

An afternoon in the park

Time stands still as grandparents enjoy grandchildren



Squish, splash, David Schneider, 4, is getting a bath from that water balloon as he gingerly tosses it to another player. David is among the youngsters who enjoyed Tuesday afternoon in the park with their grandparents.



"My Bonnie lies over the ocean," is sung with gusto by ukelele-wielding Frank Patrello (standing) and Anne Nehs (right), as Mrs. Nehs' grandson, Tony Protar, 11, listens with obvious enjoyment.

Staff Photos by Randy Borst



Sharing a picnic lunch together are grandmother, Lucy Glowacki, and granddaughter, Susan Glowacki, 5.

Symphony posts fall schedule

Performances of "The Nutcracker" and "Porgy and Bess" highlight the West Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra's sixth season which premieres Oct. 25.

"The Nutcracker" is slated for 8:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20, and 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 21.

The dates originally were Dec. 13 and 14 but have been changed.

The WBSO will provide the music while the Contemporary Ballet Company will dance to Tchaikovsky's immortal holiday classic.

George Gershwin's "Porgy and Bess" will feature soprano Dolores Davis, baritone Conwell Carrington and the Brazael Dendard Chorale on May 17, 1981. WJR radio personality Mike Whorf will narrate the concert.

MUSIC FROM the movies begins the regular concert season Oct. 25 with such pieces from the swash-buckling films of Errol Flynn to "Star Wars." "The William Tell Overture," "The Adventures of Robin Hood" and Gershwin in Hollywood round out the evening.

Pianist David Syme returns to perform with the WBSO Nov. 30 for an night of rhapsody, featuring Syme on Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue."

Syme made his debut with the WBSO last season to a standing ovation.

"Rhapsodie Espagnole," "Hungarian Rhapsody No. 2," "Swedish Rhapsody" and "Roumanian Rhapsody No. 1" are the other selections.

Music of Spain and Latin America combine for an orchestral show-piece with the selections from the "Man of La Mancha" Feb. 1, 1981.

OTHER SELECTIONS are from composers Surinach, Sarasate, Gould, Chavez and Falla.

Walt Disney's "Fantasia" offers the music for the April 12 concert with three works which owe much of their popularity to the movie.

"Symphonie Fantastique," Toccata and Fugue in D Minor, "Night on Bald Mountain" and "The Sorcerer's Apprentice" recreate the impact of Disney's classic production.

A young people's concert is scheduled for Sunday Feb. 22, 1981, with 2 and 4 p.m. concerts. The orchestra will perform music especially selected for youngsters.

Concertgoers may reserve their season tickets by contacting the West Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra office at 628-1560.

SEASON TICKETS are \$24 for adults and \$12 for senior citizens and students under 18.

Individual concert tickets are \$6 for adults and \$3 for seniors and students. Seating for single concerts will be available after Oct. 6.

The symphony needs the support of benefactors (\$500), sponsors (\$100) and patrons (\$75) to help underwrite its season.

Benefactors, sponsors and patrons receive two complimentary season tickets and preferential seating will be honored until Sept. 28.

All performances are at the West Bloomfield Auditorium, 4925 Orchard Lake Road in West Bloomfield.

Regular season concerts are Sunday nights at 7:30.

Members of the WBSO are all professional musicians and several belong to the Detroit Symphony and other community orchestras.

The WBSO, a non-profit organization, is made possible with the support of a grant through the Michigan Council for the Arts and private contributions.

Felix Resnick is conductor and music director. Concertmaster is Gordon Peterson.



A circle of children gather around Farmington Community Library's Denise Albrecht as she shows off her collection of stuffed cloth food. Felt scrambled eggs, anyone?

It was a nice old-fashioned summer day when the seniors from the Gathering Place in Farmington Hills convened for their third annual grandparent-grandchild picnic.

Although Tuesday's early morning chill kept the picnic's attendance down from last year, the hardy and determined showed up and were rewarded by a bright, breeze-filled afternoon.

Strolling and serenading through the picnic area was Frank Patrello, who brings his ukelele and repertoire of old songs to each year's gathering.

As coolers filled with chicken, hot dogs and chips appeared on the picnic tables in Farmington City Park, Patrello warmed up his rendition of "You are My Sunshine."

Then he stopped by Anne Nehs to sing an impromptu duet of "I want a Girl Just Like the Girl who Married Dear Old Dad."

"Play 'Roamin' through the Gloamin'," Mrs. Nehs said.

Instead Patrella played "My Bonnie," and Mrs. Nehs again obliged with a duet.

Her grandson Tony Protar, 11, sat next to her

shaking his blond head and said, "She always sings that at home." Then he grinned with obvious pride.

As the group enjoyed their lunch in the shade, Loretta Conway, head of the senior citizen program dispensed coffee and orange juice.

"One woman said her great-grandson wanted to know if we're going to have the penny toss this year," she said.

"It's a tradition," she said.

Earlier in the morning, Denise Albrecht of the Farmington Community Center entertained the group with stories and games. Afterward she hauled out a small basket of stuffed cloth representations of food. Little hands grabbed for cloth hamburgers in felt buns, stuffed scrambled eggs and a styrofoam piece of toast.

As the lunch hour continued in an unburied fashion, Mrs. Nehs looked affectionately at her two grandsons, Tony and Joey Protar.

"Is there anything lovelier than a child?" she asked.

And no one there could disagree.