



retirement memos

Margaret Miller

Michigan cottage a retirement bonus

This fall Joe and I strengthened our conviction that we did the right thing in establishing just one retirement home. A fine cottage on a beautiful Michigan lake provided the new evidence. It enabled us to be both independent and visitors.

Before retiring, we had done a lot of wondering about the possibility of maintaining some sort of home in the area where we had lived so long and where our grandchildren are beginning their lives. It was tempting, but not really feasible financially. We decided it was best to live in Florida and visit in Michigan.

and more we wanted the stability of one home and the option of variety in travel.

We have visited daughter Barb when in Michigan. But this fall we decided it would be a bit much to add two extra people for two weeks to a household that included two adults, a 3-year-old and a new baby.

We opted for a cottage, and it turned out to be one of the best things we had done in retirement.

An ad in The Observer let us to a lovely lake 25 miles from our daughter's home. As we settled

in, it was hard to believe it wasn't 200 miles farther north. It seemed to have the atmosphere of the lake cabin we visited so many times while our girls were growing up.

USING THE cottage as a base, we could swim, boat, fish and relax in the middle of fairly strenuous vacation travel. We also could get to some football games, entertain family, friends and do all the renewing of relationships we had planned.

Our home is elsewhere now, but for a couple of weeks we could enjoy Michigan at its best.

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Herbal wreathmaking taught in workshops

Ruth McKinnon and Maggi Dull are taking reservations for the herbal wreathmaking workshops that have become a preholiday season tradition in First Presbyterian Church of Farmington's barn. Participants have a choice of attending one of four sessions sched-

uled Thursday through Saturday, Oct. 11-13, in the barn at 26165 Farmington Road.

The workshop instructors come from many of the garden clubs in the Detroit area to teach how to put together a herbal wreath that is seen most notably in

this area in Greenfield Village.

The fee of \$12 covers instruction, the wreath form, pins, and all the herbal materials needed. Class size is limited, and reservations are necessary by calling McKinnon, at 681-4911, or Dull at 626-7300.

Herb wreaths were a familiar decoration in colonial homes. They were not necessarily constructed for the holiday season but remained displayed year after year. The wreath form represents eternity. The fragrance lasts for many years.

Jewelry and silver appraisals offered

Restaurant Duplass, 29269 Southfield Road between 12 and 13 Mile, is offering one free appraisal of jewelry or silver with luncheon beginning Tuesday, Oct. 9, and continuing each second and

fourth Tuesday of the month. Appraisals will be conducted by Arthur Lake, certified Gemology Institute of America appraiser, between the hours of 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Lake, with 36 years of experience in southeast Oakland County, is recognized as one of the area's leading appraisers. He is the official silver and jewelry appraiser-consultant for Meadow Brook Hall, is president of the Michigan Jewelers' Association and holds several offices in his field of expertise. As a faculty member of Oakland University, Lake teaches the "Diamonds and Gemstones" class in the continuing education department.

Each piece of jewelry or silver will be examined minutely to determine its

source of origin, possible collector's value and appropriate retail replacement value. Individual pieces will also be examined from the standpoint of safety, stability of prongs and security of stones.

There is no charge for the appraisal. Restaurant Duplass is presenting this additional feature to its customers so that they may feel more informed and secure about their valued possessions. For luncheon reservations, call 424-9244.

Alumnae Day planned

The Alumnae Association of Academy of the Sacred Heart sponsors Alumnae Day, beginning at 9 a.m. Friday, Oct. 12, in the academy, 1250 Kensington Road, Bloomfield Hills.

The agenda for the day begins with coffee, followed by class visitations, tour of the campus and lunch. Inquiries are taken by calling Marianne Nelson, 646-8900.

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