

club circuit

**FARMINGTON ASSOCIATION FOR CHILDREN WITH EXCEPTIONAL TALENT (FACET)** meet at 7:30 p.m. tonight in Farmington Branch Library, State and Liberty.

The group has invited the school board candidates to discuss their views on gifted education in Farmington Public Schools.

The meeting is open to all interested persons, without charge.

**EPILEPSY SUPPORT PROGRAM,** WESTSIDE SINGLES meet for a

**retirement memos**  
**Margaret Miller**

Relations change after retirement

"You're coming off as a phony," read a letter signed Disappointed Reader. It was received by this paper's Suburban Life editor soon after I gave up that job to retire to Florida.

The reader I'll have to assume of the feminine gender said she had read the columns I wrote during the years when a busy family was around and found herself dismayed by what I have done and written recently.

"All this gung-ho home and family bit," she wrote. "First, you sell the family homestead, where your kids grew up, without even a twinge. Then you move away from your only grandchild (baby). When I read about giving up the cat, it was the last straw."

She hastened to add that the actions weren't "really bad," but definitely out of character. I suppose I could dismiss her letter, but I think it should be taken seriously because it has something important to say about retirement and people.

WE KNOW retirees who still are living in the big homes where they reared their families. They stay where they feel comfortable, and there is plenty of room when the children and grandchildren visit. That's a good way to go.

We also know retirees who can't consider leaving the area where their progeny live, and we have friends who retired to Michigan to be near their only child and her family. That's fine too.

And I'm sure most retirees who move take their pets along, and that's great if it works.

But if these are good options, others can be equally right. And if a course of action is taken thoughtfully, it has to be in character.

FOR US, AND I think for our daughters, the growing-up family years will be forever cherished. But they ended, and the girls are scattered. We now are a group of adults, with ties that will always bind us but lives going in varying directions. "You brought us up to think for ourselves," one of our daughters noted. We're glad we did, although it means separation now.

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dance party from 8:30 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. Friday in Roma's of Livonia, on Schoolcraft and Inkster roads.

Admission is \$3 at the door.

**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED PERSONS,** Farmington Hills Chapter 2088, meet for "Luncheon is Served," at noon Friday in Farmington Hills Branch Library, 12 Mile Road, east of Farmington Road.

After lunch, the chapter's new officers will be installed.

Membership is open to all persons over the age of 55, whether retired or not. Membership inquiries will be taken by Henry Houseman, 366-1173.

**MOONDUSTERS** meet for a dance party from 9 a.m. to 12:30 a.m. Saturday, in Livonia Activities Center, 15218 Farmington Road. The Moondusters are made up of singles over the age of 40 and welcome guests to the regular dance party every Saturday.

Admission is asked at the door.

**FARMINGTON AREA NATURALISTS** meet at 7:30 p.m. Monday, May 23 in Farmington Hills Branch Library on 12 Mile Road, east of Farmington Road.

Program for the evening is the group's annual "Show and Tell." Members, as well as guests, are invited to share artifacts, hobbies, collections,

books, their latest adventure or trip with the group.

**ALONE-TOGETHER,** a social group for widows and widowers, meet at 8 p.m. Wednesday, May 25 in Church of St. Edith, 15009 Newburgh, Livonia.

Program for the evening is called "UFO Phenomenon." It will be presented by Mike Best, an astronomy teacher, field investigator for the Center for UFO Studies in Illinois, and reporter for Contact 10.

Admission is \$3 to widows and widowers only.

Sarah Skalkat will take inquiries about the group at 464-36, after 5 p.m.

**FARMINGTON KIWANIS** join with

the Southfield Central Club for its regular weekly meeting at 7:15 a.m. Tuesday, May 24 in Denny's, corner of 10 Mile and James Couzens Highway in Southfield.

The local club will be back at its regular meeting place, the Farmington Elks Lodge on Orchard Lake Road, the following Tuesday, May 24, for its annual Scholarship Night.

All club news and announcements for this column are to be addressed to: Club Circuit, Farmington Observer, 23352 Farmington Road, Farmington 48024. The information must arrive before noon on the Monday before Thursday publication.

Hanging baskets earn rave reviews

This is a joyful season of the year. As a gardener you can really sing when you inspect your garden and see that most of our plants enjoyed the mild winter. The birds are vocal at the same time and welcome us all getting back together outdoors.

Not a new idea, but one which will be adaptable for many gardeners, is that of taking a plastic bag in which a growing medium has been placed.

Put it on a board of the same dimensions and clip some holes appropriate distances apart in the plastic. Pour warm water into the holes and after one to four hours the contents will be swollen and ready for plants or seed. Water the transplants well before planting.

After poking a hole with your finger in the cat, transplant the cuttings. About two inches above the board level and on the side of the plastic bag filled with the growing medium, make two one-inch slits for possible drainage. The "Gardens For All News" says to water once a week and I imagine the timing for the watering would be dependent on the location of the project.

**down to earth**  
**Alice Burlingame**

It has been announced that both the Campbell and Heinz tomato people are joining to encourage the development (by genetic engineering) of a tomato which will have less water content. This will reduce the need for so much irrigation, simplify transportation from the field to the processing plant and reduce cooking time.

Both Peru and Brazil are researching to produce a tomato that is disease resistant, salt tolerant and doesn't produce ethylene (this specimen will ripen slowly).

If you want to get the best mileage out of your petunias take heed. At temperatures of 62 degrees F and below

the plant will be better branched. If they receive less than 12 hours of daylight they will be single stemmed, with a span of 83-75 degrees. The plants will be leggy when the temperature is 75 degrees.

**PINCH YOUR** petunias when you plant them for bushing." The second week of July pinch again, fertile, pinch again in mid-August. If you follow these instructions you will always have a good petunia show. It is a challenge to select two exotic colors for a show with attractive variegated, long-growing colors for their green.

Thompson and Morgan, the importers of seed with a terrific catalogue, (Farmingdale, N.J. 07727) are getting ready to introduce a new yellow petunia for the 1984 market.

It will be primrose-yellow fading to cream.

As you follow the horticultural trade you appreciate the years it takes to bring out a new introduction, then years to get enough seed to satisfy the "hungry public."

Designers-in-Touch display wearable art

Designers-in-Touch, an exhibit of wearable art, will be in Traditional Handicrafts Northville gallery through June 30.

Traditional Handicrafts is located at 154 Mary Alexander Court in downtown Northville.

The 10 fiber artists in the Designers-in-Touch combine experience in a variety of textile and surface-decoration techniques into the production of wearable art. The designers have taken current fashion trends into account when making their garments and accessories.

Selections range from embellished handwoven apparel to hand-painted and screened body coverings in cottons, silks and velvets. Needlework, quilting, beading, xerography, and appliques adorn many of the garments.

Employment of various dyeing methods, including ikat, batik, resists,

dye dispersal and air brush, provides a richness of hue ranging from earth tones to bright colors. Whimsical touches are added in the use of rubber-stamped designs, metallics and ribbons.

The pieces are designed to be fun to wear and to mix with conventional and classic wardrobes to add spice and drama.

"Whether you are a collector of wearable art, a connoisseur of fine craftsmanship or an individual in touch

with your tactile and aesthetic senses, you will surely enjoy this spring happening," Gloria Teeter at Traditional Handicrafts said.

Designers-in-Touch includes the works of Sherry Catallo, Denise Danielson, Jo Ewart, Janice Haddad and Ruth Korzon from Birmingham-Bloomfield area. Also included from West Bloomfield area are Barbara Hinson and Elaine Lim. From Northville come Carol Noffz, Susan Slavik and Pat Vartanian.

Illustrated: Two-tone Blouson Mink Jacket

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