

Says Town Hall Speaker Freedom's Wonderful!

By JAN WILLIAMS
From a peasant village in Russia to a 17-room home in Louisville, Ky. was quite a move for Nila Magidoff. But it wasn't an easy one. And she doesn't take for granted what she gained in the process.

Speaking for the Farmington Town Hall series, Mrs. Magidoff told the audience freedom should be appreciated.

"When many people, here can't find happiness, they blame America. But the problem is not with America; it is within themselves."

Mrs. Magidoff found a new life here. When she lived in Russia as a young girl, she dreamed of traveling and living in Moscow. But most of all she dreamed of going to America.

Her dreams began to come true when she arrived in Moscow by way of a cattle train. She went to work in a tea factory and attended Moscow University at night.

But the urge to travel was still with her and she joined the merchant marine as a sailor. She traveled to Europe, Japan and China, but most of all she dreamed of going to America.

But that dream, too, was in the making. In the Moscow skating rink she had her first contact with an American, Robert Magidoff, an NBC correspondent in Moscow during and after World War II.

Magidoff fell at her feet twice, not by his own choice, but she picked him up, and two years later they were married.



FARMINGTON SOROPTIMIST Ruth Madigan chats with Town Hall speaker Nila Magidoff during the Russian-born lecturer's recent visit to the Farmington series. (Ever photo)

It was by no means a typical marriage. Marrying a foreigner was dangerous for her. They could not be seen together at his apartment nor hers, and they had no car. Finally they found a solution. They would meet at the train station where they could run to each other's arms, just as everyone else was doing.

Immediately after they were married, she applied for a visa to America. She waited and waited. Her husband went to America three times without her and still no visa.

"As in the true Russian way, they never say no, but they never say yes," she said. When the Germans invaded Russia in World War II, an American ambassador made a bargain with the Russian government. In exchange for her visa, they gave the Russians two tanks of high octane gas.

So she was finally on her way to the land of her dreams and her first American city was San Francisco. From there she went to New York where she lived while her husband was still working in Moscow for NBC.

When she returned to Russia for a visit, she said, her friends there could not begin to comprehend the freedoms she enjoyed in America.

Later she went with her husband to Louisville where she accepted a position teaching Russian at the University of Louisville.

"My Russian accent may sound funny mixed with a southern accent, but this is my country now and I'm going to be a part of it."

Mrs. Magidoff said she hopes as long as we live we will be free from fear.

"Our system is better than the Russian," she declared, "and I will fight to my death for freedom and democracy."

10,000 Neighbors Help Handicapped

The Wayne County Easter Seal Society has launched its annual neighbor-to-neighbor campaign, which involves 10,000 neighbors in an effort to raise funds for services to the handicapped.

The campaign allows each participant to make a contribution and then pass the colorful kit on to her neighbor. After circulating the entire block, the kit is returned to the block chairman.

As a public service, all banks in Wayne County have provided their offices as a drop-off point for the completed kits.

"Your generous response to this campaign will enable us to continue our vital programs to the handicapped and expand in areas where additional services are needed," said Earl Morrall, 1973 campaign chairman.

"We serve thousands of handicapped each year," he said. "Wayne County Easter Seal Society is the only Easter Seal Society serving Wayne County."

The society is an affiliate of the National Easter Seal Society, which has served the handicapped for more than 50 years.

It offers a loan closet of equipment for the handicapped, craft classes for crippled children and adults, special education classes, clubs for the handicapped, transportation services, an

information and referral program, a summer day camp for handicapped youngsters and a counseling program for parents.

The society makes no charge for any services provided. Everyone interested is invited to visit the society's center at 2545 Hyde Park Drive, Inkster.

Livonian Will Discuss 'Killing Diet'

"Our American Diet Is Killing Us!" is the title of a talk to be given by Dr. Jack Goldstein of Livonia at 1:45 p.m. Sunday, April 1.

Dr. Goldstein will address a meeting sponsored by the Detroit Chapter of the National Health Federation in the Northland concourse auditorium (downstairs), Greenfield and Eight Mile. Visitors should park in Lot E, Aisle 100. There is an admission charge.

HOLLY HUBBARD, Adrian College junior from Livonia, is one of 11 Adrian students who will participate from March 24 to April 1 in a special winter sports week for handicapped people in Norway. Traveling with Adrian faculty member Paul MacDonald, they will attend classes at the University of Oslo and attend the international ski race for the blind.



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Center Offers Rhythm Class

Lilo Fauman will teach creative rhythmic classes for boys and girls, ages three to five, on Wednesdays in the 10 Mile Branch of the Jewish Community Center, and on Fridays in the Main Branch, 18100 Meyers, Detroit.

Registrations will be taken at the center March 18. For class schedules, call the center.



2 Lecturers To Discuss 'New Woman'

"Perspectives on the New Woman," a series of lectures and discussions, will begin Wednesday, March 28, in Dearborn.

The featured speakers will be Dr. Nancy Schlossberg of Wayne State University and Dr. Thema Vriend of Wayne County Community College.

The program will begin at 11 a.m. in the Gabriel Richard Center, 5001 Evergreen, next to the University of Michigan-Dearborn campus. It is being sponsored by the UM-Dearborn Counseling Center and there is no admission charge.

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