

OCC film festival is open to all small-time producers

Nine \$25 gift certificates from the Classic Movie Center, Farmington, have been added as prizes in the Third Annual Orchard Ridge Film Festival contest.

The contest, with nine categories each carrying prizes worth \$150, is open to all filmmakers who don't make a major portion of their livelihood from cinematography. There is a \$5 entry fee and the contest deadline is May 7.

Films will be awarded and winning films screened at Orchard Ridge on Friday, June 1, at 8 p.m.

Al Brown, proprietor of the Classic Movie Center, expressed enthusiasm over the contest.

"We're glad to participate with the college's program whenever possible. Because of the nature of our business, this is a natural association."

THE FESTIVAL WILL FEATURE three new categories, including for the first time, videotape.

Entrants may shoot 8 mm or 16 mm film and either use a 16 mm reel-to-reel videotape or through a 16 mm videotape cassette.

In both film categories, silent and sound films in color or black and white will be accepted. Super, standard or regular 8 mm or 16 mm will be acceptable.

The winning film in each of the nine categories will receive a \$150 prize composed of cash, books, and film equipment donated by the local sponsors.

"Community groups in support of this festival has been an excellent," says Dan Greenberg, film festival coordinator.

"Last year's community support already has been exceeded."

Prizes have been donated by Bobbs-Merrill, Boston Publishers, a subsidiary of Prestige Hall, Holt Rinehart, and Simon & Schuster Publishing Houses.

Also contributing is the Southeast Michigan Photo Dealers Association.

The contest categories include: best film of show, color, black and white, Abel Luz

Memorial Prize for best silent film, comedy drama, documentary, videotape and best junior filmmaker.

THE BEST JUNIOR FILMMAKER category is open to any filmmaker 17-years-old or younger. This is a new category and is designed to encourage and reward interest and talent among young filmmakers, says Greenberg.

All films submitted will be returned, although the referee cannot be responsible beyond taking reasonable care in handling the film and videotape.

Complete rules and entry blank may be obtained by calling the Orchard Ridge theater department at 476-9603, extension 304, or by writing to the film contest at the Orchard Ridge Campus, 6705 Orchard Lake, Farmington Hills, 48034.

Consumer confidence aids existing home market boom

Restored consumer confidence in the nation's economy is credited with aiding the continuing boom in the existing home market, says Theodore Zukowsky, president of the United Realty Association (USRA), of Farmington.

He reported that March was a record month for the 56-year-old association, with the first quarter figures nearly matching or surpassing previous highs in 1973.

With new listings of 4,214 units and sales of 1,745 setting the pace in March, the 3,600 member organization recorded first quarter totals of 11,171 listings and 3,824 sales. The same statistics in 1973 showed 9,421 listings and 3,824 sales.

"It is obvious that the oil crisis in late 1973, the mortgage money crunch in 1974 and the recession made many would-be real estate buyers extremely cautious," says Zukowsky.

"Even many of those in good position to move into the market during this time held off and a strong backlog of demand was created."

"Now with mortgage funds in plentiful supply, interest rates down from their previous highs and the economy continuing on the upturn, that pent-up demand is being realized and most signs are favorable that it will last through the year."

The USRA also pointed out that, while the inflation rate has slowed, home prices are continuing to climb. National figures showed that median sales price of a new home rose from \$28,200 in August to \$42,100 in December and dipped only \$200 in January.

"As in the case with the present strong market and good prices for existing homes, this rise in new home prices also appears to reflect an improving income po-

sition of many households," he said.

Much of the present strength in new home sales was traceable to households who sold an existing home at a favorable price and were in a position to better absorb the higher new home costs.

Figures from UNRA showed the year-to-date average sale price for existing homes to be \$22,252, compared to \$20,136 a year earlier. Zukowsky also noted that the start of the new multi-family units are continuing to drop on a monthly basis, with the annual rate based on February construction starts down to 232,000.

As a result, he said, rental vacancy rates have declined sharply and that a softening rental market can be expected to exert a strong upward pressure on rents in the coming months.

How I happened to fall in love with Michigan

I'm a summer person.

Warm weather, sandy beaches and a nice breeze are the kind of things that revive me from the winter malaise which for my money hangs around Michigan for far too long a time.

But since I'm a Michigan person too, I manage to frown through the winter months just so I can lay on the sun of the state's beaches or fish under the stars with a pipe following away to keep the mosquitoes at a distance.

My all-time favorite thing is to go sailing. Mother nature is kind enough to provide a wind to fill my mood. When you feel lazy, you can dream about in a mild breeze. For those more challenging moods, an angry wind is great.

For a time, I lived in California, a state for which many persons would give an arm and a leg to reside.

I thought it was a dumb place to live.

Most of the time the beaches were closed because the water was too polluted. And if you think the road salt ruins your car in the winter, you should see what the salt-filled morning fog does to an automobile.

Besides all that propaganda you hear about one particular brand of beer that every body raves about out there is pure baloney.

It stinks.

BUT, I'M NOT HERE to put down California. I'd rather tell you about how I happened to fall in love with Michigan.

It happened when I was 12 years old. For the summer, that is, it was 18 years ago.

I took it all to a guy named Joe Gemba. Joe's gone now, but I'll always remember him. So will a lot of other kids who had the great fortune to attend a summer camp he established.

His camp is still there up on Lake Arborea near Mayfield.

Joe came up in a conversation the other day, as I sat chatting with Lynn Orr, a Farmington resident who does some freelance work for us.

While we sat in the local pub sipping bourbon and gin and preening it was summer, she mentioned that her son had attended this great summer camp. By her description, it had all the earmarks of long-ago summer camp. Haza Wicks, it was.

Before we go any further, Haza Wicks is Indian for Blueberry Island.

At any rate, after that conversation I got to thinking about Joe and his camp. I first became enamored with the idea of going to summer camp after watching a kid's television series called "Spin and Marty."

Thanks to a financially well-endowed grandmother, the funds magically appeared, and before I knew it, I was on my way to camp.

For a city kid like myself, it was a great experience. The nice thing about Joe's camp was that a kid could do just

about anything he wanted to at any time of the day from the activities offered.

Going to camp for me was like traveling to the land of Oz.

But instead of a green emerald city, a world of green pine trees and glistening blue water were opened to me.

During the three summers spent there, I learned how to swim, sail, fish, water ski, shoot a rifle and bow and arrow, camp, canoe, build a fire and make craft items with my own hands.

It beat the 16 inch of steaming, hot pavements and sticky, chlorine-filled public swimming pools.

The most valuable thing I learned up there was how to work and play with other kids. I still remember a token pole that most of the kids helped to carve one summer.

It was a token.

At the time, I was sure the token stood 50 feet high. Probably it was more like 15 or 20 feet high. But after it was finished, it was erected right smack dab in the middle of the beach. I got for all the world to see. All the kids named who worked on it were mentioned on a plaque at the base.

I STILL REMEMBER that I carved out the horses' heads on the token.

Everybody got to go on a river trip down the "Boardman." If you were spending the first year at the camp, you went through an initiation camp something like the rites

of Alta Puzos. The oldtimers told the new kids all sorts of horror stories beforehand about what the rites entailed.

Of course, you were sworn to secrecy after going through the rite. Believe me, I'll never tell.

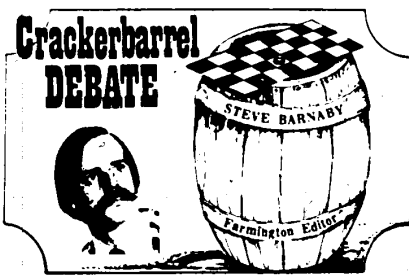
For those who made it through the initiation, and most did, their names were inscribed on a canoe paddle and hung above the fireplace in the mess hall.

And who could forget "greedy Gerdies." That's what you called out to your counselor when you wanted seconds during dinner.

Friday night always was a special time. We all gathered around a giant fire, told stories, put on skits and sang.

The best thing was making a concoction of graham crackers, chocolate candy bars and marshmallows, roasted over a fire. I don't remember what they were called, but they sure were good.

Of course, Joe was the expert. He could



make them better than anyone else.

Every spring, when the weather gets warm, I think about Joe and his camp.

But I often wonder if the token pole still is there on the lakefront. For all the world to see.

PonMet smoking ban settled

Attorney Lawrence J. Stockler said he is satisfied with his out-of-court settlement that bans smoking in the stands of the 80,000-seat Pontiac Stadium.

The West Bloomfield attorney and the Stadium Authority reached an agreement Thursday, ending a five-month suit in which Stockler, a Detroit Lions season ticket holder, sought to have smoking banned in the entire stadium as well as sale of tobacco products prohibited. He cited smoking as a health and fire hazard.

Agreement by the Pontiac City Commission to the settlement is necessary and is expected at its Tuesday meeting.

"I think the commission will agree," Stockler said Friday.

Stockler, whose offices are in Detroit, said he is satisfied with the settlement "as long as I can see the (Lions) games without smoke in my eyes."

He said he has already ordered season tickets for this fall.

Beer's ruling, however, was quickly overturned when the state court of appeals stayed the lower court's writ of mandamus. Had Beer's pretrial order stood, stadiumgoers who smoked might have been fined up to \$100 if convicted.

The case went back to court in February.

STOCKLER SAID he also involved with a suit opposing the business activities tax, which was introduced Jan. 1, taxing persons for going to business.

He is contemplating more suits. "Let me say they are all in areas which would benefit the public."

They all are for taking on the government.



Barbara Schurer, Farmington librarian, recently got in the spring spirit by handing out bubble gum to children participating in a library-sponsored weekend activity. (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)

Printmaker will speak

Printmaker and Wayne State University instructor William Woodard will speak at the April 27 meeting of the Palette and Brush Club.

The 7 p.m. meeting will be held in the Greenfield Methodist Church. It is open to members and guests.

After quite a few years teaching drawing, advertising design, life drawing and watercolor, Woodard indicated printmaking in the Wayne art department as a specialized area for graduate and undergraduate study.

From 1955 to 1965 he was the only teacher of all printmaking classes—lithography, intaglio, relief printing and serigraphy.

Now, three full-time staff members teach those disciplines and Woodard concentrates on woodcut, wood engraving, serigraphy and collagraph.

He exhibits both locally and nationally and has illustrated four books for Harper and Brothers in New York. He has taught at Wayne for more than 30 years.

BOAT SHOW

April 20 - 25th

"The biggest exhibition of boats outside of Cobo Hall"

This week, Livonia Mall presents its biggest Boat Show ever. Tuesday through Sunday new sailboats, speedboats, pontoonas, canoes, cabin cruisers, even a 26 foot house boat. They're presented at Livonia Mall by the following dealers:

- REDFORD MARINE • ARBOR MARINE
- WONDERLAND MARINE • GRAND RIVER BOATS
- BOATLAND • AL'S OUTBOARD • K&M BOAT
- MARVIN MARINE • WINDWARD SAIL
- SUN 'N' SAIL • FORTUNE MARINE
- YUKON DELTA HOUSEBOATS

View the tremendous line of Outboards, Inboards, Inboard-Outboards, Canamoras, Pontoonas and others by such manufacturers as:

- CHRYSLER • GALAXIE
- SEA Nymph • STARCRAFT
- MARACRAFT • MOBIE-CATS
- SOL CATS • SEA RAY
- GLASTON
- AQUA SPORT

ROCKET TO THE MOON

April 21 - 24th

Board the 72 foot rocket and take a 12 day trip to the Moon in 12 minutes! The actual boat-off is from inside the rocket console. Cruise Earth in 193 miles altitude — see the Atlantic Ocean, Lake Huron and the Starliner Express and the mountains of Tibet, Hawaii and the Pacific Ocean. See coast of Southern California and The Grand Canyon. Actual photos of the Moon from 12 miles up — all from authentic NASA film rightly educational for children and adults alike.

From Noon to 8 p.m. (Sears Court) 12 minute ride only **50¢**

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7-Mile at Middlebelt

Open Daily 'til 9:00 p.m. Sunday Noon 'til 5:00

CLOSED EASTER SUNDAY