

Thursday, May 24, 1979

(F1C)

At Farmington Community Center

Dance, music highlight ethnic celebration

Ethnic musicians, vocalists and dancers, along with the new addition of American Jazz and western-style square dancing make up the list of continuous entertainment at Farmington Community Center's International Ethnic Festival.

Festival hours are from 5-10 p.m. Friday, June 1; and from noon-10 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, June 2-3.

The entertainment portion of the festival, which also includes foods, crafts, game booths, displays and authentic imports, has been coordinated by Flo Kastón, a music enthusiast and a long-time center supporter.

"All of the entertainers offer their services free of charge," she said. "We have groups that have returned to us for the last four years. They love our festival and ask for a spot on the agenda long before I've organized the schedule," Ms. Kastón said.

"Most of the groups," she adds, "belong to cultural centers for the purpose of keeping their heritage alive, so many ages are represented as one generation teaches the next old world dances and music."

THE SOMETHING NEW in the lineup is the offering of American ethnic music and dance.

Jazz comes from the Norman Zamezyk Trio. Zamezyk is band director for Livonia Public Schools, and resides in Farmington Hills where he teaches both jazz and classical piano and flute.

Drummer for the trio is Jerry McKenzie, Farmington Hills police officer, and bass player is Stan Kotek, Jr. who played back-up bass with the Four Freshmen.

Western square dancing will be performed by the Spinning Gears, and af-

ter an exhibition, caller Art Bentley invites festival visitors to join in for some fancy footwork.

Here's the line-up:

FRIDAY, JUNE 1

7 p.m.: The Agnes Prentice Highland Dancers with bagpiper John Goodnow

7:30 p.m.: "Warszawianki," a group of Polish dancers

8 p.m.: Finlandia Male Chorus

8:30 p.m.: Maria Durante, a flamenco dancer

8:50 p.m.: The Irish Dancers, from Butler Academy

SATURDAY, JUNE 2

1:30 p.m.: Preview of Farmington Community Center's annual student dance recital with students of Barbara Burgess and Shirley St. Mary performing tap, jazz and ballet

3 p.m.: Mexican pinata celebration enacted for children with Ramon Casteneda

4 p.m.: The Mello Macs, a barber-shop quartet

5 p.m.: "Mir Dancers," a Russian group

5:30 p.m.: The Armenian Dance Ensemble

6 p.m.: "Dziesma," a Latvian dance ensemble

6:25 p.m.: "Manipuri," an Indian Folk Dance ensemble

6:30 p.m.: "Bahiba," mid-eastern belly dancers

6:45 p.m.: Lebanese Folklore Dancers

7 p.m.: The Ukrainian Dancers from Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church

7:35 p.m.: The Corazon Juvenil de Mexico, folkloric dancers

8 p.m.: Spinning Gears, a square

dance club with calls by Art Bentley, who asks festival goers to join the squares after the group's performance.

SUNDAY, JUNE 3

1:45 p.m.: Yonim "The Yonim" "The Doves," suite of Israeli Dancers from the Jewish Community Center under the direction of Harriet Berg

2 p.m.: "Galai Haruch" Israeli and Yeminite folk dancers

2:30 p.m.: The Norman Zamezyk Trio plays jazz

3 p.m.: Dancers Hungaria

3:30 p.m.: "Warszawianki," Polish dancers

4 p.m.: Armenian Dance Ensemble from St. John Armenian Church in Southfield

4:30 p.m.: "Zagreb," Croatian folk-dance ensemble

5:30 p.m.: Woodwind Quintet from Detroit Estonian Lutheran Church

6 p.m.: "The Ukrainians," an instrumental group

6:30 p.m.: Slovenian Folk Songs, performed by singers and accordianists

THROUGHOUT the festival Bea Scaglione sings American folk songs with her guitar and the Mellow Macs, a barber-shop quartet, act as strolling musicians.

Parking will not be allowed on the center grounds.

Parking lots will be well marked on Orchard Ridge Campus, Orchard Ridge Community College. Free shuttle buses will run continuously bringing visitors to the center grounds. The buses have been provided as a contribution to the culture event by Thompson Brown.

Admission to the grounds is \$1 for adults, 50 cents for children.



Seamstress teaches students to change craft into fashion

By KARRE SLAFKIN

For the students of Irene McKinnon, the incentive to do well is perhaps a little greater than in the average classroom. The homework of these women is displayed before the public in an annual fashion show.

Mrs. McKinnon, who teaches a sewing class twice-weekly in Farmington Community Center, maintains that the spring and fall shows are a by-product of her classes. "The June 8 show is a way to show off the gorgeous outfits the women have made," she said.

As a professional seamstress at the helm of her classes, Mrs. McKinnon relays to her students little tricks and sewing shortcuts that can transform an amateurish-looking garment into a Saks Fifth Avenue look-alike.

Many of the women in her classes have been sewing for years, yet, took her class to learn the finer points of sewing.

"I've been sewing since the fourth grade, but here I've picked up professional tips that you can't get from a pattern or sewing manual," said Nancy Sallow of Farmington.

Bonnie Piane, of Farmington, a seamstress for 15 years, took the class "to get more advanced in my sewing skills."

Yet, Mrs. McKinnon feels her class is

great for the beginner, too. Ideas flow freely between the students and they motivate one another to try new patterns and to finish what they start.

"Some ladies don't sew here at all, but observe and listen to what I or the other students say and do," said Mrs. McKinnon. "There is a lot of interaction between students and teacher," she added.

The class runs eight to 10 weeks, and each student has the option of making any article of clothing she chooses. Some women sew two to four outfits and model each one in the show.

The show is combined with a luncheon, and the public is invited to eat and view the fashions afterward. Lingerie is presented first, followed by sportswear, daytime outfits, evening clothes, and ends with the modeling of bridal fashions, featuring a special wedding dress.

"I made the wedding dress for my daughter," explained Mrs. McKinnon. "She wanted a dress that looked to be 100 years old. So, to get an antique effect, I dyed it in tea, 47 gallons, in my bathtub."

The dress is interwoven with 5,372 pearls, all hand-sewn. "It took me three months to make the dress, and I would never do it again," she admitted.

Also included in the wedding party will be a bridesmaid's dress, and a

mother of the groom's dress.

Mrs. McKinnon said this is the only show of its kind in the metropolitan area, and is unique in that it resembles a workshop. "The audience is encouraged to — and does — ask questions as the students model their clothes," she said.

"I stop my description of the clothing and answer their questions," she continued. "I may give suggestions on what clothing I feel would best suit them, or I may describe particular problems students had with a particular garment."

The fashion show and luncheon are set for noon, Fri., June 8. Tickets are \$6.50 and are on sale at the Farmington Community Center on Farmington Rd.

Door prizes made by Mrs. McKinnon will be given away, as well as instructions to make them. They include pillows, pincushions, and potholders.

Mrs. McKinnon stressed that the show is a benefit, not only for the women involved, but for the Community Center as well. All proceeds from the fashion show go to the Community Center for maintenance of the building and equipment, such as sewing machines and lighting.

Said Mrs. Opal Turnbull, Royal Oak: The fashion show is always great fun, and the class is always enjoyable. Mrs. Turnbull provides musical background during the luncheon on the piano.

Claire Reutter writes a winner

Claire Reutter, a senior at Our Lady of Mercy High School, won \$50 in the annual competition sponsored by the Detroit Press Club Foundation.

Her winning entry was an editorial and an interview that appeared in Newsprint, the student newspaper. The young writer, who is editor of Newsprint, will be among those honored at a dinner given by the foundation for winners of the contest in high school, college and professional levels. The dinner will be in the St. Regis Hotel.

Ms. Reutter, who placed fourth among the four high school winners, is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Clifford Reutter of Detroit.

The winning editorial concerned the right to wear coats in school, a heated issue this spring with Our Lady of Mercy students.

The interview, with a female marathon runner, also won a third place award in a statewide competition sponsored by Michigan Interscholastic Press Association.

Because of her win in that contest, Ms. Reutter was one of 20 students who produced a four-page paper, overnight, for distribution to conferees.

MS. REUTTER came to Our Lady of Mercy for her junior year from Immaculate High School. She runs track and cross country, and holds the scholar-athlete award for cross country, given by the Catholic League.



CLAIRE REUTTER

She maintains a 3.94 average, qualifying her for membership in Phi Beta Kappa, but missed the honor society's convocation because of the journalism awards ceremony.

Ms. Reutter is the only student from her school to win awards at the annual Michigan Junior Classical League convention, held earlier this year at Central Michigan University. She placed second in the state in derivatives and third in vocabulary.



Irene McKinnon (left) adjusts a jacket to make a perfect fit for Opal Turnbull, who is a long-time student in Farmington Community Center classes and one of the models in "Irene McKinnon's Fashion Extravaganza."

Reilly appointed judge for writing competition

The National Council of Teachers of English has appointed Dr. Bernard J. Reilly as a regional judge for the 1979 "Achievement Awards in Writing Program."

Reilly is a teacher in Oakland Community College, Orchard Ridge Campus.

Through the nationally recognized competition, now in its 22nd year, about 800 high school seniors are cited for excellence in writing and are recommended to colleges and universities for admission. They are also given recommendations for financial aid, if needed.

More than 7,000 students have been nominated for the awards this year, and results of the contest are announced in October.

The students are nominated by their high school English department, and are chosen for recognition by state judging committees.

The regional judging committees are composed of both high school and college teachers of English, who work under the direction of state coordinators.

The sponsoring organization is made up of more than 100,000 individual teachers are institutional members at all levels of instruction, from elementary school through graduate college.

Its goal is more effective teaching of English language and literature in the nation's schools and colleges. It does this by publishing journals, books and recordings to aid teachers in the classroom and in their professional development.

Women's group Sets up fund

Pioneer Women President Frieda S. Leemon of Farmington Hills, announced the establishment of the Golda Meir Child Development Fund, a "living-gift" to Israel, in a New York conference of the organization's national board.

The fund, named for the Pioneer Women's first national secretary, will be used to train professionals in pre-school education, and to upgrade the facilities and staff of child care centers in Israeli neighborhoods.

Pioneer women, in cooperation with its sister organization in Israel, supports educational, vocational and child care services which improve the quality of life for Israelis. These include vocational training programs, child care and community centers, agricultural schools, and clubs for Arab and Druze women.



FRIEDA S. LEEMON