

CATA bus passes available for Parkway Plaza residents

By ALICE RUDOLPH
Collegian Staff Writer

Parkway Plaza residents learned Saturday that they will be eligible for Centre Area Transit Authority bus service starting today.

In a letter addressed to all tenants of the apartment complex at 1000 Plaza Drive, Daniel Kienle, general manager of A.W. & Sons Enterprise, said residents will be issued CATA bus passes on Wednesday. Until then, residents may use their bus pass authorizations to ride CATA buses.

"This action has been taken because after much thought and deliberation it is my opinion that we would be unable to provide the same quality of service to our residents as has been provided by CATA," Kienle stated in the letter.

Kienle yesterday refused to comment to The Daily Collegian.

Parkway Plaza residents were to be issued Parkway

Plaza bus passes this year instead of CATA bus passes, which were issued in previous years. However, several tenants complained to the Organization for Town Independent Students concerning the switch, and one Parkway Plaza resident started a petition to protest the new bus service.

Bruce Tabino (junior-computer science) said 250 residents of Parkway Plaza signed the petition he circulated.

"It wasn't until we had the people behind us that they decided to give us Centre Line bus passes," Tabino said.

Parkway Plaza advertisements in the University's summer term schedule of classes and in the Aug. 5 and Aug. 26 issues of the Collegian stated that residents would receive free Centre Line bus passes.

Sue Lord, an OTIS representative, said OTIS members are glad that action has been taken quickly so students will not be inconvenienced.

Peace Corps offers challenge

By MONTE HAYES
Associated Press Writer

JUTICALPA, Honduras — Don Hanson lives in a tranquil green valley in Honduras, his work as an American Peace Corps volunteer untouched by the guerrilla wars wracking Central America.

Hanson, a 25-year-old agricultural engineer from Garfield, Wash., is one of 250 Peace Corps volunteers and trainees in Honduras, Central America's most impoverished country. The program is the largest in the turbulent region and Latin America's second biggest, after Ecuador's contingent of 285 volunteers.

The number of Peace Corps volunteers worldwide has dropped from more than 16,000 in the late 1960s to 5,200 today because of funding cuts and the closing of programs in more than a dozen countries.

In Central America, the Peace Corps has pulled out of El Salvador and Nicaragua because of guerrilla warfare and has reduced its program in Guatemala, withdrawing from the western highlands where a leftist insurgency is concentrated.

But Honduras, largely spared the political violence its neighbors suffer, has seen an increase from around 150 volunteers in the early 1970s to the present level.

"One has to recognize the importance of Honduras and the fact that you have a democratic government trying to do its best to solve the problems of this country," Don Allen, director of the Honduran Peace Corps program, said in an interview in Tegucigalpa, the Honduran capital.

"They just desperately need the kind of help we can give them at the village level."

President Roberto Suazo Cordova,

whose election in November 1981 restored civilian government after two decades of almost uninterrupted military rule, has asked for more volunteers, Allen said.

"I'd never seen poverty like this where I'm from in the Northwest," Hanson said. "Pictures tell a lot, but they're not the same thing as living it."

Like many Peace Corps volunteers, Hanson often finds his work frustrating because of the slow pace of progress.

"It's a big challenge. That's the way they promote the Peace Corps and it's true," he said.

'Pictures tell a lot, but they're not the same thing as living it.'

—Don Hanson, Peace Corps volunteer

Hanson works out of an agricultural extension office here, helping a half-dozen villages and towns throughout the Guayape Valley. He usually reaches them on aging buses and by hitching rides. The final leg of the trip to El Agua Fria, a mountain village eight hours away, is by horseback.

Most of his work involves small irrigation projects. In the tradition of the Peace Corps, villages and individuals benefiting from the projects are expected to provide part of the money and all the labor.

The matching funds come from the U.S. Agency for International Development and the Peace Corps Part-

nership Program, under which local communities in the United States donate money to projects supervised by volunteers.

The Peace Corps Partnership Program has allotted \$2,100 for the building of a local school. But Hanson is holding back half the money until the community collects \$350 as its share to finish the school, which now has walls and a galvanized zinc roof in place. He says the villagers also need to show more initiative in providing voluntary labor for the project.

"I'm going to the school project wondering what to say," he said, as he drove a borrowed Jeep down a dusty road to La Puzanca. "I don't want to be negative. But I've got to say, 'Hey, you guys aren't working hard enough.'"

"I want them to organize themselves so when I'm gone, they'll keep working on projects for themselves."

Like Hanson, most Peace Corps volunteers in Honduras live in rural communities and work directly with the poor.

"In the early '70s in response to requests from host countries the Peace Corps began to recruit volunteers who had higher technical skills and place them in universities and government planning positions," said John Evans, program and training officer for the Peace Corps in Honduras.

"Under (President) Carter, the word came down that Peace Corps volunteers should be working with the poorest of the poor."

Hanson agrees. In fact, when his two-year commitment is up in December, he's planning to sign up for another year of frustrations, challenges and a \$231-a-month living allowance.

Chappaquiddick residents want bridge bagged

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDGARTOWN, Mass. — Some long-time residents of Chappaquiddick Island think it's time to pull down the rotting Dike Bridge, the place where Sen. Edward M. Kennedy's car plunged into the water and a woman drowned 14 years ago.

Residents complain the bridge attracts too many tourists to the quiet East Beach in the tiny Martha's Vineyard community, says Walter Wood, 58, a member of one of the dozen families who live all

year on the island. About 400 families live on the island in the summer.

"A number of us feel the bridge attracts most of the tourists," he said yesterday. "I'm not sure how many. Gee, I've heard numbers like 1,500 to 2,000 people and 300 to 500 bicycles in the heavy season."

Wood, who has lived 30 years on Chappaquiddick, commuting to his sheet metal plant on the mainland, suggested last Tuesday at a selectmen's meeting that the 120-foot wooden bridge be torn down.

"It's kind of a toss up which

attracts the tourists the most, the beach or the bridge," he said. "I think the bridge. It is a bigger attraction than people think."

Mary Jo Kopechne drowned July 18, 1969, when a car driven by Kennedy plunged off the bridge and into the water after a party of campaign workers. Kennedy said he swam away from the car. The controversy over the accident has persisted, especially during Kennedy's campaigns for the presidency.

Wood said he suggested replacing it with a relatively inexpensive aluminum culvert.

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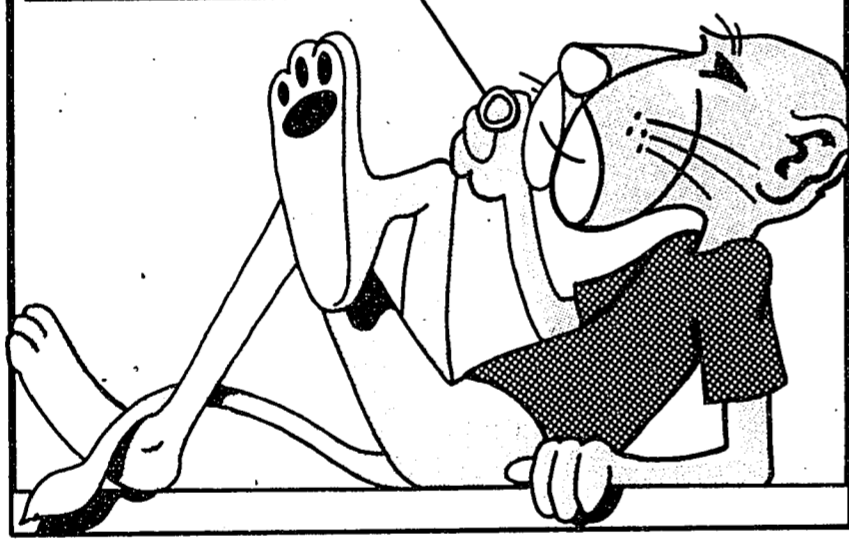
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