

WEDDINGS & ENGAGEMENTS



LIPAR-LESLIE
Anna Marie Lipar and James Allen Leslie will be married in

May at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Auburn Hills. The bride-to-be is the daughter of Norma Lipar of Royal Oak and the late Jack Lipar. She is a graduate of Michigan State University with a B.A. in English and Oakland University with a B.A. in communications. She is employed by the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers as a retail advertising consultant for the city of Farmington.

The groom is the son of James and Jacqueline Leslie of Shelby Township. He is also a graduate of Michigan State University with a B.A. in accounting. He is a systems developer for Kmart Corporation.

The couple will honeymoon in Maui and make their home in Beverly Hills.



CIARAMITARO-CHRISTEN
Theresa Bernice Ciaramitaro and Anthony William Christen will be married in April at Tellico Yacht Club in Loudon, Tenn.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Carol Ann Ciaramitaro of Spring Hill, Fla. and the late Frank Ciaramitaro. She earned a degree in applied science early child development and liberal arts from Oakland Community College in Farmington Hills and is currently a preschool teacher at Nanny's Nursery in Knoxville, Tenn.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Christen of Morryville, Tenn., formerly of Farmington Hills. He is a graduate of Farmington High School and Oakland Community College with a degree in liberal arts. He is currently a graphic design student at Pellissippi State Technical College and does freelance graphic design work.



ISENBERG-MANOOGIAN
Bill and Maureen Isenberg of Farmington Hills announce the engagement of their daughter Michele Nicole to Michael Manoogian, son of Shirley Manoogian of Bloomfield Hills and the late Mike Manoogian. The bride-to-be is a graduate of Harrison High School and the groom is a graduate of Birmingham Groves High School. A May wedding is planned.

NEW VOICES

SERLIN BABY

Miry and Dan Serlin of Southfield announce the birth of their daughter Leia Ahava, on Feb. 17 at Providence Hospital. She weighed 6 pounds 12 ounces and was 19 inches long. Her big brother is Andrew and

her grandparents are Nancy and Howard Serlin of Farmington Hills and Anaruth Henri Bernard of Southfield. Grandparents are Leonor and Maurice Reizen of Okemos and Pearl and Abe Oslik of Southfield.

Forms are available in the Farmington Observer office, 33411 Grand River, to announce your event.

ASK THE ETIQUETTE EXPERT



Margit Erickson

I recently received an invitation to a party. I do not have anything else planned for that evening and will not be busy. Nevertheless, I do not wish to attend the party. How do I gracefully refuse the invitation and not feel guilty about it?

Going or not going to the party is a matter of choice. Since you choose not to go, you simply say, "I'm so sorry, but I can't make it." You don't have to give any excuses, explanations or reasons. And you don't have to feel guilty.

Do not ever refuse an invitation giving the false excuse that you are not well or that you will be out of town or that you are staying home and studying for an exam or whatever and then accept an invitation for a different affair for the same evening. No town is large enough where someone won't see you and word gets around. That's when you need to feel guilty.

If you are the host and a would-be guest says he can't make it to your affair, don't ask why and start to cross-examine him. Simply accept his answer, say you are sorry he cannot come and you look forward to seeing him another time.

A co-worker in the office where I work borrowed \$20 from me saying she would pay it back the following week. It has now been over two weeks and she still has not paid it back. What's more, she has not even mentioned it. How can I go about reminding her of it?

Ah, how right Shakespeare was: "Neither a borrower, nor a lender be!" I can understand when it is said that more marriages break up and more quarrels take place over money than anything else. Since your co-worker says she has "forgotten" the loan, you need to use a direct approach and say, "Do you happen to have that \$20 I lent you two weeks ago?" Whether you are the borrower or lender, don't pretend you forgot about the loan - you both know you haven't! Did you ever notice when you are paying back a loan to someone, that person will pretend he's "forgotten" he loaned it to you? No way! It's been on his mind every time he saw you.

My friends and I could not agree on the correct length of a tie that is worn with a business suit. Could you help us out?

A tie should be worn so that the bottom tip comes down to the middle of the belt buckle. No

shirt should be seen between the belt and the tie. However, the tie should not overlap the buckle.

I will be speaking to a group of businesswomen at an upcoming event. What is the appropriate term for me to use when I address them - females, ladies or women? The most accepted and preferred term is women. All females are women, but, unfortunately, not all women are ladies.

My daughter has taken to wearing a baseball cap as have all her friends, both boys and girls. It seems they wear them all the time whether they are indoors or out - in school, shopping malls, in homes and even at the dinner table. I may be from the old school, but I find this habit appalling. I was always taught hats should be removed when indoors.

Except under certain circumstances such as the Jewish kippah or yarmulke, males should always remove their hats when indoors. Women don't have to follow this rule. However, since the baseball cap is a unisex cap, it is still considered a man's cap, therefore, it should be removed by everyone when indoors. Sorry, but that's how it is.

I was at a gathering recently and walked up to two friends who evidently were in a deep conversation. When I joined them they made me feel as if I were intruding and I felt embarrassed. As I don't wish to have this happen again, how do I know if it's proper to approach?

Actually, at a casual get-together, you should feel free to mix and socialize. It is not a time for heavy, long-winded or personal conversations or heavy business discussions. Also it is not a good idea to spend the evening in a corner with a few close friends or relatives. Your host invited you so you could add life to the party. A social gathering is a time to mingle, make light conversation and meet new friends.

Your friends were wrong to make you feel uncomfortable. It is they who should be embarrassed. Greeting you with a handshake and including you in their conversation would have been the thoughtful thing to do. However, the next time you encounter this situation, take note of their body language. When two people are in conversation and facing each other directly, they are saying they do not want anyone to join them. When they are standing at an angle with their torsos forming two sides of a triangle, it is an invitation for a third party to join them. Body language - you are telling the whole world about yourself without uttering a word.

Margit Erickson is an etiquette expert and founder of Margit Erickson & Co. She is host of *The Elegant Life* on cable TV. She will be hosting a children's etiquette seminar Saturday, April 8, from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Country Epicure restaurant in Novi, for children ages 8-12. For more information or to register, call her at 471-6170.



Farmington actor stars in WSU's production of 'Godspell' April 7-16

Rejoice with Wayne State University's Bonstelle Theatre as it presents "Godspell," the modern musical adaptation of the Gospel according to Matthew, opening on April 7 and running week-ends through April 16.

Acclaimed by critics, clergy and audiences for its joyful mix of sage and youthful spirit, the musical by Stephen Schwartz and John-Michael Tebelak has been performed on Broadway and around the world.

A group of young performers dressed in bright costumes sing, dance, romp and pantomime their way through the words and teachings of Jesus Christ and act

out such parables as the Prodigal Son and the Good Samaritan. The play is set on a playground designed by WSU faculty member Fred Florkowski. "Godspell" appeals to all ages and includes the song "Day By Day."

"Godspell" is the modernization of biblical characters making them more human and easier to understand for today's society," said Bonstelle company member Patrick O'Reilly of Farmington, who will perform the role of Jesus.

Many roles

Recently, O'Reilly has been seen in "The Barber of Seville"

and "Eugene Onegin" at the Detroit Opera House. "Godspell" is directed by Joe Calarco, a theater professor at WSU, with costumes designed by Erica Friesen and lights designed by Kristeen Willis, both members of the Hilberry company.

Show times are Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m. Ticket prices range from \$10 to \$13 with group discounts available. The Bonstelle Theatre is at 3424 Woodward Ave.

For additional information or to buy tickets, call the box office at (313) 577-2960.

Register now for senior art celebration day

"Seniors Celebrate the Arts" from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday, May 5, at the Costick Center, 26900 11 Mile.

Prizes, a treasure hunt, dancing to a jazz band, a variety

show/concert by Hammell Music and a luncheon are planned. There is no charge for the event sponsored by the Farmington Community Arts Council. Pre-registration is limited to

the first 250 seniors and begins April 17 at the Senior Center.

Further information please call (248) 473-1830.



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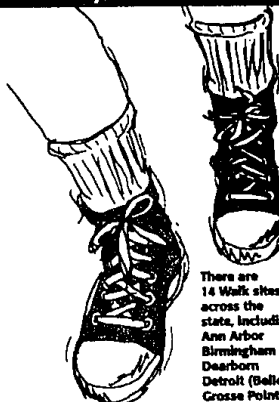
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