



## Oakway Symphony

Oakway Symphony's new office quarters get the once over by Beverly Gelter (at left) of Southfield; Ivabell Harlan of Birmingham; Arthur J. Prim, president and board chairman of First Farmington Savings & Loan; Nelda DiBlasi of Livonia and John

Anhut, innkeeper of Farmington's Botsford Inn. Ms. Harlan is president of the symphony's women's association, and Mrs. DiBlasi is the symphony's business manager. (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)

## Have office; need staff

Oakway Symphony Society, Inc. has its own office and is looking for volunteers to staff it.

The office is in the lower level of First Farmington Savings & Loan, 2276 Orchard Lake Road near Grand River. Use of the space was arranged by Arthur J. Prim, president and board chairman of the savings institution.

The site is near the geographic center of Oakway's audience area, which covers Livonia, the Farmington communities, Southfield, Birmingham, Bloomfield and Royal Oak.

"The office will have a phone so that we can handle ticket sales, schedule auditions and give general information," said Nelda DiBlasi, who made the arrangement.

The wife of Oakway Conductor Francesco DiBlasi, she is a major force in business affairs of the orchestra and in the supporting women's association.

"We'll need volunteers who can prepare promotional mailings, mail out ticket orders, store records and music,

prepare publicity, type and file," she said.

THE OFFICE will also provide a roomy meeting place for the society's board of directors and for the women's association.

"We'd like someone with a little music background to mark scores, such as bowings for violin parts, as well as check pages and handle rented scores," Mrs. DiBlasi continued.

"Someone with art ability would be a great help."

Volunteers may call Mrs. DiBlasi at 425-8618 or Beth Lobb at 549-0081. Mrs. Lobb is president of the women's association.

"We'd like volunteers to commit to a block of time, such as two hours a day, a half-day or a whole day," said Mrs. Lobb.

Efforts to get Oakway an office grew out of the Farmington Chamber of Commerce.

DiBlasi mentioned the need for such

an office to Bob Christ, owner of Executive Office Supply in Farmington, a former member of the Livonia Arts Commission and a friend of Oakway Symphony.

Christ mentioned the matter at a chamber meeting. John Anhut, owner of Botsford Inn in Farmington Hills, picked up the idea and carried it to the president of the savings and loan association. Anhut serves on the board of First Farmington Savings and Loan.

UNTIL NOW, much of the business work for an orchestra of nearly 100 members, playing six subscription concerts and many other special engagements, has been handled from various residences.

Besides Mrs. Lobb and Mrs. DiBlasi, the hard-core has included Betty Helsten of Farmington, Helen Hartley of Troy, Bette Griffin of Redford, Marge Wetheimer and Pat Chapman of Farmington Hills and Virginia Berberian of Southfield.

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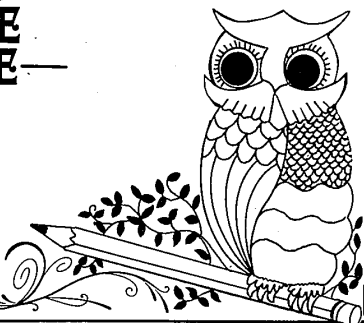
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