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The Fishbowl- Jul. 15, 1972

Uptown Center Staff

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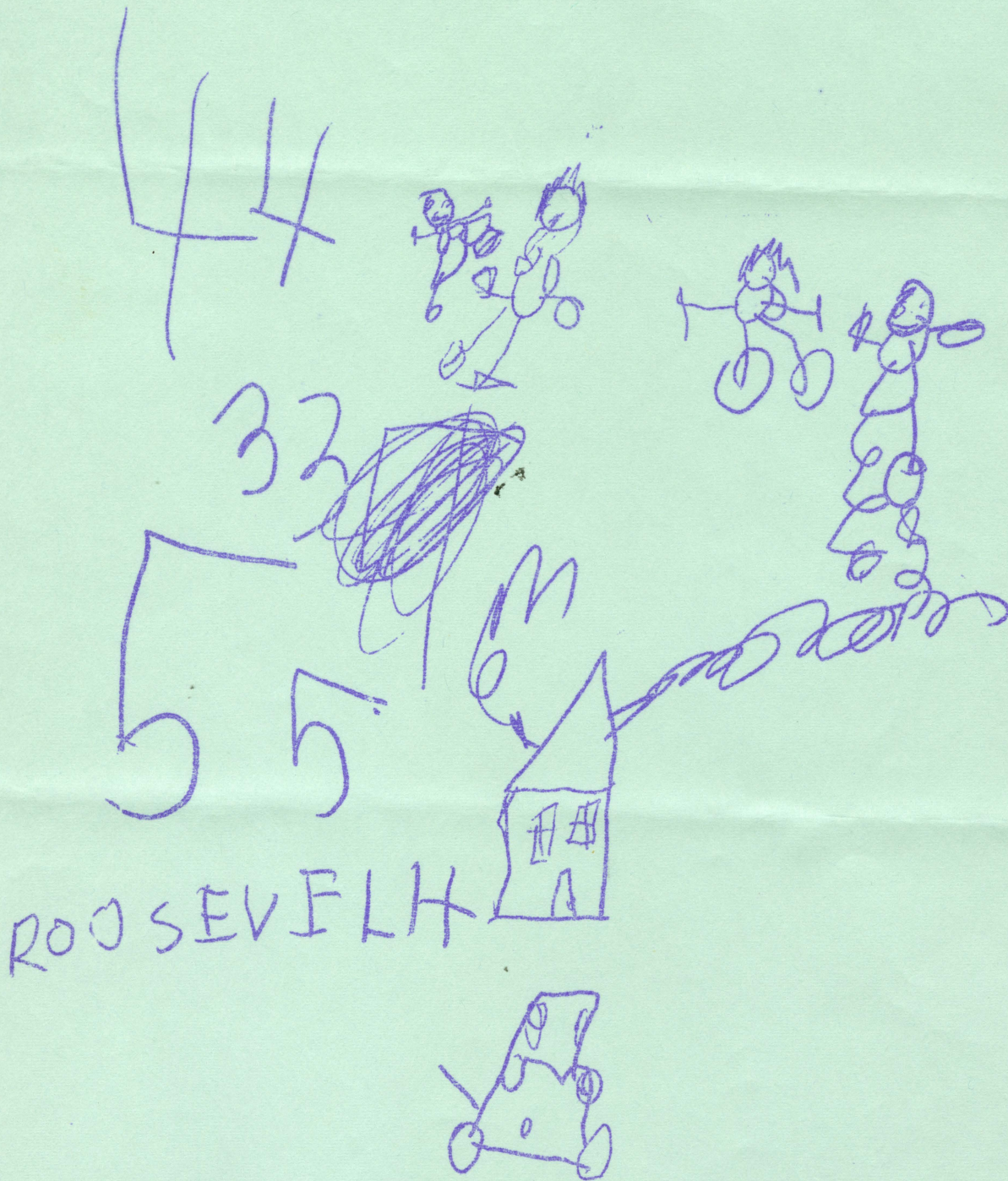
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THE FIELD CENTER

VOL. 1 NO. 7

4401 N. Sheridan

July 15, 1972



ROOSEVELT

Cover Design:
Roosevelt Johnson Jones
Age 5
Field Center Play Kare

(CONT FROM PAGE 5)

We are still trying to figure out what we are going to do with the Legal services we are getting now. Anyone is welcome to come to steering committee on July 26, when we will deal with this problem.

SPANISH GED

A group of Latin American students saw the necessities of the Spanish people and decided to develop a GED class in Spanish, for the Spanish speaking. The classes are offered from Monday through Friday, 7 to 9 p.m.

We also help to solve other problems of the Spanish community, such as mental health and Legal Aid.

.....Emma Criollo
Al Tellez

Un grupo de estudiantes latinos, viendo las necesidades de la comunidad latina, y problemas de educacion, estan organizando el programa de GED en spanol. Las clases se ofrecen de lunes a viernes de 7 a 9 p.m.

Tambien se ayudan a resolver otros problemas, que la comunidad tiene, como problemas de salud mental y problemas legales.

.....Emma Criollo
Al Tellez

HIKE ON APPALACHIA....Guy Reyes

Well we ended up safe and sound and alive. Starting the Appalachia trail, things became apparent as to some of the things we would face during the entire course; as individual personalities and needs.

Returning, to what some may call civilization. Some of the experiences and knowledge that some of us gain was the lifestyle of coal miners, and southern Appalachian mountain people.

PEOPLE, WORDS, NAMES AND PLACES.

EDITORIAL

In place of the editorial for this issue of the Fishbowl, we are establishing a new policy and format for the newsletter. It isn't something that one or two people can do or should do. It is an important and necessary form of communication to let everyone know what everyone else is doing,

To do this we are beginning to gather information from all the different programs and groups, and organizations through out the field center.

It begins by introducing a new cover done by Roosevelt J. Jones from the play-kare program, which is about things that go on in play-kare every day eight hours a day. This is his work-- cars, houses, people, brothers, elephants and ages. It is the Spanish speaking students beginning a column in Spanish and English; working every evening and Saturday on Spanish GED; about Native American Committee announcing their rummage sale, which pays one month rent for their offices or their management of the High School; it is about the Appalachian trail hikers returning and working through the floods, bears and mountains and meeting families; it is about Legal Services and the changes going on there; it is about the development of new courses at the Field Center and the seven people moving into the University Without Walls.

The field center is about communication that works across cultural and racial language barriers in Uptown. Communication is work. Silence, action, work, classes, teaching, and meetings. Policy is set in steering committee to make communication work. The newsletter is one necessary and vital part.

Each issue will have articles, announcements, and papers written by everyone. When we ask, and we're going to ask - it is really saying - can you tell other people what you're doing.

THE WAITER AND OLD JONES AT
THE FAMILY INN.

LOIS EVANS

Old Doc Jones was just like every other boss I ever had; he wasn't too bad to work for if you were slick. But if you fell for all his jive talk about incentive and bonuses and listen to him call you "son," you'd be in trouble. Well, I wasn't about to fall for his bit happy-family line. No, no, not me. I was to hip for that. Besides I didn't need him to give me any bonuses you dig? I was a pro at arranging "private" bonuses long before, I answered the want ad as head waiter, for a night job at the Family Inn Restaurant.

I had my operation down cold. In fact, I was so cool, I could set up my own salary and make it. A couple of months after I went to work for Doc, he handed out bonus envelopes. The others complained privately that they were surprisingly thin; even Old Doc wore an expression that was apologetic and said in a voice of puzzlement, "As long as we're a family we can make it." That was so funny I nearly laughed in all their faces. Instead, I decided to reduce the amount of my "private" bonus. No use in spoiling a good thing too fast.

The Family Inn was in the heart of town and always busy. Each night I came to work I followed a set routine. I would always sign in five minutes ahead of time, to show incentive, you dig. Once my shift officially began I would appear industrious and friendly I moved a lot faster than the others, and why not? It was almost like having my own business, so I didn't mind working hard. From the time I arrived until about two in the morning when things began to slow down, I was on the go steadily. My operation was smooth and my scheme was simple. As everything slowed down, I would be cleaning off my last table near the cash register. This gave me an opportunity to switch a stack of phoney sales checks in place of the ones accumulated during my shift. As head waiter, it was my duty to tabulate the tickets against the cash in the register. I'd see to it that the tabulation was exact to the penny each night. All left over went into my "private"

bonus.

I knew this scheme would'nt keep indefinitely, of course. Sooner or later Old Doc or somebody would catch on to the same handwriting on all the sales checks or even catch me making the switch or hoarding the extra dough.

One early morning, as I was cleaning off my last table near the cash register and making my final sales check switch, you see, I was really beginning to like my gig and Old Doc Jones. I guess you could say I was falling for his old song and dance bit about this "son" business. Just as I had made the ticket switch, I heard shrilling sounds of a siren from an ambulance that was streaking by. Minutes later the phone rang. I answered it, the voice at the other end explained that Old Doc Jones had just passed away. I was stunned. I told the others what I had heard on the phone. They were just as shocked as I was. We closed Family Inn and went home.

The next morning I realized what had happened. I had switched the sales checks but hadn't taken the money. Again I heard sirens. Moments later there was a rap at my door. I opened it. To my amazement, there stood Old Doc Jones and two policemen. I was in complete dismay. My mouth opened, my eyes bulged, my body was limp. I couldn't speak. By instinct I knew that the "father" of the slickers, Old Doc Jones, had out slicked the slick.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO WRITE A STORY ?

TRY YOUR HAND AND SUBMIT

IT TO THE "FISH OWL"

CYCLES OF THE SLUMS

Stanley Newman

A review by Emma Criollo.

Cycles implies changes, it is misfortunate that changes in the slums are not for the better, If slums today are worst than sixteen years ago as Stan says, it's no wonder that many of them have been going up in fire.

It is a fact that people who live in the slums are poor, their legacy is poverty, a permanent situtaion that gets a hold of their souls and most of the time it is pretty hard to shake down. That poverty - is having large families, and bad housing, bein unemployed or making less money than what is need- ed for his family to live on, and being on welfare.'

Because poverty is so damaging for these people, I wonder how come "the system" we live in does not do something about it, instead of spend- ing uncomprehensible sums of money on phantom jets machines that des- troy people.

Stan's article contain very positive steps on a sensitive matter, that many people would like to believe does not exist.

I used to think that in the matter of education things also were improving, but according to Stans' article this iss't sol. I was ast- onished to read that the longer one goes to school the dumber he gets, if this is true, the school system is failing grossly.

The other factor in the life of the poor is housing, it is hard for some of us to believe, that there are, what are called "nice people" that are slum landords, and the only time the tenants see them is when they come to collect the next months rents.

We as young people of this

generation have inherited a lot of evil from our society, I believe it is up to us to correct these evils, or we end up perpetuating them.

Emma Criollo

POLICY

As of July 3rd, all NYC's and NIU college students who do not attend classes (ged) will be dock a days pay.

STEERING COMMITTEE

The steering committee has change chairmans. The chairperson for the next eight weeks will be Bob Dumont. Beginning in September the chairperson will be as a work-study job. The ca chairman will cor-ordinate the committee and also must take at least one course here at the center.

On July 19 the steering committee will discuss the following:

- "Release time/ pay
- Vacation pay
- Time off pay

or

No pay for any of these.

This will be the only itemson the agenda and all students should come and express their ideas.

RUMMAGE SALE

TO BENEFIT NATIVE AMERICAN COMMITTEE, INC. Saturday, July 15th. 10:00 a.m. to 4p.m. Cornor Hutchinson (4350 north) and Clarenden.

CLOTHING

DISHES, ODDS AND ENDS
SPECIALS ALL DAY LONG

COEFEE AND DONUTS.

FRONT DESK POLICY

As you have already probably heard through the "grapevine" Nancy Dumont is in complete charge of the front desk. Her responsibility includes setting up work schedules, co-ordinating time sheets with Eva Coley, answering all incoming calls and monitoring personal outgoing call to 3 minutes, only, because our phones are business phones. There will be no more loitering in the reception room. All incoming calls will be answered on any phone except the receptionists' phone; the receptionist must have a free phone to answer incoming calls. It has been brought to our attention that the front desk is to be run like an office and not a pool room. Please cooperate with us and help us run the front desk efficiently.

There will be only be five people responsible for the front desk: they are:

- Cleven Head
- Kathy Phillips
- Mary Purcell
- Johnny Robinson
- Nancy Dumont

Sam Lopez will be sitting at the front desk at specific times to cover for the lunch breaks.

The student that happens to be on the desk at 9:00 a.m., regardless of what day, will be responsible for dusting all desks. The desks include the receptionist desk and the 3 desks in the inner office.

WORK STUDY

As of July 1st, all NIU students are working 15 hours a week work-study. Ged tutors must work out their schedules with their co-ordinators, front desk with Nancy Dumont; Play-Kare with Leonard Mack; American Indians with NAC; Each of these program heads will co-ordinate time sheets with Eva Coley.

UNIVERSITY WITHOUT WALLS (UWW)

UWW is a new experimental college program where students design his own course of study around a field which interests him. The students have an advisor who works with him and help to evaluate what they are doing and how they are coming in reaching the goals of the program. When the student feels he or she is ready for graduation he must appear befor an review committee which will interview the student to see if they feel he is ready for graduation if so the student will recieve an degree "at large;" if the committee feels the student must work some more, his graduation is put off until another interview with the committee.

Bill Whitehead was the first person from the center to be accepted into the UWW program. In September he will be join by six other NIU student they are:

- Leonard Mack
- Dennis Harper
- Norma Stealer
- Susan Crazythunder
- John Lester
- Eva Coley

Bob Dumont will be the co-ordinator for this program during this eight weeks. All students in UWW must make plans to attend the seminars held July 22-23 at the University of Chicago. He will also be setting up a meeting with the students so that they can get started on their programs.

-5-

LITTLE BIG HORN SCHOOLS

Every Tuesday Evening from 7:00 to 10:00 the Advisory Council of the Little Big Horn Schools (100 High School Students and 30 pre-school children) meets at the Uptown field Center. The Little Big Horn Schools which serves the Native American population of Uptown, is an experimental school funded through Title III-ESSA. Work began on the project in the winter of 1970 under the direction of Bill Whitehead (Sioux)

Working with a small group of parents they confronted the Chicago School Board about the educational condition of Indians in Uptown where 90% of the Indian students were dropping out of school. By spring he had a working committee which was chaired by Nancy Dumont (Assiniboine-Sioux). During this year Helen Whitehead (Winnebago) worked with the evaluation team. George LaRange's (Chippewa) daughter is a student at the school. For the summer, Bob Dumont (Assiniboine) is chairman of the Advisory Council coordinating in-service and training programs.

It is an important program for the Indian population of Uptown, and yet it has faced major problems with the School Board---no space to run the summer programs, so that the summer staff and parents are working in St. Augustine's basements (Center for American Indians), meeting Tuesday evenings at the field center, and using the telephone and mailing address of Native American Committee. The second major problem had been with the Coordinator, it took six months to have the coordinator removed from that position during which time the program was almost destroyed.

Much of the work of planning and development has been done by field center students. In the next issue there will be an article about the schools by Helen Whitehead followed by an article by Nancy Dumont.

NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE

BY

JUDY HARPER

The Uptown Field Center had the privilege of getting to understand a little more about the "Indian Problem." Robert V. Dumont held a class for 20 students on Native American History and Anthropology. He talked about the systems and forces that put the Indian in the position they're in now. He explained in detail how the Bureau of Indian Affairs has affected the Indian people throughout the early 1800's to the present time.

LEGAL AID.....Sam Lopez

In January the Legal Aid office in Uptown came to us, and asked if we could help them out. Since the field center works a lot with the community people. An agreement was made that they would see as many people they could on Wednesdays at 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. And that one of their lawyers, because of the way he related to people in the community would not come here.

Two weeks ago Legal Aide advised us that they have changed their work procedure at the Legal Aide office. With these changes, Legal Aide has broken their commitment to the Field Center. The commitment is stated in the first paragraph. They did this without consulting the field center and the community as a whole about their changes at the office. They only want to see six people now, (This is here at the center) and now they want to send the lawyer who we agreed would not work at the center.

We had a meeting with Jim LaTurner director of Legal Aide about these changes, and from the meeting things look kind of negative. Their attitude was either - you take it or leave it.

We are now checking out other sources for Legal Aide Services in the Field Center. We checked out one Law office in the community runned by Ted Stein, who's been in the Uptown community for some time. There still has to be some discussion on this.

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