



retirement memos

Margaret Miller

We point with pride to another degree

"My diploma came in the mail today," daughter Barb announced in an evening telephone conversation linking Florida and Michigan. "The kids were asleep — I considered running out in front to see if anyone would like to look at it."

I told her I wished I'd been on hand to rejoice with her in a major accomplishment, the culmination of which was overshadowed a bit by the birth of her second child. A master's degree in business administration from the University of Michigan is no small thing, even though she had to skip the commencement because the trip to the platform was scheduled too close to her anticipated trip to the hospital.

She and her parents both clipped earlier the Observer listing of U-M graduates. That was overshadowed a bit, too, since she had been the subject of whole stories in recent years, what with working at home on a corporation computer and going on a national television game show.

Cats in review

Two Farmington area cats have been registered to compete for prizes in Mid-Michigan Cat Fanciers show of champions and household cats, set for Saturday and Sunday, at the Hyatt Regency, Dearborn.

Cats owned by Mr. and Mrs. Gary Larcinise and Beulah and Doc Vetterwill be among the 32 exotic, pedigree breeds and household cats competing for national and international awards.

Admission is \$3, or \$1 for seniors and children. All proceeds from the show will support the Michigan Humane Society, the Humane Feline Research at Michigan State University, Small Animal clinic and neuter-spay programs in southeastern Michigan.

"NO BIG DEAL," she noted in alerting us to the graduation story.

But an MBA is hard-earned and definitely big deal stuff, and she knows how proud her dad and I are of her. In fact, we're pretty pleased with the educational accomplishments of all the girls who used to live with us in the gray house on the hill.

Joe and I were strictly B.A. degree people, but Barb is the third of four daughters to complete an advanced degree. Her older sister Mary has a master's in theology from Boston University, and younger sister Kathy has completed her master's in communications from Michigan State. Kathy will make it one more degree in the family when she finishes work on a doctorate in communications at the University of Southern California next summer.

AND I'M NOT going to miss the chance to mention the accomplishments of our youngest daughter, Ann, as she nears the end of her four-year enlistment in the Air Force.

I think I took all of us awhile to convince each other that we all agreed college isn't necessarily for everyone. And Joe and I couldn't be more pleased with the training she has received in the Air Force. Or with the way she has grown up in four years in service and established herself in life, even though it's in faraway Alaska.

It's probably too trite to say education takes many forms, I hope it's not too corny to say we're button-popping proud of the way our daughters have found theirs.

Margaret Miller was Suburban Life editor for Observer Newspapers for 10 years. She and her husband Joe have retired to Florida, where she writes Retirement Memos.

community calendar

SINGING EXTRAVAGANZA

Thursday, Aug. 16: "A Singing Extravaganza." Farmington Community Chorus in concert at 7 p.m. in Farmington Branch Library, 23500 Liberty. No charge.

Piano classes for teachers and students

Schoolcraft College's "Project Piano" is a beginning instruction program for those in grades one through four, in both group and private format. Interviewing for class placement begins Wednesday, Aug. 29. Appointments for interviews are taken by calling 991-6400, Ext. 409.

Piano teachers are offered an elementary school methods class at Schoolcraft College which includes the history of pedagogy, setting long-range learning goals, survey of methods and materials, technique, demonstrations and business aspects. Registrations are taken for this class through Thursday, Aug. 16, by calling 991-6400, Ext. 510.

NEEDLEPOINT

Thursday, Aug. 16: Pulled thread needlepoint classes begin at 12:30 p.m. and multi-fiber needlepoint classes begin at 3:30 p.m. in Golden Pines, 33105 Grand River. Both classes are for advanced needlecrafters and both classes continue for three weeks. Registration information available by calling the shop, 477-3882.

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

Thursday, Aug. 16: Farmington Co-op Preschool, located at 23301 Haled Road, is now accepting registrations for 3 and 4 year olds for classes which begin the week of Sept. 8. Extended care program is also offered. Inquiries taken by Linda McQueen, 478-2433.

GREAT AMERICAN LOCKUP

Thursday through Saturday, Aug. 16-18: "The Great American Lockup," fund-raiser for American Cancer Society continues from noon to 8 p.m. Thursday; noon to midnight Friday and noon to 8 p.m. Saturday in Tally Hall, Orchard Lake Road south of 14 Mile.

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

Thursday, Aug. 16: Fairview and Alameda Early Childhood Centers are now accepting registrations for two-, three- and five-day-a-week sessions for preschoolers, in classes which begin the

week of Sept. 18. Registration information is given by calling Fairview at 636-8334 or Alameda at 478-1470.

ARCHERY

Thursday, Aug. 16: Archery program for young adults given by Kim MacFadyen, 478-2433 and a Fairview Hills Branch Library, 33777 13 Mile Road. Participants have chance to try their skill in the sport. No charge.

LIZ CLASSROOM

Thursday, Aug. 16: Liz Calhoun shows her fall collection at 2 p.m. in Hodsons 12 Oaks. No charge.

POP CULTURE

Friday, Aug. 24: "Pop Culture," a back-to-school fashion show featuring Hodson's Juniors and That Gay! fashion at 7 p.m. in 12 Oaks Mall. No charge. Drawings for \$100 wardrobe.

YOUTH SYMPHONY AUDITIONS

Saturday, Aug. 25: Auditions for musicians in grades 5-13 sponsored by

Metropolitan Youth Gymnastics in Nordic Park United Methodist Church, 11 Mile Road, west of Middlefield Road. Applications for audition can be arranged by calling Martha Stelanko, 591-1408, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays.

PAL

Monday through Friday, Aug. 27-Sept. 7: Screenings for PAL (Potentially Able Learners), a preschool program for the advanced child supplemented with a class for parents, in Fairview Early Elementary Center, 35500 Oak Creek. Appointments are necessary, made by calling the center, 636-8333.

HOCKEY CLUB

Tuesday and Wednesday, Aug. 28-29: Registrations for Southfield Hockey Club, from 7-9 p.m. in Southfield Parks and Recreation Building, Southfield Civic Center, 35000 Evergreen Road, between 16 and 11 Mile Roads. Open to all youth from 4-16 years. Team tryouts run from Sept. 4-11.

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