

Alberta Taylor will retire at year's end

Alberta Taylor, whose name has become synonymous with the Farmington Community Center, has notified the center's board of directors she will retire at the end of the year.

She has been executive director of the activities stemming from the building and grounds at 2405 Farmington Road, since its founding in September, 1969.

When her request for retirement was formally approved by the board this month, John Falahie, president of the center's board, said, "Mrs. Taylor is going to be missed by all of us associated with the center."

"In particular, we are going to miss her inspired leadership in the organization of the social and educational activities, and her ability to obtain teachers of outstanding quality."

The center has become a major educational unit in the community, under Mrs. Taylor's direction, with its offerings of more than 500 classes and workshops in 75 or more subjects

offered each year. These events draw about 6,000 persons, from tots to seniors. "TEACHERS and students alike describe the center as a warm and friendly place to be," Falahie continues.

ued. "All of us wish Mrs. Taylor many happy years of retirement."

Mrs. Taylor is a long-time resident of Birmingham, where she served as financial chairman of the Village Women's Club, when she agreed to undertake the organization of Farmington Community Center in 1969.

During its first fall of operation, the center offered 11 classes, and 120 persons enrolled in those classes. The budget was \$60,000.

"Under her direction," said John Allen, a Farmington architect and president of the center's first board of directors, "the center has grown until its current budget is about \$250,000, and the attendances for all classes, shows, and social activities is about 90,000 a year."

"And the center now draws people from an area much larger than Farmington Hills," he added.

On learning of Mrs. Taylor's retirement plans, Jan Doun, mayor of Farmington Hills, said, "With the assistance of a few part-time salaried assistants and a host of unpaid volunteers, Mrs. Taylor has made the center into a significant contribution to the educational, cultural, and social activity of the community."

"It is a fine example of a truly cooperative, community effort."

Mrs. Taylor will continue to live in Birmingham after retirement. She says she looks forward to having more time to spend with her two daughters and grandchildren, and more time to enjoy her hobby of gardening.



ALBERTA TAYLOR

New director sought

Farmington Community Center board of directors are now seeking applicants for the position of director to replace Alberta Taylor, who will retire at the close of 1978.

The center is located on Farmington Road, between Ten and Eleven Mile, and administers education classes, social activities and special events.

The facilities are also used extensively for weddings, or other private parties. It derives operating expenses

from tuitions, rentals, admissions and public fund drives. Dr. George Bowman, chairman of the center's personnel committee, states that applicants with an educational administration background, oriented toward public relations, will be considered desirable for the director's position.

Those interested may write to him, at 28239 Ridgebrook, Farmington Hills, 48018.

Garden club says it with flowers

The theme for Farmington Garden Club's biennial Flower Show and Boutique is "From Adam's Rib to Women's Lib."

Women's Lib," set for Saturday, Aug. 26, in Nardin Park United Methodist Church.

The church is located at 28887 Eleven Mile. Admission is free. Show hours are from 1-7 p.m.

Two years ago, competing against biennial flower shows of garden clubs throughout the country, Farmington Garden Club brought home a national award, the Blue Rosette of the National Council of State Garden Clubs, for "Journey Through Time."

Laura Lochbiler, speaking for the flower arrangers, said, "The club members have been working for more than a year to make their 1978 show even more outstanding."

As the theme suggests, exhibits will pay tribute to the great feminine, down the ages, from Diana, goddess of the hunt; and Juno, goddess of heavens; in the ancient mythology class, down to present day women of note.

Billie Jean King, Rose Kennedy, Bette Davis, Coretta King and Mrs. Edsel B. Ford will all be represented.

VISITORS CAN view a competition for floral arrangements representing Great Loves, including The Queen of Sheba, Cleopatra, Ann Boleyn and the Duchess of Windsor.

In the religion class, competitors will attempt to represent Mary, Joan of Arc, Mother Elizabeth Seton and Ruth Carter Stapleton.

In other classes, exhibitors will say it with flowers on behalf of women authors, scientists, musicians, politicians, social reformers, athletes, actresses and royalty.

There's even a class for infamous women; Delilah, Salome, Mata Hari and Tokyo Rose will be represented.

All items up for sale in the boutique are hand created by club members.

The offerings include glass butterflies, raffia wreaths, straw, herb, pine cone and spice wreaths, fabric flower arrangements and plaques, birds' nests, wall plaques, wall hangings, sun catchers, parchment and dried flower note paper, flower presses, flower carriers, and magnets.

In addition to the club members, exhibitors from Farmington, Farmington Hills, Bloomfield Hills, Birmingham, Drayton Plains, Livonia and Dearborn will participate.



Monday, August 21, 1978

(F) 13



Workshops that have been running for many months culminate with a variety of hand created items that will go up for sale when Farmington Garden Club presents "From Adam's Rib to Women's

Lib," a combination flower show and boutique. Emma Cartee and Laura Lochbiler pool their talents to produce dried arrangements. (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)



The round dried flower arrangement is one of many, fashioned in many sizes and shapes that are joint efforts of all Farmington Garden Club members who worked throughout the summer for their August 26 boutique. The boutique was sold out during their last one, two years ago, so many more items have been prepared for the next sale, with prices ranging from \$3 to \$12.50. (Staff photo by Harry Mauthe)

Summer teen center gets high marks from members

By SANDY HORNE

The Farmington Teen Center closed out a successful first summer with a recreation tournament last week. Record albums were awarded to winners in air hockey, bumper pool, ping pong and pinball competition.

The center, located in William Grace Elementary School, opened in early July, in conjunction with Farmington Youth Assistance (FYA). The program was funded by a government grant and directed by Jerry Youth, a Farmington resident and a teacher at Farmington High School.

A variety of activities and field trips were offered to teens that sent the 13-

17-year-olds off to visit Eastern Market, Greek Town, Ren-Cen, Detroit's Science Center, the zoo, and for a picnic in Kensington Park. Canoeing, roller skating, and a trip to a Tiger baseball game were also part of the program.

Meanwhile, in the center, the teens were offered instruction in macrame, softball, or invited to participate in pizza parties, dances, softball and hockey.

"I met a lot of new people and had a lot of fun and I hope it will go on for a long time," said center visitor Paul Camaj.

For Lynne Baine, 13, the center offered a chance to escape the hassle

of home. Liz Scott stated, "It's a good excuse to get out of the house."

THE FIELD trips were the overall favorite. "I liked canoeing the best. But the trip to the Ren-Cen was good, too," remarked Kristina Pikolini.

The group went canoeing on the Huron River, near Froed Lake Recreation Area. Canoes turned the wrong way, paddled several hours upstream, but even so, the trip got general high marks on the evaluations from the teens.

Thirteen-year-old David Bolling thought some better bus drivers were needed, but enjoyed going to the teen center "because you get to meet a lot of girls."

A day in downtown Detroit allowed the youths to sample Greek breads and pastries in Greek Town; visit specialty shops in Eastern Market; but at lunch time, most spurned the exotic restaurants in favor of McDonald's in the Renaissance Center.

Judy Camaj favored the visit to Bonaventure, her first visit to a roller skating rink.

All of the members felt that the center was fun, a good idea, and all expressed their desire to have it continued next year.

Fourteen-year-old Dan Zatsick, who worked there, summed it up by saying, "It was a good thing to do because all of the kids don't have a lot of things to do after school is out."

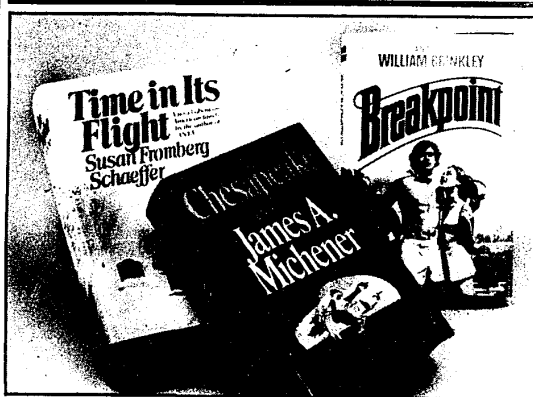
DIRECTOR YOUNG felt that the first year attempt went very well.

"There was a lot of participation and cooperation," he said, "but more community involvement is needed to help in getting supplies. We need to get more people aware that the center exists."

His hope is to have more pinball machines and more pool tables in the center next year.

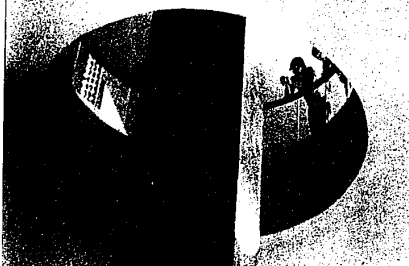
"The teens were given a chance to meet new people, go different places. With a little more help from the community, we should be open for years to come," he said.

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Teens were on their own to roam the Renaissance Center during a day in downtown Detroit, one of the field trips offered in Farmington Youth Assistance's summer program, based in William Grace Elementary School. Surveying the unusual architecture are Carl Strubbe at left, and Gary Peeler. (Photo by Sandy Horne)