

NOW brings 1977 conference to Detroit

By LORRAINE McCLISH

Members of six metropolitan chapters of the National Organization for Women (NOW) are counting down working toward April 22 when they expect about 2,000 women to converge for the group's 1977 convention.

Of the 18 committee chairwomen pulling the convention together, Janet Good, a Farmington resident in charge of selling space for displays, said, "Nobody expected this was going to be a snap. But we are running into problems no other city in the country that has ever held a NOW convention has known before."

The bulk of Ms. Good's committee problem is the price of food sold from Cobo Hall, on one hand, and the inaccessibility of quick meals in close proximity to the convention hall on the other.

"MOST OF THE women coming to the convention are sent as delegates from their chapter. They come on very low budgets and the prices they ask in the hall would be embarrassing for us to ask our guests," she said. "Thirty-five cents for a doughnut."

She hopes to solve her problem with free food donated by those who are buying space to display their affirmative action programs promoting women in business and professional positions, sending women to school or hiring them to fill middle-management positions.

Monica Rogers and Joanna Hall, both of Bloomfield Hills, and Dottie Robertson of Lathrup Village are working with Ms. Good to round up the food.

All of the women are knocking on doors and writing letters asking for easily transportable food, something that doesn't have to be cooked or prepared.

MS. ROGERS worked as an assistant medical director in Montreal, Que-

bec. She had "a very difficult time of it there" and found not much difference here for the working woman. Right now, she is asking for give-away "peanuts, candy bars, breakfast bars, oranges, anything for a quick snack to keep us going," because little time has been allotted to run out for meals.

All of the women stress that NOW conventions are working conventions with very little time for fun and games. There's not even one single time planned when all the conventioners can take a break together.

Ms. Hall works as a model, both here and in New York. With Ms. Rogers, she believes their initial overtures to local companies about NOW will develop into a full-scale promotional campaign "to let people know what NOW is all about."

Ms. Robertson says selling display space is "giving a chance to employers to sell themselves. By buying space and giving away maybe a new food product they are marketing, we can provide them with about 2,000 potential customers who are going to be eager to learn what their company is doing about the plight of women in the work force."

In addition to the conventioners, NOW expects about 1,000 visitors during the three-day conference.

As with a large percentage of NOW members, Ms. Robertson has a professional career. She is employed by Vocational Rehabilitation Services. In 1968, after she graduated from Wayne State University, she was one of the first to take a course on feminism and one of the first to introduce the topic in her counseling practice.

MS. GOOD IS employed by Michigan Employment Security Commission as an equal employment opportunity specialist. She is frequently called upon to speak about equal opportunity throughout the metropolitan area.



JANET GOOD



MONICA ROGERS



JOANNA HALL



DOROTHY ROBERTSON

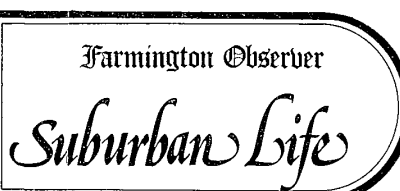
She welcomes everyone's participation in the convention called "The Future is NOW on to the Second Decade" which celebrates the 10th anniversary of the largest women's civil rights organization in the world.

The convention agenda includes the election of new officers and the determination of policy on such issues as battered wives, child care, the Equal Rights Amendment, problems of the older woman and international feminism.

The convention will begin at 11 a.m. on April 22 in Cobo Hall with a rally for the Equal Rights Amendment.

On the following Saturday and Sunday, the agenda carries a 9 a.m. to midnight schedule.

Persons wishing to help in any capacity are invited to call Ms. Rogers at 647-6736 or Ms. Hall at 644-5666.



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At FC libraries

Music, art, books, shared year round

By DIANE SANDS

Walk into either of Farmington's Community Libraries and you will find more than books.

Cassettes of current political speeches and abridged versions of popular novels, an extensive record collection ranging from classical to rock music, and films for your home projector are yours to borrow. Frequent mini-programs offer to teach you gourmet cooking, bike repair, backpacking and women's rights.

Special lending programs serve the homebound, handicapped and blind in the community. A rotating art gallery offers the work of local artists for small monthly rental fees.

There is music, art and information available year round.

JUNE CHRISTOPHER, senior librarian of the Twelve Mile branch, and adult services coordinator, explained that many of the programs and materials are available because Farmington and Farmington Hills maintain a district library system. "The shared library system serves a large population and is able to support more services and better serve both communities than could one small library in each community," she said.

In addition to the shared system, the Farmington community libraries

are affiliated with the Wayne-Oakland Federated Library System, making available materials from more than 60 suburban communities.

"Our system is unusual in that we don't separate the audio-visual from our other materials. We put cassette recordings in boxes on the shelves next to the books, so that people who browse can have the choice between a book or a recording," Miss Christopher said.

Cassettes include vital history recordings, topics of current interest and social issues. Presidential speeches and consumer reports are among the tapes acquired monthly.

A new series of abridged versions of popular books will soon be offered on cassettes.

THE RECORD collection includes old radio programs, plays, folk music and Christmas favorites. Unusual records that one may need for one-time occasions vary from special effects or theme music for parties. "We have 8mm silent films for home projections and some 16mm films available to us from the Michigan Home Library Services," Miss Christopher said.

For a small cost, residents have access to general entertainment films, children's stories, travel, art and music. Teachers usually take the most advantage of the films, but they are offered to all patrons on 24-hour loan periods. Cartoons are popular for children's parties.

"Most of the film strips on hand have corresponding cassette tapes and like the films, these slide presentations cover general interest and educational topics. Those dealing with Indians, history, and the bicentennial were most popular last year," Miss Christopher said.

While information is readily available, Miss Christopher stressed that the library also is a place for people to relax and enjoy themselves.

MANY COMMUNITY organizations, including Farmington Artists Club, Historical Society, Welcome Wagon, and Mothers of Twins Club use the library meeting rooms and auditorium. The rooms are available at no cost to non-profit groups based in the Farmington area, but the librarian said both libraries are usually booked far in advance.

INFORMAL BOOK discussions are held Thursday mornings in the downtown branch at 2350 Liberty. Books are chosen by the participants and the groups are led by library staff members. The growing popularity for the formal Great Books Discussion Series has forced limitation in its enrollment to 25.

All members of the library staff are responsible for organizing a variety of mini-programs. Miss Christopher, who has been with the library since 1972,



Kenneth Jewel (center) an instructor at Interlochen Arts Academy, will direct the academy's choir and chorale when the two groups stop in Nardin Park Methodist Church on Feb. 18 in "Interlochen Outreach" 1977 tour of Michigan.

Interlochen Chorale stops here on tour

The Interlochen Arts Academy choir and chorale will stop in Farmington Hills' Nardin Park Methodist Church Feb. 18 on its tour of southern Michigan called "Interlochen Outreach."

The church's Fine Arts Council has

arranged for the concert to be given free of charge to the local community, at 7:30 p.m. in the church at 29887 Eleven Mile.

Again, the two Interlochen groups will tour with the support of the Michigan Council for the Arts. The Inter-

lochen Center for the Arts, which includes the academy and National Music Camp, has been identified by the council as one of the state's six major cultural institutions, and shares in an appropriation made by the Michigan legislature.

Student performing groups each spend about a week touring a specific part of the state. The series is designed to bring quality programs to areas that might not be able to support such events locally.

Brass and percussion ensembles launched the series in January. February will bring clarinet and string quartets, dancers, choir and a studio orchestra on tour.

THE ACADEMY Orchestra goes on an extensive tour in March. And in April, composition students will perform their original works on tour. The season ends in May, when drama students take to the road and creative writing majors hold readings and seminars throughout the state.

In Farmington, the 17-voice choir and 24-voice chorale will perform works from Renaissance to contemporary, under the direction of IAA instructor Kenneth Jewel.

Interlochen Arts Academy is near Traverse City and is a college preparatory school offering instruction in academics and the fine arts.

"Interlochen Outreach gives young artists an opportunity to perform before a variety of audience, rural and urban, young and old," said John R. Hood, academy director.

"The taste of touring is vital to the artistic growth of tomorrow's professionals," he said.

Advance reservations to "be given in Farmington."

Farmington Musicales sets date to taste wine

Each year members of the Farmington Musicales set aside an evening to entertain their husbands, and this year it will be at a wine tasting party. The event is set for 7 p.m. Feb. 11 in Farmington Community Center and has been arranged by JoAnn Crook and Carolyn Dinsler.

The musicale is a member of the National Federation of Music Clubs.

Along with tasting wine, guests will view a film on the intricacies of wine making, hosted by Donald Bosco, and dance to the music of The Pros. Bosco owns and operates the Bosco Gourmet and Party Shoppe; has taught classes in Birmingham's Groves High School; was a disc jockey and program director of station WHFI-FM.

He has been a counselor for a camp, on and off for the last 15 years; has taken young people's groups on bike hikes and skiing trips; has sponsored baseball teams in Farmington and managed and sponsored baseball teams in Franklin.

During the evening, he will serve

five wines with accompanying cheeses and breads.

The Pros, a 17-piece orchestra, features the big band sound, and were most recently involved in a program called "Help Us Hear" for parents of deaf children.

Paid reservations must be made by calling Ms. Dinsler, 628-4688 by Feb. 7. Cost per person is \$5.

'Good News' is YWCA theme

The 84th annual meeting of the YWCA of Metropolitan Detroit will be held in Hudson's downtown store beginning at 9:30 a.m. Friday, Feb. 11. Featured guest for the luncheon that will conclude the program is Linda Wright-Avery, Channel 7 newscaster, who will emphasize the theme of this YWCA meeting which is "Good News."

YWCA members and friends may make reservations at local branch offices or by calling 961-6220, ext. 3.



June Christopher researches information on microfilm in Farmington Hills Community Library, which is but one of a multitude of services the two community libraries offer. (Staff photo by Harry Maube)