

Farmington Observer & Eccentric

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Fifteen Cents



Enjoying a day in the City of Farmington Park is Tina Bandy (left) and friend, Brenda Bradley (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)

Events galore are presented for fall season

If you've ever had a yen for Chinese cooking, wondered about witching or wanted to try quilting, your best bet is to check into the Farmington Community Center, 24785 Farmington Road.

This fall, the center is offering nearly 80 classes, plus assorted workshops, lectures and special events. Registration for the fall classes will be Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 10-11. Mail and phone enrollments can be made beginning Sept. 12. Registration will continue until class maximums have been reached.

Examples of arts and crafts class products will be on display 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sept. 16-17. Those who wish to place children in ballet or jazz dancing will have assistance 4-6 p.m. Sept. 16-17.

Persons who drop out before the first class meeting will be charged \$1, and a pro-rata charge will be made for any drops after the first class meeting.

Office hours for the center are 9 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturdays.

Courses offered include the following:

Basket weaving will be taught by Helen Mueller who uses the continuous coil method. Classes will be on Tuesdays, beginning Sept. 23, from 12:30-3 p.m. Cost is \$15 plus \$2 materials fee.

Crocheting will be offered by Mary Miller 9:30-11:30 a.m. on Wednesdays.

beginning Sept. 24. Cost for the 18 sessions is \$20 plus materials.

Zabel Arakelian will teach crewel embroidery in eight sessions for DM and materials. Beginning classes will be held 1-3 p.m. Wednesdays, starting Sept. 24. Advanced instruction will be held either 1-3 p.m. Tuesdays (beginning Sept. 23) or 9:30-11:30 a.m. Wednesdays, starting Sept. 24.

Macrame will be offered for beginners 12:30-2:30 p.m., starting Oct. 2. More advanced students may take classes the same days, from 9:30-11:30 a.m. Cost for six sessions is \$18 plus materials.

Stilt screen printing with Barbara Wolff will be offered 7:30-9:30 p.m. Mondays, starting Sept. 29. Cost for eight sessions is \$20 plus materials.

Making stained glass "munclechers" will be taught by Beverly Halbauer 7:30-9:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, beginning Sept. 23. Cost is \$14 plus materials.

Pat Mifmaid will teach scale painting four times a week, twice for beginners and twice for those more advanced. Beginners' classes are 9:30-11:30 a.m. Wednesdays or 7:30-9:30 p.m. Thursdays, starting Sept. 24 and 25. Advanced classes are scheduled for 9:30-11:30 a.m. Wednesdays and 7:30-9:30 p.m. Thursdays, beginning Nov. 3 and 4. Cost for the six sessions is \$15 plus materials.

Weaving will be taught by Barbara Wolff. Weaving I will be taught 7:30-9:30 p.m. Wednesdays or 12:30-2:30 p.m. Thursdays.

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American revolt

'Sons' gear up for bicentennial

By CORINNE ABATT

The Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), plan to play an important role in the bicentennial celebration. And rightly they should—few have a clearer tie with the birth of the nation.

Three who will be guiding the celebration locally are Donald J. Pennell of Birmingham, president of the Detroit SAR chapter, C. Samuel Bishop of Farmington Hills, treasurer, and Dr. Harold F. Powell of Birmingham.

Not only are they and their 130 fellow chapter members working on bicentennial projects, they are actively trying to recruit more members.

requisite established lines of kinship with someone who fought in the Revolutionary War, like those of the more widely known DAR.

Although the Daughters are better known than the Sons, actually the men came first. The SAR, Pennell says, was founded in 1861.

"The women wanted to join," says Pennell, "and a few actually did, but they were excluded, so they went off and formed a separate unit."

The 20,000 men in the national membership include President Gerald Ford, Vice President Nelson Rockefeller and a host of senators and representatives.



IN ADDITION to the prestige of membership, and none will argue there is a certain good feeling about belonging, the men enjoy the camaraderie of those who revere history and enjoy continuity with the past.

The conversation, when Bishop, Pennell and Powell get together for lunch, moves quickly from past to present and never gets hung up and lost in either.

Powell, psychologist and avid genealogist, asks Pennell if he has ever

visited the little-known Revolutionary War battlefield at Springfield, N.J. "It is a forgotten battlefield, never written up in the history books," he says.

"Definitely," answers Pennell, saying he has visited every Revolutionary and Civil War battlefield in the East. "It was in Springfield where they tore up the Bibles to make wadding for the bullets."

He adds that the winter the Continental Army spent in Morristown, N.J., was every bit as devastating as the later at Valley Forge.

They move rapidly to the present, with Pennell saying the object of SAR is to further patriotism, promote good government "as we see it," and, in general, create awareness of the American heritage.

Each year the SAR gives awards to top ROTC students at the high school and college level. It also gives high school oratory awards and occasionally a special award for good citizenship. The last good citizenship award recipient was former Detroit Police Commissioner George Pappas.

One of the statewide bicentennial projects is a roster of all Michigan SAR members since 1861, the name of each descendant and what part he played in the Revolution.

Different from the DAR, SAR is family-oriented.

"The wives," says Pennell, "are an integral part of the group. Children, too. In June we had a family picnic. There are also nice chapters of the Children of the American Revolution, C.A.R., in Michigan."

Establishing hereditary lines to qualify for membership is the first step, but in the case of many of the members, it leads quickly to wider interests.

Many SAR members also belong to the Detroit Society for Genealogical Research.

Powell will be teaching an eight-week course on the subject at Oakland University in October.

As a special bicentennial project he also is editor of the Father Christian Denissen Genealogy of the French families of the Detroit River Region.

PENNELL CALLS this responsibility "a Herculean task," explaining that all of Powell's source material comes from old church records handwritten in French.

Powell says, "I'm hoping to get it out by '76."

BISHOP, WHOSE ancestor, Jared Bishop of Connecticut, is responsible for his SAR membership, says, "I have always been interested in history. And when I lived in Philadelphia for five years, I spend every lunch hour walking by the Liberty Bell and exploring historic landmarks."

Pennell's Revolutionary ancestor was Alexander Morehead of Westmoreland County, Pa., a ranger with the Pennsylvania Line.

"That was quite an important responsibility," Pennell comments.

Powell's ancestor was Abraham Vastrain of Egypt, Pa., a second lieutenant in the cavalry.

Pennell humorously bids his friends adieu not wearing the tiny buttonhole SAR rosette.

"Notice," he says, "the colors are blue, buff and gold, Continental Army colors."

Pennell is general staff supervisor for planning and research at Michigan Bell. He is past president of the Paul Bunyon Conservation Club and the Detroit Society for Genealogical Research.

Bishop, a retired insurance attorney, says he would like to talk with anyone interested in SAR membership. His address is: 22223 Hyatt Drive, Farmington Hills.

Powell suggests those who want to trace a Revolutionary War descent might find his class helpful.

The Sons of the American Revolution live history. Soon, they will be ready to announce some colorful bicentennial plans and they hope many will want to join the action.



David McCabe (left), president of the Farmington Community Center Board of Directors, looks on as Wilbur Davis presents the center with a check for \$2,000, compliments of the Wilkam Angell Foundation.

Community center receives funds

The William R. Angell Foundation has donated \$2,000 to the Farmington Community Center. The funds will be used for facility improvement.

In expressing the board's gratitude, David McCabe, president of the center board of directors, emphasized that such gifts are needed to improve and preserve the center.

"Part of the center's charm and value to the community lies in the fact that it is an historic building. The

original portion is 168 years old and the rest about 60 years old," he said.

"Intended as a home, neither the water supply or electrical system is equal to the demands put upon them by the many activities and hundreds of people who use the center each week."

The Angell Foundation was established in the early 1960s for the purpose of promoting and assisting organizations with educational and philanthropic goals.



Sons of the American Revolution, C. Sam Bishop, (left), Donald J. Pennell and Dr. Harold F. Powell, enjoy a link with the past (staff photo)

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A FRIENDLY PHONE CALL

Clarence LaPaine, of Farmington, phoned our classified department not too long ago, but he did not place an ad. He just wanted to know about the excellent results he gets every time he advertises with us. Call today and see for yourself how quick and helpful we can be.

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