

Artist-in-Residence

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"They're my signature colors. It becomes a personal statement," she said.

As she did with the picture of poppies, Massara will gladly mix water-colors with acrylics.

"I'm not a purist," she said. "I like to experiment. Sometimes it's a total disaster."

Her recent commissions include the cover of the Michigan Bar Journal and a weaving for the lobby of Auto Air Composites in Lansing. For that commission she visited the firm that manufactures jet nose cones and collected bits and pieces of fibers and metals used in production. Again, she'll use realism as a base to explore abstract shapes and textures.

The process almost describes the course of her art career. When her children attended school, she drew pictures of animals for a science club and designed scenery and programs for school plays.

"As your children are growing your time is not your own," she said. "But I always kept my hand in (art)."

Distinguished service

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"But," she emphasizes, "I want to be an active member of any club I belong to — rather than a dues paying member — and particularly with anything that involves art."

"Art makes up a good part of my life. There is not a day that passes when I do not paint, read an art book, talk to an artist friend, work on the Picture Lady Program, do something that does not involve art."

For all the time she has put into the Picture Lady Program, which is supported by the Farmington Art Foundation, Fellwock said she never realized the impact this was having on youngsters until her grandsons saw the spread of 100 portfolios throughout her basement.

"They get the Picture Lady Program in Northville," she said, "and I was amazed at what a 9 and 10 year old were telling me — what they were getting out of this — what they were retaining — what they were learning and what a truly enrichment program this was."

Fellwock's amazement went a step deeper when she took part in a video that was being made of Picture Lady class in progress for preschoolers.

"These were 3-5-year-olds who were being quiet. They were listen-

ing. They were being told why an artist was using very heavy lines or making dreary clouds and they were paying close attention and enjoying it," she said.

FARMINGTON artist Edie Joplich convinced her to try water color. After studying with other area artists such as Gerry Hapburg and Audrey DeMarco, she began consciously developing her own style.

Nowadays, she works in a Pontiac studio she shares with two other artists. Galleries including Arteria in Birmingham and the Atrium in Northville feature her work.

In addition, Massara has been a board member of the Farmington Artists Club for five years. A member for nine years, she's the treasurer of Farmington Art Foundation, which oversees the Picture Lady programs in elementary schools and art classes for seniors at Mercy Center.

"I'm really growing," she said. "Everyday you learn something."

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club circuit

WESTSIDE SINGLES meet for a Think Spring dance party at 8 p.m. Friday in Livonia Elks Club, Plymouth Road at Merriman Road. Admission asked at the door. The singles' hotline is 562-3170.

FARMINGTON SINGLE PROFESSIONALS have scheduled a country square dance, Brunch With Bach, a bowling party, an evening of jazz and a night bike within the next two weeks.

Newcomers are invited to learn

about the social calendar at the group's end of every month's Single Mingle, from 7-11 p.m. Friday, April 27, in Embassy Suites Hotel's atrium, on Victor Parkway, east of I-275, north of Seven Mile Road. Admission is \$5 for non-members.

Complimentary newsletters will be sent on request to non-members by calling the information line, 478-9181.

RP FOUNDATION FIGHTING BLINDNESS meets at 1:30 p.m. Sun-

day, April 29, in Farmington Hills Branch Library, 32737 12 Mile Road. Speaker for the afternoon is Susan Powell, senior counselor for Michigan Rehabilitation Services, who will talk about the financial, legal and rehabilitation assistance offered by her agency which enables visually impaired persons to maintain their independence and remain on their jobs.

Inquiries are taken by Tom Weir, 547-1274, or Carol Mielke, 437-5511.

FARMINGTON AREA LIONS meet at 8:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 1 in Red Timbers Restaurant.

Robert Spehar, of East Detroit Lions, will speak on the involvement of Lions in the fight against diabetes, one of the largest contributors of blindness.

The Lions have helped those that are blind for a long while. Now they are attempting to help educate the public before blindness can be induced through diabetes.

The meeting is open to all persons interested in learning more of the Lions and their work. Reservations are

made with Dick Carvell, 476-6527.

WESTOWN LIONS CLUB meets at 12:15 p.m. Tuesday, May 1 in Vladimir's, 28125 Grand River. Lion Billy Mitchell will speak. Guests are welcome. Inquiries are taken by Susan Taylor, 649-2861.

FARMINGTON EXCHANGE CLUB meets at noon Wednesday, May 2 in Sweden House, in Uptown Center on Grand River west of Orchard Lake Road. Speaker for the day is Jeff Stralight. His topic is "Auto Insurance."

Inquiries about membership are taken by Jodi Soronen, in the Farmington-Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce Office, 474-3440.

All club news and announcements for this column are to be addressed to Club Circuit, Farmington Observer, 21898 Farmington Road, Farmington 48024. The information must arrive before noon on the Monday before Thursday publication.

Holy Cross Church elects new officers

Larry Christoff has been elected president of the Parish Council of Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church in Farmington Hills.

Christoff was born in Agios Dimitrios in Northern Greece. Along with his family he was taken to Albania by the Communists in 1949 during the Pethomaxoma. A year later he was transported to Romania but returned to Greece in 1954. He was adopted by an uncle and brought to America in 1956.

He received his bachelor of arts degree from Michigan State University and master of arts from Wayne State University. Presently a high school teacher with the Livonia Public Schools, Christoff resides in Novi with his wife Joan and two sons, Lenny and Chris.

Serving with the new president as council members are Nick Calagias of Farmington Hills, Dan Dallas of Detroit, George Majors of Birmingham, Jan Mitchell of West Bloomfield, Zisis Vaglatas of Milford, Tony Zakaria of Bloomfield Hills, Angelo M. Zervos of Farmington Hills and Marcus J. Zervos of Birmingham.

The oath of office was administered to the newly elected president and parish council members by the Rev. Stephen J. Anthony, parish priest.



Larry Christoff

mining.

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