

Bring the kids

Williamsburg says thanks with gala spring festival

By LORAIN McCLISH

Williamsburg of Williamsburg Center, which has been steadily building itself a large crowd of volunteers in the past year, is now leading up to "the biggest thing we've ever had here."

The quote comes from Debbie Tolbert, active director for the 110 residents of the home, 2107 Middle Belt. She is in the throes of planning "Spring Festival at Williamsburg" to begin at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 13.

The festivities will be part of the regular once-a-month party given for those who have a birthday in May. It also will be a "thank you" to the volunteers, most of whom stem from St. Alexander's Christian Service Committee, who filled a need in their parish with a host of programs and projects in the convalescent home. "It will be a nice time to make a public thank you to those who have been giving over and over, every week," Ms. Tolbert said.

The Helene Dan... from the Helene Society for the Performing Arts will furnish entertainment along with the Clown Corps sponsored by the Knights of Colum-

bian Residents in the home will hold a mini-bazaar of crafts. Refreshments will be wine and cheese.

"IT IS OPEN TO the public and by all means bring the kids. That's part of our philosophy, making all of our activities as family-oriented as we can," said Connie O'Leary, a member of the service committee who lives at 2281 Hayes.

Mrs. O'Leary adopted Williamsburg residents as her own family sometime ago. "When I felt like I had to get out of the house, that just seemed a natural way to go," she said.

She worked a midnight shift as a nurse and explaining that because she has no family in Michigan, "They became my family. They were my grandmothers who needed a family, who needed me. They needed a kiss in the morning or a bow in their hair. It is so important for us to bring the outside world in to them."

She has since given up her nursing job, because my garage is being filled up with stuff for the church rummage sale and there are 300 finger sandwiches that have to be made for a Mass of Anointing and I can't get along on three hours of sleep anymore.

The volunteer was not about to give up her work at the home, so she took on the job as assistant to Frank Aguilar, who works to bring quality entertainment into Williamsburg for the once-a-month birthday parties.

EMPHASIS IS ON the word "quality." Mrs. O'Leary said. "Frank works his head off bringing professionals in now. We had just a delightful time last month with the Sweet Adelines of Farmington who ended up their performance with a sing-along that would have delighted anyone from every walk of life and every faith."

For the April birthday, Aguilar arranged to bring in "The Harmonica Men Trio," which is one of the world's few all-harmonica dance bands and a winner in the World Harmonica Competition.

The professional entertainment has brought more residents into the social hall every month, and more of their families join them for the parties. Added to that are the volunteers who are bringing their families to the parties now, "but most importantly the kids," Mrs. O'Leary said.

One of her four children, seven-year-old Erin, will be part of the May party. Erin

is a Blue Bird whose group, led by Georganna Ponacowski, has made eye glass cases to give as birthday gifts during the spring festival.

MRS. O'LEARY stressed that the church's service committee had a dozen arms out in numerous directions "working in other phases of service that are coming along, developing, but Williamsburg was where we found our biggest need. So this is where we've put our biggest energies."

Doris Webb and a crew of 20 women from the parish set up a beauty salon one day a week in the home. Committee members come to visit, write letters and help with craft classes.

Transportation crews bring the residents to church on occasion or church services are brought to them.

The newest program is called the Go-getters, formed for alert patients to "get them out for penics or outings and keep them up on a high level."

Mrs. O'Leary explained her part in the program by saying, "It's a continuous thing for them, and it's an ongoing thing for us to make us aware of what our roles are as Christians."



CONNIE O'LEARY

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Community Calendar

BOATING SAFETY CLINIC

Tuesday, April 20 Boating Safety Clinic, sponsored by Farmington Area Recreation Committee, runs for two consecutive Tuesdays, beginning at 7 p.m. in Farmington Hills City Hall, 31555 Eleven Mile, for 15-16 year olds only. Registrations accepted on the first night of class.

GABRIEL RICHARD COURSE

Tuesday, April 20 Free introductory session to Gabriel Richard Course for developing personality potential at 7:30 p.m. in Our Lady of Sorrows' religious education room, 22615 Power, Farmington.

RUMMAGE SALE

Thursday and Friday, April 22-23 Rummage sale, sponsored by United Methodist Women of First Farmington Methodist Church, in the church, 31111 Grand River, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day.

COFFEE CONCERT

Friday, April 23 Bus leaves the Farmington Community Center at 9 p.m. for concert by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, fashion show and coffee in Ford Auditorium. Package priced tickets now on sale in the center.

BALLET AUDITIONS

Friday, April 23 Spring auditions for membership in Michigan Ballet Theatre, male and female, in room 308, Building J, on Orchard Ridge Campus of Oakland Community College at 12:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.

ASSERTIVENESS TRAINING

Friday and Saturday, April 23-24 One-day workshop on assertiveness training for women only from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. each day. Pre-registration is requested by YWCA, sponsors in Northwest Branch, 28940 Grand River. Y membership is not required.

CAR WASH

Saturday, April 24 Car wash, sponsored by the Junior High BYF, in the parking lot of North Farmington Baptist Church, 22500 Thirteen Mile, from noon to dusk. \$1 per car.

COMMUNITY BLOOD BANK

Saturday, April 24 Community Blood Bank in Salem United Church of Christ.

Sister Margaret Ellen hosted by Adat Shalom

Sister Margaret Ellen Traxler S.S.N.D., director of the Institute of Women Today, will appear at the Adat Shalom Synagogue, 29901 Middlebelt Road, Farmington Hills, Thursday, April 29 at 8 p.m. The program is sponsored by the Adat Shalom Men's Club and Jewish Congress. Sister Margaret Ellen, who for ten years served with the National Catholic Conference for Interracial Justice, also founded the National Council of American Nuns which is devoted to studying, speaking and working for human rights and social justice.

She will speak on the Binnetti II Conference. Assisting in the program are Ruth Rose, Michigan director, American Jewish Congress; Esther Feak, president Women's Division American Jewish Congress; and Lillian Weisberg, Chairperson, American Jewish Congress. From Adat Shalom are Ann Benderoff, Albert Farber and Dr. Harry Mael. Admission is free and all are invited to attend. A coffee hour will follow Sister Margaret Ellen's talk.

ART EXHIBIT AND AUCTION

Wednesday, April 21 Art exhibit and auction sponsored by Grace Lutheran Church Nursery Circle, begins at 7 p.m. in the church, 22630 Grand River. Donations asked at the door.

RUMMAGE SALE

Thursday and Friday, April 22-23 Rummage sale, sponsored by St. Paul's in the church social hall, 22200 Twelve Mile, on Thursday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Friday, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

BICENTENNIAL FILM

Thursday, April 22 "Gone With the Wind" and "Raid on Gettysburg," include Bicentennial Film Series sponsored by the Farmington Community Library, in the library, 22530 Liberty, at 7 p.m. No charge.

INTERCULTURAL JUSTICE

Thursday, April 22 Sister Margaret Ellen Traxler, worker in interracial justice, speaks in Adat Shalom Synagogue, 29901 Middlebelt, at 8 p.m. sponsored by the synagogue's Men's Club and American Jewish Congress. No charge.

RUMMAGE SALE

Thursday through Saturday, April 22-May 2 Rummage sale, sponsored by Country Corners chapter of O.E.U. in the home of Phoebe Mainster, 5033 Ardery Way, West Bloomfield, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day.

HORS D'OEUVRES AROUND THE WORLD

Friday, April 30 "Hors D'oeuvres Around the World" continues the Fabulous Fridays Series in Farmington Community Center with Neil Benzel, an affiliate of London's Gordon Bleu. At 9:30 a.m. Guests will be invited to sample international tidbits following lecture demonstration at 9:30 a.m. Tickets are on sale now in the center.

AND MISS REARDON DRINKS A LITTLE

Friday, Saturday and Sunday, April 30-May 12 "And Miss Reardon Drinks a Little," staged by Farmington Players in the Players Barn on Twelve Mile between Orchard Lake and Farmington roads. Tickets on sale now through the box office: 81-5588. Play continues May 7-9 and May 14-15.

ART SHOW

Friday through Sunday, April 30-May 2 Annual spring art show sponsored by Farmington Artist Club, in Farmington Community Library on Twelve Mile, features the works of 150 artists Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. No charge.

PAPER DRIVE

Friday, April 30 Residents are asked to start saving newspapers now for the paper drive sponsored by Boy Scout Troop No. 45, to be received between 7:30 p.m. in the First United Methodist Church parking lot, 31112 Grand River.

CHINA PAINTING

Friday and Saturday, April 30-May 1 Show and sale of hand painted china, sponsored by China Decorators Guild of Michigan in Northville Square Mall, corner Wind and Gratiot in Northville, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Friday and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, features continuous demonstrations.



Shaker ballet

In the planning stage for three years, the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra will unveil a triumph celebration on April 25 with the performance of Copland's "Appalachian Spring" and a specially commissioned Shaker folk ballet, "Burning Tree." Ralph Kelly (left) wrote the text

of the Shaker ballet to music composed by Robert W. Jones (right). The Plymouth Symphony will also be celebrating its 30th anniversary when the performance begins at 4 p.m. in the auditorium of Plymouth Salem High School, Joy Road west of Canton Center. (Staff photo)

Home Decorating Seminar

We have planned an interesting, informative home decorating program for you

Thursday, April 22 at 2:00 P.M.

Ms. Janet Roda, Martex Fashion Coordinator, will conduct a seminar and demonstration of how easy and economical it is to decorate with sheets and a little bit of imagination. She will discuss and show how to make pillows, reversible round table cloths, wall coverings, lamp shades, padded head boards, folding screens and many other clever ideas for the new or experienced homemaker, house or apartment dweller. Please be our guest at this special event in our

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