1950-1959

The Beginning

1950 First Summer Work Camps at ECC

1953 Canon Parshley named Director of the Episcopal Conference Center

1954
The dorm is built

1954
First October Work Camp

First five new cabins are constructed 1955

Vacation Bible School, ECC's first outreach program, begins in various RI parishes

957 Wicks is built in the "Staff Village"

1958 Fireplace is added to the barn

1958
Bishop Higgins preaches at the first ever "Jazz Mass"

Plans begin to take shape to build the Tower of Silence



For High School Youth
5.00 for the Week

PISCOPAL DAY CAMPS

July 16 — July 27 August 13 — August 24

The Rev. C.

Carlson said in

an article in the

Churchman, "our

last summer has

experience of

convinced us

firmly that the

program for our

young people

summer

can be

effectively

Center this

ahead."

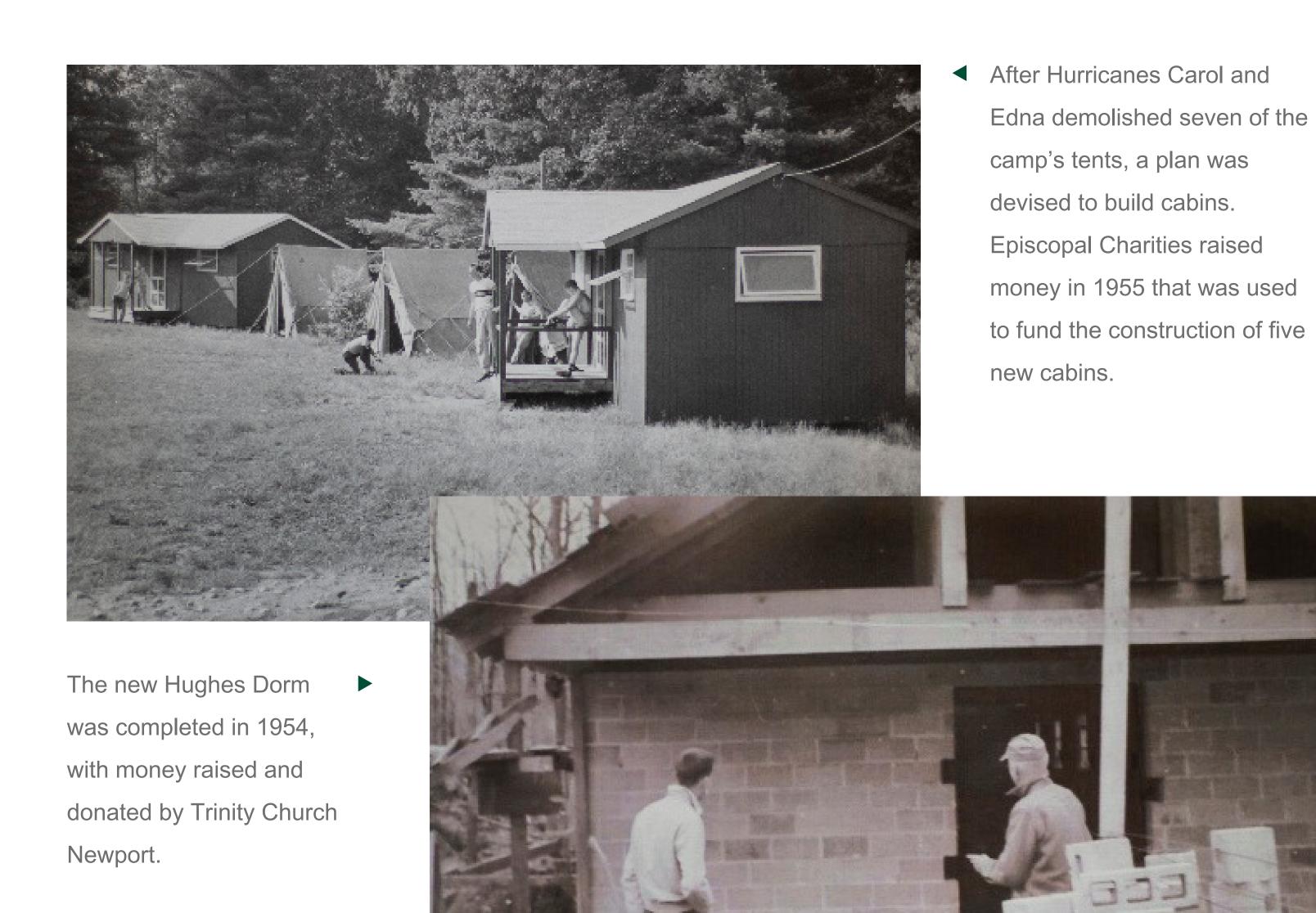
handled at the

In 1950 the first formal programs were held at ECC: one day camp with almost 100 children in attendance, and two work camps, where over 40 young people spent the week preparing the property for future use. Campers and counselors brought their own tools from home to use for work.



In 1950, James and Dorothy Ashworth served as the hosts at what was then known as the Diocesan Conference Center. They lived on the property until 1958. In an article in the RI Churchman, Canon Parshley reflected on how much work

was completed at the very first Senior Work
Camp. He said, "You might want to know why
everyone is so ambitious, well the answer is
Mrs. Ashworth's good cooking. A good meal
in the morning will start off the day right and
we start off every day right."

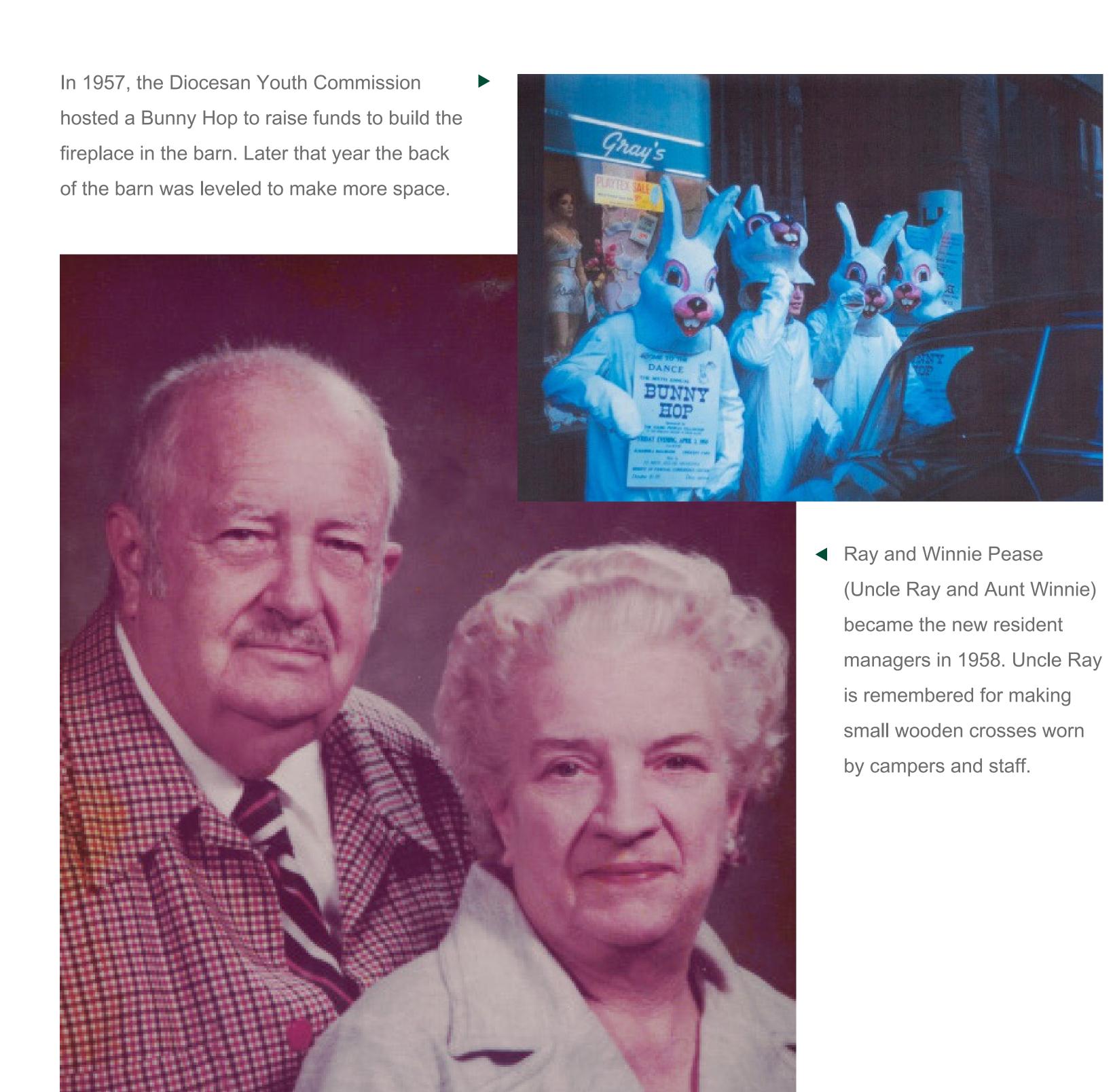


Some of the girls hang out in the girls area. The original plan for ECC was to build multiple dorms around the property to house campers and staff, but the Hughes Dorm was the only one of its kind. The immediate need for new housing inspired the

wconstruction of cabins.



During the earliest camp programs campers stayed in large tents on the field that is now the red cabin area.





"Canon [Anthony Parshley] believed that there was value in young people. And there were darn few ways in the church to show it... He wanted a place where young people could find their value, their worth."

In January of 1953 Canon Anthony Parshley is officially appointed the Director of the Episcopal Conference Center.

-Patricia Cook Stack Counselor 1949-1956