

Seniors swing in good times



at an old fashioned picnic

Penny scrambles, bubble gum blowing contests, cake walks, a soft ball game and goodies from grandmother's picnic basket were the order of the day for seniors at the Gathering Place.

The event was a picnic in Farmington City Park for grandparents who invited their grandchildren for a day of fun and games that included strolling singers and a puppet show viewed from the Oakland County suppetmobile.

The picnic was but one of four or five special events planned every month by Loretta Conway, program supervisor for those who meet at the Gathering Place in the American Le-

gion Hall, 31775 Grand River.

The Gathering Place is open every weekday from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. where seniors are invited to drop in for cards, coffee and conversation, and stay for a hot lunch.

Registration is not necessary to join the exercises class, the ethnic dancing class or the bingo games. Movies are scheduled regularly. Librarians, with carts of new books, visit once a week.

HEALTH NURSES visit once a week. There are classes for those who wish to learn sign language in a fairly recent program so members can communicate with the deaf, and there are arts and craft classes that continue year around.

The next special event on the August calendar is a shopping trip to the new Twelve Oaks Mall in Novi. The cost is 50 cents, for the Aug. 27 trio, but for all special events, guests are asked to register beforehand.

Special services are also provided for members of the Gathering Place. For example, Mrs. Conway has made sure all seniors are aware of the heating bill rebates they are entitled to this winter. And she keeps members versed on all new federal and state laws that may affect their daily lives.

The first weekend trio for fall is set for Sept. 1-11, when members will visit Sea World in Ohio.



Scenes from the seniors' picnic: (above) Mary Lou Nellis gets some help at the picnic table from granddaughter Cathi Norton, of Roseville, who was one of five grandchildren accompanying Mrs. Nellis. Florence Allman, (above right) proves she can hit home runs with the best of them. Renee DeMartini, a senior aide, watches the Homerun Queen. Bubble gum is traditional at a picnic (middle)—Debbie Martin (left) and Janice McCallum (right) demonstrate their skills. Demonstrating her shoe tying skills is Leola Rammel (below). Mrs. Rammel's helping granddaughter Julie Andre, who's entering kindergarten at Beechview Elementary School this fall. She was one of four grandchildren who accompanied Mrs. Rammel. Dorothy Leach (bottom) helps grandchildren Matthew and Lisa Walters enjoy their picnic lunch. (Staff photos by Harry Mauthe)



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