

Precious Few

Those in their 90s are the guests of honor

WHEN THE residents in Farmington Place hosted their "Precious Few" luncheon this month, there were 13 guests of honor.

The annual event drew an activities room full of residents to honor their own who have reached the age of 90, or will be 90 before the year is out.

It is one of the activities planned and carried out by the resident association that sets the policies and arranges outings, trips, classes and workshops, educational and recreational, for the senior adults who live at 32900 Grand River.

DORIS BESLEY, hostess for the afternoon, introduced the guests of honor as they were led to their seats at their special table.

Ninety-year-old honorees were Ellen Botsky, Mary Karpacz and Pearl Lane. Those who reached the age of 91 are Minnie Renker, Ada Kelly and Mary Trussel.

Bridle Wolff and Cory Welborn are 92. Francis Whitesell is 93. Minnie Maas and Opalma Montague are 95. Winnie Oppertausser and Irene Livermore, the last to make their entrance, are 96.

Most of the honorees are Michigan residents. Many owned homes and raised their families here, or in nearby communities, before moving into Farmington Place.

Maas is a lifelong resident of Farmington who moved no further than across the street from her former home on Grand River, and was one of the first residents of Farmington Place when it opened late in 1980.

THE LUNCHEON was served by Dorothy Leech and her volunteer crew of six.

"All of our afternoon coffees, the monthly birthday parties, anything that has to do with the kitchen is handled by anyone who wants to volunteer to do it," said Leech, who has lived in Farmington since 1951.

"When I first moved in here I felt like I was living in a motel. I think it was when Doris (Besley) and I found the kitchen that it started to feel like home. We just took over the kitchen. Now it does feel like home. I look forward to getting ready for the next luncheon," she said.



Farmington Place residents filled their activities room for the once-a-year luncheon which honors their own who have passed their 90th birthday.

Taking an honored spot among the honored, Irene Livermore was one of two of the eldest guests at 96. Of the 13 residents in Farmington Place over 90 years, all attended the "Precious Few Luncheon" except Opalma Montague who spends her winters in Florida.



Cory Welborn left the party with a carnation pinned to his shirt, given to the only male honoree. He is 92.



Staff photos by Randy Borst



Minnie Maas, a long time resident on the north side of Grand River in downtown Farmington, found her new home just across the road in Farmington Place. She is 95 years old.



Winnifred Oppertausser carries an old and familiar name in Farmington circles. She has children, grandchildren and great grandchildren who live here. She is known as Winnie to her friends in Farmington Place and at 96 was one of the eldest guests of honor at the party.



Joan LeMieu serves 93-year-old guest of honor Frances Whitesell at the "Precious Few Luncheon." LeMieu was one of six residents who planned and served as hostess for the party.