

House Brimming Over With Comfort, Support

BY EMILY ADCOCK
STAFF WRITER

A young mother sits in the pediatric intensive care unit of the hospital and stares at her child. Thoughts of life and death run through her head, and the least of her worries is how she can afford staying in a hotel 100 miles away from her home.

Through a hospital referral she is told of a place where others in her situation can stay and be comforted and call home. This place is the Ronald McDonald House, a nonprofit organization that specializes in aiding families who need a place to stay during a family member's hospitalization.

The pleasantness of the House is immediately evident. From the pale blue couches to the huge living area on the left, it would be impossible not to feel right at home here. The large areas encourage residents to sit down, relax and talk for awhile.

The Ronald McDonald House is a place of love and understanding. Since many of the people visiting it are undergoing many of the same experiences, the House helps them to deal with their emotions by talking with each other. The families say they truly enjoyed their stay at the Ronald McDonald House. They say they felt that through talking with each other about their experiences, they were more able to get through the hard times.

The volunteers also help a great deal, both emotionally and physically.

There are more than 100 volunteers at the Ronald McDonald House in Chapel Hill alone.

They provide various services for the organization, ranging from clerical work to nursery care and kitchen duty. Volunteers also are permitted to work one-on-one with the families who are visiting.

Kelly Longacre, a UNC graduate student and Ronald McDonald House volunteer, said, "Volunteers can work pretty

much any area they want to." "Some people come in for a couple of hours and work the kitchen or do whatever needs to be done," she said. "Usually the volunteers work three hour shifts, beginning at 9 am."

The volunteers also help with parties that the Ronald McDonald House holds for its occupants.

"We have parties on holidays, birthdays and any time we just feel like it," said Dee Wood, a full-time employee at the House. "A couple of weeks ago we had a 'Lion King' party for no special reason at all."

The parties are just a few of the things that the Ronald McDonald House does to keep up the spirits of its tenants.

Families are permitted to stay at the House for 28-day periods. After that a family must reapply before returning.

It provides accommodations at a very reasonable price: \$8 a night. In fact, the nonprofit organization is willing to waive the fee if a family cannot afford it, although 40 percent of the families are able.

The House also focuses on comfort. The 14,273-square foot facility features 20 bedrooms that can each accommodate up to 3 people, living and dining areas, a kitchen, a library and a playroom and playground for the children.

All areas are filled with things to keep residents busy. Nintendos and VCRs are also available to occupy time.

The Ronald McDonald House is an organization that receives most of its funds from donations.

Since only 10 percent of its budget comes from the fees guests pay, it relies on support from individuals, organizations and businesses to continue providing services to families of seriously ill children.

"It's great that people from the community donate the money, because it's people from outside the community that benefit,"

Longacre said.

The people who are guests of the Ronald McDonald House must be from outside a 50 mile radius.

Since its opening on April 15, 1988, the Ronald McDonald House of Chapel Hill has comforted more than 8,200 families with sick children.

14 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$3. Call 929-ARTS for more information.

■ The Durham Bouncing Bulldogs jump rope team will give a skipping demonstration on July 13 at the Museum of Life and Science in Durham. Museum hours are from 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday through Saturday and 1 p.m.-6 p.m. on Sunday. Call 220-5429 for schedule information.

■ Sculptures by second year Master of Fine Arts student Thadd Smith will be on display at the Hanes Art Center Glass Gallery from July 12 through August 1.

■ Singers Frankie Beverly and Maze will perform in concert on July 14 at the Historic Durham Athletic Park in Durham. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door. Call 834-4000 or 461-0507 for more information.



The Ronald McDonald House playground provides a place where a families' younger children can amuse themselves after a day of visiting the hospital.

It welcomes 1,100 families annually and is open 365 days a year with staff on the premises 24 hours a day.

There are hundreds of Ronald McDonald Houses across the nation, four of which are located in Chapel Hill, Durham, Winston-Salem and Greensboro. There are even some in Europe.

Brown Gallery at the Bryan Center on the campus of Duke University.

■ Pulitzer Prize winner E. Annie Proulx will discuss her new book "Accordion Crimes" on Sunday, July 14 at 3 p.m. at McIntyre's Fine Books and Bookends in Pittsboro. Call the bookstore for more information.

■ The Triangle Brass Band will be performing symphonic and light classical music in the Sarah P. Duke Gardens on the campus of Duke University at 6 p.m. on Sunday, July 14.

Attend It

■ A reception celebrating the opening of artist Gail Henderson Weinert's new water media paintings exhibit will be held Friday, July 12 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the

Journalism School Reaps \$1 Million Donation From 1990 Hall-of-Famer Park

■ The sorely-needed library will be located in the school's new home in 1998.

BY JOHN SWEENEY
UNIVERSITY EDITOR

Thanks to a \$1 million donation, the School of Journalism and Mass Communications will not only enjoy a new location beginning in 1998, but a new library as well.

The donation came from the Ithaca, N.Y.-based Park Foundation, which was established by the late Roy Park, a North Carolina native who owned several communications properties in the state before his death in 1993.

The money from the donation will be used to create a 5,000-square foot multimedia reference center in Carroll Hall, the new home of the journalism school beginning in 1998. The library will include new computer technology, books, magazines and periodicals.

The journalism school will be moving into the new building after it is vacated by Kenan-Flagler Business School. The business school will move to a new building near the Smith Center on South Campus.

Richard Cole, dean of the journalism school, said the new library would be the "heart of the school."

"There will be no more prominent place in our new home," Cole stated in a press release. "The Park Library will be a show-place throughout journalism-mass communication education in the United States."

Trish Richardson, a graduate student in the journalism school, said the library would be a significant improvement over the school's current situation.

"The current library is extremely overcrowded," Richardson said. "There is no more room for new books."

Richardson also said the current library was lacking in computer technology. Only six computers were available in the Howell library, and the other computer labs in the building were often difficult to get into because they were used for classes, Richardson said.

"The new library is probably one of the best uses to which that money can be put," Richardson said.

During his lifetime, Park served on the UNC Board of Visitors and as a member of the UNC Foundation Board from 1989-93.

Park was inducted into the North Carolina Journalism Hall of Fame in 1990.

Arts & Entertainment Calendar

FRIDAY, JULY 12

GRAVITY'S PULL. Cat's Cradle. 300 E. Main St., Carrboro. 967-9053.
JOHN THURSDAY. The Cave. 452 1/2 W. Franklin St., Chapel Hill. 968-9308.

SATURDAY, JULY 13

THE JALAPENO BROTHERS. The Cave. 452 1/2 W. Franklin St., Chapel Hill. 968-9308.
THE MIGHTY WONDERS with SENSATIONAL CLIFTON BROTHERS and FREDDY BRANCH & THE SINGING STARS. Cat's Cradle. 300 E. Main St., Carrboro. 967-9053.

SUNDAY, JULY 14

THE STEAM DONKEYS. The Cave. 452 1/2 W. Franklin St., Chapel Hill. 968-9308.

MONDAY, JULY 15

BRUCE LANDES. The Cave. 452 1/2 W. Franklin St., Chapel Hill. 968-9308.

TUESDAY, JULY 16

X-RAY ONS with APPALACHIAN DEATH RIDE and BULLWINKLE GHANDI. Cat's Cradle. 300 E. Main St., Carrboro. 967-9053.
HAYDEN. Lizard and Snake Cafe. 110 N. Columbia St., Chapel Hill. 929-2828.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 17

SMOKE. Cat's Cradle. 300 E. Main St., Carrboro. 967-9053.
THE CHICKENWIRE GANG. The Cave. 452 1/2 W. Franklin St., Chapel Hill. 968-9308.
PEST 5000 with EX-ATARI KID and SUNSHINE & DOOM. Lizard and Snake Cafe. 110 N. Columbia St., Chapel Hill. 929-2828.

THURSDAY JULY 18

KODAC HARRISON. The Cave. 452 1/2 W. Franklin St., Chapel Hill. 968-9308.
JUPITER COYOTE. Cat's Cradle. 300 E. Main St., Carrboro. 967-9053.

ARTS BRIEFS
What's happening in entertainment around the Triangle

See It

■ An "Open Jazz Jam" with special guest vocalist Prince Taylor will be held at the Carrboro ArtsCenter on Sunday, July

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BOOTH-POWELL

FROM PAGE 1

ployees that we have ever given," he said.

Those whom Booth-Powell touched described her as a warm-hearted person whose caring nature extended to all those she met. In the case of one town official, that relationship continued for a lifetime.

Carrboro Alderman Hilliard Caldwell knew Booth-Powell since elementary school. The two met when he was in third grade and she was in fourth, and they continued to be friends.

"Barbara Booth-Powell was dedicated, caring and concerned," Caldwell said. "She always wanted to do what was right for people."

Chapel Hill council member Pat Evans said Booth-Powell always acted like a lady.

"She was always dignified and yet was very approachable. I'll miss that," Evans said. "She said things in a very kind way. She treated everyone with respect and it was returned."

Friends said Booth-Powell would be greatly missed and not easily forgotten. Council member Lee Pavao said Booth-Powell's character was the thing he would miss the most with her death.

"There's a lot I'll remember her for, her quiet strength and demeanor while she was on the council, her concern for the individual," he said. "She had a strong sense of responsibility for the community."

Booth-Powell's death leaves a vacancy on the council that will be filled in the fall when council meetings are resumed. However, Caldwell said the gap left by Booth-Powell would not disappear.

"There will be a void in Chapel Hill government until we can get used to not having her here," he said.

Pavao said he would most miss conversations he had with Booth-Powell about a shared interest — owl collections.

"She collected and was interested in owls," Pavao said. "I have a small collection at town hall and we used to sit down and talk about our collections."

Pavao said he also doubted that the full effect of the town's loss would be immediately felt. "We're going to miss her," he said. "People didn't realize at the time how much she contributed to the community and the council."

Booth-Powell is survived by husband George M. Powell, mother Nonie Burnette, daughters Melody Little and Sandra Joy Murphy, sons Thomas Joseph Booth IV and Barry Booth and brother Clyde Burnette.

She is also survived by a daughter-in-law, a son-in-law, 10 grandchildren, one sister-in-law, two aunts and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

Family members ask that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Orange County Unit of the American Cancer Society, 3500 Westgate Drive, Durham, N.C. 27707 and/or the Barbara Booth-Powell Memorial Fund, P.O. Box 543, Durham, N.C. 27707.

Summer 1996!

GOTHAM

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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