair dye, lipstick and a few others that won't last and still won't give you your money's worth.

Thanks to Mrs. Cora Cascaden, your fine secretary, for the kind words and hope my humble boost will keep the ball rolling in the good work that you and your are striving for.

June 10, 1966

### Open House at Sun Parlor Training Centre

The Sun Parlour Training Centre located near Maidstone for Adult Retardates is holding open house on Tuesday, June 14th, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and from 6 to 8 p.m. in the evening.

It is an opportunity to see the trainees at work on contract jobs for industry; bulletins for several organizations, mat weaving, pottery, cushions, gift cards, a variety of crafts, and wood working with power tools.

Your contributions toward financing the Training Centre and the variety of materials donated makes it possible to provide our workers with work training and gainful employment.

Our open house is an occasion for the public to see what their interest has made possible.

We will be most happy to welcome you on Tuesday, June 14th.

Oct 15, 1964

## Sun Parlor School Gets Added \$2,500

County council has agreed to give the Sun Parlor School for Retarded Children, Essex, an additional \$2,500 grant toward its 1964 operating expenses.

The move was made at the suggestion of council finance committee chairman John C. Garton, of Leamington.

Mr. Garton noted that Stanley Welsh, school finance chairman had met with his committee and explained satisfactorily why the school was unable to operate on the grant given it by council at the beginning of the year.

"I feel that it is important the school end the year without a deficit," Mr. Garton said. "It is

starting into a new system in January and matters will be much simpler if it doesn't have to begin in the red."

Beginning Jan. 1, the school will be operated under a Retarded Children's Education Authority and will no longer receive grants from county council.

The town of Essex will collect tuition from various municipalities from which the school children come, and this, along with government grants, will be used to operate the school.



# Sun Parlor - Newspaper Clippings

May 27, 1966

## Programs for handicapped

### Education centres vital training aids

ESSEX—The Sun Parlor School in Essex and the Adult Training Centre in Maidstone are important additions to the area's educational facilities.

The adult training centre provides an opportunity for students to continue training when they have to leave the Sun Parlor School at 18.

The centre has an enrolment of nine trainees, with Mrs. Jeanne Collins as manager, two assistant teachers and volunteers. It is open to all handicapped adults living in rural Essex County.

The project is financed by county grants, public donations and earnings from job contracts undertaken by trainees, who pay a fee of \$20 per month when they enroll.

"Our goal for handicapped adults is to help them to achieve a degree of economic usefulness," Mrs. Collins said.

The program is geared to serve three types of retarded: Those who after adequate training may be suitable for placement in business or industry; those who may be able to work under supervision and persons who because of their limited intelligence is limited to handicraft form of occupation under supervision.

The adult program is a follow-up to the program undertaken at the Sun Parlor school.

The public is invited to attend open house at the training centre on June 14 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

July 5, 1968

News from the Sun Parlor School for Retarded Children is that the Flowers of Hope Campaign has netted over \$5400.00, which is a grand response from the public to help these youngsters. From reports there are some who have not responded and probably some more or less mislaid their envelopes that came through the mail. Even if you are not a flower lover pass them on to somebody who is and a dollar bill or so with a charitable thought might just liven your day and help a youngster in life.

Sept 30, 1966

## SUN PARLOR SCHOOL

Sun Parlor School will hold its next general meeting October 6th at the school in Essex, at 2:30 p.m. Dr. Harry Bass, of Windsor, will be the speaker for the evening.

Some \$6,000 has been received from the Flowers of Hope campaign and some still trickling in. The Flower of Hope of course is the secret package of seeds sent to Essex County people each year in which a small donation is asked for in return.

It is here that your writer wishes to plug those little packages and hopes that those that received them had the fun, enjoyment and the beauty of an unknown seed that produced in our little garden.

Two years ago we received seeds that turned out to be a very small dahlia bulb in the fall and we wondered if it was worth the time to keep them till this spring. They were planted this spring and from them we have seen beautiful unusual large and dwarf flowers this fall. Best of all we planted this year's seeds and ended up with those dwarf zinnias that were so dainty that they almost got lost in the foliage of some of the other flowers in the garden.

If you are a lover of beauty surely those flowers gave you pleasure also but the thought behind the seeds has more

thought that it is the reminder that maybe you are charitable and helped others which is one of the Almighty's spirit in your system and promise that we will be rewarded another place and another time.

Mar 10, 1967

## Sun Parlor School

Sun Parlor School for Retarded Children, at Essex, is sponsoring a dance April 15th, at the Canadian Legion Hall, Essex. The K-Griffin Trio from Cottam will provide the music and a luncheon will be served.

It is believed that only about 150 tickets will be on sale so get your orders in early. Tickets may be obtained from Katie Walters, Doreen Welsh or secretary, Cora Cascadden.

Joke from the Sun Parlor bulletin, we will pass on to you and see if you know your provinces like this student did. Teacher was explaining to the seniors the divisions of the Canadian provinces that make up the nation.

"Mrs. Kosokowsky — Now tell me, what is Canada divided into? Student (hopefully) — All those Protestants?"

Sept 29, 1967

## New classrooms, playroom

### School addition opening Oct. 19

ESSEX — Official opening ceremonies will be held Oct. 19 for the new Sun Parlor

for Retarded Children School addition.

F. J. Reynolds, adminis-

trator, special schools and services, Ontario Department of Education, will be guest speaker.

The addition was built at an approximate cost of \$118,000. It includes two classrooms and a playroom.

Costs are being shared by the provincial government and the County of Essex.

The expansion was necessitated by increased enrollment. Attendance has doubled in the past three years. There are now 72 students.

The board hopes to be able to provide an adult training centre as well.



# Sun Parlor - Newspaper Clippings

June 20, 1969

## Applies for licence

### Sun Parlor growing

ESSEX—What began as a three-pupil school for the retarded two years ago in a church basement is expected to become a full-fledged nursery school this fall.

Sun Parlor Nursery School has applied for a full nursery school licence, and officials expect it to be operating as such by September.

The school's enrolment is now 11, with two applications

pending and a possible three more entries in the fall.

Five pupils will leave at the end of the school term to enter kindergarten in September.

The school has not been without its growing pains, however.

The size of the class doubled in the first year. Then last year, Essex town council authorized the operators of the school, the Essex County Association for Retarded Children, to use the old Bungalow School on Irwin Ave.

Although the building hadn't been used in several years, volunteer groups, including the Queensmen Club of Windsor, a motorcycle club, pitched in to clean up the building and help in renovations.

As donations came in, the school sported a new paint job, drapes floor covering, new plumbing and furniture and equipment.

Mrs. Mae Ganderton, who founded the school, will retire this year, leaving Mrs. Emile Walters to take over in September.

July 3, 1969

### Church annexed for school use

ESSEX—Because of lack of accommodation at the Sun Parlor School for Retarded Children, the Essex Board of Education has leased the former Essex Baptist Church for a period of two years to provide temporary accommodation for four classes of pupils.

In another resolution, the board agreed to pay transportation to Windsor for physically handicapped children for which it can't provide courses of instruction and to pay transportation costs for physically handicapped children attending similar courses in Michigan.

Apr 30, 1971

The School for Mentally Retarded Children was first opened in a small one room school located at Maidstone. The Building was donated to a group of parents by the Sandwich South School Board through the efforts of the Chairman, Mr. Henry Hartley.

Even with the building now available, many problems faced the group of struggling parents bound together by one common problem, they were the parents of a retarded child.

To better understand, let us examine a parent and the problem they faced in the early years.

After the heart break they faced when they realized their child was different and would always be different, came the realization of what will we do, where will we go for help? In the early years help was not

to be had easily, everyone was willing to listen, but few were able to offer any advice.

The first thoughts that enters the parents minds are, how will our friends accept this child what will the neighbours think, what will my parents think, how will I ever be able to take this child anywhere without suffering the embarrassment of people staring and talking behind my back?

Probably at the time the first thought, however distasteful it might be was to put the child in an institution but is this really the thing to do? For a few parents it was not and from common desire to give these children as full a life as they could possibly enjoy was born the first Association for the Retarded. The place North Bay, the time, nearly 30 years ago.

Sept 18, 1970

### Walk set to assist retarded

ESSEX — More than 1,000 persons are expected to take part in the Essex County Walk for the Mentally Retarded scheduled to begin here Sept. 26 at 8 a.m., according to final plans revealed here by the walk committee.

The walk will begin from the Essex District High School and proceed along a 20-mile course back to the town. Checkpoints for the walkers will be placed every two to three miles along the route.

All secondary schools within the county have already registered students for the walk and assemblies are expected to be held during next week to finalize plans with the youngsters. Any youngster over eight-years-old can participate.

Applications are still being accepted and forms are available in stores throughout the county displaying signs advertising the walk.

Refreshments will be served along the route. An insurance policy has also been taken out by the committee to financially protect any marcher struck by a car during the walk.

Walkers will be expected to register at each checkpoint along the route in order to qualify for a certificate which will be presented later.

Oct 8, 1971

### A.R.C. Industries Officially Opened

The Adult Rehabilitation Centre in Essex was officially opened by Gosfield South Reeve Dick Thompson, who represented Essex County during ceremonies on Saturday afternoon.

A.R.C. Industries is managed by the Essex County Association for Retarded Children, for the unemployable handicapped adults of Essex County to help them work and lead a more useful life.

The lot for the new building was purchased in 1970. The new building, 96 feet by 60 feet was completed this year at a cost of \$79,000, of which \$27,675 was raised by "The Essex County Walk For The Mentally Retarded", sponsored by the Kinsmen Clubs of Essex, Kingsville, Harrow, Leamington and Amherstburg, as well as the Lions Club of Belle River.

Area lodges of Oddfellows and Rebekahs donated a van for use by the centre, last month.

At present there are 26 trainees with a waiting list of 10. The building is constructed to hold a total of 55 trainees. The centre operates from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., doing sub-contract work, crafts and woodworking. Additional information can be obtained by phoning 776-7001 or visiting the centre.



Apr 5, 1972

## Flowers of Hope campaign begins

The Flowers of Hope campaign by the Essex County Association for Retarded Children this year is intended to raise sufficient funds to complete the final mortgage payment on the Adult Rehabilitation shop in Essex.

The group endeavours to provide a full program for retarded persons who are not under the regular school program. Assistance from both the Provincial and Municipal government is received but the Association operates the preschool program for children from 2-5 years.

When they are 21, they must leave the school program and in most cases these people are unable to cope with the highly competitive work force of to-day. The work program provided by the Association is the A.R.C.

Industries.

The new A.R.C. Industries building in Essex services young people from all of the county, with 29 enrolled and many applications for admission on file.

Help that people have so generously supplied in the past has made the work possible. Their continued help and support is needed.

The Provincial government is to begin phasing down such schools as Cedar Springs and will create an increased need for A.R.C. as the present plan will return many of the Cedar Springs people to our community. The Flowers of Hope fund drive will begin on Mother's Day, for the week of May 14. Each family will receive an envelope containing flower seeds and a return envelope for their donation to the Association.

Nov 23, 1972

## Sunparlor students dislike labels

The staff of the Sun Parlor School and the boys and girls who learn here, want to thank the people of Essex and the surrounding community for their acceptance of them and for their friendliness and helpfulness whenever called upon for support. Mrs. Sunny Ray, principal told the "Essex Times" in an interview this week.

"It means so much to us to be able to use Essex as a teaching laboratory, to be able to take our children anywhere and know that they will be welcome," Mrs. Ray continued. "In fact, we have had letters from organizations who have been host to our pupils, telling us what a pleasure it was to be visited by such well-mannered and appreciative young people."

By next January the Sun Parlor School will be a new modern building adjoining Essex District High School. It will accommodate 125 students. There will be 11 classrooms, a gymnasium, a home economics room, an industrial arts shop, a staff room and a health room. The same

devoted staff will be on tap to help the children get acquainted with the new building. Mrs. Ray says that while the home-like atmosphere of Dr. Clare's residence was an important factor in easing the children's adjustment from their own homes to the school, she believes the children are now ready for a more formal institutional setting. They enjoy being in school, just like their normal brothers and sisters and are looking forward to doing all the things that will be possible in the new setting.

Thirteen years ago a group of concerned parents, with the assistance of the Sandwich South public school board and the Windsor Association for Retarded Children, which had been formed some years earlier, opened the first Sun Parlor School in the Sandwich South, S.S. No. 5 building, a brick one-room school. The public school children were then attending the new Charles Collins School, and the school board was only too happy to see the other structure put to a useful purpose.

Aug 31, 1972

## ARC industries

Plans are underway to expand the ARC Industries (Adult Rehabilitation Centre) which gives further training to many of the graduates of the Sunparlour Training School. An additional 2800 square feet are to be added to the existing building.

The new building finished last year cost \$79,000 to construct. ARC Industries is a non-profit organization managed by the Essex County Association for Retarded and provides work for the unemployed handicapped in the county.

Mrs. Ray, who had previously taught in the Windsor school, was the first principal, and there were four pupils. By June of that year the enrollment had increased to twelve, and in June of 1961 four teachers were trying to teach four classes totalling 32 children in that one room. Sometimes the scene could only be described as chaotic. Obviously new and larger quarters were needed quickly. There was no time to build. The parents bought Dr. Clare's house and converted it to school use. Two years later an additional entry stairway was built. By 1967 the gym was added, and a more ambitious physical education program was possible.

At last they were receiving the individual attention they needed, and they no longer felt inadequate or different from everyone else. There were no tensions. With everyone in the cheering section, the children began to advance faster than they

or their parents had dreamed was possible. Some even "graduated" back into the regular classroom.

Mrs. Ray explained that the aim of the school staff is to help each child realize his highest potential. They help the pupil to become independent and responsible for his own actions as far as possible. Some of them learn to read, often to a Grade Three level. They are taught to think and to have a realistic picture of themselves and their value in relation to the community.

When the children were told they were soon to have a new school, they were asked to tell what they liked and what they didn't like about their present one. They said they didn't like labels. It was not nice to have to ride in a bus labeled Sun Parlor School for Retarded School. It took a year of explanations, to the service clubs which provided the buses the County School Board and other authorities, to achieve the change, but now the buses read just, "Sun Parlor

School." These children are entitled to their dignity and sense of worth just as much as any other person, regardless of I.Q.

A class from Cedar Springs visited yesterday. It was noticed that these children who live in an institution were not as self-confident or as outgoing as the Sun Parlor students. It is likely that restrictions of economy mean a staff of inadequate size to permit giving all the training needed to help these children to be more independent.

In the meantime, the children and the teachers are busy doing what children in all schools are doing--preparing for Christmas. They are making bright wreaths with coat hangers and the plastic envelopes that protect the "Windsor Star."

So the children and the staff at the Sun Parlor School, with the cooperation of everyone in the surrounding community are looking forward to moving day sometime in January of the new year. Bright days are ahead!



Feb 16, 1973

## Return of retarded children seen straining area facilities

ESSEX — The return of institutionalized mentally-retarded children to their home communities is expected to create additional pressure on limited training facilities available in Essex County.

The Ontario government would like to phase out Cedar Springs Hospital School and similar institutions across the province.

Addressing the Essex County Association for the Mentally Retarded annual meeting here Wednesday night, President Stan Welsh, of Oldcastle, warned that the policy should be implemented slowly.

Mr. Welsh said ARC Industries in Essex is fast reaching the point it cannot undertake training any more retarded adults.

He said the Essex County association in the past year approached the Ministry of Social and Family Services, seeking financial assistance in initiating an expansion program.

"We were told that there are still a number of places across the province without

workshops and we are just going to have to wait," the president said.

Mr. Welsh said the ministry also required the association to have money available for capital expansion.

"We still owe \$2,000 on the original building," he said.

The president said that while a grant is received from Essex County council, the association will in the future need to concentrate on increasing its return from fund-raising projects.

Mr. Welsh said the trainees currently involved in the ARC Industries training program last year returned \$17,000 on products manufactured and sold.

But, he said, the association this year faces an estimated \$11,000, despite the significantly increased ARC Industries earnings.

"We are asking county council to make up the difference," the president said. "If they don't, we'll be out of business."

Mr. Welsh said there are currently about 135 retarded children involved in pre-

school, Essex County Board of Education, and ARC Industries training program.

"We felt the ARC Industries building here in Essex would accommodate demand for the next five or six years at the time it was built. It didn't."

At the same time, he said, the nursery school program is outgrowing its accommodations.

Mr. Welsh said the present Sun Parlor School for the Retarded will soon become vacant.

He said the county board of education will have completed construction of new school for the retarded, located behind Essex District High School, within the next few weeks.

The president said the association hopes it will be allowed to make use of the former school building to accommodate growth in the nursery program.

Elected to two-year terms on the association's board of directors were:

Herb Taylor, Belle River; Joseph Aussant, Tecumseh; Mr. Welsh; George Yaum, St. Clair Beach; and John Canil, Windsor.

Mar 23, 1973

## New school means new hope for many children

A new school will be opened in Essex - new in construction and design, and relatively new in concept. It is the Sun-parlour School for the mentally handicapped.

It is only in recent years that Canada has recognized the full dimensions of the problems of these students. It is estimated that 12% of Canada's population under 19 years of age suffer some form of handicap, emotional or perceptual, that prevents them from learning in the normal way. In other words there are about one million children and youth in Canada with a learning disability. About 13% boys and 7% girls are born with some mental handicap.

The personal distress of failure for these children can be avoided or at least lessened. This new school is a means of doing just that.

One parent whose child had a learning disability said, "At one time they were left outside the gates of the city. I sometimes think we haven't progressed very much."

But we are progressing. The professions involved have begun to search for new ways to help. Those most closely involved with these children; teachers, social workers, doctors, are being informed and included in programs of treatment and rehabilitation.

Those children who need help are those who are neurotic, psychotic, retarded, have

learning problems, or are seriously deprived culturally and emotionally.

If these children are to live normal full lives, they must not be isolated or segregated. While they cannot compete in the regular school system, the experience and guidance of such a school as has just been built allows opportunity for them to have a near normal experience of school and community life.

To really assist these children the people of Canada must be willing to offer support. A change in attitude is necessary. Provision of educational opportunities such as those offered at this new institution is significant in that changes are taking place.

Society must not allow children to become total victims of mental retardation because of our fatalistic attitude towards intelligence. We tend to see failure as a result of low intelligence. Offered a sense of achievement through the opportunity to accomplish according to their ability, many of these children begin to demonstrate learning capacity in areas never before realized. Much is yet to be learned about how to help learning - disabled children. New and modern schools alone, are not enough. They provide the best we have to offer as those who are involved do continue to learn new methods of teaching and greater understanding of the problems involved for the child and for the teacher.



Mar 14, 1974

## Waiting list forces ARC to start building

ESSEX — A waiting list of 23 has forced the expansion of the Adult Rehabilitation Centre, known as ARC Industries, in Essex County.

A 60 by 48-foot addition, which will cost an estimated \$40,000, is under construction at the rear of the existing building. A fund drive will be launched in May, along with the regular Flowers of Hope campaign sponsored by the Essex County Association for the Mentally Retarded.

The present workshop, built in 1971, provides training facilities for 44 mentally retarded. Wood working, hand crafts, salvage work, packaging and assembly work for industry make up the program.

Expansion of the 3,000 square feet would provide a separate workshop to eliminate noise and dust from the regular work area. In addition it would provide badly needed storage space and room for more workers.

Sources of funds for the extension have not been deter-

mined, but Stan Welsh, president of the association, said appeals have been made to all service clubs in the county.

Application for a government grant that would pay 25 per cent of the cost is being considered by the ministry of social and family services which questions the need for an expansion so soon after the building was opened. The ministry suggests the directors should have anticipated the increase in enrolment, although the ministry sent workers from Cedar Springs to the workshop without sufficient previous notice to be included in building plans in 1971.

Neither Cedar Springs nor welfare referrals were considered in the construction plans, and the facilities are being strained to capacity.

Mr. Welsh said: "We are here to provide these facilities for the people who need them. We are not providing the services we say we are if we are providing it to only half the people who need it".

Mar 14, 1974

## A friendly place

A.R.C. Industries is a lively and friendly place and it is a joy to visit the 44 young adults, the four supervisors and Mrs. Shirley Hartley, the director of A.R.C. "We like people to come in at any time... the doors are always open to people," Mrs. Hartley said. "The young people need the social contact."

A few years ago, a loom was donated to the workshop. Mrs. Hartley asked Mrs. R. Piroski of Essex, better known as Grandma Piroski, to give her advice

about stringing the loom. Grandma Piroski now does the stringing for the workshop as a volunteer.

Mr. Harry Pettypiece of Essex is another volunteer. He spends much time at A.R.C. and all the trainees like him. At the moment he is making a doll house which he wants to raffle off, with the proceeds going toward the building fund of A.R.C.

"There is always room for more volunteers," Mrs. Hartley remarked. "Especially when the new part opens,"

In February, A.R.C. organized a Valentine's dance and invited the Windsor Workshop. 120 people attended and it was a great success.

"They were such a handsome bunch of young people. Some of the girls came in long gowns..." The slides she made of the event proves that she is right. A slim dark-haired girl in a blue floor-length dress dances happily with a young neatly groomed man.

THE ESSEX TIMES  
MARCH 14, 1974

## Essex County Association for Retarded Children

A.R.C. Industries is a part of the Essex County Association for retarded children, which began with a small group of parents of mentally handicapped children in 1955. The Association received its charter on September 11, 1961. The affairs of the Association are managed by a Board of Directors which is elected by the membership and con-

sists of ten members. The Ladies Auxillary is a separate organization, dedicated to provide funds and direct personal assistance as volunteers to the Association.

Funds are obtained from campaigns, fund raising projects and grants from local government and from the Ministry of Community and Social Services.

The next fund raising campaign will be the Flower of Hope seeds and the trainees in A.R.C. are doing their share that this campaign will have a good start. They are putting seeds in plastic bags, stapling the bags and make sure they are put in envelopes to be sent out during the first week of May.

THE ESSEX COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

WITH THE PUPILS and STAFF of:

THE SUN PARLOR SCHOOL

invite you to attend

THE OFFICIAL OPENING

Sunday 27th of May 1973

AT 2 PM

The new Sun Parlor School is located  
southwest of Essex District High School

May 29, 1973

## Morning breaks at new school for the retarded

By MARK BONOKOSKI

ESSEX — "For each child, a place" . . . the words on the cornerstone of a school where "second-class citizen" is an anachronism.

Sun Parlor School for retarded children.

After 20 years of involvement in the teaching of retarded children in Essex County, principal Sunny Ray gets the "first brand new school she has ever had".

It opened Sunday . . . officially. The kids attending Sun Parlor gathered before a 300-plus capacity audience and sang Morning Has Broken, a seemingly appropriate melody composed by folk-rock artist Cat Stevens.

For the finale, the song was Happiness Is (A Brand New School).

The school itself—a modern, colorfully-designed structure—had its foundation laid in August 1972 and the 89 students moved into the premises in March.

A. Mary Stocker, educational officer for the curriculum services branch of the ministry of education, was at the opening day ceremonies as guest speaker, filling in for the branch's director, R.G. Rist who is sick in Toronto.

Reading from a prepared text, Mrs. Stocker said the Sun Parlor School was "one of the first of its kind to be provided by the local Board of Education, incorporating specifically designed facilities for the training of the mentally retarded in the local school system."

"These excellent training facilities will provide a variety of learning opportunities and occasions for social interaction, most essential for the students at this school to grow into acceptance into the community," she said.

Mrs. Stocker said the educational system extends past the four walls of a classroom into the larger framework of the whole community.

"Among educators and society at large," said Mrs. Stocker, "there is a growing insistence on educational programs flexible and broad

enough to respond to the wide range of capacities, interests, and needs of the individual children."

The commitment? "Every individual be enabled to grow to his full capacity".

The persons responsible in seeing this commitment through? The teachers.

"In the modern concept of education," said Mrs. Stocker, the teacher has a key part to play in planning daily and long-range programs and in carefully evaluating the progress of each student.

"It is the teacher's role to provide the variety of learning opportunities and experiences that will encourage the individual growth of each student," she said.

Mrs. Stocker stressed that it is the teacher who "shares daily in the learning processes of the retarded children and provides that human understanding that is increasingly important in any educational program."

The barriers are coming down around the mentally retarded.

"With social attitudes changing, the retarded child is entering a new era," said Mrs. Stocker. "Now he has a better chance to develop freely and to live with his parents at home."

"Parents, on the other hand, need no longer feel inadequate, ashamed, or guilty," she said.

The new trend in the development of programs for the trainable retarded in the community reflects in part a new sense of optimism, she said.

"Optimism about the ability of the mentally retarded to make the adjustment to home situations."



June 13, 1974

## ARC Industries to make 1,500 pompoms for float

ESSEX — If 1,500 blue and gold pompoms will make a prize winning float then the Royal Bank float should be the best in the Leamington Centennial parade.

Ten girls of the Adult Rehabilitation Centre staff in Essex are turning out the gay decorative items to fill one of the largest orders they have ever had at the Essex County ARC Industries. Each girl can make an average of 50 to 60 a day.

Toilet tissue makes the best pompoms, according to the director of ARC,

Mrs. Shirley Hartly. It fluffs better than cleansing tissue, requires no cutting and comes in brighter colors. The pieces are separated as perforated, stacked, tied in the middle and fluffed.

It is the second order of that size for the centre. The other came from Dearborn, Mich. for a wedding and last year a Leamington wedding required, 1,400 for decorations. Making the pompoms provides continuous work for the trainees, although there is a greater demand in the summer months.

Nov 26, 1976

## Student Home In The Planning

Carl Sobie, manager of ARC Industries reports the Association for the Mentally Handicapped are working on the proposal for a residence and the house approved by Essex council on the question of zoning is under consideration. However the proposal still had to be considered by the district working group, then submitted to the sub district before going to the provincial level. Funding would come through the working group process.

# New facilities for Sun Parlor School

— Construction commenced on November 3rd, 1975 on an addition to the Sun Parlor School. This self-contained addition will house the Nursery Program. It will be the first permanent home for the program and culminates two years of planning, searching and working by the Nursery Committee for a suitable and permanent place from which to serve the County Pre-School Children with special needs. Up to this point the program has been operated from three different localities.

It was back in 1967 that the Essex County Association For Retarded realizing the importance of early and proper stimulation accepted its responsibility and began looking for a place from which to operate the program. Reverend Thistle and the Board of Directors of the Essex Baptist Church located at the time on Talbot Street gave permission to operate the program in the Queensmen's Motorcycle Club, generous Merchants of Essex, members of the Essex County Association For Retarded Children and Parents, the Bungalow School was painted, repaired and generally brought up to standards required by the Fire Marshall and the Board of Health to permit being granted a license by Day Care. In January of 1970 the Nursery Program began operating from the Bungalow School and remained there till June 1975. The wear and tear on any building shows. To bring the Bungalow School up to standards requested by the Board of Health would have required a great deal of money and the end results would still be inadequate to meet today's needs.

The Nursery Committee has been working very hard attempting to obtain financial assistance for construction of a facility when in 1974 the Provincial Government announced that \$15,000,000.00 would be made available to the Province for Day Care expansion. In August a letter was written to the Ministry of Community and Social Services requesting a grant for the construction of a much-needed facility. In October a letter was received from the Honorable Rene Brunelle, Minister of Community and Social Services stating that the application had been approved in principle. Meetings followed with the Essex County Board of Education to draft an agreement to construct the unit on Board property. To meet all requirements stipulated by regulations Mr. J. G. Hreno and the Building Committee met with the Staff from the Ministry of Community and Social Services. Approval was finally received on October 28, 1975 for construction to begin.

At present and until construction is completed the Nursery Program is being operated from Room Two of the Sun Parlor School, having moved to this room September 8th, 1975.



# ARC renovations to be completed in July

By ROBVAN NIE

ESSEX — Renovations that are required for the ARC Industries workshop here to comply with labor ministry regulations are expected to be completed this summer.

Daphne Pugh, interim manager of ARC industries, which provides job training for retarded adults, said Tuesday that rewiring and installation of dust collector equipment at the workshop should be completed in July.

The labor ministry ordered the Essex County Association for Retarded Children, which operates the workshop, to make the renovations. The workshop employs about 64 adults and produces heavy lawn furniture.

Ms. Pugh said it will cost the non-profit organization about \$15,000 for rewiring, \$8,500 to install dust collectors on wood-working ma-

chines, and \$200 to \$500 for safety devices.

Government grants will pay about 80 per cent of the cost, but the association will have to put up the money before it can collect the grants, Ms. Pugh said.

The association expects it can raise the money to make the renovations now that it has received a \$9,000 grant from Essex County Council.

Ms. Pugh said the labor ministry has been lenient with ARC Industries because the government recognizes the organization's limited resources.

"They're not going to close us down unless it (the work) is not going to be done," she said.

The association also raises money through an annual spring flower of hope campaign and receives funds from the province-wide cash-

for-life lottery.

During the flower of hope campaign, packets of flower seeds are sent to homes in the county in return for donations.

The ARC workshop recently switched from making wooden children's toys to producing heavy wood lawn furniture because a lack of a suitable marketing program made production of the toys unprofitable, said Stan Welsh, director of programs and residences for the association.

A gas station ARC Industries operated in Essex in 1976 proved to be "a disaster," Welsh said. It was closed after showing an annual operating loss of almost \$20,000.

One reason the gas station failed was because it opened at the same time a trend to self-serve stations took hold,

Welsh said.

Some ARC workshops in the province only accept retarded persons who show promise of being able to eventually enter the workforce, but that is not the policy at the Essex workshop, he said.

Ms. Pugh said ARC Industries has placed three people in private industry so far and two more may get outside jobs.

The retarded adults are paid \$5 a week at the workshop, intended to be an incentive rather than a wage, said Ms. Pugh.

Welsh said that without the workshop, retarded adults would have no where to go after age 21.

The association's Sun Parlor School for retarded children doesn't accept anyone older than 21.

Apr 26, 1978  
Sun Parlor - Newspaper Clippings



Sun Parlor School continued

Applications for admission of a child to Sun Parlor School may be obtained from Mrs. Brien Pettypiece, Secretary, or from Mrs. Ray at the school. Mr. Quance, a qualified psychologist, has offered to test applicants. This, we hope will eliminate long delays in admissions.

Parents please note!

When a child is ill and not attending school, please call the driver before quarter to eight in the morning or the school before noon for afternoon pupils.

Transportation fees, if given to the driver, should be put in an envelope and clearly marked with name of child and labelled 'Transportation'. Thank you. Receipts will be sent.

For Parents Especially

There are books at the school which you are most welcome to read. The only condition is that you let Mrs. Ray know you are taking out such a book. Here is a paragraph from 'The Challenge of the Retarded Child' by Sister Mary Theodore, O.S.F. of St. Colletta's residential school for retarded children in Wisconsin. Sister Mary Theodore has worked with retarded children for over 30 years.

"The retarded child has a certain right to the self-sacrificing care of the family if his needs can be met in the home. As he grows and matures, slowly though it may be, he also has a responsibility to the home and family. Habits of kindness, punctuality, honesty, faithfulness to duty, truthfulness and cheerful perseverance in simple tasks may compensate for lack of higher mentality. These traits can be taught most effectively by good example. No amount of words used for instructional purposes can have the force of example which will ever remain the most eloquent form of teaching."

.....  
Everyone will be pleased to learn that some of our Day pupils have taken on the job of collating monthly bulletins for the Local Council of Women of Windsor. This job, though it is only temporary, will introduce our 'junior workshop' program!

From time to time the children will be making things for sale. They have already started on coin purses and moccasins. These items, although they are not expert workmanship, are nicely done, and we are proud that the children are learning so soon.

Gerald Shanahan,  
Bulletin Editor.



Oct. 1959.

ESSEX TOWN AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION  
for Retarded Children

Affiliate of: Ontario Association for Retarded Children and the Canadian  
Association for Retarded Children.

Operating: SUN PARLOR SCHOOL - Maidstone, Ontario -- REdfield 7-6322

NOTICE

Next General Meeting - Thursday, October 8, 8 p.m.  
At the school.

Our Charter will be presented at this meeting. Come and help us  
celebrate!

A WORD OF THANKS

Our sincere thanks go to the Windsor Association  
for Retarded Children and Churchwood School for  
their most valuable assistance in helping us get  
started and in backing us until we were able to  
stand alone.

Sincere thanks go also to the many Councils, church  
groups, service clubs and others who have shown so  
much interest and support for our new school.

OFFICERS

|            |                       |                 |
|------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| President  | Mr. Henry Hartley     |                 |
| Vice-Pres. | Mr. Elmer Queen       |                 |
|            | Mr. Stan Welsh        |                 |
| Secretary  | Mrs. Brien Pettypiece | REdfield 7-6013 |
| Treasurer  | Mr. Chester Marshall  |                 |
| Executive  | Mr. Gerald Shanahan   |                 |
|            | Mr. Howard Market     |                 |
|            | Mr. Joe Rocheleau     |                 |
|            | Mr. Brien Pettypiece  |                 |
|            | Mr. Milton Farrell    |                 |
|            | Mrs. Stan. Welsh      |                 |
|            | Mrs. Stan Welsh       |                 |
|            | Mr. Gerald Shanahan   |                 |
|            | Mr. Stan Welsh        |                 |
|            | Mrs. Margaret Brown   |                 |
|            | Mr. Dave Freeman      |                 |

Committees

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Education      |  |
| Transportation |  |
| Membership     |  |
| Bulletin       |  |
| House          |  |
| Publicity      |  |
| Fund Raising   |  |

SUN PARLOR SCHOOL

Sun Parlor School opened its doors on Tuesday, September 8th for its first  
full day session with eleven pupils. Two are over 12 years of age and attend  
all day. Children under twelve years may attend only half-day.

The children are all happy to be back at school  
again and it is most encouraging to see how much  
they have remembered of things learned earlier  
in the year.

A shiny, black station wagon is on rental from Mr. Queen, Essex, and our new  
driver-helper, Mrs. Jenner, is finding her job a pleasant one. Mrs. Jenner  
assists at the school when not driving the children.

We welcome Gerry Dunn and Dennis Denomey to our  
classes. This brings our present enrollment to  
eleven. We also extend a hearty welcome to Mr.  
Bill Quance of Essex #2 who replaces Mr. Young,  
and who will assist Mr. Leitch in working with  
the school. Mr. Quance has had previous exper-  
ience with retarded children and was at one time  
Inspector for O.A.R.C. schools.



