

From disco to grape stomping

Group coordinates activities for singles

By JACKIE KLEIN

It may be all right with you to be single, but it's not OK to be alone. You can choose disco to drama, wine

Woman killed after walking into car's path

A Farmington woman was killed last week when she stepped off a curb into the path of a car on Eight Mile near Beatrice in Livonia.

Elaine M. Beaudoin, 53, of 20741 Tuck, was pronounced dead at Botsford Hospital. Police identified the driver of the car as Dorothy Grace Armistead, 68, of 9064 Stark. Witnesses told police the car did not have time to apply the brakes before hitting the woman. No charges were filed against Ms. Armistead.

tasting to grape stomping, concerts to roller skating and places to eat delectable foods in the company of other singles by joining People, Places and Things in Southfield.

"People, Places and Things isn't a computer dating service which couples single adults," said Linda Moss, executive director of the organization. "It's a multi-faceted group of singles who aren't into the bar scene."

"We coordinate group activities for members and their guests. The activities are the common denominator to bring together people with common interests and make it easier to talk to others, make new friends and have places to go with the insulation of being in a group."

People, Places and Things (559-5820) has been in operation for six months in an office building on Southfield Road. A one-year membership is \$60 and a six-month membership, \$35.

Those who join, Ms. Moss said, receive a monthly calendar of events and an identification card for special travel rates and group discounts on luxury items.

"ACTIVITIES ARE planned each month and there may be as many as three a week," Ms. Moss said. "The person who has cultural interests might want to add sports. It's easier to expand activities with group involvement where no pairing off is expected. Members can select events

and choose friends to go with.

"I guess you could call us a social outlet for singles. Our staff plans a potpourri of cultural, sports and other events with a lot of thought. Unlike the bar scene, these activities are a basis for conversation between compatible individuals who enjoy the same things."

The organization was formed by a group of social workers, psychologists, psychiatrists and others in the field of mental health, Ms. Moss said. The object was for singles to meet others through sharing interests and broadening their social horizons.

"I go over lists of places to go and things to see," she said. "I and the yellow pages under 'entertainment' are

very close friends. I put together a varied program and make reservations for the group."

"PEOPLE, Places and Things is a high quality activity coordinator. We just don't offer cocktail parties, backgammon or skiing. We go out to dinner because people don't like to eat alone, and we get special treatment."

Women meet and befriend other women, and the same goes for men in the group, Ms. Moss said. Members mingle with performers backstage when they go to the theatre, for instance, to give a special touch, she said.

"We've even had a Chinese breakfast and fell over our feet learning to do the disco in dance studios," she said.



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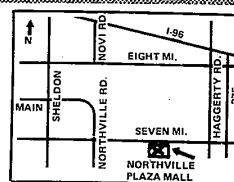
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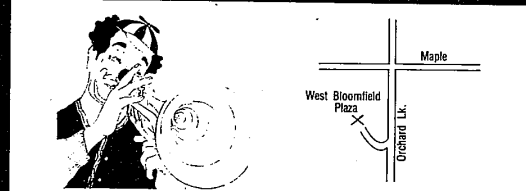
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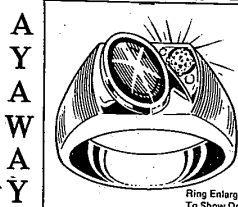
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