

Monday, October 20, 1980

Farmington music lovers get a new grand piano

The new six-by-six foot grand piano housed in the Farmington Hills Community Library's downstairs auditorium is a gift to area residents from Farmington Musicale.

"It can be used by any one who wants to use the room," said Elenora Skillman, who initiated the musicale's piano fund five years ago. "It's now a permanent fixture and will go with the rental."

Owning their own piano has been a dream of musicale members for as long as any of them can remember, "because there just aren't that many decent pianos in town," Ms. Skillman said.

"We were using pianos with no music rack or the stool was falling out from under us."

When the library agreed to take responsibility for the \$9,000 instrument, the musicale not only had themselves a piano but also found themselves a permanent base of operations for their meetings and programs.

MONEY CAME from performances some of the members gave outside of the musicale which was turned over to the piano fund. Concerts were staged by the musicale to boost the fund. Members sponsored rummage sales and made individual pledges.

Having the new piano will open the way for a much wider range of musical programming for the group.

"We can now start planning for a new cultural series," Ms. Skillman said. "We can feel free to invite groups in. You can't expect professionals to come to play for you when you don't have a good instrument."

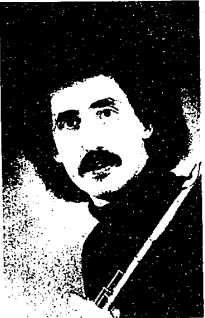
"Teachers can use the piano. This will go a long way towards making the entire community grow musically."

THE FIRST of the professional celebrities to be invited to perform with the new piano is Alexander Zonjic, a Canadian guitarist and flutist, who performs in both clubs and concert halls.

He will play for the musicale at 1:30 p.m. Nov. 5 in the library.



The women who worked to raise money for Farmington area's new piano were on a committee headed by Elenora Skillman, seated. From left, standing, are Fern Barber, Mary Behnan, Sue McCallum, Shirley Strey, Charlene Slabey, Susan Nuchols and Jan Smith. (Staff photo by Randy Borst)



ALEXANDER ZONJIC



Getting ready for Jacqui

Farmington Community Center volunteers get ready to meet Jacqui Kendall, the psychic heard weekdays on WKYZ radio, who heads the Celebrity Luncheon Thursday, in Adat Shalom Synagogue. The doors open at 10 a.m. for shopping and browsing in

the gift boutiques. Tickets are on sale in the center, 24705 Farmington Road. Gail Perrin (left) is chairwoman of the Celebrity Luncheon series. She is aided by committee chairwomen Betty Wolfe and Betty Haycock. (Staff photo by Randy Borst)

Couple work to become Salvation Army officers

By LORRAINE MCCLISH

Dorothy and Jeffrey Smith came to Farmington Salvation Army Corps about a month ago as envoys.

Envoy is not the title of a Salvation Army officer, but the young couple who moved into the house adjacent to the church on Shiuwassee and Inkster are doing the jobs of officers nonetheless.

The Smiths are here on an open-ended contract, "just to see how it goes," Smith said.

"It is rather unique. It is definitely an honor for a layman taking over a corps like this. It took much prayer before the decision was made."

The couple were asked to consider taking over the Farmington corps while each was working at Echo Grove. Echo Grove is a Michigan Salvation Army facility near Oxford used for camping in the summer and as a conference center throughout the rest of the year.

He worked there as a maintenance man. She was the summer program director.

The goal for each is to become a Salvation Army officer. It is what each has been working toward since their marriage.

"It has been my goal for as long as I can remember," Mrs. Smith said.

SMITH HAS a degree in Bible from Asbury College in Kentucky, but has set his sights for study in a seminary before the two enter the Salvation Army Officers Training School together.

In Farmington, the couple inherited a small congregation and "a beautiful large facility that we want to fill up and see put to use," Smith said.

They are charged with giving worship services, social services, programming social activities and conducting youth programs.

The big push now is to round up bell ringers for the Christmas season.

"All the money collected in this area is used in this area," Smith said. "We'll be giving Christmas baskets, and some of the money will be used by our League of Mercy."

The League of Mercy, already formed to visit nursing homes, makes regular visits to the residents in Oak Hill Nursing Home Annex and Williamsburg Convalescent Home.

Lay leaders have gotten the church's Girl Guards, for 11-16 year olds, and Boys Club, for 8-15 year olds, started. Mrs. Smith leads the Sunbeams for 6-10 year old girls.

All meet on Monday evenings.

"ALL THE PROGRAMS for youth are for the whole person: spiritual, physical and mental," Smith said. "Members do not have to belong to the church to attend."

In the planning stage is a recreation program for the mentally handicapped.

Craftsmanship of Creative Writing

On being a pro or a striving amateur

By LORRAINE MCCLISH

Iris Sanderson Jones, full-time freelance writer and a contributing editor to Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, will be back to Oakland University (OU) this month as a speaker for the Craftsmanship of Creative Writing Conference.

Ms. Jones will explain the difference between being a professional writer and a striving amateur. She was a member of Detroit Women Writers when that group held the first writing conference at OU 19 years ago.

The event runs Friday and Saturday on OU's Rochester campus with multiple options for participants interested in fiction, non-fiction, writing for children or poetry.

All inquiries will be taken by calling the university's conference department, 377-3272.



Iris Sanderson Jones, a full-time freelance writer for the past 19 years, tells how it's done in her talk during the Craftsmanship of Creative Writing Conference at Oakland University this weekend. (Staff photo)

"The truth is that they have to keep marketing their stories as well as writing them, and to do this, they have to be not only knowledgeable in many areas, but be self-disciplined as well. And they are. The successful ones are."

Ms. Jones sold her first article as a direct result of the information that came out of the first writers conference, a how-to piece on traveling with a baby.

She is now a regular contributor to both local and national publications. She has authored "Early American Dollmaking."

Craftsmen interested in participating may pick up an application at the YWCA, 25940 Grand River.

She writes a monthly column for Monthly Detroit, is Michigan editor of Fodor Travel Guides and writes the travel page for Observer & Eccentric's 12 newspapers.

Next month she begins a column for a new AAA Publication, "Home and Away."

"PROFESSIONALS go to work every day. They meet deadlines. They create a situation with an editor so the editor can trust them to have good work on his or her desk on time," Mrs. Jones said.

During her session at the writers conference, she will tell how to keep books, how to be organized, how to set up an office, how to create a market for the type of work the individual writer does.

"If that sounds like a lot, there's a bonus for all this and that is your freedom. Freedom to set your own hours, and freedom in being able to write just exactly what you want," Ms. Jones said.

Three years ago, the writer-editor began specializing in travel writing. "That's costly, both in time and money," she said. "But the successful freelancers I know are specialists in something."

"This came about when the general family magazines went by the wayside. The magazines that are doing well today are zeroing in on one subject, be it hot rods, electronics or photography."

"And that's not bad for the freelancer, because you just can't afford to work for only one outlet. The freelancer needs many and we'll talk about how to go about getting them at the conference."

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"I'M GOING to be destroying the myth that writers only write when the inspiration or the mood hits," Ms. Jones said, speaking of the talk she'll be giving this weekend.

"And I will destroy the myth that freelance writers are free-lance writers because they can't get a full-time job."

Craftsmen invited to exhibit at Y show

Applications for the annual Northwest Branch YWCA Arts and Crafts Show are being accepted from exhibitors and craftsmen in the metropolitan area.

The juried show of handcrafted, original work, will be given from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 16.