

Another Success Story For Youth Corps

CALLING ALL
HOMEMAKERS

By Gary Guill

SOME THOUGHTS
ABOUT MAKING A
GOOD ENTRANCE



The entrance, or foyer, of your home, whether it's large or small, wide or narrow, is where you welcome your guests — and for that matter, yourself. It's the one room everybody sees—it's the one room everybody has to pass through.

The impression it makes can be lasting. Is it hospitable? Is it useful? Is it pretty?

So many foyers show only the console and mirror arrangement that you would think there is no other way to decorate this very important part of your home.

A good looking nest of tables is one practical and helpful way to substitute for the usual console table.

We can help you in the selection of foyer furnishings. You might want to try an elegant slim table that gives you more room and more beauty in your entrance way.

If a foyer is large enough it may be used as part of your living area with a small pair of chairs and when you entertain a large group it will provide much needed additional seating.

Once the furniture has been chosen, you can concentrate your energies on finding accent pieces. And we are here to help you find different things you like. Come in and browse — there's no obligation.

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By PAULA CUNNINGHAM

"People can't say that Neighborhood Youth Corps failed them. The corps will give you all the chances you need if you really want to make it and are willing to work. It's not the corps, but YOU, who has to want to make something of your life."

So says Barbara Hunt, a 21-year old NYC graduate. And she should know. It took her two chances to make it. Three years ago at age 17 she was ready to quit and give up on life. She had married at 15, and was the mother of two children at 18. She dropped out of school after the tenth grade after struggling two years to stay in school and hold her marriage together. She was unskilled, friendless, and tied to a husband who didn't support her.

"I was disgusted at everything and didn't think there was any hope at all," remembers Barbara. Her aunt, Mrs. Ezetta Dawson of the Area Service Center, read a newspaper article on NYC and encouraged her to check it out.

Barbara went, half-heartedly, to NYC Director Joyce Wallace in 1965 for the first time. She was interviewed, filled out the necessary papers — application, health form, and memo of understanding, qualified for the program and was enrolled that same September day. She spent only two months in the corps' out-of-school program. She became pregnant with her second child, had serious marital strife, and her parents were unable to baby-sit for her as promised, all of which combined to force her to leave the corps.

Mrs. Wallace kept in close contact with her through Barbara's aunt after she left the corps. She kept post-



Barbara Hunt at work at UCSC. At left, she takes her children, Spencer and Shon Larey, shopping.

whom we place enrollees. The Department of Employment manager, Roger Pelz, and assistant manager, Myrtle Palmer, asked us for Barbara. They had followed her case and believed they could help her as an individual and worker. A good supervisor to me is one who is interested in what he can do for enrollees not what enrollees can do for him."

Barbara made much progress under her supervisors, Mr. Pelz and Mrs. Palmer. They stressed the importance of punctuality on the job, developing typing and filing skills, and building self-confidence. The challenge of working in an all-white office at first frightened Barbara.

"I was the first Negro to work in the local State Employment Office," says Barbara. "At first it bothered me. Everyone stared at me and seemed to be watching me all the time. But it was good experience because it was something I had to get used to if I wanted to make good. It helped me overcome my self-consciousness. After I had worked there for a while people didn't even no-

tice me any more. I worked there for six months. Then in June 1968, through helpful references from Roger Pelz, Mrs. Mary Smith of the Social Welfare Department, and NYC Director Joyce Wallace she found her first "career job."

Director Wallace explains that an NYC enrollee must leave the corps upon receiving his or her high school diploma or after he secures a "career job" that enables him to be a self-supporting, productive young adult. Barbara holds a General Education Diploma, equivalent to a high school diploma.

Barbara left the corps eight months ago last June. She started out as a personal secretary to John Lunny at UCSC and was promoted to personnel receptionist in the Administration Building last month. She is in charge of new student enrollment, testing, and general information. "It's a big responsibility but I'm very happy," she says.

She went from a \$140 a month NYC job to a \$367 career job position. In July she will clear \$435 a month, which includes a cost of living raise as well as raise in position.

"All the training I went through before getting my career job was worth it," says successful NYC graduate Barbara Hunt. "I can support my children, pay the rent, and I lead a whole new life."

three years ago this would happen I never would have listened to them. Sometimes when I look back on how my life used to be and still could be, I can't believe it," says Barbara in retrospection.

"There were times when I was in NYC that I really wanted to give up. When I first started my career job at the college my first boss, Mr. Lunny, used to pressure me all the time. In NYC you don't have pressure; everyone helps you. I used to think he was prejudiced," she laughs. "But he had a lot of confidence in me and just wanted me to try harder. I went from 40 to 60 words a minute in typing because I wanted him to stop hollering at me."

But is Barbara really happy?

"Oh, yes! I never dreamed I could make it. All the training I went through before I got my career job was worth every bit of it. I can support my children now, buy them good clothing, pay the rent, and lead a whole new life. Our present landlord was worried when he first rented to me, but now we've lived there for 1½ years and he says we are the best tenants he's ever had."

"The greatest thing about Neighborhood Youth Corps is that it gives kids a chance to make something of them-

selves. I'm truly grateful for the chance they gave me."

Next week: (How to enroll in NYC and job opportunities available.)

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Tom Cahill

for



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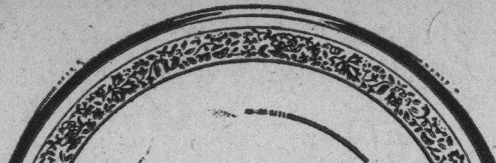
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...bined to force her to leave the corps.

Mrs. Wallace kept in close contact with her through Barbara's aunt after she left the corps. She kept post-

New from Lenox China



...tained out of the window. It was a beautiful sunny day but there was no food in the house for the kids, they had no decent clothing and I looked like an old beaten hag at 17. I said to myself, 'I don't want to live like this all my life. My children deserve a better life.'

"I dressed Spencer (her oldest child, then 2) and Shon Larey (5 months) and took them to my mother's and started walking the streets. Mrs. Wallace told me when I left NYC

...and worked a 32-hour week during the daytime, earning \$80 to \$90 every two weeks. The corps aided her in locating sitters for her children, but more often than not she couldn't afford a competent one to watch her infant, Shon Larey.

Barbara stuck it out, working six months at her first NYC job station at the Y. She was then transferred to the California State Department of Employment.

"We are very selective about the supervisors with

me all the time. But it was good experience because it was something I had to get used to if I wanted to make good. It helped me overcome my self-consciousness. After I had worked there for a while people didn't even notice. It just goes to show people think of you as a human being, just another worker."

Barbara was assigned to a more advanced job after a year. She went to the County Assessor's office. She

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"If somebody had told me