

Monday, May 28, 1979

(F)18

Greek community readies for festival weekend



As was the case during last year's Glendi, the Greek delicacies will be one of the highlights of the festival. Here Irene Zervos makes loukomathes (doughnuts).

Farmington Hills' Greek Orthodox Church will be transformed into a colorful replica of the night life of Athens from June 8 through 10.

The infectious gaiety of the bouzouki music, with the famous Grecian Guards, the sparkle of the Athenian way of life, the Taverna atmosphere of the Plaka and Piraeus districts, will blend for Greek holiday environment.

On June 8, CKLW broadcaster Dick Purtan will attend as a Greek for the night. He will judge a disco dance contest. The contest will be on the opening night of the "Glendi," a Greek celebration. The church is at 25125 Middlebelt, south of 11 Mile.

The Glendi is celebrated to commemorate a joyous event, complete with feasting, games and dancing.

Connie Kourtakis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Kourtakis of Farmington Hills, has been named as Festival Queen '79 by the parish. She will be the official representative of the church youth during the Glendi. She also will preside at all the year's festivities.

MISS COURTAKIS, a member of the 1978 Harrison High School graduating class, is past president of the Junior Greek Orthodox Youth of America Chapter of Holy Cross. She was last year's recipient of the Youth of the Year Award. It is given by the church.

for outstanding growth and development in Christian character.

This cultural extravaganza sponsored by the parishioners will feature Greek dancing, music, a marketplace of Greek imports, pastries and Greek foods.

The sidewalk cafe will offer Greek pastry and baked goods with coffee, all of which can be taken home.

The Taverna, with its multiple choice of imported Greek wines and

liquors, together with the cheeses and mezedakia (Grecian hors d'oeuvres), will add to the Greek atmosphere.

The Greek boutique will feature imported jewelry, crafts and novelties. Greek fashions and the Mykonos sailor cap will also be available. Dancers in native Greek costumes will entertain and invite the guests to join in the Syrtaki.

This year's chairman is Samuel Kaspas of Southfield.



Lots of smiles also will be on order the day of Glendi. Last year's gaiety was shared between Mary Ecomoneas and her grandson John Rodemich.

Canoe lessons begin in June

Basic canoeing skills required for safe boating will be the emphasis of a class sponsored by the Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation Department.

Classes will be held Wednesdays from 7-9 p.m., from June 6 through June 20.

All equipment, including canoes, life jackets and paddles, will be furnished. The minimum age for participation is 10 years.

At the end of classes, there will be a Saturday canoe trip. The fee for the course is \$25 per person. For registration information, call the Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation office at 474-6115.

Female sharpshooter first on rifle squad



Valerie Jo Sarinopoulos likes challenges, and the rifle range is one area she finds them.

"It's amazing," Spec. 5 Valerie Jo Sarinopoulos of Farmington said as she put aside the M-14 rifle. She was practicing at Camp Bullis, Texas, for the U.S. Army Championship matches at Fort Benning, Ga.

"I never dreamed I would progress so quickly," she added.

The first woman selected for a Fifth Army Reserve rifle team competing in all-Army matches, she only has been using the rifle since last October.

She began match shooting when she participated in a match of the 300th Military Police Prison of War Command. Then, moving up, she fired the M-16 in Army Forces Command Central Region Matches in April.

That earned her a niche on the Fifth Army team. She scored 534 out of a possible 750.

To the 29 men of the Fifth Army rifle team, Valerie's achievements are no surprise. In civilian life, she is a uniformed scout car patrolman, the only woman on the 120-member Livonia police force.

A law enforcement officer for the past five years, 24-year-old Ms. Sarinopoulos joined the Army Reserve in 1977 and is a member of the 424th Personnel Service Company, Livonia.

"I like challenges" is the reason she gives for wanting to be a scout car patrolman. She whets her pistol marksmanship as a member of the Taylor Pistol Club. Before graduation from Stevenson High School in 1973, she never had used a firearm.

She presently is a senior at Mercy College of Detroit, working toward a degree in forensic sciences, her major being crime lab technician. She received her associate degree in law enforcement from Schoolcraft College in 1975.

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