

Accent is on entertainment in center's summer classes

By LORRAINE McCLISH

This summer at Farmington Community Center, the accent is on the world of entertainment. Clowning, magic for both youngsters and adults, puppetry, pantomime and ventriloquism are some of the pastimes that are offered.

Registration for all classes listed on the summer agenda begins June 9 at 9:30 a.m. in the center, and will continue until class maximums are reached.

"Ricky the Clown," otherwise known as Irvn Romig, comes to the center for the first time to help would-be clowns choose a character, apply make-up, and let them in on tricks, gags, and bits that go into professional clowning.

Jim McMichael will initiate magic fans, both youngsters and adults, into the secrets of how to make the hand quicker than the eye. McMichael has been associated with the Romig Magic and Bookshop in Ferndale, and has taught magic classes for five years.

John Osborne knows all the tricks for close-mouth illusions making puppets do the talking, and will teach them to ventriloquist enthusiasts. Osborne is another newcomer to the center who is a professional entertainer with a degree in psychology and spends some of his summer time at Greenfield Village with his Punch and Judy Show.

CREATIVE DRAMATICS, stories, songs and game time is in the line up with Cecil German for five and six year olds. Improvisation, pantomime and choral reading will all be part of this class, which winds up with a presentation for parents.

Pantomime classes come to the center from Rachelle Dwaiby, a founding member of the Mime Ensemble. Michigan's only performing mime company. Younger students will experience more improvisational exercises in their sessions, older students will learn more technical exercises.



Teacher of theatre at Roeper School, Rachelle Dwaiby, emphasizes a point of instruction with one of her young pupils. She brings the

art of pantomime to the center this summer, the art of expressing ideas, feelings and situations without the use of words.

Other outlets for the action minded are baton, cheerleading, dancing, riding, tennis, golf, karate and kite flying.

Art for every age and inclination: photography, dramatics and interior design are also on the summer roster.

Two day camp experiences will give youngsters a chance to improve their riding skills or to get acquainted with nature in a farm-like setting.

Riding campers will go to Rochester Hills Riding School while Upland Farms

Day Camp will allow its campers to sample at first hand such rural pursuits as feeding livestock, having planting and gardening.

HANDWORK SESSIONS include sewing for levers, macramé, drapery making and a new bathing suit workshop, aimed to save money in cost-conscious budgets.

Speed reading is on the list of offerings meant to prepare students for the rigors of next fall's school work or taught to executives for the masters of over-

creasing reading matter.

Microwave cookers is being repeated for owners of ovens who want to expand their use possibilities.

Upcoming special events include a children's play, "Torch the Terrible," set for June 12; a trip to Stratford's Shakespeare Festival and the annual antique show which is always held in conjunction with Farmington's Farmers Festival.

All inquiries as to dates, times and fees will be taken by calling the center, 477-9661.

Observer Eccentric Farmington LIFE

Monday, June 7, 1976

(F) 18



Members of the Michigan Ballet Theatre dance "Stephen Foster and Friends," a bicentennial ballet. Company members are Julie

Lohmeier (from left), Jan Sorah, Jeff Willacker, Kelli Wallace and Caryn Majeski.

Michigan Ballet wins dance festival spot

By LORRAINE McCLISH

The Michigan Ballet Theatre has just returned from the Mid State Regional Festival where the company performed during a four-day session on the campus of Iowa State University in Ames, Ia.

It was the fifth consecutive year the local company, which works under director Evelyn Krasnow in her studio at 31313 Thirteenth Mile Road, has been chosen to perform in the spring festival.

Of the companies which gathered for the event from 12 mid-west states, Mrs. Krasnow said, "The only other company chosen to dance from Detroit was the Harbinger Ballet and they are all professionals. We did very well. Besides, our dancers make up the youngest group that was there."

The dancers, whose average age is 14, won their spot on the program through adjudication this spring with their performance of "Barabajan," choreographed by Mrs. Krasnow's daughter, Mary O'Car.

"BARABAJAN," is danced in bare feet, a country dance with costumes of checked gingham, "soft, young, easy and pretty," said Marilyn Majeski who is on the board of directors for the company.

Mrs. O'Car and her husband Greg traveled with the group to act as its technical crew. Dancers in the company are (Dannel) Gallagher, from Farmington, and Jean James, Caryn Majeski, and Kelli Wallace, all from Farmington Hills. Susan Gallaway and Theresa Bally are both from West Bloomfield.

Dennise Dryden is from Waterford, Julie Lohmeier from Orchard Lake, Jan Sorah from Livonia and Jackie and Jeff Willacker from Union Lake. Mrs. James James, Mrs. Mitchell Gallagher, Mrs. Allen Sorah, Mrs. Larry Wallace and Mrs. Gerald Willacker, all served as chaperones.

"Two others went with us, Mrs. Charles Mitchell and Mrs. Oscar Zemba," Mrs. Krasnow said. "Both of their daughters have left the company, one is in the Pennsylvania Ballet and the other a dance major at college. Yet they went with us just because they are interested in us and interested in ballet. I think that says a lot for the company."

THE MICHIGAN Ballet Theatre has performed in the festival ever since it was eligible, yet Mrs. Krasnow said she had "mixed feelings" about being chosen this year, in part because of the dancers' young age, and in part because the company had been performing together only since last December.

"I wanted them to realize that these things don't always come that easy, you must work for them, yet I would have hated to have been the only company there not performing," she said.

Chosen to perform or not, Mrs. Krasnow said she still would have taken the company on the trip for the workshops, the classes offered and for "self-evaluation. It's a good place for the dancers to see themselves up with other dancers, get their eyes open and see what's going on elsewhere in the dance world."

When the company slows down in the summer months, Mrs. Krasnow will travel to Boston for a conference of choreographers, and then "probably take some of my dancers to New York to take some classes, see some ballets, and just see what's going on."

When she returns to Farmington, it will be with a new board of directors, revamping costumes and the dancers' wardrobe to the repertoire, "and some plans to take the company on tour."

THE COMPANY'S "Nutcracker Suite" is given every December, generally in Harrison High School, "and with so much work put into it we have got to make more plans to travel with it," Mrs. Majeski said.

"It is really a splendid performance," Mrs. Majeski added, "we update the costumes every year and the dancers work on it steadily from September so they really should be performing it more than once or twice."

The company stages a spring concert every year and for the past two years have performed with the Farmington Community Band for the "Grand Old Flag Concert" put on for seniors and the handicapped through grants from the Michigan Council of the Arts to the Farmington Area Arts Council.

"There is a lot of versatility in those concerts," Mrs. Majeski said, "a good mix of modern with the classics and they serve a real purpose in the community, introducing good music and good dance to many."



For the man in charge of the barbecue...

here's everything he needs to run the show, the gifts he'll enjoy on Father's Day and all year long.

A. Heavy navy denim apron, \$9; chef's hat, \$5 and extra-long protective mitt, 3.50

B. Char-B-Que®, electric self-cleaning grill gives a real char-broiled flavor without ashes. 11"x17", 69.95

C. Redwood stand with chrome frame, 27"x17"x26"H, 22.50

D. Steak branding iron, 16" long with R. M. W. brands. \$6

E. F. G. Porcelain on steel 4-qt. steamer, \$8; 10" frypan, \$8; 8-cup coffee pot, \$6; set of 4 cups, \$5

H. Instaflam butane burner lights without matches, cooks rapidly, is compact and lightweight to carry.

For campers, sportsmen or emergency use, 4"x8", \$28

Jacobson's

where the fun begins

Woodward at Willits
Birmingham