

# Let's be friends

## Togetherness urged for Detroit, suburbs

BY RALPH R. ECHTINAW  
STAFF WRITER

Much like the city she represents, Maryann Mahaffey is disabled, but hopeful of a speedy recovery.

Mahaffey, the president of the Detroit City Council, gets around in a wheelchair these days while waiting for the leg she broke in December, then had rebroken and reset in June, heals sufficiently for her to stand on it.

Mahaffey, 68, stood on one leg Monday and spoke to a packed house at the Birmingham-based Community House Senior Women's Club, emphasizing the necessity, as she sees it, for suburban communities to work with Detroit rather than against it.

While not criticizing outgoing Mayor Coleman Young directly, Mahaffey noted that Young's style is "very similar to that of the big city bosses" like former Chicago mayor Richard J. Daley. "We've lacked openness in the

sharing of information." Young's attitude toward the city council, Mahaffey said, could best be characterized thus: "You don't raise questions or vote against certain things and I will see that you get what you need."

Too much of government these days, Mahaffey said, is hidden, and there's insufficient enough openness and accountability. "If you don't know what's going on you can't hold people accountable."

Mahaffey would like to see Detroit and the suburbs work together in the future by combining their efforts in the form of "regional services." For example, she said, "it would be better if we had (bus service) transportation that was regional." (Currently, there are two bus services: SMART and the Detroit bus service.)

To that end, Mahaffey seemed to endorse the candidacy of Sharon McPhail and Dennis Archer for Detroit mayor. "There will be much more (regional cooperation) if Archer or McPhail (is) elected," she said.

A Detroit resident since 1952, Mahaffey apparently believes that the city's glass is half full, rather than half empty. Although acknowledging that some neighborhoods are "pretty horrible," she described at length the well-tended houses and yards she has seen, portending a better future for the big city and the residents who try to better it. "In their own way they're saying we're going to take (the city) back," she said.

But Detroit needs subsidies from the federal government to take itself back, Mahaffey added. "We do have to have federal re-

sources. It's just not possible to make it on our own."

Most audience members seemed delighted with Mahaffey's presentation.

"I'm hoping she's right about better conditions in the future," said Jacqueline O'Brien of Birmingham Farms.

"I like what she said at the end, that we all have to work together," said a Beverly Hills woman who requested anonymity.

"It's nice to hear a positive affirmation, that the city is going to be coming along," said Marie Madden of Orchard Lake.

"She's great. She really is. She really is great," effused Mary Johnson of Birmingham.

But not everyone was impressed. "She didn't tell me anything I didn't already know," said Ellen Matea of Lathrup Village.

## Area judge to head up state outfit

At its recent meeting, the membership of the statewide Michigan Probate Judges Association elected Oakland County Probate Judge Eugene A. Moore to serve as its president elect.

The purpose of the Michigan Probate Judges Association is to promote closer communication and understanding among probate judges throughout the state, the departments of state and the institutions and facilities served further improve the services provided to citizens by the Probate Courts throughout Michigan.

Moore has served as an Oakland County Probate Judge since 1974. In addition to serving as chief judge of the Oakland County Probate Court, Moore has served as president of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, president of Children's Charter of the Courts of Michigan, also president of the Boys and Girls Clubs of North Oakland County.

He currently serves as a director of Camp Oakland Youth Programs, Boys and Girls Clubs of North Oakland County, Starr Commonwealth and Cranbrook Educational Community.

He also has contributed to the work of the Michigan Governor's Crime Commission and the State of Michigan Youth Advisory Commission.

Moore would like to see the probate judges of the state take a national leadership role in reducing the need for more prison space by creative mobilization of citizen-volunteer manpower in each community to work with troubled youths at an early age. Effective prevention approaches are our best hope for getting ahead of this problem, he says.

## Golf fundraiser set for Sept. 20

The Kaitlin Davis Transplant Fund Golf Invitational will occur Monday, Sept. 20, at the Tournament Players Club of Michigan in Dearborn.

Tickets are \$300 per person. Businesses can also sponsor a hole for \$250 and ads in the program are \$50 each.

Proceeds from the golf outing will benefit the Kaitlin Davis Transplant Fund.

Kaitlin Davis, 2, was born with a non-functional digestive system. She needs a \$600,000 liver and small intestine transplant. Without this surgery, doctors have given her one year to live.

The family's insurance company considers the surgery experimental and will not pay half for the procedure. Pittsburgh Children's Hospital is the only facility in the country that performs this surgery, which has a 80-85 percent success rate.

Donations may be sent to: Kaitlin Davis Transplant Fund, Box 103, Clarkston 48347. For more information, call 626-7713.


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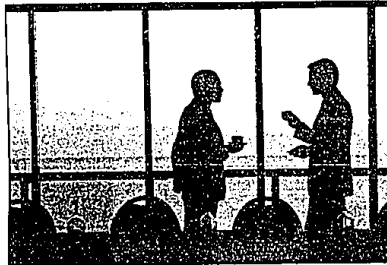
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