

FASHION CALENDAR

FRIDAY, MAY 8

Christian Dior

Christian Dior Spring '92 Jewelry Collection through Sunday, May 10, in Jewelry, First Floor, at Saks Fifth Avenue-Troy.

Design Series

Clothing and Jewelry in Design Series shown now to 9 p.m. at the Kingsley Inn, Woodward and Long Lake roads, Bloomfield Hills. Also, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 9, in Jewelry, First Floor, at Saks Fifth Avenue-Troy.

Jewelry Collection

Jimet Gabriel Fine Jewelry Collection Show 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Jewell's Birmingham Apparel Store.

Two Sisters

Trunk show of Two Sisters Jewelry featuring one-of-a-kind, handcrafted antique buttons, pearls and brooches. Designers/owners of the collection, Robin Wayne and Ronna Schermer, in the store 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 8-9, at Roz & Sherrin in Bloomfield Plaza in Bloomfield Township. Also, spring collection of Moschino, Chiamp & Chic, ready-to-wear, informally modeled 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Trunk Show

Fanning Caravan Trunk Show Fri-

day-Saturday, May 8-9, in Designer Salon, Second Floor, at Saks Fifth Avenue-Troy.

Jewelry Collection

Erwin Pearl Spring '92 Jewelry Collection presented by special representative Lynn Wilhelm in Jewelry, First Floor, Saks Fifth Avenue-Troy.

SATURDAY, MAY 9

Play Day

"Play Day" fashion show at 1 p.m., featuring casual separates by favorite designers. In Collection Sportswear at Birmingham Apparel Store. For reservations call 644-0300, Ext. 058. Informal modeling follows the fashion show.

Lingerie Collections

Spring '92 Lingerie Collections informally modeled 1-5 p.m. in Lingerie, Second Floor, at Saks Fifth Avenue-Troy.

TUESDAY, MAY 12

Tailor's show

Oakland County Alumnae of Delta Zeta sorority present spring fashion show 7-9 p.m. at Talbot's, 255 S. Woodward, Birmingham. Members representing a range of ages and sizes model a variety of seasonal styles. Open to the public. For reservations at \$5 call Glenna Paukatis at 646-5727 or Sandy Anderson at 399-6391.

Retiree wants to volunteer



RENEE MAHLER

Q. I am a retired schoolteacher living in the Pontiac area. I miss teaching and I miss the children and I need something to keep me busy. Can you suggest any volunteer programs that could use me and my skills?

A. Have I got good news for you and other older adults who enjoy working with youngsters. The Retired Senior Volunteer Program of the Catholic Social Services in Oakland County has developed a new project called "Target Pontiac." According to its program, Target Pontiac addresses an urgent education/after-school/community need in the Pontiac area. Children in high-risk population areas, who are entering kindergarten, may be less prepared academically, socially and emotionally. Project Pontiac needs volunteers to provide individualized help for kindergarten-age children whose needs cannot be met with an "average" classroom program. Many of these children are from single-parent, low-income, minority populations. The goals of Target Pontiac are to increase positive learning experiences, motivate the children for later school years and to help the classroom teacher with non-academic specific to each child's needs. These children need emotional support as well as a good friend who takes a special interest in them as individuals. Volunteers are desperately needed. Rewards for doing this job are many. You can help share a child's life and the satisfaction each volunteer derives is immeasurable.

You need not be a schoolteacher to participate in this program. To become a RSVP volunteer, however, you must be 60 years of age or older. Each volunteer is covered by liability and accident insurance. For further information on Project Pontiac or any of the many other volunteer opportunities offered by RSVP, call 333-3716, Monday-Friday, between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. RSVP also has offices in Macomb and Wayne counties. Its telephone numbers can be found in each locality's phone book.

Q. When I turned 65 I did not sign up for the Medicare Part B medical insurance. I do get Part A of Medicare though. That was over two years ago. Is it too late for me to sign up now?

A. Fortunately it is not too late for you to sign up for Medicare Part B. However, you can only enroll from January 1 to March 31 of every year. Next year, if you enroll during the appropriate time, your benefits will be in effect on July 1, 1993. There is, however, a 10 percent premium increase for each 12 months that you could have been enrolled but were not.

Although your premium will be higher, I suggest that you mark your calendar right now for next year. The Medicare benefits, which you are entitled to, can save you a nice sum of money, should you need to use them.

A number of agencies and government departments offer free information or advice on a wide variety of subjects of interest and service to older adults and their families. Following is a list of toll-free numbers. Operators will be happy to answer your questions or direct you to other proper information sources.

AT&T Special Needs Center 800-233-1222
Alzheimer's & Related Disorders Center 800-621-0379
American Cancer Society 800-ACS-2345

American Council for the Blind 800-424-8666
American Diabetes Association 800-232-4372
American Parkinson's Disease Association 800-223-2732
Arthritis Foundation 800-283-7800
Auto Repairs Complaints 800-292-4204
Cancer Information Center 800-422-6237
Center for Independent Living 800-492-0222
Energy Assistance 800-292-5650
Hospice 800-331-1620
Housing Discrimination, HUD 800-424-8590
Lawyer Referral 800-968-0738
Legal Hotline for Seniors 800-347-LAWS
Medicaid Information (Social Services) 800-638-6414
Medicare Appeals 800-365-5899
Medicare Inquiry (Part B) 800-482-4945
Medicare Inquiry/Part A (Hospital) 800-872-2566

Michigan Bell Special Needs Center 800-482-8254
Nursing Home/Long Term Care 800-292-7852
Physically Impaired Association of Michigan 800-274-7426
Prescription Drug Credit (form) 800-367-6263
Social Security 800-234-5772
Taxpayers Assistance (State) 800-487-7000
Taxpayers Information (Federal) 800-829-1040
Utilities (Public Service Commission) 800-292-9555
Veterans Information and Assistance 800-482-0740

Renee Mahler is a gerontologist and the director of communications and admissions at a Rochester Hills nursing facility. She is a member of the Michigan State Association of Services to the Aging. Send your questions to her at Observer & Eccentric, 605 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009.

Arthritis group honors Suburban Life writers

Two former staff writers for The Eccentric have been named as winners of the Arthritis Foundation Cecil Award for the Midwest Region.

Carolyn DeMarco, former West Bloomfield Suburban Life Editor, is being honored for an article "Aches and Pains May Mean Trouble," and Brenda Dooley, who was then acting Birmingham Suburban Life Editor, receives her award for the article "Arthritis Sufferers Deal With Emotions." Both women put together a page which ran May 23, 1991, in the West Bloomfield and Birmingham editions of The Eccentric. Besides the two major stories, the page also included extensive

background information on arthritis. DeMarco, a Bloomfield Township resident, resigned from The Eccentric last summer. Dooley was a Rochester Eccentric reporter until recently becoming copy editor at the Grand Rapids Press.

To gather information for their page, DeMarco and Dooley attended an area conference on arthritis. "I really wanted to do the page because I thought there was a lot of misinformation about arthritis," DeMarco said. "We based the page on what we found at the conference. It was a good opportunity to pass that information along."

Employees on the move sharing in 'Work Walks'

Weight Watchers at Work is hosting "Work Walks" during the lunch hours Tuesday-Thursday, May 12-13, to celebrate National Employee Health and Fitness Day.

Weight Watchers will supply apples to all participants. For more information about the walk, call 1-800-487-4777.

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