

# Suburban Life

Loraine McClish editor/477-5450

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(F118)

## Fall Fantasia

### Mainstay fund-raiser back for 20th year

By Loraine McClish  
staff writer

"Fall Fantasia" was Farmington Community Center's first fund-raiser.

That was 20 years ago when a group of residents banded together to help make the dream of having an activity and cultural base for the residents become a reality.

The fashion show and luncheon raised the largest amount of money ever to be donated to the center at the time, and it has remained the center's main source of funding.

As "Fall Fantasia" continued to draw more of an audience every year, the site switched to larger quarters to accommodate that audience. The price of the ticket went up and along the line it was turned over for staging by the well-organized and sophisticated Farmington Community Center Volunteer Guild.

But tradition holds to its format. Boutique shopping in the morning. Cash bar, lunch, a parade of fall fashions, a raffle and door prizes.

The doors open for the 20th anniversary "Fall Fantasia" at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 28 in the Novi Hilton.

Jacobson's of Livonia will furnish the fashions in three segments of the show, sportswear, career dressing and evening wear.

JEAN COTE, who is selecting the fashions that will be worn by 15 members of the Volunteer Guild, promises to show "the total look" for a large range of ages, suitable for the active woman who lives here.

"It is not uncommon for customers to say 'I'll take it all' when they see one of our mannequins fitted out in something that appeals to them," Cote said. "They want the jewelry, the hat, the gloves, the purse, everything that makes the total look, and that total look includes the hat. You'll see a lot of them this fall, and you'll see a lot of them in the show."

Another item show-goers will see is pant suits.

"I can't say they're making a comeback," Cote said of pant suits. "I don't think women really ever let them go away."

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TOM ARNETT/staff photographer

Diane Rickart models an After Five black velvet cocktail suit with soutache embroidery, double-breasted jacket with poplin detail and straight skirt, available in Jacobson's Designer Salon. She is one of 15 models who will be showing the fashions for Farmington Community Center's Fall Fantasia.



TOM ARNETT/staff photographer

Julie Jackson (left) wears Valentino's siamese and black wool sweater set with Giorgio Armani's 23-inch wool gabardine skirt, available in Jacobson's International Salon, for daytime and career dressing. Diane Rickart models Stacey Stevens' two-piece pantsuit. The double-breasted jacket and the new full-legged trousers in black and khaki green is available in Jacobson's Signature Collection.

Stacey Stevens' two-piece pantsuit. The double-breasted jacket and the new full-legged trousers in black and khaki green is available in Jacobson's Signature Collection.

## Back-to-school

### How to stave off shopping headache

Shopping for back-to-school can definitely be a headache for many parents and children alike. The dread of preparing your child for school can actually ruin the last few weeks of summer fun.

This year, don't panic. Knowing how to handle a back-to-school shopping spree for your child can make the trip a pleasant adventure for both you and your child, and provide valuable quality time together, according to parenting expert Dr. Linda Albert.

A nationally syndicated columnist and author specializing in the subject of child rearing, Albert and JCPenney have developed a list of 10 ways to battle the back-to-school shopping blues.

1. **TRY ON** last year's fall and winter clothes to see what still fits. Take an inventory of needed purchases. If your children are old enough, let them help you with a wish list. Then decide on a budget before you go so that if they see a costly "must have" item once they are shopping, they know other items must be sacrificed on the wish list. Popular items for the wish list included stonewashed jackets, miniskirts and jeans.

2. **TEACH YOUR** children to recognize quality and durability in fabric and how to care for the item. Even small children can learn what feels soft or itchy, warm or cool, strong or fragile. Younger children can begin to help care for their

clothes by separating dark from light colors and taking them to the laundry room. Consider making older children responsible for their own laundry. Whether an item has to be ironed may then make a difference in the selection.

3. **SHOP FOR** the most important articles early in the season, when the selection is best. Your children are more likely to wear the items they are happy with, so the higher prices will be worth it in the end. Bargain hunt later during sale season for basics like socks and T-shirts.

4. **FOR CHILDREN** under 10, you select, children choose. Assemble a selection of items that are acceptable to you in terms of style, durability, practicality and price. Let the youngsters make the final choice from this selection. At approximately age 10, children usually begin to select and choose; however, the parent retains the right to veto any purchase.

5. **DON'T FIGHT** the fads. Remember that every generation of children dresses differently. Forcing your fashion preferences results in a closet full of unworn clothes. Allowing children choices will also develop their individual sense of style. If your daughter won't wear dresses, for example, let her wear the fashionable baggy "boyfriend" jeans combined with a feminine looking top.

6. **WHEN YOU** have to say no to a particular item, try to give alternatives. Pick out similar styles and colors. If he can't have the designer sweats, point him toward his favorite color in a similar look of private label fleecewear. A wide variety of national and private labels are available at department stores.

7. **WHEN YOUR** child insists on a high-priced item, compromise by putting down the amount you are willing to pay, and let the child make up the difference with savings or extra household chore earnings. An alternative is to buy fewer expensive items and stretch their usable life by wearing them in different ways and dressing them up with accessories.

8. **TRY TO** educate, not control. Teach children to wear colors and styles that flatter them, and stress the importance of fit. Have children stretch, sit and squat in the clothing and ask how it feels. If your children have a favorite color that is flatter-

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## BACK TO CLASS



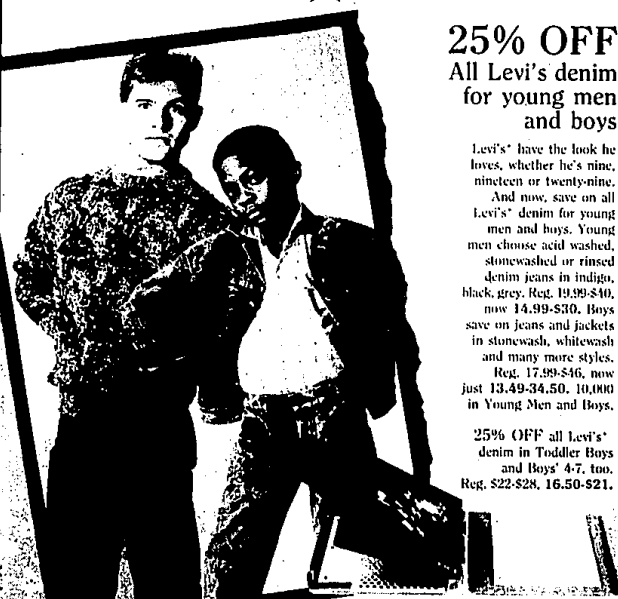
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Being accepted by fellow students in a new school can depend a great deal on the fashions your child wears. It is important that parents find out what the fashion standards are at the school before sending the child to class, by contacting the school secretary or counselor, or a neighbor who has children in the same school. Fashions available at JCPenney.