

## Clarinet soloist featured

# Concert group plans performance

The Nov. 19 West Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra concert will give area residents the chance to hear a world famous musician guest solo on an instrument which is seldom played alone.

Highlighting the evening of music, which includes both classical and pop selections, clarinetist David Shifrin will perform the "Concerto No. 2 in E Flat for Clarinet" by Karl Maria von Weber and the "Introduction and Variations for Clarinet" by composer Gioacchino Rossini.

Tickets for the Nov. 19 performance

are \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for seniors and youth and may be purchased at the symphony office located in the Secondline Realty office, 5722 W. 14 p.m. weekdays. Phone reservations and information are available at 626-1350.

"We think the November concert has a special attraction for the many youngsters and adults who play, or used to play, the clarinet as members of school musical groups," commented Ward Lamphere, a member of the symphony board. "It's not very often they can hear their favorite

instrument in a solo role."

"At West Bloomfield High School, we have about 40 students playing clarinet with our symphony and concert bands and wind ensemble," explains Carolyn Thibadeau of the school's music department.

"I'VE HEARD MR. Shifrin play in Ann Arbor and I think everyone will enjoy his performance, especially our own clarinetists," she adds.

"I'd say more youngsters play the clarinet at our school than any other instrument, even the flute," comments Mark Barton, who teaches the clarinet at Abbott Middle School and two of the West Bloomfield District elementary schools. "It's light and easy to carry. It appeals to both boys and girls. These are a couple of reasons for its popularity which are not even related to how it sounds."

Shifrin first took up the clarinet as an elementary student in New York. He graduated from the Interlochen Arts Academy in Michigan and the Curtis Institute in Philadelphia and went on to become the youngest principal player of the Cleveland, Honolulu and Dallas Symphony Orchestras.

Now, at age 28, he is the youngest associate professor at the University of Michigan Music School and is principal clarinetist with the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra.

Just a year ago, Shifrin won the top prize in a clarinet category at the International Music Competition in Germany.

The next symphony concert will be Dec. 10 and highlights a world premiere performance of a new "Concerto for Violin and Orchestra" by Southfield resident Wade Marcus and featuring violinist Misha Rachlevsky.



## A girl's best friend

Kathy Glowacki is spending the waning days of fall by riding her horse, Frosty, around the suburban countryside. (Staff photo)

## Veterans recall war

(Continued from page 1A)

members many of whom like himself saw action during World War II.

Currie was an unsuspecting draftee into the war. Unlike Devriendt who wanted a life of adventure and action, Currie was deemed unfit for the war because he had high blood pressure. When he was drafted though, the army decided he was fit to see action.

Currie applied for emergency leave to straighten out his business and sell his car. On March 17, 1942 he was added to the ranks of Americans in the armed forces.

HE WAS ASSIGNED to the maintenance division of Omar Bradley's 1st Army.

During the Battle of the Bulge, he remembers listening to the buzz bombs in the night.

"They would sound like washing machines. When they quit running, they'd be silent until the explosion. When we were playing cards at night the guy who was dealing would stop until it exploded. Then he would start dealing again."

"You never knew where they would hit," he said.

Although he was hit with shrapnel once he never applied for a Purple Heart.

"Too many guys got them who didn't deserve them."

"I never knew I was hit until later, then I used my first aid kit," he said of the small wound in his right forearm.

He was assigned to a half track as a gunner a transfer from his earlier position on a light tank.

"The tank sergeant and the guy who replaced me were killed in a ambush. They didn't know the Germans were there and the Germans didn't know they were there until it was too late," he said.

Another time he and three other men were standing by a supply truck loaded with dairy products. They heard a railroad bomb come whistling in their direction.



CHARLES CURRIE

THEN, THEY lost track of the sound.

"Someone said duck and we did. When you can't hear the bomb come toward you you know its going to hit you. It hit the back of the truck and milk and cheese were everywhere," he said.

After the war he married and he and his wife Helen raised three children in Farmington.

"I don't regret my time in the service. It's part of my life and I've had a good life," he said.

"In World War I the soldiers won the battles but the politicians lost the war. Since World War II, the U.S. has rebuilt West Germany and Japan was defeated but they're walking on us now," he said.

He takes out another photo from his wallet. A younger Currie is standing in a muddy field in France.

"I'd like to go back someday. Just to see what things look like now," he said.

## Political caucus plans meeting

The second district chapter of the Michigan Women's Political Caucus will hold a business meeting 8:10 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 16, in Room 7 of the Pierson Center, 32825 Seven Mile, Livonia.

The session will map plans for the organization for the coming six months. Those interested in the caucus chapter may call Sharon Sarris, 531-4211, or Pat Rzetelny, 427-3575.

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