

Creative meditation, vegetarian food at Fare-Thee-Well Wholeness Center

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HUNTINGTON — Fare-Thee-Well Wholeness Center, located on Routz 66 on Norwich Hill, one of many new church movements across the country, is growing.

Last weekend participants of Fare-Thee Well held their first Illumination Celebration. Some 50 people joined the long weekend which started early Friday and lasted until Sunday evening.

The three days began with creative meditation led by Floyd McAuslan. A vegetarian breakfast followed and included corn cakes, maple syrup, granola, apples and earth teas. All meals served during the weekend were vegetarian and prepared with natural foods.

The movie "Jonathan Livingston Seagull," was shown Friday evening. On Saturday Betsy Dods, songstress and guitarist, led singing and dancing. Pranya and Navada and friends were featured with cosmic sounds of the universe in song and poetry. Prayer and healing groups gathered Saturday after which the group took part in Sufi dancing.

Future building

Dr. Roy Whitney, of Amherst, showed a scale model of his concept of a future main building at Fare-Thee-Well. This would be made almost completely of stone and wood and equipped for solar heating.

Dr. Harry Wolf, of California, who happened to be visiting in the area spoke on iridology, a new theory that the iris of the eye is the key to locating health problems. The cure is a diet of natural foods, according to Dr. Wolf.

Fare-Thee-Well, established



FOUR OF THE "campers" that spent the weekend at Fare-Thee-Well's Illumination Celebration, pause after breakfast in the early morning sun on the steps of the Herb Drying Shed. From left are Marie Griffin and Cindy Schultz, both of Southampton, Alice Smith, of Easthampton, and in the second row, Barbara Moses of Springfield.

three years ago by a handful of participants, has increased to 100 at present. McAuslan, a butcher and former lay pastor at the Norwich Hill First Congregational Church, started the organization. Those attending range from teen-agers to those in their 70s.

The services are held in a wooden building, built by the people of Fare-Thee-Well, who attend from the Pittsfield and Springfield areas. The building will be the drying shed for herbs when the main building is built. It is also planned to include a

natural foods store and a vegetarian restaurant in the future.

Services outside

Services were held outside before the present building was erected. Some 40 to 50 people fill the building each week for Sunday services, and were kept warm this past winter with wood burning stoves.

Fare-Thee-Well is not just a Sunday group. Work is constantly going on and the people participate in activities all week long.

A power line has been laid and

sometime during this week there will be a full electrical power on the grounds. Land has been cleared, trees cut and stacked for the coming winter, and a well has been drilled for a water supply. A large garden plot has been plowed and soon vegetables and herbs will be planted. All members take part in the planting and the care of the garden, and all share in the harvest.

"Fare-Thee-Well is a place for prayer, a place for healing. It's a place of spiritual awareness," McAuslan says.