



retirement memos

Margaret Miller

One home or two?

When Joe and I decided to retire and move South, we did a lot of thinking about whether we should retain a residence in the North.

Keeping a big house was out of the question, both from a financial standpoint and because maintaining it during winter months would be so impractical. But we did think some of buying a small condominium as a place to hang our summer hats. And, as we said good-byes to friends and associates, I found myself wondering a lot whether we shouldn't be doing something more concrete to keep up the ties in the areas where I had lived all my life.

As things worked out, we decided by doing nothing and headed South to the only residence we owned. For the time being, anyway, we'd live in Florida and visit in Michigan. But we left a "maybe later" opening in our minds concerning the matter of purchasing a residence for summer months.

SO I HAVE BEEN most interested in conversations with Charlotte, a retired friend we came to know as we became involved in our new community.

"You know," she said, "it would seem that retirees who have homes in both the North and the South get the best of both worlds." Besides keeping

the good weather, she explained, you keep a close connection with two circles of friends, two sets of organizations.

"But I'm not so sure now," she went on. "Besides, I'm going back and forth. I can't make commitments to groups in either place, but I do like to get involved in things."

"So twice each year, just as big occasions are coming up, we pack and leave. And then we get to our other home and friends and find out, though it hardly seems possible, that things have been going just great without us."

"In a way, we have to begin the involvement all over again."

CHARLOTTE'S COMMENTS fit with my observation of many acquaintances who gradually have strengthened their retirement location ties and become one-home people.

"You didn't find the Florida summer too uncomfortable, did you?" she asked me, and then didn't wait for a reply. "I think we'd do fine, too."

Margaret Miller was *Suburban Life* editor for the *Observer-News* papers for 16 years. She and her husband Joe have retired to Florida, where she writes *Retirement Memos*.

Nowland-Valentine

Luana Soraya Valentine and William Chester Nowland exchanged marriage vows in Blessed Sacrament Cathedral in services officiated by the Rev. Edwin A. Schroeder. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Valentine III of St. Clair and he is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Nowland of Farmington Hills.

The bride's chapel length Victorian gown was made of damask satin fashioned with lace-on-net bodice and sleeves.

She was attended by her granddaughters from Italy, Alberto Scatzi, and bridesmaids Gigi Collette, Debra Valentine, Alexis Valentine and Debra Nowland.

The bridesmaids' gowns, embroidered cream colored blouses with royal blue satin skirts, were made by the bride's mother.



Michael Masterson served as best man with groomsmen Michael DiPino, Marty Miller, John Gajor, Ricky French, Charles Valentine and William Lough.

The couple received guests in Hillcrest Country Club before leaving on a trip to Nova Scotia. They are making their home in Canton Township.

Richardson-Inch

Mr. and Mrs. John Richardson of Farmington announce the engagement of their daughter Tamara to Terry Michael Inch, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Inch of Farmington.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of Farmington High School and Michigan State University, now attending Schoolcraft College for studies in nursing.

Her fiancé is a graduate of Farmington High School and Michigan State University, employed as an account executive with WKLT in Lansing.



Single parents offered classes and networking

The Women's Resource Center of Schoolcraft College is continuing its program for single parents, both men and women.

Compilation of rules

Jefferson's Manual was a compilation of rules of parliamentary procedure by Thomas Jefferson for his own use while presiding over the Senate as vice president 1797-1801. These rules were later adopted as basic rules by

Through classes and networking sessions, SPIN (Single Parent Instructional Network) is designed to help single parents deal more efficiently with their

resources.

Participants will acquire the knowledge and skills needed to improve their lives as individuals, parents and self-sufficient members of the community.

SPIN Networking, an eight-session class, runs 7-9 p.m. beginning Monday, Feb. 6.

"Consumer Education for Independent Living," a four-session class which begins at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 8.

"Protecting Your Home and Family," a one-day session, runs from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 25.

"Systematic Training for Effective Parenting," sometimes known as STEP, runs for 10 sessions, beginning at 7 p.m. Thursday, March 1.

"Getting Your Money's Worth in the Marketplace," a four-session course, begins at 1 p.m. Wednesday, March 28.

For information, call Women's Resource Center, 591-6400, Ext. 430.

Longboat Accommodations

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