

Suburban Life

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(F18)

Baptist Manor

First residents settle in at the new medium care center

The new Haworth Medium Care Center, on the grounds of the Detroit Baptist Manor complex in Farmington Hills, is welcoming its first residents.

The 23,000-square foot facility offers supportive care for elderly people who require some assistance in maintaining their independent life style but who are not in need of full nursing care, according to Dr. Robert E. McQuaid, Baptist Manor executive director.

The facility bears the name of Dr. Howard Haworth, executive director of the manor in the early '70s. Haworth is credited with being the driving force behind the plan to expand the manor's services for seniors.

"His vision and leadership were instrumental in creating a fresh concept in housing for the elderly, one which encouraged independence while providing such services as might be required by advancing

years," McQuaid said.

"Haworth Center provides another choice for residents who prefer to remain among friends and in familiar surroundings rather than move to nursing homes or other medical facilities."

The manor's four main buildings house 453 residents and 42 in 14 duplex-quadruplex units. Haworth Center will provide rooms for 59 residents in private and shared rooms.

"In A period when people are living longer and enjoying relative good health well into later years there is a growing need for care facilities that provide an affordable option for those able to continue independent living with some assistance," McQuaid said.

"The medium care center fills this need in a pleasant homelike setting without the institutionalized atmosphere of most care facilities."

Care offered includes a room with

full bath, three meals a day in a dining room, housekeeping and personal laundry services, supervision of medications, personal care attendants on duty 24 hours a day, dressing and grooming assistance, a library, and use of common areas to visit with family and friends.

Residents may furnish and decorate their rooms with personal belongings to further the feeling of being in their own homes.

The center's main hallway, named "Main Street," leads to side streets with such names as "Maple" and "Pine." Living quarters are located there to further the small town ambience that marks the center's concept. Thus residents can say they live on "Main Street" rather than use room numbers.

BOBBIE MCQUAID, activities director for Baptist Manor for five years, recognized early on the need

for transition-housing on the site between independent living and a nursing home, she said.

She was one of five who spearheaded the fund-raising campaign, "talking sometimes four or five nights a week to groups, organizations or in Baptist churches to raise the capital to get started because the lower the debt service the lower the cost to the resident," she said.

The campaign started some 4½ years ago.

McQuaid was also the volunteer interior decorator and negotiator for furnishing purchases to further bring down the cost.

"I was working for the people I know here. I have come to love them. It was a personal interest for me because I wanted to decorate this appropriately, but as comfortably as possible for them," she said of the number of Baptist Manor residents who have since moved to the medium care center.

NOW ADMINISTRATOR of the new center, she is still planning activities for the residents.

McQuaid can see "remarkable improvements in some just because we've relieved some of the little stresses that can be overbearing to one who was living independently but not quite making it on their own," she said.

The medium care center was built on the last available piece of ground in the complex on 13 mile between Orchard Lake Road and Middlebelt. Construction costs are estimated at \$2.2 million.

The facility was designed by Jude T. Fusco Associates Inc. of Southfield. Liberty Construction Corp., Southfield, was the builder.



Lorna Johnson pens letters at her personal desk where she can enjoy a view of the spacious grounds.



First residents of the new Haworth Medium Care Center are welcomed by Bobbie McQuaid (standing). On her left are Elsie Waidelich, Eva Cudmore and Ellen Lehto. One her right are Bernice Bowman, Doris Paterson and Vera Whybra. At far right is Marion Anderson, the center's assistant administrator, who conducts the orientation session.

Good Mischief is coming

The "Gemini," twin brother musicians Sander and Laszlo Slomovits, will be performing "Good Mischief," a musical celebration for the whole family, at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 17. The show will be staged outdoors on the Farmington Community Center's amphitheater, in back of the century-old mansion at 24705 Farmington Road.

Concert goers should bring a blanket or a lawn chair for the performance. Picnics are welcome as the grounds open at 6 p.m. Cost of the concert is \$3 per person. Tickets are available in the community center until show time.

In their concerts, the Gemini celebrate with their audiences the joy and wonder of childhood and growing up.

A FAMILY concert with the Gemini totally involves children and adults in the music making. From start to finish, their shows abound with rousing sing-alongs, hand-motion songs, dance tunes and songs from many cultures around the world. The twin brothers combine their fine voices, a stageful of instruments and a natural ease with children to perform a mix of songs that explore the experiences of childhood.

"One of the things we enjoy the most about playing these concerts is seeing the laughter and delighted looks exchanged between children and their friends, parents and grandparents," Laszlo said of their work.

The Gemini have released three critically acclaimed, child-tested and approved albums of their own songs and traditional and contemporary folk music. Their most recent album, "Twisting Together," received a 1987 Grammy Award from Parent's Choice Magazine.

From their home base in Ann Arbor, they have toured throughout much of the United States, performing at schools, libraries, coffeehouses and concert halls. Last year they were invited to perform at the Pittsburgh Children's Festival near Washington, D.C.

THE CONCERT by Gemini is the 11th installment in the center's outdoor Summer Festival Of Music series. The series concludes Sunday, Aug. 21, with "Salute to Broadway," starring Sheri Nichols and Barbara Bredius. For ticket information on this performance, call the center at 477-8404.

The Farmington Community Center is a non-profit, independent organization that services the community by offering quality classes, concerts and special programs. It is also a rental facility available for weddings, parties and business meetings.



Sander and Laszlo Slomovits, better known as "The Gemini," play up "Good Mischief" with a stageful of instruments and a mix of songs about the joy and wonder of growing up.

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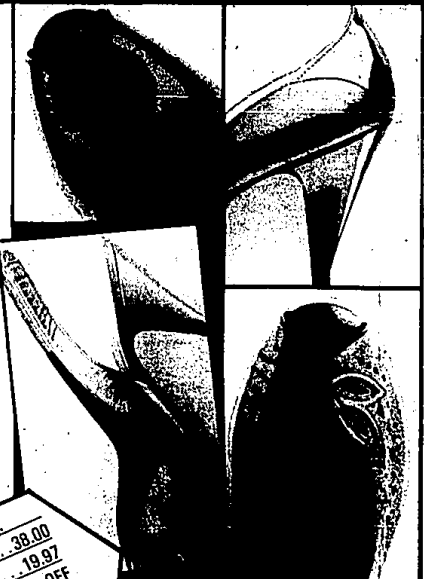
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