

Wanted: Grandpersons to share with the young

SAGE, which takes its name from the words Senior Adults Giving to Education, will begin its second year in Farmington Public Schools the week of Oct. 24.

"We need grandpersons to keep the program going," said Phillis Cummings, a member of Farmington Branch American Association of University Women (AAUW) which is sponsoring SAGE in cooperation with the school district and Farmington Area PTA Council.

"We call them grandpersons because you don't have to be a grandparent in order to share your time and talents with elementary school children," she said.

"Last year our grandpersons met with both large and small groups of youngsters to share their travel experiences and the pictures they took on those trips. We had a grandperson who

tought needlepoint and another taught creative writing. We had one who just told about life here in the early part of the century.

"All grandpersons have something of value they can share with the young and some of what they can share are not only important, but sometimes nearly lost skills."

SAGE sessions will be given in at least two elementary schools. Grandpersons pick their own hour of the day and their own topic to discuss or skill to share.

PERLE BRIGGS, who gave what amounted to a travel series to youngsters in Larkshire Elementary School last year through SAGE, stressed that no training was involved and grandpersons do not have to be teachers.

"The students set the pace," Briggs said of her SAGE experience last year.

"It wasn't long before they were telling me what country they wanted to hear about next and I was spending the most of my hour with them answering their questions."

SAGE stems from a program called Teaching-Learning-Communities (TLC) in Ann Arbor.

It is based on the belief that grandpersons are often treasures of warmth, humor, patience, generosity, experience and skills. Further, that when the grandperson is a regular visitor in the classroom, his or her diversity of background and values can act to arouse new expectations and hopes for stimulating work with children.

"The concept has certainly worked here," Cummings said. "The children's response has been terrific and one teacher at Larkshire, Millie Batte, has sent us the word that she wants more grandpersons visiting her class this fall."

In another area of success for SAGE, the PTA area council offered its co-sponsorship for the program this year designating the program as one that enhances the child's school experience.

CUMMINGS WORKS with Ellen Harper, Jean Moran, Gretchen Peterson and Briggs on the SAGE committee. Moran is the PTA council representative on the committee.

Cummings stresses that SAGE grandpersons will not be asked to make



Youngsters in Larkshire Elementary School learn how to needlepoint from their grandperson Pauline Kolnoble (center) who shares her needlecraft know-how through SAGE. Mixing the two

generations in the classroom began last fall and resumes this term in as many classrooms as their are grandpersons here who want to share their skills with the young.

out a lesson plan or a curriculum.

"Just being there, telling experiences, sharing, brings a flow of inventive energy," she said.

"Whether the skill is birdwatching, stamp collecting, a love of art or music, we will welcome you. Evaluations have shown that all grandpersons are

basically givers of both a human and historical connection and that the intergenerational sharing does double duty."

The double duty she speaks of is the enrichment the youngsters gain from a new relationship on one side. On the other side, the grandperson is often led

to rediscover his or her own worth, when hidden talents are brought back into use.

AAUW members will furnish transportation for grandpersons who request it.

Interested grandpersons are asked to call Briggs at 474-3418.



Soft sculpture

The exquisitely detailed work in the soft sculpture is the work of Susan Hodgins who is one of 50 crafters who will set up shop in Farmington Community Center 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 15. The event is the center's 11th annual arts and crafts show which displays only juried work.

We have in our immediate orbit one of the finest gardens in the country. I assume that all of you have walked through the grounds of Cranbrook. The setting is beautiful and when the autumn color arrives the views in all directions make you tongue-tied.

There are over 475 volunteers working to make the gardens and Cranbrook House grounds outstanding with ever-changing flowers and warm hospitality.

The men and women on the volunteer roster seem to enjoy the ever-growing circle. New volunteers are welcome to join and many enjoy the camaraderie and the events which spark up the time given.

In early fall, many homemakers are looking for new indoor plant accents. The Cranbrook Greenhouse is open for pre-arranged guided tours year around.

Gardeners should review their pesticides and other garden chemicals which they store in the garage. They shouldn't be stored in an area where



down to earth
Alice
Burlingame

the temperature is below freezing. Dampness also will spoil their formulations. Keep powder and granules dry.

To prevent pests from hitch-hiking into your house from your plants which are brought in, check each plant carefully. Tap the side of the pot a few times and that will make them curious and they will come out "peeking."

YOU MAY feel creative and in the mood to enjoy exploring "Bonsai For Indoor," Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 1000 Washington Ave., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11225, \$2.25, plus 80 cents postage. This takes the mystery out of this Ori-

ental art and this book on these container-grown plants may direct the novice into a new skill.

I plan to revisit the National Arboretum this fall in Washington D.C. and see the bonsai given by the Emperor of Japan as a gift for our 200th anniversary. The day I arrived they had been hidden away off in the country due to their value with decades and decades behind their heritage.

A fine tree which I annually bring to your attention is the linden. I like the little leaf linden. It is a handsome pyramidal tree which will take city conditions. They are neat and tidy and I have

never heard a complaint.

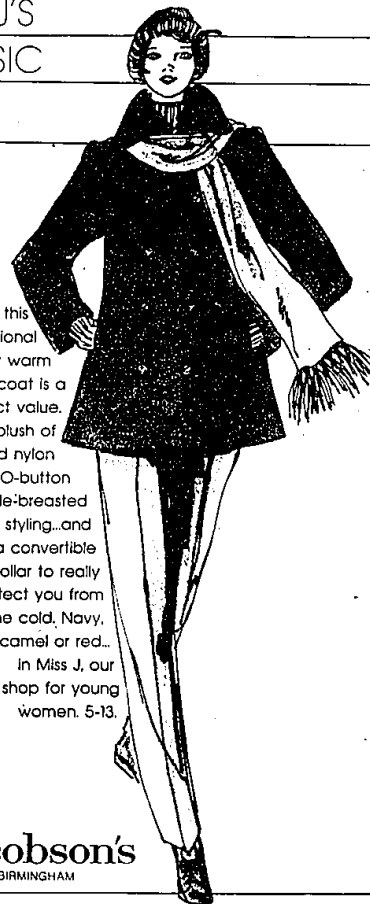
Your columnist always delights in sharing "goodies" with you. The University of Minnesota has found out by research that some types of cheese can help prevent tooth decay. Aged cheddar, aged Monterey Jack and Swiss cheese actually fight decay. Gouda, brie, and blue and mozzarella appear not to increase the likelihood of decay. Researchers speculate it may be the oleic acid that is released from the fat in the cheese when it ripens.

Have you time for another "goodie"? The Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society pointed out that in 1882 when they raised the bottom of Henry VIII's flagship after 437 years, they found plumstones with some flesh on them. Five varieties were identified and had been grown in England. The stones were scanned with a magnification of 5,000 with an electron microscope. Seeds of other fruits also were discovered with the cache.

BORGO SISTERS
DANCE & GYMNASTICS
ENROLL NOW
Boys, Girls & Adults
(Pre-school and up)
Members Only! Own US\$2
224 N. WASHINGTON, ROYAL OAK
If we are out, please leave your
message with our answering service
547-2877

MISS J'S CLASSIC COAT

At \$70, this traditional and very warm pea coat is a distinct value. In a plush of wool and nylon with 10-button double-breasted styling...and a convertible collar to really protect you from the cold, Navy, camel or red... In Miss J, our shop for young women. 5-13.



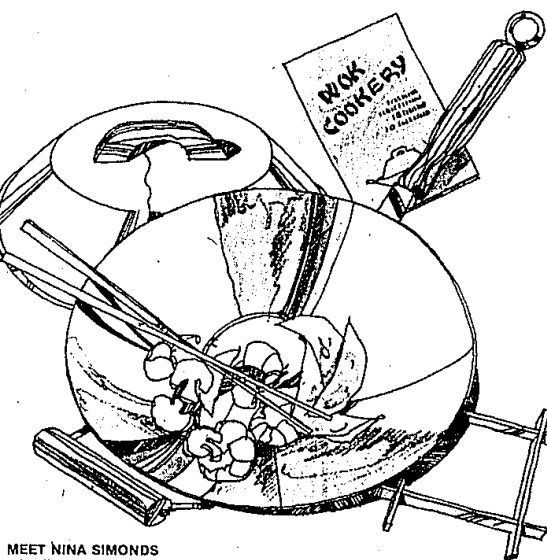
Jacobson's
BIRMINGHAM

Open Thursdays and Fridays until 9:00 p.m. We will validate your parking ticket.

hair today
FOR LADIES & GENTS
OPEN 7 DAYS
Mon.-Sat. 10-9 Sun. 12-5
• BLOOMFIELD
Kingswood Plaza 332-3770
• ROCHESTER
Winchester Mall 552-6655
• LIVONIA
Woodland Center 653-6655
• CLAWSON
Clawson Center 258-4450
SEE YELLOW
PAGES COUPON

THINKING
OF SELLING
YOUR JEWELRY?
SEE
ROBERT GALE
Fine Jewelry
725 S. Adams Rd.
N. of 14th Mile
644-6650

Promise
Someone
a Special Gift...
Blood... The
Gift of Life
American Red Cross



MEET NINA SIMONDS

a leading authority on Chinese cooking
Saturday, October 15, 1-2 p.m., Kitchen Shop

Learn from an expert, author of *Classic Chinese Cuisine* and Instructor of authentic Chinese cooking. Her recipes and techniques come directly from the chefs she studied with during a three-year apprenticeship in Taiwan, and her lengthy trips to the People's Republic of China. Watch her perform her special food preparation skills. You will discover many helpful ideas you can add to your own home cooking.

Jacobson's

BIRMINGHAM Store for the Home

Open Thursdays and Fridays until 9:00 p.m. We will validate your parking ticket.