

# Group pursues nuclear freeze

## Peace activists gather at college

By Kevin Wilson  
staff writer

In the face of rising tensions between the world's super powers and open warfare in Central America and the Near East, there is a small but growing group of area residents intent on working for peace.

Centered on a core of activists from the Nuclear Freeze movement, the group meets regularly at the recently opened Peace Resource Center (PRC) at 17300 Haggerty. The facility, on the second floor of Newman House on the Schoolcraft College Campus, serves as headquarters for the Western Wayne Region Nuclear Freeze Campaign. It is a gathering place for those interested in peace issues.

Establishment of the center was done to assist communication among growing numbers of citizens taking an interest in the arms race and other peace-related issues, according to Joann Fechter of Plymouth, a PRC advisory board member who often staffs the office.

"A LOT OF PEOPLE are really anxious to find a group nearby to identify with. They are pleased to see there are people who feel the same way they do," Eisenhower once said, "People want peace so much that one of these days

the government had better get out of their way and let them have it. I hope that's what's happening here," said Fechter.

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The shared determination that something must be done to ease tensions in the nuclear age makes the group an active one, particularly through its affiliation with the Detroit-area freeze campaign.

"Our most immediate concern is the planned deployment of Pershing II missiles in Europe and the development of the MX missile," Fechter explained. The group is gathering petition signatures from the Second Congressional District opposing both these measures for presentation to U.S. Rep. Carl Pursell soon.

Last week the PRC hosted speaker Arthur Macey Cox at Newman House. Cox is author of "Russian Roulette: The Superpower Game." Pulitzer Prize-winning Harrison Salisbury said, "There is no more important book to the world... Cox presents a blueprint for survival and practical evidence that the Soviets will work with us to save humanity from the nuclear abyss."

**BACKING AWAY** from the abyss is the primary concern of PRC activists. Jim Steeber of Northville, who acts as religious outreach coordinator for PRC, described his role as waking the "sleeping giant" of public opinion contained in the churches of America.

Noting that many denominations of American churches have made statements in synods favoring the freeze proposal, Steeber said, "The churches' positions don't make it to the grassroots congregations."

He said the United Church of Christ, United Presbyterian Church and the Reformed Church in America had favored the freeze proposal. Steeber, a Ford Motor Co. parts analyst, gathers support from church leaders in the suburban area. He recently met with ministers from various denominations in the Wayne-Westland area.

He said, "It (the threat of war in the nuclear age) is a big moral, ethical issue. I don't have the detailed information the government has, but I expect to be able to deal with challenges logically."

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STEEBER HAS a long personal history of activism, he says, reaching back to the civil rights movement and opposition to the Vietnam War. He also has been involved through his church with various peace initiatives.

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Fechter sums up the aim of peace activists in terms of "finding alternative mechanisms (to war) for resolving conflicts. There is always going to be conflict, there does not always have to be war."

She said she finds the response of President Ronald Reagan to the shooting-down of the Korean airliner by the Soviets "too arrogant... it's unfortunate he has spoken in such a bellicose manner as to increase the level of hatred between our countries."

The airliner incident, both Steeber and Fechter say, points up the necessity for reducing the hazards entailed in nuclear weaponry.

The tension that has resulted really points out the necessity for finding other methods of resolving conflicts," Fechter said. "I am relieved that there has not been a military response," but it's clear that in such situations the



Joann Fechter of Plymouth heads the nuclear freeze campaign.

number of nuclear arms makes easier the possibility that someone will react to an incident like this by destroying the world."

THOSE INTERESTED in the PRC can visit or call 454-7744 during office hours Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. or Wednesday 4-6 p.m. Educational program meetings are scheduled the second full week of each

month at 7:30 p.m. Mondays and 9:30 a.m. Wednesdays. Planning and strategy sessions, open to anyone, are slated the fourth week of the month at 7:30 p.m. Monday.

The center contains the beginnings of a lending library, with books, pamphlets and leaflets. To help finance the effort, the group sells books, T-shirts, bumper stickers, buttons and posters at a modest price. Some literature is free.



Bulletin board at Peace Resource Center in Newman House reveals the sentiments of the group.

## INSIDE ANGLES

Know someone doing something notable? Let us know. Write: Inside Angles, Farmington Observer, 23352 Farmington Road, Farmington 48024.

KATHY ANN KLEIN, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Klein of Farmington Hills, was one of 21 students chosen for Eastern Michigan University Exchange Program to attend Bournemouth College in Reading, England for her fall semester. Kathy is a drama major and the only sophomore chosen.

FARMINGTON COMMUNITY CHORUS has been invited to be a part of "Recreation Sings," a concert and cabaret to benefit U-M's Burn Center. The event is put together by Dearborn Community Chorus which will have five citywide groups on stage at 4 p.m. Sunday in Dearborn Civic Center for the benefit. Donation is \$5 at the door.

YVONNE ROUMAYAH of Farmington has completed a course in professional floral design at Professional Florists Institute, a Detroit-based private vocational institution. The institute is affiliated with Wesley Berry Floral Co.

THE ANNUAL RED BARN Rummage Sale will be held Thursday and Friday at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church, 23225 Middlebelt Road.

THE CRAFT GALLERY SHOW will be held at the Springfield Oaks Country Park Activities Center from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Oct. 8. Now in its fifth year, the art show will feature 40-60 displays of arts and crafts created by men and women from throughout the state. Admission to the show is free, and food and beverages will be available. Springfield Oaks is in Davisburg on Andersonville Road at Hall Road. For further information, call 625-8133.

DAWN KOTOWSKI, daughter of Toni A. Kotowski of Farmington Hills, has been selected to represent Farmington Hills in the 1983 State Finals of the Michigan's Miss Charm State Scholarship Pageant. Dawn, 11 years old, attends Roeper City and Country School. She will be judged on scholarship and community achievement, talent, beauty, poise and personality. It will be held Oct. 14-16 at Southfield Civic Center. Good luck, Dawn.

CAROLE ANN MASSEY, a former area high school teacher, recently enrolled at United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio, and is a member of one of the largest entering classes in the history of the school. She is a member of the Detroit Conference of the United Methodist Church.

DON'T FORGET the Farmington Area Mothers of Twins Club fall clothing and equipment sale 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at the Farmington Masonic Temple, located at the corner of Grand River and Farmington Road.

THE MICHIGAN-MICHIGAN STATE football game will be shown live on closed circuit television at 1 p.m. Saturday in Crisler Arena, Ann Arbor. Tickets are priced at \$8 (reserved), \$6 (general) and \$4 (students). Tickets are on sale now at the Michigan Athletic Ticket office, Hudson's and all CTC outlets. For more information, call 763-6370.

KINDER (Kids in Need Deserve Equal Rights), a national advocacy group based in Michigan, will be in the spotlight Tuesday. Members will be heard at the Senate Finance Committee Hearings in Washington, D.C. in their fight to make changes in legislation affecting child support.

COME ONE, come all to the second used instrument sale 7-9 p.m. Monday, Oct. 10, at Harrison High School, 29995 W. 12 Mile Road. The sale is open to anyone wishing to buy or sell a band or orchestra instrument, music stands and hi-fi equipment. All sales are between buyers and sellers. Sellers will be asked to pay \$1 for table space on the second floor. For further information, call 855-1110.

JAN AND BILL SALISBURY, producers of the Comedy Players Dinner Theatre, which is located at the Allen Park Motor Lodge on Southfield Road between I-94 and I-75 in Allen Park, are playing in the new production of "On Golden Pond." This will be the first time they have played opposite one another in 12 years. The last appeared together in "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" at the Farmington Players Barn. Jan and Bill are longtime Farmington and Farmington Players' people, who opened their own dinner theater three years ago. Anyone wanting more information about tickets or reservations can call them at 651-1383.

THE CITY OF FARMINGTON Beautification Committee will host its 15th annual awards luncheon on Thursday, Oct. 13, at the Salem United Church of Christ, Oakland Ave. Groups and individuals who have contributed to the upkeep and beauty of the city will receive special commendations or "good neighbor" awards. The program is part of the recognition projects carried on by the committee and is comprised of volunteer members, approved by the city council to promote beautification projects in Farmington. Anyone interested in joining the committee can contact Carol Kurth at 851-1900.

TUTORING in all subjects for those in grades one to eight, is available at Northwest Branch, YWCA 25940 Grand River, on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Private sessions are 30 minutes, and the fee for four sessions is \$30. Single sessions are \$8. For an appointment call 537-8500.

## First in Michigan and only at Hudson's new Ruffles, from Oscar de la Renta

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