



Farmington Observer

Suburban Life

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(F1B)

Picture ladies rev up for sharing sessions

By LORNAE MCCLISH
Approximately 30 volunteer mothers will be going into Farmington classrooms sharing art reproductions with children from kindergarten to sixth grade, in a program sponsored by the Farmington Art Foundation.

The volunteers have come to be known as the picture ladies by children in five elementary schools.

"It's an art enrichment beyond what our school art consultants can give," said Alice Nichols, who begins the spring session with a gathering of the picture ladies Feb. 4 in Farmington Community Library on Liberty.

Schools are invited to send representatives to the meeting, which begins at 10 a.m., and mothers who are interested in becoming a picture lady are welcome to sit in to learn how the program works.

There are 30 portfolios now in the collection, which rotate among the participating schools with schedules that are arranged so a student wouldn't see the same portfolio twice through his entire elementary school years.

ANYWHERE FROM six to 12 pictures on one given subject make up a portfolio so class discussion centers around how that many artists might

view the circus, or a city, or royalty or a 30 subjects.

Portfolios also come equipped with biographical material on the artists involved and suggestions of points of reference geared to open up classroom discussion.

"If it's done right, the kids pick up the ball and run the whole show. It's a sharing time. We have taped some of the comments from the kids that are absolutely charming," Mrs. Nichols said.

The volunteer mothers are not professionals.

"We are not looking for anybody who has a degree in art history. We want people who are interested in helping kids learn to enjoy art," she said.

The picture ladies are obligated to one program of about 20 minutes in the classroom once a month, and two meetings a year.

The participating school is obligated to a \$3 one-time fee which purchases one new portfolio that goes into the ever-expanding program. This bill has, so far, been picked up by the school's PTO or PTA. There is no profit involved. The fee guarantees that the portfolio belongs to all participating schools and is shared with all schools within the program.

THE FOUNDATION, in turn, provides

each participating school with a reference book in the event a particular subject is requested.

"As new schools are added to the program, we add more variety to it and we are continuously interested in any schools which want to contact us. I will give a presentation to any interested school group in their own setting," Mrs. Nichols said.

The foundation's philosophy is sharing from an enjoyment level, rather than a lecture level.

"When it is approached this way, the child can criticize freely. Nobody is telling him that he has to like a particular picture because it is a Van Gogh.

"Then, too, he has the advantage of looking at birds, or boats, or landscapes, or storms and seeing them the way an American, or a French or an abstract or an impressionist artist sees them," she said.

Mrs. Nichols is chairwoman of the program and one of the owners of the Garrett Farmington's first cooperative art gallery, on Grand River, just east of Farmington Road. She is a member of the Farmington Artists Club and a founder of the Farmington Art Foundation.

She will take inquiries at her home, 474-5137, or at her studio in The Garrett, 474-5896.



Some of the picture ladies get together to prepare for the spring session, which begins with an orientation Feb. 4 in Farmington Community Library. Mothers participating in the program now are from left, Marge Stock, Ceil Surbrook, Jerrine Habsburg, Alice Nichols and Eve Samra. (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)

Farmington Calendar

MINI-PAINTING SHOW
Monday, Jan. 31: Show of mini-paintings in Garret Gallery, 33310 Grand River, continues through Feb. 4 during regular gallery hours.

PAPER TOTE OWLS
Tuesday, Feb. 1: Four session workshop to create owls of paper tote in Farmington Community Center runs on Tuesdays beginning at 7:30 p.m. Reservations are being taken now in the center.

DIET WORKSHOP
Tuesday, Feb. 1: Diet workshop, includes isotonic exercises, nutritional education and behavior modification, in Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 2587 Eleven Mile, 10 a.m. No charge. Registration is not required.

TAX AIDE PROGRAM
Wednesday, Feb. 2: Tax aide program sponsored by American Association of Retired Persons offers assistance to seniors in the preparation of 1976 federal, state and homestead tax credit forms in Nardin Park United Methodist Church, 2587 Eleven Mile, from 12:30-3:30 p.m. Participants must bring their 1976 forms, amount of interest, dividends and social security received and amount of value of their home. No charge. Program will be repeated at this address Feb. 16.

RECREATIONAL SWIM
Wednesday, Feb. 2: Recreational swim for families from 7:45 p.m. and for adults from 8:30-9:45 p.m. in North Farmington High School. Group rates available by calling Farmington Area Recreation Commission office, 476-1115. Program continues every Wednesday through March 16.

CREATIVE WRITING
Wednesday, Feb. 2: Creative writing, eight-session workshop begins in Farmington Community Center from 1-3 p.m. and continues on Wednesdays with Iris Sanderson Jones. Pre-registration is necessary, through the center.

DONATION DAY
Thursday, Feb. 3: A & P donation day, sponsored by Farmington-area PTA Council, from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. in the market on Farmington Road and Grand River. Persons wishing to shop this date and contribute to the group's scholarship fund are invited to call Linda Rainford, 476-8144.

GENEALOGY
Thursday, Feb. 3: Genealogy classes for both beginning and advanced students in Farmington Community Center begin at 1 p.m. and continue on Thursdays. Registration is necessary, through the center.

DRIED FLOWERS
Thursday, Feb. 3: Williamsburg-style arrangements of dried flowers, foliage and fruit, taught in five-session class in Farmington Community Center with Van Askounes beginning at 12:30 p.m. Reservations are necessary through the center.

HERBAL LUNCHEON
Friday, Feb. 4: Herbal luncheon of finger food delicacies, followed by a talk on The Magic of Herbs by Carolyn Jamison, in Farmington Community Center, begins at 11:30 a.m. Reservations, at \$4.50 each, are being taken now in the center.

PLUS, ORIENTATION
Friday, Feb. 4: PLUS (People, Listening, Understanding, Sharing) orientation meeting for all adults interested in joining the volunteer adult-to-teen program, sponsored by Farmington Youth Assistance. Interested persons are asked to call the FYA office, 476-3840 for an invitation to the meeting.

ART SHOW AND SALE
Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 4-6: Art show and sale, sponsored by Sholem Aleichem in Shenandoah Country Club, 5600 Walnut Lake, West Bloomfield, on Friday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 8-10 p.m.; on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Donation of \$1 asked at the door.

NIGHTY MUST FALL
Friday and Saturday, Feb. 4-5: "Nighty Must Fall," staged by Farmington Players in the Playmakers Barn, 8:30 p.m. each evening. Reservations taken by calling the box office, 477-1066.

SKI BUS
Saturday, Feb. 5: Ski bus, for fifth through 12th graders, leaves Farmington Community Center at 8 a.m. every Saturday for Mt. Brighton when skiing conditions permit. Reservations are necessary through the center.

WINE TASTING
Monday, Feb. 7: Three session wine tasting workshop in Farmington Community Center runs on Monday evenings. Necessary information for reservations available by calling the center, 477-9494.

ARTS COMMISSION
Tuesday, Feb. 8: Farmington Area Arts Commission meeting at 4 p.m. in Farmington City Hall library and Grand River. Open to all interested persons, in the two communities.

SQUARE DANCE LESSONS
Tuesday, Feb. 8: Square dance lessons begin at 7:30 p.m. and will continue on Tuesdays in Flanders Element-

ary School, 32660 Flanders, sponsored by Farmington Area Recreation Commission. Registrations are being accepted now by calling the FARC office, 474-6115.

FAIRLANE
Wednesday, Feb. 9: Bus leaves the Farmington Community Center for a tour of Fairlane, Henry Ford's former home, at 11 a.m. Package priced tickets at \$8.50 include lunch. Tickets are available now in the center.

FABRIC PAINTING
Wednesday, Feb. 9: One-session workshop teaches how to paint on fabric with oils from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Farmington Community Center. Fee is \$8.50. Reservations are necessary, through the center.

CREATIVE NEEDLEPOINT
Wednesday, Feb. 9: Creative Needlepoint, a three-session workshop begins in Farmington Community Center at 7:30 p.m. and continues on Wednesdays. Reservations are necessary by calling the center, 477-8404.

COIN AUCTION
Wednesday, Feb. 9: Coin auction and lecture on silver dollars by Leo Garney, sponsored by Farmington Coin Club at 7:30 p.m. in First United Methodist Church, Grand River and Warner. No charge.

IMMUNIZATION CLINIC
Thursday, Feb. 10: Free immunization clinic, sponsored by Oakland County Health Department, offers oral polio and booster, measles, rubella and mumps shots and TB tests to children from two months to 17 years of age; and TB tests to all adults who work with children in a public facility, in First United Methodist Church, Grand River corner of Warner, from 9 a.m. until noon.

CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION
Thursday, Feb. 10: Deadline date for reservations to view a demonstration of cardiopulmonary resuscitation on March 23, in Farmington Hills Community Library on Twelve Mile Road, at 7:30 p.m. Session will run for three hours. No charge, but registration is necessary, given on first-come-first-served basis, through Farmington Hills Junior Womens Club, by calling Sandy Donlon, 651-6938.

SHOW AND TELL METRICS
Friday, Feb. 11: Show and Tell Metrics, lecture by Ray Gifford, General Motors physicists and instructor at Lawrence Institute of Technology, explains about metrics in daily living following a continental breakfast at 9:30 a.m. in Farmington Community Center. Reservations are necessary.

furniture SALE

Fine leather furniture custom-made to your order now at excellent savings. Styles available include the deeply tufted California lounge group shown at top: A, 87" sofa, \$1117; B, Chair, 36"x38"x32"H, \$572; C, Ottoman, 38"x22"x15"H, \$211; D, Deeply cushioned lounge chair with wooden bun feet in glazed rust leather, 34"Wx39"Dx35"H, \$572; E, Ottoman, 30"Wx26"Dx17"H, \$202; F, Classic Queen Anne wing chair with nailhead studding, 32"x32"x45"H., is now \$492. Our Designers are always ready to help with colors and selections. Our Home Furnishings Credit Plan helps you budget your payments.

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Telegraph at Maple
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