

Magic show is thanks to UNICEF helpers

Saturday, 16 year old John Hovanessian, who bills himself as "John the Magician," will give a complimentary show for a Halloween party to benefit UNICEF in Faith Community United Presbyterian Church in Novi.

The magic show is one he does on special request that includes Gospel Magic which illustrates and reinforces Gospel messages with magic effects. Hovanessian, who has performed magic professionally since he was 12 years old, is making a return performance to the church.

The children of the church will be trick or treating that day in the community's neighborhoods this year specifically for UNICEF. The program has been arranged to reward them for thinking of the less fortunate children in other countries. The request for Hovanessian was made by a member of the church's Outreach Committee, a mission-oriented group.

HOVANESSIAN has won an award for "outstanding children's performances" in a contest for children's performers in Colon, Mich., called the "Magic Capitol of the World." He was in competition with magicians of all ages who came from throughout the country.

He uses live doves and a rabbit in his act, and usually follows that part of his act by making balloon sculptures which are then given to members of the audience as party favors.

The young man, also a member of



John Hovanessian

the International Brotherhood of Magicians and the Fellowship of Christian Magicians, is also a teacher of magic to elementary-age children in Novi Schools Community Education after school program. He has been teaching magic since he was 13 years old.

Teaching is a favorite interest of his and especially to the young. He became interested in magic from a handed-down magic set given to his brother Charles when he was 6.

Most recently Hovanessian added "close-up magic" to his act. He does this by table hopping during parties given for either adults or children after the formal presentation given at banquets, social and holiday occasions.

Performances last about 30 minutes. AT FARMINGTON High School, Hovanessian is an all-A student in the academically gifted study program. He is a member of the student council, a class officer and an elected member of the National Honor Society.

He is an Eagle Scout in Troop 179 and chaplain of his troop. He performs his Gospel magic at Sunday church services during scout campouts.

Magie shows can be arranged by calling him at 474-3770.

Plants often behave like people

Your columnist is up to her old tricks walking down the street and visiting with home gardeners as they work.

My recent reward was to visit with Gretta and Robbie Cargill who live at the corner of Merrill and Chester. They came to Birmingham two years ago from Chelsea in Greater London, England. He is in the finance department of Chrysler. They have four children living out of the country. Mrs. Cargill has her roots in Wexford, Ireland while he is from Monaghan, Ireland.



down to earth

Alice Burlingame

These two people are REAL gardeners. Right on that busy corner they have created beautiful flower beds

with several kinds of annuals. Right on Chester you see a planting of vegetables and another bed of herbs which are an important part of Mrs. Cargill's cookery.

"I like lots of lavender in my garden because it keeps the insects away. I bought my plants this year but I am going to send for seeds and grow my own next year," she said.

She must have a hundred tall stemmed plants with their purple flowers ready for harvest. "I plan to cut them all and make bouquets for each room in the house," she added.

A dieter.

Does the new artificial sweetener Aspartame have calories?

Aspartame, approved as a dry base sweetener for powdered beverages, instant coffee and tea, gelatins, puddings, fillings and dessert toppings has the same food value, about four calories to the gram, as regular sugar. Its main appeal to calorie conscious Americans lies in the fact that it is about 180 times sweeter than sugar. A teaspoon of sugar has 18 calories; aspartame would provide only one-tenth of a calorie of the same amount of sweetness in a teaspoon of sugar.

ECO-TIP: Want to recycle those large plastic bottles that come filled with laundry detergent and bleach? Rinse and fill with water or sand and reuse as dumbbells during your home exercise workouts. You can vary the weights to suit your fitness level. This tip comes from a Livonia reader. Share your ideas for recycling. Send to Consumer Mailbag, P.O. Box 333, Franklin, Michigan 48025. The best will be shared in this space.



consumer mailbag

Grace Gluskin

of Concern, Inc.

I would like the name of the book that lists places to buy items for people with allergies especially children's clothing in natural untreated fibers. I think I read about it in your column. Do you still have that information?

Mrs. W., Birmingham

Several weeks ago a story in this newspaper featured a Franklin couple, Dr. and Mrs. Milton Weiss, who after many years of frustration and discomfort due to illness caused by environmental allergies, authored a manual titled "How to Live with the New 20th Century Illness. A Resource Guide for Living Chemically-Free."

In comprehensive catalog form, this paperback book offers assistance to petrochemical and food-sensitive sufferers. Several pages are devoted to shopping information including where to buy special foods and nutritional supplements home furnishings, yard goods, wearing apparel and footwear.

For more information, or to purchase a copy which sells for \$12.95 plus \$1 for postage and handling, write to Linda and Milton Weiss, Box 64 Franklin, Michigan 48025.

weather and freezing enhances their flavor.

This is the ideal time of year to feed many of your shrubs and trees. It is the roots you are favoring so use a feeder attached to your hose.

New books about the culture of house plants are coming to market and a favorite is Sunset's "House Plants," Lane Publishing Co., Menlo Park, Ca., 198 pages, \$5.95. Even if you have had years of growing indoor plants you may want a new spark to give new ideas. It makes an excellent business gift.

The book shows unusual ways to display indoor plants, the library ladder is stunning. You can buy a fancy library ladder or paint one yourself to brighten a corner as a plant stand.

Greenery has become an important part of office decor and this book inspires you to get away from the exposed pot to adapting new ideas for containers, combining art with plants.

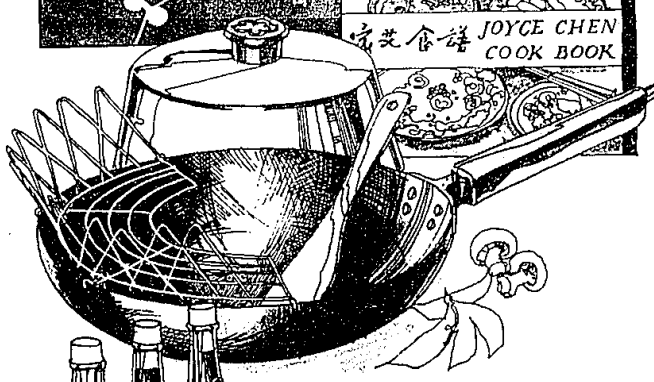
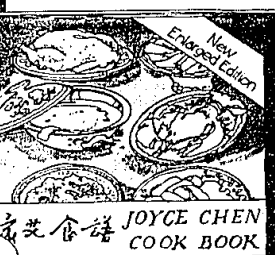
PLANTS ARE like humans, some like a room on the cold side while others purr at 70 degrees while the African violets are always saying, "Can't you put the temperature up to 75 degrees?"

Ferns like a mister for spraying the fronds. If you can collect some attractive small stones they are ideal on a tray and then set a potted plant on it to benefit from the moist stones which create a humidity. A grouping of similar plants is always a good decoration.

Another way to get thanks from your potted plants is to spray them in the bathtub as shown in the publication. I would put some nose tissue on the surface of the pot to avoid a mud splash to be cleaned up. The book has an elegant series of plant illustrations to meet every need.

Craft tables for rent

Artists and craftsmen are invited to rent table space for Gull Elementary School's annual Christmas Bazaar, set for 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 12. Table rental is \$10. Rental information is available by calling the school office, 474-2501.



JOYCE CHEN PERSONAL APPEARANCE, CHINESE COOKING DEMONSTRATION FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21, 3 TO 5 P.M. IN THE KITCHEN SHOP, BIRMINGHAM

Come share cooking secrets and recipes with Joyce Chen, world famous authority and teacher of Chinese cuisine, restaurateur and author of her own cookbook. Learn how to select fresh ingredients and prepare delicious gourmet meals for your family.

See her complete line of cooking supplies and collect her autograph on your copy of the *Joyce Chen Cook Book*, \$15.

Heavy gauge blacksteel "Peking Pan", 12" diameter, \$40.

Brass skimmers, bamboo handles, 4", \$6; 6", \$8; 8", \$10.

Six all-natural gourmet cooking sauces, 10 oz. bottle, 2.75 ea.

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LET US TELL YOU THE CHEMEX STORY, THE SEARCH FOR THE PERFECT CUP OF COFFEE Saturday, October 22, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Birmingham

In the beginning, Dr. Peter Schlumbohm, a chemist, created coffee with true laboratory purity...the Chemex coffeemaking process, based on a laboratory flask, filter, coffee and water. See reproductions of the original prototype as they developed through the years. The proof of finely brewed coffee is in the tasting. Join us for a coffee break.

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