

Ceremony opens council offices

The Birmingham Area Seniors Coordinating Council will open its new office officially with a ribbon cutting ceremony at 1 p.m. May 25 at Derby Junior High School in Birmingham.

State Rep. Ruth McNamee, R-Birmingham, will cut the ribbon and an open house will follow. Michigan Week was chosen for the event to tell the community about the organization, which is attempting to represent the concerns of senior citizens in the Birmingham area.

Council President Wil Hines urges everyone to attend the ceremony and see what the senior citizens are doing toward providing solutions to problems and making the lives of the aged more hopeful and positive.

The Birmingham School District has provided space for the council office in room 101 at Derby School. Derby is at the corner of Adams and Derby Roads. Parking is available in the lot to the west of the school, off Adams Road.

The open house committee has been working to prepare the office for its official opening. The committee includes Helen Bryant, chairperson, and Hope Lewis, Judy Miller, Constance Barnes, Gretchen O'Donnell and Mary Cook.

THE COUNCIL, sometimes referred to as BASCC, was formed a year ago and has grown from eight participants to a membership of 25 organizations and churches which serve senior citizens.

Representatives from these groups meet monthly to discuss senior needs and ways to meet them, to provide communication among the member organizations and to coordinate activities.

The office serves as a clearing house for information about senior citizen activities and services. It is staffed by volunteers from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday unless the school building is closed. The office will be open all summer.

Persons may call the office at 642-5832 for further information. The council attempts to match the needs and offers of service by means of a card file being developed by Mary Thomas, vice president elect.

Names of persons and agencies able to provide various services, both volunteer and at reasonable cost, are placed on file. Some of the needs at present are for household help, maintenance tasks such as window and yard work and painting, transportation to appointments and BASCC office help.

SOME ORGANIZATIONS of young people have offered their services to the elderly. The council believes that cooperation of young and old can be of great benefit to both.

The "grandpersons" program at several elementary schools is an example. A grandmother or grandfather spends part of a day each week at school with the children. This has been particularly

successful in kindergarten and special education classes.

The program is rewarding to young and old, especially to those whose families do not include other generations living nearby, according to Ruth Carr of the Pembroke School Community Education Council.

The BASCC hopes to attain a broad base of financial and participatory support so that it can represent as many senior concerns as possible. The Birmingham School District has provided not only the office space but assistance through its Community Education specialist, Shirley Bryant.

The City of Birmingham has provided the office telephone and funded the distribution of a senior citizen survey which is being tabulated, as well as supplying assistance through Darrel Middlewood, superintendent of parks and recreation.

SEVERAL CHURCHES and other organizations also have given financial support, and members of these groups

form the nucleus of volunteers who work with the council.

"Seniors on the move," the council's newsletter, is published when there is a need to disseminate information to the community. The newsletter can be picked up at Baldwin Library, the school administration building, the municipal building, parks and recreation department, the Community House, schools, the community education office and the BASCC office.

Results of the senior citizen survey are expected to be available in the near future. The survey sought answers from seniors in the City of Birmingham concerning their housing needs as well as other questions designed to help the council with its work.

The city funded the survey in order to determine the need for senior housing, according to Massey.

Other officers of the council, in addition to Hines, are Sister Ann Marie Quinlan and Pearl English, secretaries, and Grace Kaller and Mark Young, treasurers.

Local man in U-M singers

The University of Michigan's Men's Glee Club visited four eastern states on its annual spring tour in April.

Farmington's Thomas Moga, 33981 Cotswold Dr., was among the award-winning ensemble, which performed in Pittsburgh, New Jersey, New York and Massachusetts.

The club, founded in 1859, is the second oldest organization of its kind in the country.

Among its many honors, the Glee Club won first place last year at the Llangollen, Wales, International Musical Festival.

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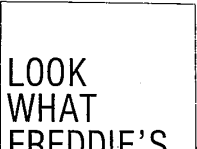



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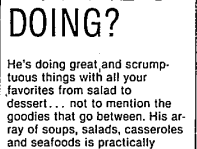

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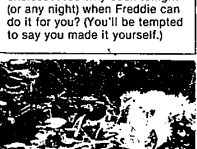
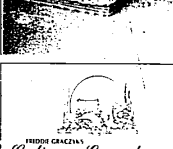



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Dawes-Brandon

Mr. and Mrs. Laurence Dawes, of Battle Creek, announce the engagement of their daughter Christine to Patrick J. Brandon, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. Knox Brandon, of Farmington Hills.

The bride to be, a graduate of Gull Lake High School, will graduate from Western Michigan University this summer with majors in environmental studies and earth science.

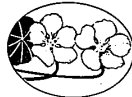
Her fiancé is a graduate of Harrison High School and Western Michigan University, employed with Orkin Company, in Kalamazoo.

An October wedding is planned.



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