



Charlie Gordon (Andy Dudley) listens to Professor Nemur (Matthew Weisenborger, at rear) and Dr. Anna Straus (Jennifer L. Smith) as they try to convince him to be part of their program.



Character Liz Seldon (Jennifer Kannisto) uses a stopwatch to time lead character Charlie (Andy Dudley) as he and a mouse work their way through the maze.

Staff photos by Randy Borst

Charlie's story unfolds on stage in local drama

FLOWERS FOR Algernon is a play Ves Spindler has always wanted to direct. The North Farmington High School drama teacher believes the story of Charlie Gordon is one worth telling.

Spindler and his cast of 29 will tell the story their way this weekend during North Farmington High School's production of the two-act play by David Rogers. Ten to 15 extras will also be on stage to act out the drama.

The play is based on a novel by Daniel Keyes, which was originally taken from a short story of the same name, and a movie called "Charly," starring Cliff Robertson. "Flowers" is the story of two people who develop a procedure that produces an advanced intelligence in lab mice. Charley Gordon is a mentally impaired adult, played by North Farmington junior Andy Dudley, who is selected for human experiments using the procedure.

As his intelligence level builds, Charley realizes how he was treated before his change and, as the non-permanent effects eventually wear off, he learns to deal with his life.

THE FULL-LENGTH play covers 40 scenes — including numerous flashback scenes into Charley's life to explain the struggle of a

man in search of himself, according to Spindler.

Lead actor Dudley also played a major part in last spring's North Farmington production and is active with Channel 10, the education channel shown on local cable and based at North Farmington.

Auditions for "Flowers for Algernon" were held in mid-September; rehearsals began Sept. 29.

Other students involved in key roles in the play include:

• Junior Jennifer Kannisto who plays Liz Seldon. Kannisto played the lead in the school's spring production.

• Senior Jennifer L. Smith, who also had a role in the spring production and plays Dr. Strauss in "Flowers." Smith is also active in the school orchestra, choir and forensics team.

• Senior Matthew Weisenborger, who plays his first North Farmington role at Professor Nemur.

• Julie Ging, a sophomore, who stars in her first North Farmington production as Alice Kinnian.

Performances of "Flowers for Algernon" will be held at 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Nov. 21 and 22, in the North Farmington High School auditorium. Admission at the door is \$2.50 for adults and \$2 for students and senior citizens. No advanced reserved seating will be available.



Alice Kinnian (Julie Ging, left) listens to the type of experimental program involving Charlie (Andy Dudley, center) while Dr. Anna Straus (Jennifer L. Smith, right) makes her point.

short takes

If you recently opened a shop, captured an award, earned a promotion or are planning a new venture or project — and there's a Farmington-area business angle — we'd like to hear from you so we can share your news item with other Farmington Observer readers. Send items to: Short takes, Farmington Observer, 33203 Grand River, Farmington 48024.

SALES RECORD

Real Estate One reported that its sales of existing homes in the Detroit area during October rose 3 percent over the same month last year.

The company's 29 Detroit-area offices wrote contracts totaling \$39.8 million in October, setting a new October sales record for the company. The Farmington Hills office is at 29630 Orchard Lake.

The modest increase in the company's Detroit sales also contributed to making it a best-ever October for the company as a whole. Nationally, Real Estate One's five states recorded new sales of \$61.9 million during October — 11 percent higher than the figure reported by the company for October 1985.

Richard Elsen, Real Estate One president, attributes the company's record October primarily to improved housing affordability.

The National Association of Realtors recently reported that the monthly Housing Affordability Index rose to its highest level in eight years in September, to 108.6. September's index meant that a median-income family had 108.6 percent of the income needed to qualify for a \$53,800 mortgage — 80 percent of the median resale home price.

This index translated into increased home sales for Real Estate One, a trend that he sees continuing for the remainder of the year, Elsen said.

BIG IN SALES

Tupperware Home Parties has announced that Tina Malozee was the 70th top manager in sales nationwide for the third quarter of 1986. She and her unit of dealers sold \$68,718 in Tupperware brand products from June 30 through Sept. 28.

Malozee is a Tupperware manager with the local authorized Tupperware distributorship, Action Party Sales Inc., Farmington Hills.

NEW CLIENT

Detroit-based Visiting Nurse Corp., a non-profit agency providing professional home health care to

southeast Michigan, has selected Bunnell & Co. of Farmington Hills as its public relations firm.

Visiting Nurse operates two non-profit subsidiaries. Visiting Nurse Association, founded in 1898, provides short-term, skilled health care to the sick and infirm. In 1985, it visited 290,000 homes.

Visiting Home Helpers Association, established in 1984, promotes, supports and provides private pay home care services to residents of southeast Michigan. Services are tailored to meet family needs, ranging from acute care to bath/grooming, meal preparation and respite care.

VALUED PRICED

Weatherford Walker Developments, developers of shopping centers and specialists in value-priced centers, has moved to larger headquarters at 32811 Middlebelt, Farmington Hills.

The firm has built and opened 12 centers — nine in Michigan, three in Ohio and one in Tennessee.

Other centers scheduled to open this year are Midway Crossing in Elyria, Ohio; Military Crossing in Norfolk, Va.; and Cave Spring Crossing in St. Louis/St. Charles, Mo. Five more value-priced centers are in the planning stages.

Weatherford Walker Developments is an 11-year-old firm. Co-partners are Bill Weatherford and Richard Walker.

The strategy of placing value-priced centers near established regional malls has resulted in national retail firms choosing multiple Weatherford Walker Development's locations.

PENS HIT SINGLE

WRIF-FM morning show host Ken Calvert has just finished recording an original song entitled "Rock 'n Roll Radio" with "Little Tino and the Hawaiians." The song promotes Detroit, Motor City Rock and Roll, and, of course, WRIF.

The project started when "Little Tino" (actually Calvert's longtime friend, Martin Gross of the Urbanoids) and Calvert were at the Comedy Castle lamenting Detroit's loss of the rock 'n roll Hall of Fame to Cleveland.

So strongly did they feel Detroit had been cheated out of this distinction, that they came up with an anthem to show their pride in Detroit's rock music heritage.

It wasn't until the two were on a fishing trip the next day that the creative juices started to flow.

From there, they collected Motor City rock musicians Mark Gougoun, now with Mitch Ryder's band, and Johnny Bee and Jim McCarty, formerly with Mitch Ryder's band, as well as the Urbanoids horn section.

The piece was rehearsed, recorded and mixed within seven hours at Ambiance Recording Studios, Farmington Hills.

MOVING UP

Interior Systems Contract Group of Detroit has announced that Suzanne Aiuto was appointed account executive.

The Farmington Hills resident has been in contract furnishings for six years.

In the Buhl Building, Interior Systems Contract Group specializes in contract furnishings. It also offers services that include commercial, professional and institutional space planning and interior design.

NEW ADDITIONS

Phoenix Group Inc., a direct marketing agency in Farmington Hills, has announced the following new additions to its staff.

Mark Thompson was named art director/production. He was previously a staff artist.

Marcia Lange was hired as project coordinator on the Lincoln-Mercury automotive account.

Farmington Observer

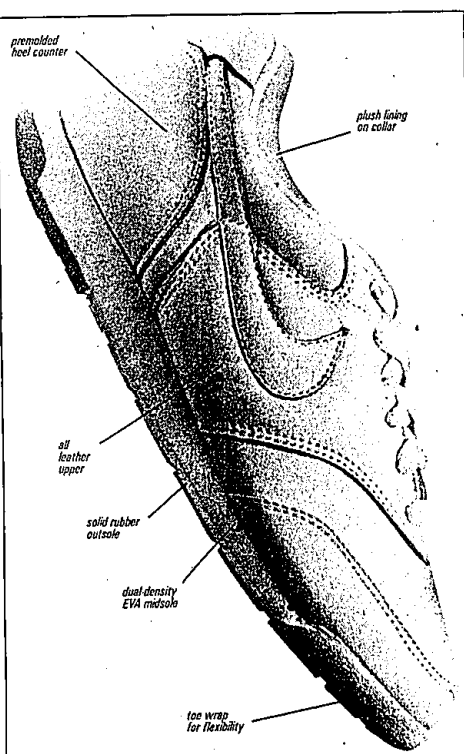
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