

## League of Women Voters

# Network spreads the word on pending legislation

(Editors note) The story of Ruth Brown continues the series on the women who make up the membership of the West Bloomfield-Farmington League of Women Voters.

By LORAIN McCLISH

The woman who keeps a sharp eye on pending legislation locally, in the state and in Washington D.C. for the West Bloomfield-Farmington League of Women Voters is Ruth Brown.

"This month it's the oil price decontrol and windfall profits tax, an issue that we've watched all along, that's going to the floor of the house (of Representatives). We are ready for that. I've already passed out my stamped, addressed envelopes at the last meeting," Mrs. Brown said.

The national league has taken its stand on this issue and is pushing for a

higher than 50 percent tax.

As it comes time to vote on the bill, it is Mrs. Brown's job to alert the local league members, either verbally at a meeting, or through the newsletter, to send their cards or letters to their lawmakers stating their convictions on the proposed legislation.

"It has got to have an impact," Mrs. Brown states. "With 60 leagues in this state alone, if only three in each league wrote, that has got to be a lot of mail."

Those in the league who personally are opposed to the national stand are asked to decline from writing, which is the cement that keeps the group united.

THE WEST BLOOMFIELD-Farmington League is Mrs. Brown's third league in the state. The moves, she says, have given her a good overview of different issues that are important

to different areas.

"We don't get into all issues, of course, that would be impossible," she said. "We concentrate on the pending bills that we have already studied; ones that we've already taken a stand on, locally, state-wide or nationally."

In the state, the Wetlands bill, pertaining to flood plains, drainage, swamps and lakes, is an issue of concern for Michigan leagues.

"But that is just sitting there, and there's no point in winding up for that right now. But when the time comes, we'll go, because we know that what happens in one place affects drainage all over the state."

As Legislative Chairwoman it is important that Mrs. Brown maintains contact with key persons in the local

and state scenes who inform her of at what stage a specific piece of legislation is sitting.

Nationally she has a telephone number to dial that will connect her to a recording machine in Washington, D.C. This is a service strictly for league members, furnished by the national league, that spreads the word nationwide on the status of all pending bills in which it has an interest.

"Our national office in Washington furnishes us with our liasons who watch all legislation so we are always informed of what is going on that we would like to see or not see go into law," she said.

The Farmington Hills woman is the wife of Rev. Robert L.S. Brown, minister of Orchard United Methodist Church.



Seeing that the law-makers are well informed on the League of Women Voters' positions on bills that are up for vote is the job of Ruth Brown.

## Preview party opens center's antique show

By LORAIN McCLISH

The Farmington Community Center will sponsor its ninth annual Antique Show — in its 100-year-old historical setting — beginning with a champagne party and preview from 6-9 p.m. on July 26.

The show continues Friday and Saturday, July 27-28, under the chairmanship of Mary Foran.

"It is traditionally our contribution to the Founders Festival," Mrs. Foran said. "Appropos because the building and lands have always been a landmark here, and especially now since the building has achieved the distinction of being designated an historical site by the State of Michigan."

So it follows that one of the highlights of the preview party will be the unrolling of an historical scroll, again appropos dovetailing in with the activities of Founders Festival.

The original house was built in 1869 by Palmer Sherman, a white bearded farmer who grew seed for Ferry Seed Co.

The Goodenough family acquired the simple square building with an entrance facing Farmington Road, just north of Ten Mile, and for three years it was under renovation before the family took up residence there in 1918.

WIDE PEGGED FLOORS, a bathroom with its own fireplace, an Oriental rug woven expressly for the living room, and many antique pieces of furniture which once belonged to the Goodenough family, serve as the backdrop for the antique show.

The house and grounds of rolling gardens turned into the Farmington Community Center, a gift from the heirs 10 years ago, and acts now as a catalyst in bringing people together.

Meetings, classes, workshops, trips and special events draw adults and children from the area to share activities of common interest.

The cultural opportunities, the skills, the hobbies, the good causes served, are worthwhile in themselves, but in an increasingly depersonalized society,

the getting-to-know-you service it provides may perhaps be the most important of all.

Among the special events stemming from the center, the Ethnic Festival held every spring, and the Antique Show, given every summer, are now traditions in the community.

MRS. FORAN's goal, leading up to the July 26-28 event, is to make the antique show "the most prestigious in the Detroit area."

She is currently in the throes of bring together 19 dealers, "setting standards higher than ever," she said.

"There will be no reproduction allowed, and there will only be 19 select dealers because it's really all the room we have so they can sell and our visitors can shop comfortably."

She cited Pauline Work, a specialist in silver and jewelry from Farmington; and Sim Moy, from Southfield, who deals only in Oriental antiques, jewelry and jade, as examples of those with impeccable reputations that have signed up for the show.

A great many of the dealers joining the show are specialists who deal exclusively with antique dolls, or crystal. One deals only in Wedgewood Doulton china, "so they are very well versed in their particular specialty," Mrs. Foran said.

The antique show's chairman may be best remembered by some visitors to the center as its receptionist, a post she held for five years.

She has never chaired a show before, but her knowledge of antiques goes back to the time she received a part of a set of Haviland china from her grandmother.

Her search to fill the set extended into gathering two complete sets, one for each of her children, with accompanying matching crystal to complement the china of the era.

Meanwhile, she gathered antique furniture and accessories to mix and blend into the traditional

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## Kenerson gets new Jaycee post

Dave Kenerson, of 33053 Tall Oaks, Farmington, a past president of the Farmington Area Jaycees, has been elected to serve as a regional director for the Michigan Jaycees.

In his new position, he will have responsibility

for all Jaycee chapters in Oakland County.

The election was held during a recent training session, sponsored by the state Jaycees, on the campus of Eastern Michigan University.

Kenerson is employed by Associated Spring.



Dave Kenerson (left) receives congratulations after the ballots were counted by Alex Arends, president of the Michigan Jaycees.

# Storewide Summer Sale



Now you can get great savings on this beautiful outdoor furniture set. Here, Danish teak wood and metal are combined for maximum beauty. To achieve additional durability, all items have been treated for outdoor use—making this the most beautiful and practical outdoor set around. This set includes 4 chairs and a 43" round table.

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A hot chocolate pot and sauce boat in Haviland china and a cut glass crystal compote are a few of the items Mary Foran has gathered in her search for antiques which has led

to her assuming the chairmanship of Farmington Community Center's next Antique Show.