

# Neighborhood Youth Corps Shows Results In SC

By Alan Jones  
Sentinel Staff Writer

up 90 per cent of the cost, or \$83,623.

Take the enthusiasm and energy of 150 young people, and you can do a lot of unlikely things. Even their naivete helps sometimes — they don't know what can't be done, so they go ahead and do it.

They can cut woodland trails, landscape parks and playgrounds, clean up city streets, catch up on back paperwork — and even make believers of some skeptical foremen for the city of Santa Cruz.

To put it briefly, the Neighborhood Youth Corps program is turning out more successfully than anyone — program directors included — had hoped.

For example, one city foreman is assigned a score of boys, 16 to 21 years old. "If we can get as much work done with them as we do without them, we'll be all right," the foreman growled. That was three weeks ago. Today, according to program Director Kelly Bryan, the foreman is one of the program's strongest backers, and he wants a bigger crew of kids.

The NYC is part of the federal anti-poverty package. In the Santa Cruz program, which started July 1, 118 boys and 32 girls from 16 to 21 were hired to do useful and necessary jobs that otherwise wouldn't get done. The city government is the employer, and the state employment office screens the applicants. The federal government picks

The program has several aims. It gives young people useful work, which earns them money they need and teaches them good work habits, increasing their future employability. The program is also intended to help drop-outs and other non-school youths get back into a productive track.

Many of the employees here, probably more than half, are high school or college students. For them, the jobs can help tide them through the summer and might mean the financial difference between returning to school and dropping out.

The kids are spread out all over the city, from the municipal wharf (seven boys) to the Loch Lomond reservoir-recreation area (20 boys).

The biggest crews, Loch Lomond's 20 and another 30 at DeLaveaga park, are doing outdoor muscle-building work — cutting brush, hacking trails out of the woods, building bridges into new picnic areas, cutting firewood and so on.

The girls are scattered about city hall in clerical work, and 14 are working for the recreation department in playground work.

Other crews of boys are working at Harvey West park (they've cleared the brush from the city's newly-purchased hillside acreage, making it a likely picnic site), on street crews, as gardeners' aides, and in individ-



Cleaning up weeds and readying the area for picnic tables and park area are NYC workers, left to right, Tom Stone, Carston Johnson and Chris Cole. Their work area is Harvey West park but other

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boys are doing the same in DeLaveaga park and other areas.

ual jobs such as printer's devil, parking meter assistant or electrician's aide.

The NYC has worked 9500 man-hours in three weeks. The members are limited to a 32-hour work week, and that includes a two-hour orientation held each Monday morning. The program is to run 10 weeks, but may be extended another week if the budget can stand it.

There have been a few fail-

ures, inevitably. Five NYCs have resigned from the program, and 10 have been "separated for cause," which is the federal way of being fired. But some of the youths who resigned have quit to take better jobs outside the program, which is one of the aims of the program anyway.

Not all young people like to work. One boy, for instance, came in during his first week, announced "Nobody's gonna boss me around," and stalked out.

By way of contrast, there's another youth who walks to work every morning — from Scotts Valley, a seven-mile hike. Bryan said the boy was probably going to make a down payment on transportation with his first paycheck. Bryan took the first paychecks around Friday afternoon.

Another NYC member has more qualifications than the program can use. The son of a northern California contractor, he can operate most kinds of

heavy construction equipment, work which pays considerably more than \$1.25 an hour NYC workers make. But his father isn't anxious to pay sky-high insurance rates which would result from letting a juvenile run the machinery — so the boy is in Santa Cruz with the youth corps.

Some of the work done by the NYC simply wouldn't get done any other way. One girl working in the planning office, for instance, assembled and bound 1000 copies of the city general plan. The material had gathered dust for months, waiting until the planning staff had time to put it together.

A considerable amount of painting and general brightening up of city hall has also been done by building maintenance aides, and the civic auditorium lobby hasn't looked so spotless in years.

The load on the city treasury is negligible. The city's 10 per cent of the cost is mostly measured in man-hours of supervision, materials and equipment used.

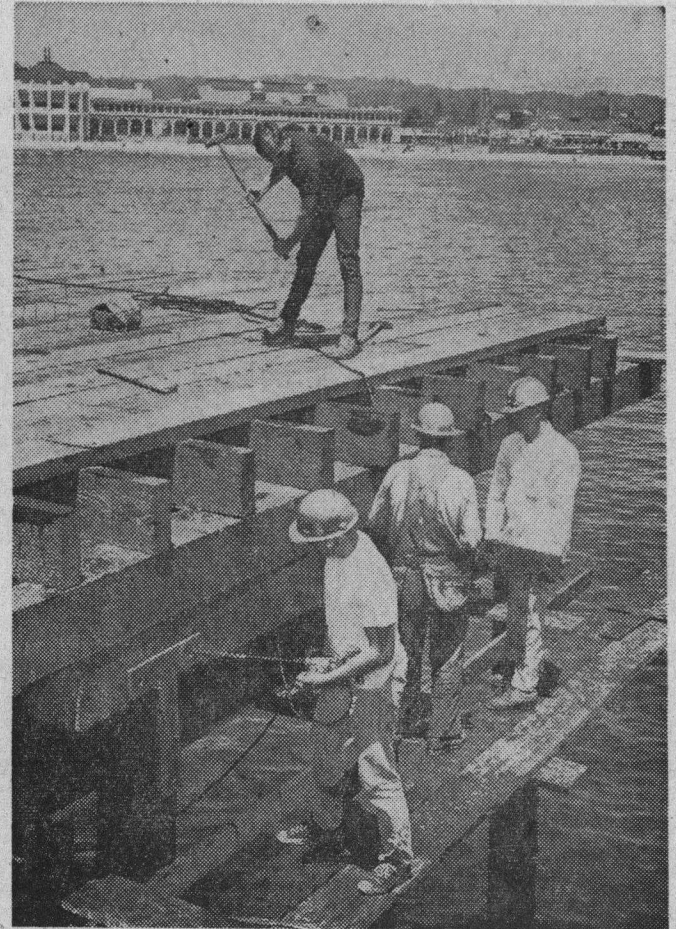
Criticism so far has centered on two points. Some jobs have been given to "undeserving" youths who either don't want or don't need to work, critics say.

The second criticism is concern whether there will be enough supervision of the program to keep it from turning into a no-work boondoggle.

Counting four full-time men hired as supervisors — two retired teachers and two retired military men — the city has 10 supervisors in various spots with the program, plus supervision on a one-to-one basis for most of the youths working in city offices such as personnel, the print shop, the corporation yard, purchasing, the city attorney's office, and so on.

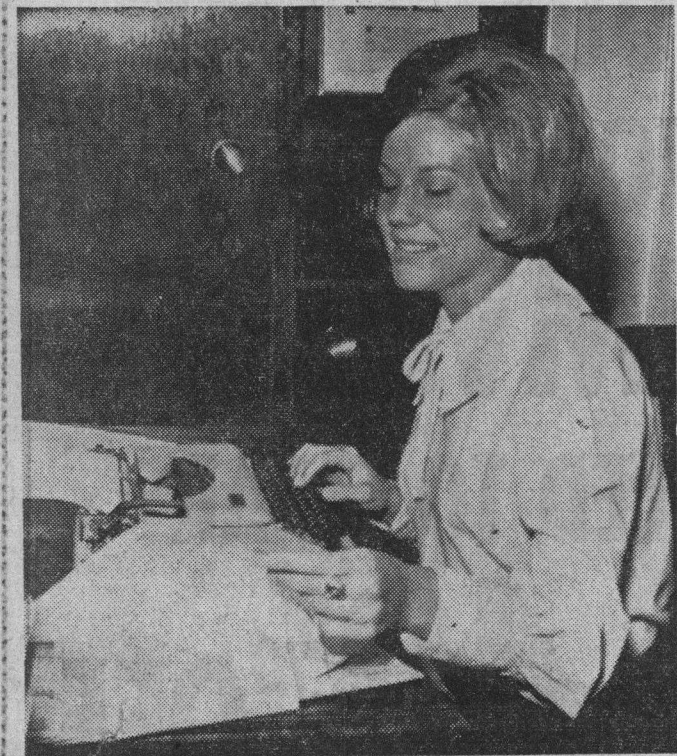
Most of the skeptics have been convinced. Enough so that there is talk of trying to extend the program on a smaller scale through the winter months.

Once you start getting the extras taken care of, it's hard to give them up.



They're capping the pilings and putting a deck for parking on the wharf as part of the NYC work corps this summer. Swinging the hammer on

the deck is Mike Cahaley and left to right at the bottom are Mike Stolle, Ralph Christensen and Jay Fry.



Spending her summer typing and doing secretarial work for the Santa Cruz city manager and city personnel office is Janet Randall, a NYC work-

er. Workers are hired through the NYC office which is sponsored by the city and federal government.

## A Week Of Major Accomplishments For President Johnson, Congress

By James Marlow  
Associated Press News Analyst  
Washington (P)—This past week was almost incredible for combined presidential action and congressional achievement, when judged against other weeks and even other years.

The President talked to the nation, upped the war in Viet Nam, conferred and consulted, created a crime commission and made a number of appointments of far-reaching importance.

Congress approved some measures which just a few years ago would have seemed impossi-

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president of the Carnegie corporation. And for Wednesday, Johnson called a news conference to talk about Viet Nam.

At the news conference he first disclosed that he was sending 50,000 troops to Viet Nam immediately to join the 75,000 already there and was increasing draft calls. Then he warned of more troops being sent and said the United States was determined to stop the guerrillas

getting the men in the Capitol to approve what he wants that much of the history-making legislation going through Congress this year seems taken for granted.

This week Congress gave a final okay not only to changes and improvements in Social Security but for the first time created a program of medical care for people 65 or older.

This medical care program, opposed by various forces for two decades, is the most sweeping advance in the social welfare field since Social Security itself was established by Con-



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SHOOT? RIDE IN OPEN  
CARS? SUN? BEACH?  
BOAT?



AND do you also wear

Prescription

