

PELHAM PROGRESS

News and Activities of
The New York Institute for the Education of the Blind

VOLUME 26, No. 1

999 Pelham Parkway, New York, N. Y. 10469

June 19, 1964

A Summer Adventure

by Richard Carlson, Director, Summer School Program

For each succeeding generation, the problem of education is new. What at the beginning was progress, after the lapse of a decade becomes repetition. Perhaps this is as it should be. Indeed the word "education" means literally the process of leading out. Thus we are talking of the way in which all our faculties and capacities should be encouraged to expand and unfold themselves. What is expansion for one age may be shrinkage for the next.

But if this unfolding is to be meaningful in any time, ample opportunity must be created for individual development: for in the final analysis every man educates himself. The student is not a piece of clay which clever teachers finally model into the educated man. The best that any teacher can do is to make this difficult experience of growth toward knowledge as pleasant as possible. The teacher leads the student to the student's own education of himself.

With these ideas in mind, we have been working over the past year to plan what we hope will be a unique adventure for a group of selected blind students. Camp Wapanacki has in the past been the center of happy summer days for young blind people, and it will continue to be so; but this summer something new will be added. Besides the joy of camping experience, a Summer School has been created

at Wapanacki to provide an ideal environment for each participating student to become better acquainted with himself and with others of his own age. Applications have been received from high school young people throughout the United States. After careful screening a group of close to twenty boys and girls has come into being, based upon their superior achievement and expanding interests. All students will take part in seminar classes, concerning themselves with social science, literature and composition, language arts, natural science, and arts and crafts. It is hoped that in the eight weeks of study, these students will be able to identify and express more clearly talents and interests that may have been undeveloped and even unnoticed in their normal educations.

All of this will be carefully coordinated with the activities of the many other campers, so that each participant in the summer school will have a well-rounded and well-filled eight weeks. In fact, if nothing else, this summer may go by faster than any they can remember.

Activities in Music

A valiant tenor section of three voices among the forty-two who comprised the choral group this year deserves much credit. Due to the faithful effort on their part and that of the group in general, the chorus was able to fulfill most of its customary engagements.

The first outside performance consisting of instrumental solos and choral music was presented, as in several previous years, at the Bernadotte Lutheran Church in the Edenwald section of the Bronx. Later in the year similar concerts of instrumental and vocal materials were given in two performances at Memorial High School, East Paterson, New Jersey, and at Tremont Temple in the Bronx.

Five soloists from the Institute participated in the eighth annual Music Festival which was held this year at the Overbrook School for the Blind in Philadelphia, April 17 to 19. Following an enjoyable week-end of music, the Institute students were given a guided tour of the historic buildings at Independence Square. Their sightseeing also included the Betsy Ross house and beautiful Christ Church of Colonial and Revolutionary fame.

In May, a musical program by soloists and the Instrumental Ensemble was presented for the Parents Association of the Institute.

Attendance at musical events by our students included a concert by the pianist, Lili Kraus, at Carnegie Hall, and the opera "La Sonnambula" by Bellini at the Metropolitan Opera House.

On March 18 we were favored with a concert in Schermerhorn Hall by a young lyric-coloratura soprano, Katherine Kaufman, a senior at the University of Oklahoma. Her recital was much enhanced by the program notes and commentaries by her teacher, Elisabeth Parham. Two days later, Miss Kaufman was a finalist and winner in the Metropolitan Auditions.

Another excellent concert by the baritone, Fletcher Wolfe, accompanied on the piano by Stevenson Barrett was presented in Schermerhorn Hall on the evening of May 10.

The saddest event of the year was the death of our Assistant Principal, Paul C. Mitchell. A group of twelve students, hastily assembled near the close of the holiday period, prepared two hymns and an anthem by Vivaldi, "Et in terra par hominibus" for his funeral service.

On May 21st, at the invitation of the Radio Corporation of America, the Institute Chorus made a tape which is now being shown on television at the World's Fair.

Young Scientists Busy During Year by Antonio Andretta

With the expansion of the Kennel program into an integrated Animal Husbandry Horticulture-Agriculture division of the Science Department advanced secondary research became a reality.

Under the supervision of the Science Department and through the encouragement of the late Paul C. Mitchell several research programs were instituted.

Rudolph Wachter, who intends to become a horticulturist, utilizing the greenhouse, set up a vigorous gardening program growing summer vegetables. He also practiced plant forcing and cross pollination. The results of his efforts made the greenhouse a showplace which attracted students, staff and visitors. Valuable planting information was obtained for future classes in agronomy, especially in gardening schedules for our area. Finally, new strains of flowers have been placed on the campus for all to enjoy.

In the area of genetics and zoology Michael Orlove and David Druce, using specially selected mice, have maintained a variety of vestigial-tailed cancer transmitting mice. David submitted, through the American Cancer Association, a preliminary research paper to the Ford Foundation Science Fair to be held in June. This cancer research program will be continued into next year when an eighteen month evaluation will be prepared.

The Kennels also can boast of a small zoo containing many rare animals that would make many zoos envious. Among the rarest representatives are a King Magoda monitor from the New Hebrides Islands, a Galapagos tortoise, a species of turtle now facing extinction. There are also reptiles from Siam, China, India, Africa and South America.

A game bird program was started this spring which involved the hatching of wild turkey, pheasant and quail eggs. When they are old enough the birds will be freed at Camp Wapanacki in Vermont.

The Man From Ariel by Richard Gill — 9th Grade

I will never forget the day of July 14th of this year, and the previous night. I have gathered together the facts and incidents that occurred when I encountered earth's first space traveler ... the Man from Arid. I will let you be the judge as to whether my story be true or false.

It must have been about nine o'clock when I went upstairs to bed. I went to my room and closed the door behind me. I didn't put on the light, but stuck my head out the open window and looked out at the night. The houses and pine trees stood out black against the sky. There was no moon, but many stars. I could hear the

crickets and I saw the lightening bugs and the branches of the pines sway in the cool breeze blowing from the north. Suddenly something disturbed the peaceful stillness of the night. The clouds were pierced by an orange fireball with a white stream of light behind it streaking across the sky. It traveled earthward in a sort of arc pattern and with a violent explosion landed quite close to the spot from which I watched. The pine trees stood out black against the yellow glow of the crash. The entire area must have been on fire where the meteor, at least that's what it looked like to me, had landed. I was too drowsy to go down and inspect the damage but I would have a look in the morning I promised myself. For the rest of the night everything was still.

I woke up the next day just as the sun was coming up. Again I looked out the window. Due east the sky was turning orange. Westward it was still twilight and the grounds and buildings of the dairy farm which I own here in New Jersey looked gray. Suddenly my thoughts were disturbed by a loud ringing of the doorbell. I quickly ran downstairs to answer it. What a surprise I got when I opened that door. There was a young army lieutenant at my doorstep. Behind him on the road I could see three jeeps loaded with army officers. Behind them were two trucks with a company of armed soldiers, a few newspaper reporters, and a group of men looking at a map. Two military policemen, a police emergency truck, an ambulance, two wreckers, a bus filled with scientists, astronomers and about forty more people, some with cameras, followed in care and on foot. I also saw and heard a group of youngsters obviously excited about the "falling star". The lieutenant asked me many questions about what I had seen the night before and it's exact location. He then told me that it was really a rocket ship from outer space. He said that military telescopes had been following it for over a year and had been waiting for it to land. The lieutenant left and joined the others to find the spaceship. I decided to go have a look for myself after I had my breakfast. As I drank my coffee the radio told me of the arrival of the aliens, as did my newspaper.

Once outside I decided to climb the hill and look over the cliff to get a better view. I reached the cliff, looked down and saw about two or three hundred people, a crew of T.V. cameramen, police, soldiers, scientists, engineers, doctors, firemen and others all fighting to get a good look at the rocket ship which was half buried in the sand pit, broken and on fire with dead aliens scattered all around it.

Suddenly the rocket, which resembled a submarine, began ejecting black containers which, on impact, exploded into a cloud of black inky substance which poisoned all that breathed. People began falling by the wayside. Luckily I was far away from the deadly gas and did not suffer from it's poison.

Just then I heard something behind me. I turned and saw one of the spacemen pointing some type of gun at me. He was shaped like a man but had orange skin, a large bald head, and was very skinny, almost flat, due to the heavy atmospheric pressure on his planet. All of the sudden I felt very groggy and fell flat on my face and fell asleep. I had a dream in which I saw a large, pale green, ball with faint red streaks across its surface. This was Uranus, the 7th planet from the sun, and it's four moons, one of which was Ariel. I could see the scores of people watching the huge rocket ready to blast off. Then I heard a loud roar as the rocket began to rise. Since their scientists all agreed that no life exists on earth their astronauts would travel here to conquer any forms of life, if there were any, and claim the planet for Uranus. But they were fired upon by our weapons and crashed to earth and began releasing their deadly poisons.

When I woke up I saw the alien dying from the heat rays of our sun. To him it must have been the most melting of heats. He melted down into a pool of boiling liquid. I snatched up his gun and ran. When I got home I put the gun in the freezer so it wouldn't melt. Then, exhausted, I went to bed.

I slept until the next morning. The whole things seemed like a nightmare, as if it never had happened. All through the day no one had heard any such thing concerning the arrival of spacemen. Was I mad? When I opened my freezer under the ice was a melting piece of metal, the gun.

Well, those are the facts. I still don't know whether they are true or not. But to all those that hear me—tell everyone, tell the world, keep watching the skies ...always keep watching.

The Scholarship Training Program by Fred J. Reeve

This year at the Institute in our Scholarship program we have students from the Philippines and from Central and South America. We have three ladies majoring in the field of Special Education, taking work at Hunter College. Mrs. Remedios Gallo, Mrs. Elisea Nasis and Miss Luz Felipe. They anticipate receiving their Master's degrees in the field of special education and plan to return to the Philippines to teach.

We also have with us this year several young ladies from Central and South America who are interested in the areas of the blind, deaf and deaf-blind.

Miss Alma America Aguilar from El Salvador is interested in the rehabilitation program in the area of the blind and has had the opportunity of visiting all of the agencies in and around New York.

Miss Ofelia Alfonzo Balzarini from Paraguay is concentrating in the area of the mentally retarded. She has done observation in many of our local schools in the area of mental retardation. She has also observed in many of the New York clinics and hospitals.

Miss Norma Esther Chapparro, from Argentina, came to us to observe and study the entire scope of work being done for the blind in New York and surrounding areas. Miss Chapparro has observed work here at the Institute, the Industrial Home for the Blind, the Jewish Guild for the Blind and New York Association for the Blind. Miss Chapparro plans to return to Argentina to assist in a program of rehabilitation.

Mrs. Jara Celia Recalde is from Paraguay. She has now returned to her home after having been with us since September, 1963. Mrs. Recalde is executive director of the entire area of the mentally retarded in Paraguay. While in this country she had the opportunity to visit agencies servicing the retarded throughout this land.

Miss Maria Isabel Santiviago, of Paraguay, is with us for one year teaching, observing and studying in both the areas of the blind and the deaf. She has done a great deal of observation at the New York City School for the Deaf, St. Joseph's School For the Deaf and The Lexington School for the Deaf.

Senior Digest by Richard Wenning Class President

Sixteen students were on the 1964 senior class roster which was composed of seven young ladies and nine young gentlemen. The class was under the assiduous sponsorship of Mr. Richard Carlson, head of the Social Studies Department. Mr. Carlson guided the senior body in manifold activities.

Our first function to secure funds was the selling of chocolates during the Christmas and Easter seasons. Our second project was a Cake Sale, taking place before and after a P.T.A. meeting. The majority of the cakes and goodies were parental contributions. Some members of the staff prepared some succulent bakery items. Other events which proved lucrative were a White Elephant Sale, a raffle, and the selling of tickets and refresh' menu at the annual Variety Show staged by members of the student body. The winning ticket of our raffle provided a portable typewriter for the lucky holder.

How did we utilize our financial accumulations? Much of the money in our treasury went into excursions such as a day at Palisades Park, a frolicsome picnic at Bear Mountain and the major journey to the renowned New York World's Fair. Of course, as is senior tradition with all high school graduates, we had our unforgettable senior prom.

Cub Scouting by Genevieve Shreck, Den Mother

Pack 198 had a very good 1963-1964 year. The highlight of the season, was a two, session First Aid Course.

The Den mother, very confident after taking a Red Cross Course, appeared at the meetings with all sorts of aids to handle any emergency — barring major surgery.

Our fifteen Cubs practiced on each other, "treating" cuts, burns, shock, and fractures. Within a short time, the playroom looked like a field hospital in a disaster area.

All the little Ben Casey, and Dr Kildares were very happy returning to their dorms to proudly show Miss Angie their handiwork.

Watching the Cubs leave, the only thing missing was the Drummer Boy for a complete picture of the "Spirit of 76:"

Boy Scout News

Boy Scout Troop 198 held their weekly meetings on Wednesday nights. The Scouts observed Boy Scout week in February. They also observed Flag Day, and St. Patrick's Day. The Boy Scouts were responsible for putting the United States Flag up before school and taking it down after school every day.

The fourteen Boys Scouts went on two big camping trips. In October the scouts went to the Boy Scout's Blind School Jamboree at Treasure Island Boy Scout Camp in Pennsylvania. In April the scouts went out on their own for a weekend at Ten Mile River Boy Scout Camp in New York.

The Greatest Fair in History by Barbara Schwimmer and Pamela Dillion (6th Grade in Van Cleve Hall)

The New York World's Fair opened on April 22nd at ten A.M. The Fair covers one square mile and is located in Flushing Meadow Park. It will be open in both 1964 and 1965 from April to October, and it is expected to attract millions of people.

The Unisphere is a giant globe ringed with the orbits of satellites. It is the symbol of the Fair, and it stands for "a shrinking globe in an expanding universe."

Around the Unisphere are the Fair's five sections: International. Federal and State, Industrial, Transportation, and Amusement. More than forty countries of Latin America, Europe, Asia and Africa will take part in the Fair.

There is a trip into the future and one on which you can look back into the past. You can see cavemen and dinosaurs. You can also see some things that may happen in the future.

Thirteen United States Presidents are honored. Visitors can see one of Washington's actual swords and the Bible on which he took the oath of office

when he became President. You can also see Lincoln's hat, Wilson's typewriter, and the late President Kennedy's rocking chair.

Of course you can walk, but there are buses to take people around and there is also a monorail.

We think that the 1964 World's Fair will be the greatest Fair in history.

For Ourselves and For Others by The Van Cleve Girl's Club

If you want to join our club, you must be a girl who lives or works in Van Cleve Hall and you must enjoy working together to make people happy. That is how we spend our time every Thursday evening from seven to eight.

This fall we made little paper bags shaped like stockings, hells and Christmas trees. We filled them with candy and sent them to the children in Jacobi Hospital. We surprised the children again at Easter time with baskets. The baskets were made of little round cardboard boxes covered with braided crepe paper in pretty colors. They were filled with candy bunnies, chicks and eggs. The hospital wrote to tell us how much the children enjoyed our gifts. Of course that made us happy, too.

Now we are doing something new. We are planting a flower garden. We brought seeds from home and have planted them in tiny cups indoors. It is fun to find out about the new little green sprouts that are coming up. When the weather gets warm and sunny, we will plant them in a real outdoor garden. We hope we will have flowers to put in our assembly room. That will make it very gay and pretty.

As we work, we laugh and sing and chat together, and before we know it the time is gone. We must close our meeting and say "Good night." We think Club night is one of the nicest nights in the week.

Our Growing Libraries by Mary Hines Gunderman

The Library year began July first with the arrival of the fifteen students in the Summer Program for the Gifted. Part of each day was spent in the main library where it search and writing in preparation for classes at Hunter College, for term papers or for their newspaper maintained a steady, busy pace alive with gainful experience in their New York Adventure.

The Volunteer program was exceedingly active during the school year. More than seventy persons participated in many requisites. Materials were transcribed into braille or large type: books, pamphlets, newspaper and magazine articles were taped for use as supplementary teaching aids, or for pleasure listening. Many Volunteers came to the Institute to tutor; to read history, science or English assignments to our students; to assist in speech therapy or in vocabulary building.

The "where with all- to duplicate the required number of copies (of material such as lists, music, plays, etc. transcribed into braille by Volunteer workers) was provided through the capable handling of the thermoform machine by one of our retired teachers, whom we kept busy, day in and day out!

The Director of Publicity interviewed many of the Volunteers. This program was taped in the Audio-Visual studio for presentation on radio.

The Electronics Department equipped one of the sound proof booths so that the main library has a Recording Studio apart from the Audio-Visual room.

The Curriculum Section was amplified and is housed in the Archives room.

The pamphlet collection in the Educational Research room was subdivided, making it possible for the researcher in "Special Education" to locate material quickly.

The book collection in the Educational Research room is in process of correlation to subject matter in the pamphlet collection through a classification system devised by the Principal.

All volumes in the Braille main library were shifted and organized to make room for the Foreign Language Division which contains volume! in Braille in German, French, Italian, Spanish and Latin.

All volumes in the Ink Print main library were moved to secure space for the Large Type Section and for the Ink print Foreign Language shelves.

The Thirty volume 1964 edition of the World Book Encyclopedia in large type is this year's outstanding addition to the collection in large type. This is the first edition of the first encyclopedia transcribed in large type.

Van Cleve Hall library received a set of this encyclopedia also.

One of the most exciting dates in our library year was the day when the Braille main library acquired the standing globe (relief map). A student from far away Iceland located his home on a globe such as he had never before known.

Our school libraries stimulate the desire to learn and assist students in becoming self directive in their pursuit of knowledge.

Our school libraries are:

- service agencies -- working with students and teachers in implementing the educational program;
- teaching agencies -- helping to guide the learning of students, providing readers to assist students through reading curriculum assignments and supplementary reading;
- materials centers -- providing all types of materials for learning;
- reading centers -- providing suitable places for reading, along with comprehensive and organized collections.

The libraries play an essential role and merit more than casual attention. Students learn from each other, from teachers and books and laboratories and shops. Much depends upon the individual and his purpose. Students also learn by themselves through reading, observing, reflecting and experimenting.

Although the teacher is the key to classroom instruction, even the best classroom teacher is severely handicapped without working tools; books, periodicals, pamphlets, films, tapes, indexes.

Carl Sandburg in the Iowa City Press Citizen put it this way "Da Vinci, Milton, Shakespeare, Jefferson and Lincoln didn't have television; but they had books. Most of all they had creative solitude. They weren't afraid of loneliness."

Graduating Class of 1964

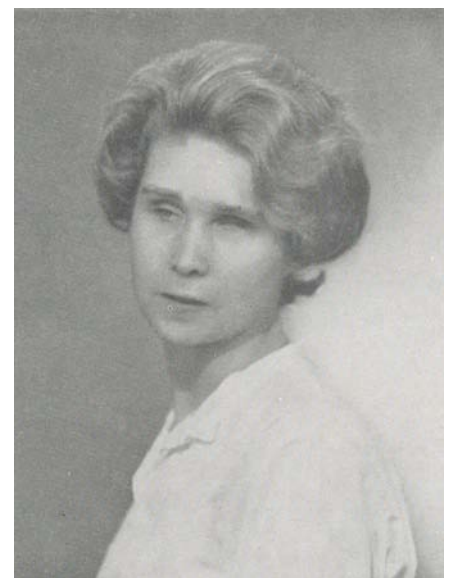


SANDRA HAVYACK

Valedictorian — Sandra entered the Institute during the sixth grade and has been on the Honor Roll consistently. Her many activities include membership in the Student Cabinet. Senior Chorus. Public Speaking Club, Girl Scouts. Creative Writing Club and the Paragon Staff. She has held offices in many of these organizations. Sandra will be attending Long Island University.

LOUISE MACOMBER

Louise has attended the Institute for her entire school training. She has concentrated in the vocational trades and will continue her training under the Vocational Rehabilitation program.



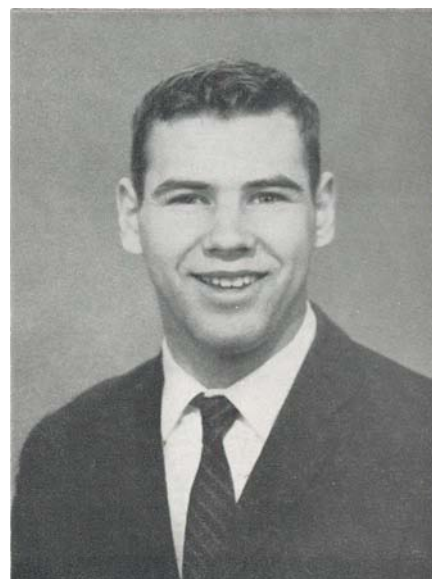


WILLIAM RAABE

Salutatorian — Collecting foreign coins and records is the pastime of this future Adelphi University student. Billy came to the Institute as a Nursery School student and has pursued an academic course.

RICHARD WENNING

Richard has attended the Institute since 1950. In addition to his academic program Richard has found time for many other activities including president of the Student Cabinet, president of the Senior Class, Chorus, Public Speaking Club, Wrestling, Track and editor of the student newspaper, the Paragon. Richard will be attending Adelphi University in September.



JOSEPH RALLO

A long-time student at the Institute, Joe has been with us since he entered Nursery School. Upon graduation, he will continue his studies at Hofstra University. Joe's many interests include music, radio and languages.





DONNA WILLIAMS

Donna, who hopes to become a medical secretary, entered the Institute as a Freshman. She has been active in the senior chorus and as an officer of the Senior Class. She was also a member of the girls' track team.

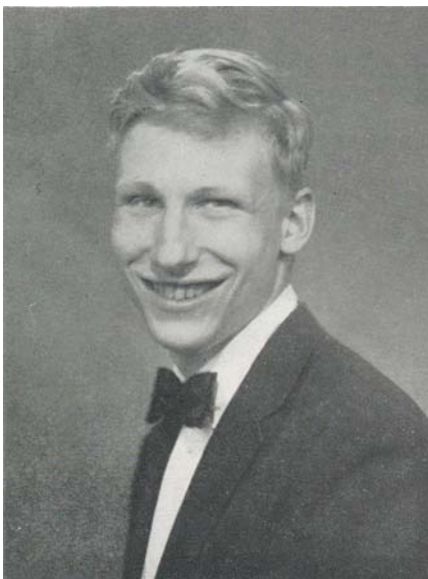
CATHERINE ASARO

Cathy has been a student in the Deaf. Blind Department since 1956 and has attended most of the vocation classes in the Lipper School. She has excelled in weaving and caning. She will be employed in a caning shop.



RUDOLF WACHTER

In addition to a heavy academic program, Rudy found time to become involved in the vocational areas as well during his high school days. His performance in caning has been outstanding and he also has been deeply involved in the horticulture program which he hopes to pursue further in college.



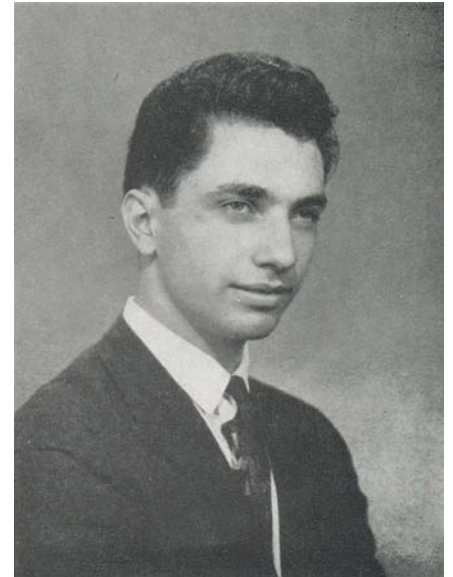


JOSEPH BURCHIE

Joseph has concentrated his time in the commercial areas since he arrived at the Institute four years ago. He intends to Put this knowledge to practical use upon graduation. His time outside the classroom was spent in assisting in the library and serving as stage manager in various school productions.

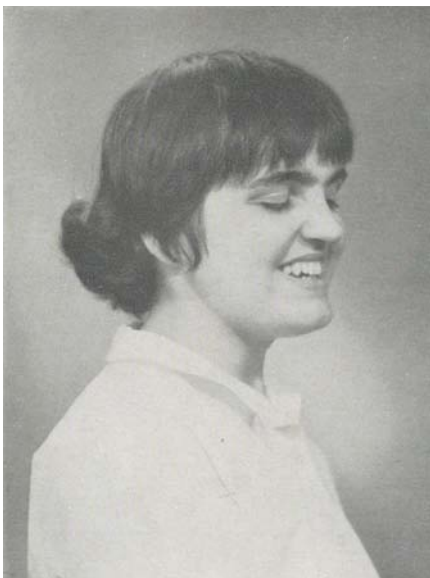
ROBERT CASABIANCA

Bob has many interests in addition to the academic program which *he* has pursued. As the star track man, he was voted Outstanding Athlete of the Year at the Track Tournament. Model airplane construction and cycling are among his other activities. He plans to enter Adelphi University in September.



ANN ELLEN PRINCE

Having graduated from the 8th grade at the Lavelle School, Annie completed her studies at the Institute. In addition to her academic subjects she has found time for Creative Writing Club, Chorus and the Girl Scouts.



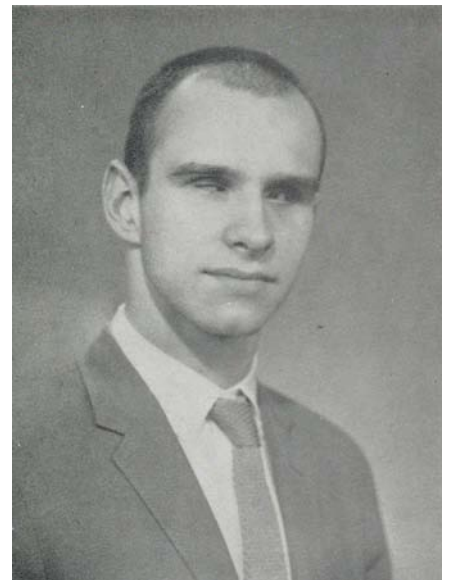


TERRY ANN CARCH

Terry has attended the Institute for the past two years having transferred from Nichols Junior High School in Mount Vernon, New York. She has concentrated on commercial subjects and hopes to obtain further training in this area upon graduation.

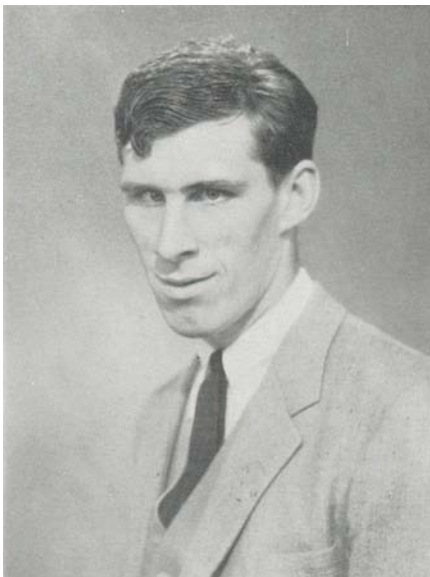
FRANKLIN SHINER

A transfer student from Montpelier, Vermont High School, Frank completed the final two years of his education at the Institute. His college program will be in the area of radio or speech therapy. He has been active in musical projects and has served as an announcer on the Fordham University Radio Station.



DAVID DRUCE

David, who will be returning to the Institute for a postgraduate year, attended public schools in Florida prior to his entry to the Institute. Although he has been with us only one year, it has been an active one for David. He has shown considerable ability and interest in the Animal Husbandry program.





HENRY RUCKER

Henry has attended the Institute for thirteen years having entered Van Cleve Hall as a youngster. Stand work lies ahead for Henry. having prepared for this vocation in our own Practice Store program. Wood Shop was another of Henry's favorite courses.

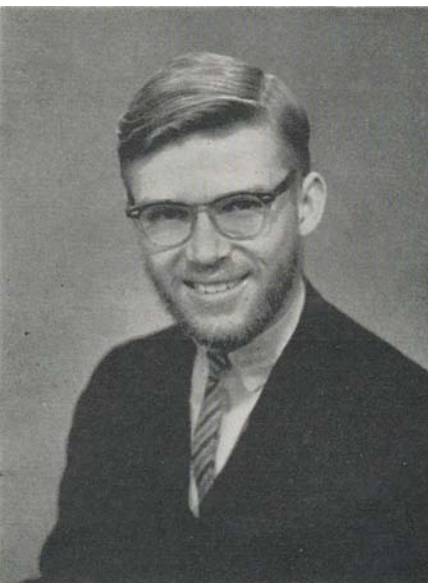
BARBARA SCOTT

Barbara has attended the Institute for four years. She has participated in chorus, variety shows, girls track and cheerleading. She was also the recipient of the Best All-Round Camper Award at Camp Wapanacki. Barbara hopes to find employment upon graduation which will involve working with children.



MR. RICHARD CARLSON, Senior Class Sponsor

B.A. Bates College, Graduate Study-Harvard,
Head-Social Studies Department.



Sports Report by Coach John Mess von Hesse

The Physical Education department has had a fine season. Our boys did very well in the wrestling meets last winter. The Institute team won five and lost two dual meets. They took a 3rd place in the four-way meet in Maryland and 6th place in the Connecticut tournament.

Captain Joseph Barr became a champion in his weight class, 130 pounds. Richard Wenning took 4th place in his class, 145 pounds, and Arthur Richardson took 3rd place in his class, heavy-weight.

The track tournament was held at the Overbrook School and the N.Y.I. team finished 3rd in a field of nine schools. Richard Wenning took a 2nd place in the 50 yard dash. Ronald Connelly placed 3rd in the 50 yard dash and 2nd in the '15 yard dash. Warren Hill took a 4th place in the high jump and Joseph Hudak a 4th in the shot put. Robert Casabianca placed 3rd in the broad jump, 2nd in the "three jumps" 2nd in the "hop, skip and jump" and 1st in the high jump, breaking the official record with a jump of 5 feet 3 inches. Robert was also voted the most outstanding athlete of the tournament.

Rounding out the slate of events for the boy's athletic year was the spring rowing season with races at the Pomfret School on May 20th and at the West Side Rowing Club in Buffalo on June 6th.

Although this is a report concerning itself with the events of the boys' physical education department we would be seriously remiss if we failed to mention the outstanding accomplishments of our girls' teams. The cheerleading squad can certainly be credited with helping our wrestlers on to victory more than once. The most outstanding girls' event, however, was the smashing victory scored at the girls' track tournament at Perkins school when the N.Y.I. team took 7 firsts and, of course, first place in the entire meet.

A Gift

999 Pelham Parkway
New York 69, N. Y.
May 12, 1964

New York Cancer Research Institute
1225 Park Avenue
New York 28, N. Y.

Gentlemen:

This money was given by staff members, teachers, and children in the Lower School, (Van Cleve Hall). at the New York Institute For The Education Of the Blind, in memory of Rudy Velez who was a student in the fourth grade. The tribute was written by the children to accompany this gift, to be used for research purposes.

Hopefully yours,

Helen Ziegel, Supervisor Lower School, Van Cleve Hall

A Tribute

Rudy Velez was eleven years old on February 13, 1964. He came to the Institute when he was a little boy because he had had cancer in both his eyes.

He was one of our favorite schoolmates. He was always lively and full of fun, and ready to play a prank. He loved horses and outdoor games, and was good in science and in history. He was always interested in trying new things, and he would make us all excited and happy when we were waiting for something special to happen.

Around Christmas time Rudy got sick again. He spent a long time in the hospital. Once he came back to school for a little while, but he could not stay long. He had to go back to the hospital, and on May third he died.

All of his classmates and teachers miss him very much. We want to do something in memory of him. All of us, children and teachers and staff members, in the Lower School, have collected this money for CANCER RESEARCH. We hope it will be a small help to the people who are trying to find a cure for cancer, and that soon a time will come when sad things like this will not happen to children and adults.

The Children in Van Cleve Hall Lower School

The Public Speaking Club by J. O'Hara Bell

The Club has had a rather exciting year. Early in the year a buffet supper was held in honor of Raymond Heyde and Sandra Havyack, who are serving as president and secretary respectively. We have had a great variety of speakers this year, including S. F. Gallus of the Bastian-Blessing Company of Chicago — our speaker from Chicago brought along his machine and as he closed his talk he put a liquid mix in the machine and promptly produced ninety-nine milkshakes which enabled all present to sample his product. The students sent up three cheers for S. F. Gallus and put him at the top of the list of speakers to be invited back next year.

The purpose of the Club is to explore the interests of the students and to expose them to the serious thinking of a great variety of competent speakers; speakers who are recognized leaders in the field of education, government, and international relations.

Other speakers were Blanche Brown, lecturer at the Metropolitan Museum of Art; Stephen Merrill, a professional storyteller from Boston; Vera M. Dean, who was born in Russia and holds a Ph.D. in international law. Mrs. Dean is Professor of International Development in the Graduate School at New York University — and Henry M. Kennedy, who took part in the Holbert Public Speaking Contest at New York University this year; we also heard from Lieutenant Commander Glen Brewer, a graduate of the United States Naval academy, who reported to the Club on his trip by submarine under the North Pole.

Our speakers bore down on such questions as the facts of life (economic), lack of interest in the great issues of our time and the overweening personal ambition,

the life of teenagers in early Greece, the foreign policy of the United States, and they also touched on how one might go about telling a story and a milkshake.

The members of the Public Speaking Club were able to take it all in with a considerable amount of enthusiasm. They applauded Mr. Kennedy heartily; even though he pointed out that they were currently wasting too much time and seeking too much pleasure. Club members giggled appreciatively at some inside jokes which dominated Mr. Merrill's speech and the students pressed forward to shake hands with Mr. Gallus from Chicago.

The Public Speaking Club started out with only ten members but now enjoys the support of thirty-six. The Honorable Dora Vasconcellos, Consul General of Brazil, will be an early speaker on next year's agenda and all of us hope that the coming year will be as exciting for Club members as this year proved to be.

A Message from the Principal

As we come to the close of this another school year, all our students and staff can look back upon the year with a real sense of achievement. The academic work of the year has been of a high quality. Our athletic teams have enjoyed a fruitful season and the many activities providing recreation, fun and exciting trips have been most satisfying.

We have had a year filled with momentous events as well. We have some memories which will linger with us for the rest of our lives. We have lost some friends, sincere and devoted individuals, who have given many years of their lives to the work of our school. First and foremost in our minds at this commencement season is the memory of Mr. Paul C. Mitchell, our Assistant Principal, who was called to his reward in early January. Mr. Mitchell was beloved by all students and staff alike, and literally gave his life for the education and care of blind boys and girls. His contribution to all of us will remain an indelible picture on our minds and in our lives.

In October, Miss Carrie Slater, for many years our House Director, retired. Miss Slater has devoted the best years of her life to providing the domestic comforts for all of us. In January, Mr. William Wodtke, our Assistant Chief Engineer retired after

more than three decades of service. A service which for the most part went unnoticed but which was very vital to the comfort and happiness of all of us. He still is around to give us advice and counsel and some help when we need him. In June, Mr. Henry Wodtke, our Chief Engineer for nearly 40 years will retire. No one on the staff of the Institute has been a more devoted, efficient and effective worker for our school than Mr. Wodtke. He deserves a good rest and we wish him all of the happiness and joy which retirement can bring. With him and retiring at the same time is Mrs. Sue Wodtke, his wife, who has for more than a decade been the Head of our Public Relations Division which has been responsible for the hard necessary work of sending out appeals. They have purchased a home in New Jersey and will shortly live there permanently. We wish them both Godspeed.

In June, also, our very devoted and efficient nurse Miss Dorothy Greig will retire after 12 years of service to our children and staff. She has kept our children's health very close to her heart all of these years and we wish for her a very joyous, healthful and comfortable retirement.

We extend to all of our retired personnel a cordial welcome to return at any time to visit with us.

Our Parent Teacher Association has again set new heights in its program for the year culminating in a fine supper-dance in June and giving of much time from individual parents to the work of the school. We are most grateful to Mrs. Dorothy Werner for her splendid leadership as President of the Parent Teacher Association.

As we close the year at the Institute and open Camp Wapanacki at Hardwick, Vermont together with a Summer School Program which is being tried at camp for the first time this year, we extend to all of our faculty, staff and student body our best wishes for a very joyous summer holiday.

We look forward to greeting you in September.

Sincerely yours,

Merle E. Frampton Principal

Vol. 26 No. 1 June 19, 1964 PELHAM PROGRESS

Section 34:65 E, P.L. & R. A Non-Profit Organization

This paper is published during the school year by The New York Institute for the Education of the Blind, 999 Pelham Parkway, New York 69, New York, as a student project in Journalism. Subscription rates upon request. Copyright 1941 by The New York Institute for the Education of the Blind. Reproduction in part or whole permitted on condition credit is given to The New York Institute for the Education of the Blind and PELHAM PROGRESS unless otherwise noted by special copyright line on drawings or articles.

The purpose of The New York Institute for the Education of the Blind is to provide the best known facilities for blind children to secure an education adapted to their needs. Children who are totally blind or have vision so defective to render an education by ordinary methods impracticable and who are capable of receiving instruction by the methods pursued in the Institute may be received upon application to the Board of Managers by their legal guardians.

The Institute is non-sectarian and offers a program of training from kindergarten and through high school, including both Academic and vocational courses.

While there is no residential restriction, the form of application varies with certain localities. From New York State, pupils may enter as regular state pupils from New York City and the counties of Westchester, Putnam, Rockland, Suffolk and Nassau, securing their appointments from the State Education Department. Students may enter from New Jersey upon application in proper form to the New Jersey Commission for the Blind.

Advisory Board

Dr. M. E. Frampton Roger C. Walker Jr.