

Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Tochman of August Avenue, Westland, announce the engagement of their daughter, Suzanne, to Michael Powning, son of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Powning of Rockingham Avenue, Southfield. No wedding date has been set.



SUZANNE TOCHMAN



By MARGARET MILLETT
Women's Editor

Women on the Go

Ice Show Star Is 78 Years Old

When the skaters take the ice for Southfield's first ice show this weekend, one of the favorite performers is sure to be a lady in a bright red velvet dress and a wide ostrich-plumed hat.

Mrs. Virginia Dorenbusch is looking forward to participating, even though she first donned skates just a little over a month ago.

It's just another part of her complete enjoyment of life at age 78.

GINNY, AS they all call her at the Southfield Ice Arena, says her reaction was one of "have you kidding?" when instructor Jim Cape asked her to be a Gibson Girl escorted onto the ice by several young men in one of the scenes from the show.

"But he explained that he wanted to show people how much fun skating can be at any age," she said. "And I've certainly had fun, so I'm glad to do it."

"Besides, everyone in the show has been so nice to me, and I skate with such a fine group of young men. They kid me a lot, and one of them calls me Grandma."

THE ONLY problem with playing three ice shows in three days - Friday, April 28 to Sunday, April 30 - has been finding time to fit rehearsals between guitar lessons, singing in a choral club, practicing her accordion and keeping up a lot of social engagements.

Virginia Dorenbusch moved from Grosse Pointe Woods to a trailer park in the southwest corner of Southfield 14 years ago after her husband's death.

"He was ill a long time, and I had plenty of chance to decide carefully how I wanted to live," she said. "I knew I of accordion playing professionally."

"They pay well and it's such a lot of fun," she said.

AND THEN there were frequent visits to the Southfield Ice Arena, where her daughter, Mrs. Maxine Peletier, skates frequently.

"She's a fine skater," her mother said admiringly, "and she looked so graceful out on the ice that one day I just decided to try. I'd never had on a pair of skates, but I loved to dance."

"At first I just held on to her or the edge of the rink. But little by little I found I could let go and kept gaining confidence."

When the show is over Virginia Dorenbusch will keep on skating and singing and accordion playing and guitar learning and elocuting and enjoying her children and grandchildren because she can't live any other way.



VIRGINIA DORENBUSCH -- on ice. (Observer photo by Bob Woodring)

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New Group For Retirees Meets Friday

The Livonia chapter of the American Association of Retired Persons will hold its fourth meeting at 1:30 p.m. Friday, April 28, in St. Matthew United Methodist Church, 3990 West Six Mile Road, in Livonia.

The group is open to all persons 65 years of age and older. It is not necessary to be a retiree or a member of St. Matthew.

Thus far, meetings have been held in the afternoon, but tentative plans call for several evening sessions.

In March, 125 persons attended and 29 families joined with the national group. Charter membership still is open.

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Providence Will Give Free Pap Tests In May

Free pap tests will be made available to Oakland County women on Tuesday, May 9 and Thursday, May 11 through the combined efforts of the American Cancer Society and Providence Hospital in Southfield.

The tests will be given in the hospital, 1601 W. Nine Mile, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on those two days.

Mrs. Roland Cameron of Royal Oak, ACS volunteer chairman of the pap program, said the pap tests are being scheduled in conjunction with

Providence Hospital's observance of National Hospital Week (May 7-13).

Pap tests and numerous patient services are part of a year - round educational and community services program maintained by the Oakland County Unit of the American Cancer Society.

Mrs. Cameron said the testing program will be staffed by physicians, nurses and lab technicians at Providence Hospital.

Volunteers from the American Cancer Society will provide administrative assistance.

APPROXIMATELY 200 women in Oakland County will be scheduled to take part in this pap clinic at Providence Hospital.

Those interested should contact the Oakland County Unit of the American Cancer Society at 285 Elm Street in Birmingham to schedule their appointment.

THE PAP TEST is a simple, painless examination for uterine cancer and involves only a few minutes' time.

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