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work which depends on how well the assembled dress fits. These days they are seeing more straight styles and a more sophisticated look in wedding fashions. Bentley says it's because brides and their attendants are getting older, and "they don't want that pretty little girl look." Some brides even opt for dressy suits that can be worn again. "My favorite is flower girl dresses," McDermott added. "Even measuring them is fun. . . 21-21-21, no curves to contend with."

Unusual creations include a bridesmaid's dress for a dog (made to match the rest of the wedding party) and apparel for a Hawaiian wedding complete with floral print shirts and shorts. But the prize for most unusual goes to a prom dress. Made of black satin, it had a 2-foot high stand-up collar, a bodice that "plunged to the belly button," a chiffon train accented with spider webs that hooked onto the girl's fingertips and a lace-up floor-length skirt with a 2-inch gap between the front and back. "The mother just loved it," Bentley said.

The twosome spend plenty of time at the shop, sometimes up to 18 hours a day, creating the traditional and the unusual. While they appear to be very much alike, they say they are different. McDermott has three teenagers which "takes care of any free time I have." Once active in the PTA and the Girl Scouts, she does play volleyball in an over-30 league. She admits she brought a pillowcase to work one day to mend because she "doesn't sew at home very much anymore."

Bentley, on the other hand, enjoys camping and boating with her family and bowling. That's about all she "has time to do."

"Personality-wise we're very different, that's probably why we work well together in this business," Bentley said.

Bonnie's Bridals, 19183 Merri-man Road, Livonia, is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. For information, call (810) 471-7384.

Music students tune into world exchange

Three students from Farmington area schools will be among nearly 1,000 musicians from Europe, Asia and the United States participating in this year's International Exchange Program. Andrew Kawel, a student at Catholic Central High School; Marisa Rowison, a student at North Farmington High School; and Matthew Wayne, a Power Middle School student, will take part in the 25th anniversary celebration of Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp in Twin Lake, Mich. Nineteen musical groups will be involved. Blue Lake and more than 24 Michigan communities will host 15 European and Asian bands, orchestras and choirs. Meanwhile, four Blue Lake groups will tour Europe. Blue Lake's International Program began in 1970 when 90 choral and dance students from the west Michigan summer arts school toured England, Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands. Two years later, the first European group — a Belgian choir — visited Michigan. During the past 25 years, nearly 20,000 American, European and Asian musicians, singers and dancers have participated in the

program, according to Gretchen Stansell, Blue Lake vice president. One of the groups that will help celebrate the Silver Anniversary of Blue Lake's International Exchange Program is the Otus Children's Chorus from Shiga Prefecture, Michigan's Sister State in Japan. It marks the eighth time since 1976 that the all-girl junior high school group has visited Michigan. "The Otus Chorus holds the record for the number of times a group has visited our state," Stansell said. The Japanese singers will visit Michigan from Aug. 7-14. European groups that will tour Michigan this year include nine from Germany and one each from France, Belgium, Denmark, Austria and the Czech Republic. Fourteen of the 15 groups will visit Michigan during June, July and August. One group, a 24-piece wind orchestra from Germany, will present concerts in Grand Rapids, Holland and Lansing. The four Blue Lake groups that will tour Europe during late June and July include a 90-piece symphony orchestra, 100-member concert band, 80-voice choir ensemble and 22-piece jazz band.



Marisa Rowison



Matthew Wayne

Conductors for the four groups include Blue Lake President Fritz Stansell, symphony orchestra; North Farmington High Band Carl Gippert, concert band; Kevin Dobref, a member of the music facilities at Grand Rapids Community College and Aquinas College, choral ensemble, and Dr. George West, chairman of Instrumental Music at James Madison College in Virginia, jazz band. The symphony orchestra will present several concerts in Michigan and Illinois before leaving for

Europe and all four groups will perform in several Michigan communities and at Blue Lake on their return from Europe. The schedule of tours for the Blue Lake groups and European and Asian groups that will visit Michigan this summer is being developed and will be announced as soon as arrangements are completed. Founded in 1966, Blue Lake is one of the largest summer arts schools in the United States.



Stitch by stitch: Victoria Spehar donated this handmade quilt, in the around the twist style, to raise money for Guest House, a retreat for rehabilitating alcoholic priests.

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But now her schedule is packed. Spehar regularly joins other seamstresses at St. Gerald's Catholic Church in Farmington to make a quilt that goes to raise money to feed the poor. Spehar also meets with a group of quilters at Schoolcraft College. Everyone works on her own project. Spehar brings her Guest House project, which typically takes almost one year to make. She donates all the materials and

of course, the time. "I don't work on it constantly," she said. Meanwhile, Spehar said she finds time to play bridge and pinocle, attend concerts and volunteer in the gift shop at Botsford Hospital. "Quilting is not my whole life," she said. "In fact, I want to get out of it and get into other things. It gets to be a little much sometimes."

2 area teachers hook up with Edison mini-grants

Teachers from two Farmington area schools each received \$450 in mini-grants from the Detroit Edison Foundation. Farmington Hills resident Roseanne Jodway, a teacher at

Our Lady of Sorrows Middle School in Farmington, and Kathy Montmorency, a teacher at Forest Elementary School in Farmington Hills, will use the money for classroom projects that will in-

crease students' knowledge about energy and the environment. The awards were presented recently by Dr. LaMoine Motz of the Oakland County Intermediate School District and Joe Ford of

Detroit Edison. The teachers are among 122 educators in southeastern Michigan who received Detroit Edison Foundation mini-grants totaling nearly \$29,000.

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5K run/Racewalk/Walk & One Mile Walk

Saturday, April 9, 1994
9:00 a.m.
Detroit Zoo
(Woodward Avenue & I-696)

ENTRY FEE
\$13 (by March 25); \$16 (by April 1); and \$20 on race day (7:30 - 8:30 a.m.). FREE entry for children 12 and under (no T-shirt). Please register early. All proceeds will be used for worksite breast cancer screening, education and related services.

START TIMES
Registration: 7:30 - 8:30 a.m.
5K Run/Racewalk/Walk: 9:00 a.m.
1 Mile Fun Walk: 9:10 a.m.

RACE PACKETS
Are mailed to all registered runners the week before the race; packets include race number, T-shirt coupon, course map and directions.

TIMING & RESULTS
The 5K events will be conducted by Detroit's premier running club, the Motor City Striders. Computer scoring by Burns Computer Services.

AWARDS & AGE GROUPS
In the 5K Race, awards will be presented to the overall female winner (not eligible for age group award) and the top three female runners in each five-year age group (14-and-under to 70+). Additionally, awards will be presented to the first three racewalk/finishers. Males are invited to participate, but are not eligible for awards.

ENTRY FORMS
Entry forms are available at Jacobson's, Pier 1 Imports, Jonny Craig Centers, JCPenney's, all Michigan Cancer Foundation offices, and all area running stores selling New Balance shoes.

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