

Festival of the Arts exhibits the works

■ The fine arts—everything from actors to quilters—will be highlighted during the first annual Festival of the Arts sponsored by the Farmington Community Arts Council. The week long event begins Sunday.

By MARY RODRIQUE
STAFF WRITER

It's billed as a celebration of the arts, and it's leaving no creative endeavor unturned.

The Festival of the Arts, opening on Sunday, April 28, is the Farmington Community Arts Council's first annual week long celebration of everything from quilters to painters to poets to dancers to singers to actors.

Members of the community are invited to take part in the free activities, which will be headquartered in the Farmington Hills Activities Center, 28600 11 Mile Rd., Grosse Pointe Woods.

"We hope to act as a source of education for children and families with a diverse variety of exhibits and performances," said Nan Reid, chairman of the Farmington Community Arts Council and Farmington Area Arts Commission. "On Tuesday and Friday morning, school children will be coming through. On Thursday and Sunday, we will feature programs appealing to senior citizens."

The idea for the arts celebration was formulated to come together on a collaborative project to have impact on the community. And to help people in the community looking for involvement in some area of the arts.



Dressing up: Alissa Bogorad (left) of West Bloomfield and Bonnie Dale of Farmington model antique dresses regularly on display at Warner Mansion in downtown Farmington. Beginning Sunday and throughout the week, the dresses can be seen at the Festival of the Arts, sponsored by the Farmington Community Arts Council.

Not modeled on any other arts celebration, Reid called the program "a fresh thought." The week will highlight the fine arts; it is not a craft fair. But there will be live demonstrations of crafts such as needlework and quilting during the week.

A Sunday afternoon reception from 2 to 5 p.m. will mark the 20th anniversary of the Farmington

Area Arts Commission and the Artist in Residence program. There will be exhibits by members of the Farmington Artists Club and music by pianist Danielle Sechusen.

There will be arts commission awards and presentations, artist club awards, the artist in residence recognition program and the Ridgewriters Poetry award presentation.

Here's a look at other activities day by day.

Monday, April 29, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., festival and Farmington Artists Club exhibits in Shannon Hall (through the end of the week); 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., a needlework demonstration in Shannon Hall (through the end of the week); 7-

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JERRY BERKESCH

Transplant recipient gives heartfelt thanks

This is the story not only of a patient, a disease, and a recovery, but the story of a nuclear family, an extended family, a group of friends, a church family, a medical team and an anonymous organ donor.

Our odyssey began in January, 1993, the 50th anniversary of my birth which was duly noted with a surprise party orchestrated by my wife Nancy and daughters Kari and Shellee. My gift from them was a trip to the Detroit Tigers Fantasy Camp the next month, at which I did nothing to either distinguish nor embarrass myself, but had the time of my life.

After returning, I resumed my vocation (director of administrative services at Services to Enhance Potential — STEP in Livonia) and my avocation (third baseman on the company softball team).

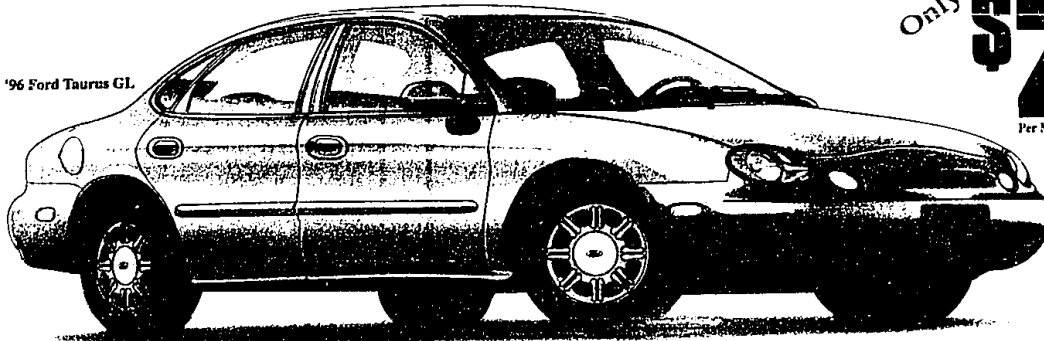
On July 29, 1993, after working all day and playing ball in Dearborn afterward, I didn't feel well enough to drive home to Farmington Hills, so I stopped at my mother's house in Detroit. There I suffered a heart attack. Mom dialed 911. I was "flatlined" when EMS arrived. I was resuscitated 40 minutes later at Oakwood Hospital where I remained in a coma for three days.

My prognosis was bleak. The doctors warned my family that due to lack of oxygen supply to the brain I suffered during the heart attack, I

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