For volunteer supervisor, 'everyday is different'

FT. GEO. G. MEADE, Md. — Mrs. Georgianna Price was delighted by the Fort Meade Army Community Service office when she recently arrived here from Europe.

"We have a staff here. In Germany the ACS officer did everything. He or she was Army Community Service, Army Emergency Relief, American, Express, everything," she laughs.

You get the impression that Mrs. Price can laugh easily but she is clearly a person who gets things done. For over seven years the mother of four has found time to devote to ACS activities and other volunteer work. Last October, she was appointed ACS volunteer supervisor here.

Army Community Service is the official social welfare agency of the Army, supplying soldiers' needs in such areas as personal and financial counseling, help for handicapped children, financial aid and child day care. Its importance is growing as the number of married service people steadily increases, and much of its work depends on volunteers.

The volunteer supervisor helps plan ACS policy in conjunction with ACS officer Major Paul Tessier and assistant director J. Edward Parks. Other duties include assisting volunteer training, keeping track of the volunteers and the time they spend at ACS, discussing future directions with committee chairmen and working out any problems that develop in the many day to day activities of the volunteers.

"I hope I'm able to solve most of the problems people have on the committees," says Mrs. Price. "They're mostly communication difficulties. Sometimes a person may think there is a problem when there's not."

Under Mrs. Price's leadership the roles of both volunteers and their supervisor have been expanded. Volunteers have been given more responsibilities, and the supervisor now helps in policy planning for ACS activities here.

The number of volunteers has also grown under Mrs. Price's tenure. When she arrived at Fort Meade there were 68 volunteers. Now 102 workers enable the local ACS office to carry on its many activities.

"Hopefully, we'll get even more when the summer starts," the supervisor says. "We try to work one on one when we take the children on trips and picnics. We always can use more volunteers."

ACS volunteers help out in the child day care center, the post kindergarten, run the lending closet, and assist in staffing the ACS office. Many are service wives, some are from nearby communities, and others are soldiers who help in their off - duty hours.

Mrs. Price has a definite philosophy about the volunteer work. "Volunteers have to be professional," she says. "We must work as if we're being paid. Especially working with people you have to be professional."

Mrs. Price says she started getting involved in volunteer work because she recognized a need, but like most volunteers, she clearly enjoys her "job." "It's very interesting work. There is constant variety, and you're able to help and meet a lot of people," she says.

Many people who have come to ACS for assistance in difficult times later return as volunteers. "It's an interesting phenomenon," says Mrs. Price. "They have been helped, and they sort of feel that they are paying back by helping others."

Mrs. Georgianna Price

Mrs. Price is not resting on the past accomplishments of ACS volunteers here, however. She has many ideas about the future directions, including increasing programs for handicapped children, expanding publicity so that newcomers to Ft. Meade will know what ACS can do and enlarging a program for waiting wives. She would also like to see the udget counseling program expanded and is thinking about an ambitious "hire a teen" project.

"I'd love to get new buildings for the child care and day care centers. We're having to turn people away now. We'd like to be able to increase our program for handicapped children too."

Mrs. Price's own background is in child care development and elementary education and she has kept current in the field. Three of her own children are now in high school and college, and the oldest has graduated from college.

It's a safe bet that Mrs. Price will never allow time to hang heavy on her hands, though. "I really enjoy the work," she smiles. "You never get bored. Every day is different."

Fifth annual model of the year contest

The Travis Winkey Modeling Studio will present the fifth annual Model of the Year of Maryland Contest on Sunday, May 28, at the Walbrook High School Theatre, Clifton and Edgewood Avenues.

The contest begins at 6 p.m. and competition will be judged by well - known personalities from New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore. They include designers, advertising companies, and production companies.

The two age groups that will make up contestants are juniors, 12-16 and adults, 16 and up.

A reception will follow the contest at The Point After, Monroe Street. For tickets call 523-7855.

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Spring fair, May 24

The Woman's Auxiliary of Bon Secours Hospital will hold a Spring Fair on Wednesday, May 24 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Courtyard of the hospital, 2025 W. Fayette St. A rain date of Thursday, May 25 has been set. The public is invited to attend.

Hanging baskets and flowers, jewelry, hats books and many other items will be on sale. A cake stand with homemade baked goods will be featured. Food, including hot dogs and a variety of sandwiches, and drinks will be available.

Mrs. David C. Donovan is chairman of the event, Miss Margaret C. Sweeney is president of the auxiliary.

I read the AFRO

Catonsville Notes

By Liz Williams

The special time of the year has come, when we pay special tributes to our graduates, regardless of the educational level. We say "Congratulations" to all of you, whether you are a kindergarten, elementary, middle school, junior high school, senior high school, college, grad school or a post grad school graduate. We are so proud of you and hope you will continue to go as far as you can. A good education is one of the most important assets that one can achieve.

Quite recently, Anne O. Emery, the personable principal at Walbrook Senior High School, was one of three recipients of honorary degrees from Huston - Tillotson College, in Austin, Tex.

The ceremony was held in the Mary E. Branch Memorial Auditorium at the college. Anne is the wife of Vallen L. Emery Sr., a Baltimore City educator and the mother of Vallen Jr. (Roslyn), an analytical chemist; Gregory, an intern at Union Memorial Hospital and Travis, who will be among the June 1978 graduates from Princeton University. Travis plans to go to Berkley to get his law degree. Anne will receive her earned Ph.D. from Temple University in August. Congratulations to the Emery family.

Very soon I will tell you more about this lady. I met her 18 years ago. Her primary interests have been her students and trying to get the most for them after they finished high school. You would be amazed to know of the number of students, under her leadership, who have attended colleges all over the country and have done well.

I mentioned Judith Barber, daughter of William and Willie Mae Barber of Leewood avenue Judith, as you know received her B.S. degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Dayton, Dayton, Ohio. Linda Langhorne, daughter of Ellsworth and Mattie Langnorne will graduate from Morgan State University on Sunday. Another known Morgan University graduate is Charles Gaskins Jr., fondly known to all of us as "Chucky". He is the son of Charles Gaskins, an assistant principal at Garrison Junior High School, and Grace Gaskins, Guidance Dept. Head at Lemmel Junior High School.

Pamela Hall, fondly known as Pam, the second daughter of Dr. William Hall ("Billy" and Mrs. Millie Hall), graduated from Howard University last Saturday.

Congratuallations to James Nathan Jones (Louise) the longtime postal employee and the father of four who will receive his Master Degree in Music from Morgan. We have known the Jones family since our daughters met in the first grade at St. Mark School. In their graduating 8th grade class, there were 200 students and Carolyn Jones and Debbie Williams, along with Jimmy Brightful, Hank Bruce, and Kathy Jackson were the only blacks. That was 17 years ago. We have come a long way.

Among other Catonsville youngsters who are graduating from college this year (They do not want to be called youngsters now) are Stephon Boston, son of Bernice Boston, one of the two black Crossing Guards in the Catonsville area, who is graduating from Ohio State University and Debbie Williams, our daughter, who is graduating from Clark College in Atlanta. Keith Ralings the son of Marsden and Annabelle Rawlings, of Baltimore, is graduating from Amherst University and has been accepted at the University of Maryland Medical School.

Among other happy parents in the Catonsville area who have a college graduate are Mr. and Mrs. James E. Houston Jr. of Alexander avenue, whose son James E. III was graduated on May 7 from Philander Smith College in Little Rock Arkansas. Mrs. Houston is our dearly beloved Rev. Earline Houston, the associate pastor at Grace AME Church. I truly believe that Rev. Earline has been praying hard for all parents everywhere who had fond hopes of seeing their children finish school. God has really blessed all of us.

Continue to remember the sick, the aged and the shut - ins in your community. Among the known sick are Susie R. Harris (John), the daughter to Susie Peed Russell, the niece of Richard Peed and the cousin of the late Carmelita Campbell, Susie underwent surgery last week at University Hospital and I understand that she is coming along nicely. We all remember her as the longtime employee at Hochschild-Kohn downtown, in the fabic department until she moved to their store at Security Mall

Continue to remember the McQuires (John and Rosalie). A few weeks ago they were both in Provident at the same time. Rosalie is now at home and hopefully, John is also at home.

Cards to Addie Hall of Oella who has been ailing. "Miss Addie" as she is known by all is one of the most active "young" ladies in the Catonsville Golden Age Group. She volunteers her services whenever and where ever she can. Continue to remember Reuben (Romaine) Jones who has been ailing.

Mary Colona Woodhouse was in town recently for the wedding mf her niece Kim Colona, the daughter of George and Elsie Colona, who was married to Paul Parker at St. Mary The Virgin Church. Mary is living in Long Island, N.Y., with her husband Ernest. We all remember Mary as one of the prettiest girls in Baltimore. She attended Coppin and Morgan. Her visit to Baltimore was very timely because she was here during the planning of her high school class reunion (Douglas High).

During her short visit here, Mary was entertained by her life long friend, Mary Catherine McPherson (Thomas) and had family dinner with her cousin Howard "Pudding" Collins (Iona).

Even though I was a few years younger, I can still remember the Colona family at 605 Cold street. These are nice people whom you do not forget. Remember, all of us lived around the corner from each other. Those were the days and we sure did enjoy them.

More about graduates next week, including Aaron Ellis Jr., son of Mary and Aaron Ellis Sr., who will receive his M.A. degree from Kent University. Since his graduation from Morgan, he has been an associate professor at Kent.

God bless the parents of all graduates - May he love, protect and bless you always. You made the sacrafices so that your kids could make it in this world. Our congratulations to you also.

Have a Nice Day!

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