

Governor's proclamation makes Kid's Day official

By Loraine McCleish
staff writer

Kid's Day, an annual event only in its second year, has gotten official recognition with an Executive Declaration issued by Governor William Milliken proclaiming July 21 as "Kid's Day in the Farmington Community."

The day that will honor the area's kids has likewise been proclaimed by mayors of the two cities and local legislators and is backed up with support from about 40 area businesses, local schools, service organizations and area agencies.

Most of the activity will be going on from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in both Farmington City Park, at Power and Shawnee roads, and in Our Lady of Sorrows Church grounds in the same vicinity.

At 7:30 p.m. the fun and games continue with a show in Farmington Community Center's outdoor amphitheater.

During that interim, the center invites families to bring a picnic lunch and a blanket and use those grounds before enjoying the show.

The show, as most of the activities in the Kid's Day line-up is without charge. The events that do ask a fee are with costs as low as the committee could make them.

KID'S DAY is sponsored by Adults for Kids Inc., Farmington Area Preschool Council, Farmington Community

Libraries, Farmington Hills Parks and Recreation Department, Farmington Youth Assistance, Farmington YMCA and Farmington Community Center.

The committee, made up of representatives of the sponsoring groups, has arranged for almost continuous entertainment coming from professionals on the showmobile in City Park.

The Art-In Tent, manned by members of the preschool council, invites kids to try their hand in creating art works from numerous materials to choose from, without charge.

Roller skates can be borrowed on the spot for use on the skating mobile. A puppet show begins every 30 minutes. A sports mobile offers a variety of

sports and games to play, as well as chances to jump on the trampoline.

There is a 25 cent fee for pony rides and entrance into the Petting Zoo. There is a 60 cent fee to take a moonwalk, or ride on the kiddie ferris wheel or the carousel.

Kids can get their faces painted up like clowns or Indians, tour a U.S. Coast Guard helicopter, or watch fire and rescue service demonstrations, all for free.

Kids can write a message and launch it with a helium balloon or take a turn around the bike corral.

Kids and parents alike can watch sky divers land, get free medical exams, watch hot air balloons take off and see

the U.S. Army in a demonstration.

MEANWHILE parents are invited into what can be best described as a "Compton Saver's Heaven."

From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. the Hobbie Swap is open for shopping, trading and bartering sports cards, stamps, stickers, any collectible they've got, but no money is to change hands.

Games of skill run from noon-4 p.m. During this period "Mr. Gabe" of Gabe Shoes invites kids of all ages to try join in "The Rotten Shaker" contest. "The Rotten Shaker" is Gabe's name for a frisbee throwing event. He named it, he'll be the judge, and he'll be awarding the prizes.

North Farmington and Farmington

High Schools open up their pools for all swimmers from 1-3:30 p.m. Free swimming is also available in the Oakland Community College, Orchard Ridge Campus pool from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and in the YMCA from 3:30-5 p.m.

The 14th annual Pet Show, always staged during Founders Festival days, moves to take its place during Kid's Day.

Kids up to 16 years of age will be showing their pets at 1 p.m. in City Park vying for numerous prizes offered for "the best" in a total of 10 categories. Registrations must be made before 10 a.m. that morning in order to enter the show. Entry blanks and all the rules can be picked up now at Pets 'N' Par-ticulars, the show's sponsor.

Farmington Observer

suburban life

Loraine McCleish editor/477-5450

Thursday, July 16, 1981



RANDY BORST/Staff photographer

Shirley Hulet began studying art less than five years ago. She's already won two awards and shows her work in her first one-woman show this month in Farmington Community Library.

Shirley Hulet

Artist puts old cliches to rest

By Loraine McCleish
staff writer

The artist who has a one-woman show in Farmington Community Library this month has had a lifetime of enjoying and doing many creative things. But for years Shirley Hulet held to the old cliché that she "couldn't draw a straight line."

"That was very naive," said the Livonia resident. "I found out that drawing a straight line is not that difficult."

Mrs. Hulet studied theater in Michigan State University and has been a member of the Theatre Guild of Livonia-Reiford since its inception 27 years ago.

Her long time hobby of refinishing furniture was pursued while she worked on and off stage with the theater guild taking on all the creative challenges those two outlets offered.

"But the idea persisted that artists are born, not made," she said. Later, reflecting on the first art class she entered in Schoolcraft College more than five years ago, she said, "I was the oldest student in the class and

hold the record for taking the class the most number of times."

THE INTERIM years have brought Mrs. Hulet the Biney-Smith Award for "Red Square" and The Artists Choice Award for "The Visit," which are both on display in the library show that remains through July 31.

Both awards were given in art shows sponsored by Farmington Artists Club, a club whose shows she patronized "for years, long, long before I ever dreamed I'd ever be a member of that club," she said.

And both of the award-winning pieces are done in collage, her favorite media.

"I guess I like putting pieces and parts of nothing together and making something out of them," she said.

Her know-how, as well as love of putting pieces and parts together was expressed years before in costumeing she did for her theater guild and her hobby of refurbishing old furniture.

"For years we would shop the Salvation Army to find materials to make costumes and I loved it. Making something out of discarded clothes that looked so good on stage was really ex-

citing to me," she said.

And in a similar vein, "I can hardly wait to strip away the old paint and see what's underneath it when I'm working on an old piece of furniture to give it a new life."

"Collage is very similar. I guess I like to recycle."

MRS. HULET names Lincoln Lao, her art teacher in Schoolcraft College, and Edie Joppich, who was named Farmington Artist in Residence in 1978, as those who have had the most influence on her art work.

She quoted Lao as saying, "Art is as complete as the person doing it. Drawing will come."

"I adopted his philosophy," Mrs. Hulet said. "The art you produce is a culmination of you, all your experiences. Oh, some of it is hard work, but you learn by experience. You learn by doing and it is a joyous thing along the way."

Her subsequent studies with Mrs. Joppich, she said, "She peaks your imagination to a fine point. I learned from her to think in terms of all things as a collective art. She told us not to turn our backs on anything. We were taught to explore."

Mrs. Hulet says she has "played with oils, acrylics, watercolors, pastels, and a lot of times used all of them in one painting."

MRS. HULET put together her first one-woman show this month because it was the first time she's ever had enough paintings together all at one time to do a show.

"Somehow the paintings just go," she said. "One of the children will ask for one, or a relative. They get sold in shows. There's only one left in the (Detroit Institute of Arts) rental gallery now. Edie took one for a new gallery she's opening up north."

She spoke while sitting in her living room as the sun filtered in from stained glass windows, another manifestation of her love of making something out of nothing. She salvaged them when her church was being renovated.

Art works she acquired while she was a patron, rather than an artist, filled her living room walls. None of the pieces were her own work.

"I'm lucky I had six or seven pieces left after I committed myself to do the show in the library," she said.

Farmington Community Library is at 23550 Liberty Street.

Working mothers look at guilt, its origins, cure

As inflation continues to encroach on every household, budgeting for the barest essentials has become more difficult than ever.

No wonder then that more and more women are returning to work in order to help pay the bills. When they do, each one must be prepared for predictable and unpredictable changes in family life.

The Cooperative Extension Service of Michigan State University has prepared a newsletter devoted to employed mothers, their needs, guilt feelings, how the family can help at home, challenges to single working mothers, how a mother's working may affect her children and options in child care.

Special attention has been placed on talking to real people, working mothers and their families, to find out how they handle the demands of home and family and their job — and how many still find time for themselves.

In April, resident Oakland County Extension home economist Elaine Glasser excerpted the first in the series for *The Eccentric*. She will continue to write a commentary on each newsletter prior to its publication. Her analysis is being printed by *The Eccentric* with the permission of the division of Family Life

Education, Michigan State University. For those wishing to subscribe to the series, which costs \$1, information about publication dates and subscriptions is available by calling Mrs. Glasser at 658-0895.

Suburban Life Editor
By Elaine Glasser
special writer

About two years ago, Connie and Bruce invested their money in a consulting business for Bruce. They also proudly announced the birth of their first child.

At first Connie kept books for the business, did the housework and took care of the baby. But, as the business grew slowly and steadily, inflation began to nibble away at their savings. Also, after resigning from a well-paid, interesting job, Connie found she needed to do something else besides taking care of a baby.

When their baby was 8 months old, Connie found a part-time job and went back to work. She soon found, however, that this particular job was expensive in money expended to get to work and the extra energy it required. She realized that she needed to work full time to make it worthwhile.

Many working mothers, even those

who have the best child-care arrangements possible, feel guilty. If a child has school problems or can't come home to a spotless home or freshly baked cookies and Mom, chances are that mother is going to express guilt feelings. Just as guilt-provoking are all those old myths that women are unsuitable or not serious about being in the work place, and that "a woman's place is in the home."

FEW WOMEN will ever learn how to carry out the role of Superwoman, but then, how many stay-at-home mothers do either? The best thing to do is sort reality from myth, determine how reasonable guilt feelings are and then decide what techniques can be used to manage both the situation and the feelings.

One of the biggest worries of a working mother is that her children will suffer from neglect. Part of this worry seems to come from concern about what is happening to the children. Another part stems from mothers' fears that their children won't love them as much if they aren't home all the time. Other people contribute to guilt feelings, too. Husbands, who may not support the notion of their wives working, parents, teachers, counselors and doctors can help a working mother feel more guilty if her child is having health or school problems.

MANY RESEARCHERS today believe that clamor about mothers leaving their children to go to work comes from folklore about the nature of the childhood and motherhood relationship and from earlier expert opinion. In the 1960s and 1970s, however, actual studies of families with working mothers revealed that the fact that mothers spend time working does not by itself have consequences for the children. What is important is what mothers are like when they are with their children.

The better a woman feels about what she is doing, the better her child will adjust. Feeling guilty about working is likely to interfere with relationships with children and make it less enjoyable for both the parent and the child.

Children and families can benefit in many ways when mother goes to work. Though parents will always remain the primary figures in their children's lives, the children's relationship with other people who give them care can greatly enrich their lives. And, as children get older and gradually assume responsibility for household chores, maturity and self-reliance are enhanced.

Interviews and studies made among working mothers reveal a variety of interesting and useful suggestions for reducing guilt feelings.

Many mothers advise that in periods

of unusual problems with children, a woman should put out her mind any thoughts that she ought to quit work. This just makes matters worse, they say. By assuming the problem is temporary, she will usually be able to solve it.

Others say that the working mother should make an extra effort to let the professionals — teachers, day-care workers — who work with her children know that this mother is just as concerned as other mothers. This may mean taking the time to attend teacher-parent conferences or promptly expressing concerns about issues that affect her child. By keeping in touch with whoever is caring for the child and considering her or him a partner, the working mother provides herself with another positive support arrangement.

Working mothers encourage planning "child time" into the day when children can depend on having time with their mother. It needn't be long, but it should be regular.

Another important suggestion is that the working mother tell her children how much they mean to her.

Finding work that gives satisfaction and also the best child care that is available are both excellent suggestions. Plan for adequate household care, then relax in the knowledge that you have done the best you can for your

child and for yourself.

THE MOST RELIABLE medicine for a mother's guilt feelings about employment outside the home is to develop the belief that working can help a woman be a better mother and homemaker. She should relegate housekeeping to the back seat, reduce the number of social events for adults and children, share chores with other family members and plan a lot of family togetherness into evenings and weekends. Even shopping trips, if they are short and well-planned, can be enjoyable family times.

Still, the working mother should plan time to become involved with those people and activities that she enjoys. Spending time and energy doing things she enjoys will relax her and help rebuild her inner strength.

To keep household chores manageable, Connie suggests that working mothers take the "non-cluttered" approach. By picking up as she goes along and reducing the number of toys available to her children or by having some toys out and some put away for rotation, Connie said she noted a marked improvement in her situation.

I still feel overwhelmed — at least several times a week — by what has to be done, but at those times I find it

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Farmington well represented at AAUW Centennial Convention

Seven area women represented the Farmington Chapter of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) when 4,000 delegates turned out for the national organization's Centennial Convention.

Nan Goshorn, Nancy Davis, Phyllis Cummings, Gretchen Peterson, Edith Pierce, Vivian Henderman and Barbara Medwedoff helped celebrate the founding of the organization in Boston in 1881. They also were among those who will plan the future of AAUW, the largest and oldest organization in America for the advancement of women and education.

"It was a splendid representation for us," said Mrs. Peterson, who enters her term of presidency for the local chapter this month. "It was gratifying for me to learn that so many of us would spend the time and money to travel

that far," she said of the event, which was held in the organization's birthplace late last month.

One of the delights for the Michigan contingent was learning that its state division was the second top contributor to the Educational Foundation during the Centennial Fund Campaign, which was initiated in 1971 and had a \$10-million goal.

"We were second to California," Mrs. Peterson said. "And it's pretty hard to top that division, just in numbers alone."

The total amount contributed nationally came to \$10,600.

DELEGATES heard addresses by U.S. Sen. Ted Kennedy, D-Mass, former Secretary of Commerce Juanita Kreps and Smith College President Jill Conway.

A panel introduced the association's 1981-83 study-action topics: "Taking Hold of Technology" and "Money Talks."

At a special session on Action for Equity, the current climate for issues directly affecting women was discussed with the focus on the fact that the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) must be ratified by June 30, 1982 in order to become law. The AAUW has done a great deal of work toward getting the amendment passed since it was first introduced.

A pilot project of special sessions included seminars at Boston-area colleges and universities; a presentation of awards to broadcast and print media that presented women in a positive light; and an evening at Boston's Opera House featuring a California AAUW member as piano soloist.



American Association of University Women who helped shape the organization's policy for the future are Nan Goshorn (at left), Nancy Davis, Phyllis Cummings, Gretchen Peterson, Edith Pierce, Vivian Henderman and Barbara Medwedoff. All are from the Farmington chapter except Mrs. Medwedoff, who is a past president of the Livonia branch. Mrs. Peterson is the local chapter's new president.