

Monday, March 15, 1982

Cookie sale is under way

Girl Scouts launch 70th anniversary celebration

Local Girl Scouts sent hundreds of balloons flying from Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church parking lot last week in celebration of Girl Scouting's 70th birthday.

Troops sponsored by the church hosted the birthday party for area girls who joined sister troops throughout the nation with cakes, parties, ceremonies and dinners planned during Girl Scout Week.

About 1,500 Scouts from five southeastern Michigan councils spent Saturday in Ford Auditorium and Hart Plaza for an afternoon of concerts, song and skating. Many of them took part in the Detroit Symphony Orchestra's "Girl Scout Day at the Symphony."

Girl Scout week also marks the beginning of the annual cookie sale, when the Scouts, their parents and leaders will be knocking on doors, making phone calls, manning booths in neighborhood supermarkets, banks and stores for the annual fund-raiser.

NORMA DIAMOND is cookie chairman for Girl Scouts in Farmington, Farmington Hills and Novi.

"My house is the cookie cupboard with about 500 cases just in reserve,"

said Diamond said, who is also a neighborhood service director, overseeing 18 troops that meet in five public schools.

"There's never any trouble selling cookies in this area," she said. "The merchants do everything they can for us when we're selling our booths, and the sales always go well."

Proceeds from the cookie sale provide almost 45 percent of the Michigan Metro Girl Scout Council's total operating budget, but Diamond emphasized, "We're also selling Girl Scouting."

There is no money goal set, and we're not competitive with other troops or other areas when we're selling cookies. We also want to let our customers know about the Girl Scout program and activities while they are supporting the community's youth."

Girl Scouts offer seven varieties of cookies this spring: five old favorites and two new additions.

Favorites on sale are shortbreads, sandwich cremes, thin mints, peanut butter patties and peanut-butter sandwiches.

The newcomers are caramel delights and old-fashioned oatmeal.

All sell for \$1.50 per package.

THESE ARE now 65,000 Girl Scouts

In Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, Monroe and Washtenaw counties, and 2.75 million Girl Scouts nationwide.

Some of the 45 million Girl Scout alumnae will be visiting troops this month, telling of Scouting's past and enriching their understanding of Scouting's future, Diamond said.

As for the future, Dorothy Tank, a Lincoln Park neighborhood service director, just has been appointed to be the chairwoman of the Michigan Metro Council's task force group on "Gifts to the Nation."

This year the gifts program will focus attention on the need to conserve water.

Scouts in the Metro Council already have two water projects in the planning. Clean Up Belle Isle Day is set for April 3. Water Awareness Day is planned for May, and an outing to Bob-Lo Island for themselves is planned for June.

Michigan Metro Girl Scout Council, Inc. is the result of 1980 merger of Girl Scouts of Metropolitan Detroit and Southern Oakland Girl Scout Council.

The consolidated council is the fifth largest council in the United States, serving 61 communities in Wayne and Oakland counties.



RANDY BORST/staff photographer

A balloon launch from Our Lady of Sorrows' parking lot was the way members of 18 local troops said "Happy Birthday" in the celebration that observed

the 70th year of Girl Scouting. Now that party time is over, Girl Scouts set out to run booths in supermarkets and shopping centers for their cookie sale.

Vern Lacy

Economics teacher sells American independence

By Lorraine McClish
staff writer

About \$20 billion is expected to be put into Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA) before the year is out.

"That's hardly a drop in the economic bucket, but I see it as the big turnaround in the American economy," said Vern Lacy.

"We still have a long way to go to encourage work and savings and investment for that large segment of the population we educated not to worry because the government would take care of them," he said.

"But the system is only going to

work when we create incentives to make the strong individual that equates to a strong U.S. The IRA is the first big step in that direction."

Lacy works in product finance for American Motors, teaches evening economics classes for University of Detroit, and last spring received a master's degree in business administration in micro-economics.

"NOW I'M selling American independence," Lacy said, whose work toward his master's degree was running parallel to Reagan's supply-side economics.

Lacy is available for lecturing with-

out charge, he said, "to help us all stop, regroup, rethink our directions, reverse our direction on consumption and increase our savings."

"I'm not selling IRAs," he emphasized. "If I'm selling anything, it's a short course on economics, which is a tool I think can be used by everybody, and information on what is happening when an administration encourages everybody to work."

IRAs are available only to employees. Under a new federal law, working people with company pensions can set aside up to \$2,000 of untaxed income per year if it is put in a qualified retirement plan. Previously those with com-

pany pensions were exempt from this kind of investing.

"Hopefully, and I do think ultimately, those investments will contribute to the reindustrialization of the country," he said. "Not to mention that it will keep a lot of us from falling over into the wrong side of the poverty line."

LACY DOES not believe that after 35-40 years of being discouraged to save that Americans are going to jump on the savings bandwagon.

"It will probably be a long process of education, but I want to be part of that process," he said.

"There's a lot of inventors out there, a lot of workaholics, a lot of entre-

preneurs who have simply been taxed into withdrawal.

"This stretches down to the factory worker who refused overtime and opted for the leisure time because the time-and-a-half was so heavily taxed."

"If they don't work, production falls. If the teacher doesn't teach, we lose our human resource capital. We've stopped encouraging technology and there's so much out there waiting to be tapped. Good ideas are left unsupported while the American business sector keeps borrowing to stay alive," he said.

"More money simply has to be made available and the IRA will do double duty — building the capital structure while making the individual dependent upon himself instead of his company or his government."



Vern Lacy

LACY SAYS he is positive that most people want to work.

"I just don't hold to the belief that anybody wants to be on welfare," he said.

"We've deprived so many of their initiative and abilities with the giveaways, it's time for the turn-around."

"With more independence, workers will be more willing to change jobs and the firms won't lose out. They'll just be-

come more competitive for labor.

"The IRA is a giant step toward individual financial independence, and without that you can hardly be independent in other respects."

Lacy will take calls about speaking engagements by calling him at 478-4631.

'AAUW Week proclaimed'

The Farmington Branch of the American Association of University Women celebrates "AAUW Week" this week.

Speaker Barbara Riehl, whose talk is called "Overcoming Fears of Math, Science and Technology," will head a program that begins at 7:45 p.m. Wednesday in Farmington Hills Branch Library.

Riehl, a staff member of both Schoolcraft College and University of

Michigan at Dearborn, maintains that math anxiety is a feeling of anxiousness and insecurity. During childhood girls are most likely to become impaired in math ability due to the socializations of their gender.

She is the developer and teacher for a course taught at both colleges which helps persons overcome math anxiety.

Membership in AAUW is open to all women who hold at least a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college

or university.

It is an organization of women helping women achieve excellence through continuing education, community involvement, the arts and legislation.

The Farmington Branch stages a used book sale each fall. Proceeds from the sale are given annually for scholarships for women.

This year Governor William Milliken has designated March 14-20 as 'AAUW Week.'



Barbara Riehl



Life in the castle

Laurie Smalls (at left), Janet Zielke and Stephan Tezyk star in Quaker Valley Theatre's production of "We Have Always Lived in the Castle" which runs for two weekends in Farmington Masonic Temple. The three take roles as members of the Blackwood family in the mystery adapted from Shirley Jackson's novel on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, March 26-28 and April 2-4. Tickets are now on sale in Farmington-Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce, 474-3440.

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