# 'Aging: The Game of Life' is on festival roster

By Loraine McClish
staff writer

When the third annual Spring Festival convenes on the University of Michigan-Dearborn campus, Barbara Majoros, aging specialist, social worker and instructor, will be among the 36 workshop leaders.

The Farmington Hills resident and teacher of "Gerontology: Career for the 80s" at Oakland Community College (OCC) will head the workshop called "Aging: The Game of Life."

Theme for the festival, which runs all day Saturday, April 16, is "Change."

All of the workshops offered deal with the change that is constant. Rather than ignore it, fight it or rebel against it, the festival workshops offer strategies to help effectively face it, both professionally and personally.

Registration fee is $15, which entitles the participants to a choice of three workshops and a bagged lunch.

Spring Festival is sponsored by the U of M-Dearborn Commission for Women and U of M-Dearborn Women's Center. A complete brochure will be sent on request by contacting Leah Long in the Women's Center, 593-5353.

MAJORIS WILL use a game called Brookside Manor for participants in her workshop that deals with older women's issues of remarriage, widowhood, retirement and sexuality.

"The game provides an experience that dramatizes the significance of personal belongings in providing an older person continued opportunities for privacy and individual expression when moving to a retirement home," Majoris said.

She said that teaching on the Orchard Ridge Campus has proven to her what she has known all along.

"People are becoming very interested in their own aging process," she said. "They want to know more about the physical, social and psychological aspects of aging. When they do, they realize they have been conditioned to anticipate and expect the very worst."

She has successfully turned those thoughts around in class, speaking to church, civic and community groups.

"I use slides, simulation games, cards and discussion to get the message across, and it comes across quickly, that old is not a disease," she said. "Old is something we are all getting."

THE AGING specialist divides her time between teaching in formal classes and "on the road," as she calls it, and working in her office, Majoros & Associates, at 33100 12 Mile, Farmington Hills.

From the office she directs her In-Home Family Support Program which consists of teaching mini-courses to the homebound of all ages and to any interested senior.

The mini-courses cover more than 50 subjects, "ranging from world religions through old movie stars," she said.

She finds the field of aging a fascinating one and one she suspects is "going to explode" in the near future.

"To be part of this birth is very exciting. I lie awake nights thinking of new ideas and new ways to stimulate and educate people of all ages regarding the aging process. And education is what it really comes down to."

For information on workshops, lectures or the eight-week non-credit course at OCC call Majoros & Associates, 553-3122.

# South America is next in travelogue series

Farmington Community Center's travelogue series continues at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 14 with Bill and Kay Blakeney who will give a full-color slide presentation on their travels through eight countries in South America.

Included are highlights of their trip to the Galapagos Islands, off the coast of Ecuador, named for the large tortoises found on the island.

"This is a protected island maintained in its natural state by Ecuador," Kay Blakeney said. "Visitors will find birds, iguana, penguins from Antarctica, albatross and other sea life, fowl and foliage from centuries ago flourishing in the forests and surrounding beaches."

Guests will also see slides of Iguassu Falls, between Brazil and Paraguay and the Lake District of Argentina, where a group of Swiss have established the settlement of San Carlos de Bariloche, which resembles a Swiss village.

The Blakeney's travels covered the capital city Brasillia, in the midst of a Brazilian jungle, where much of the modern architecture was designed by Oscar Niemeyer.

WHILE VISITING Peru, the Blakeneys traveled to Machu Picchu, the Lost City of the Incas, to view the ruins of the advanced civilization of the 16th century.

"The village people of South America are primitive and superstitious," Blakeney said. "Many would not let us take close-range photographs of them as they believed the camera would steal their souls."

Views of outdoor markets, parks and other local sites show the village people in their native dress.

Kay Blakeney will show a collection of artifacts and native wares she gathered during her trip.

Reservations for the travelogue may be made in Farmington Community Center, 24705 Farmington Road.